

Namibia's Etosha Pan & Skeleton Coast (Photography Special)

Naturetrek Tour Report

9 - 25 November 2007



Dead Vlei with its 900 year old acacia trees



Desert-adapted African Elephants



Springbok drinking. Etosha National Park



Greater Flamingos, Walvis Bay

Report and photos compiled by Chris Gomersall



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Duncan Currie
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Kate Whitfeld
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Day 1

Friday 9th November

Everyone arrived in good time at Gatwick airport, where they were greeted by Chris at check-in. We experienced no problems with our hand baggage allowances fortunately. Our Air Namibia flight took off on time.

Day 2

Saturday 10th November

Clear and hot.

After an uneventful flight, but without a great deal of sleep, we arrived at Windhoek International airport shortly after 9.00 am local time (2 hours ahead of UK at this time of year). After immigration formalities and baggage reclaim, we were met by Douw and Richard, our local guides and drivers, and installed ourselves in the stretch Land Rovers. First stop was the modern but bewildering shopping mall in Windhoek city, about 30 minutes drive away, to charge our bean bags and buy an additional three-pin plug adapter. Jeff managed to get lost, but rejoined us after a short tour of the shops.

Then we hit the road west, and saw our first Chacma Baboons, Ostriches, and the numerous nests of White-browed Sparrow-weavers. After a packed lunch under a shady tree we pressed on to Namib Grens – seeing first springbok, a few Greater Kudu, and the occupants of one vehicle were fortunate to find a small group of Hartmann's Mountain Zebra. Pink flowering Brittlethorn bushes brightened the landscape. Among the more unusual birds on this stretch were a couple of African Hawk-eagle (one with snake in talons) and later a smart pair of Verreaux's Eagles soaring on the thermals. Just as we reached Namib Grens farmhouse we surprised a Yellow Mongoose which ran in front of us. Then we were met by our hosts Frank and Susie and shown to our rooms.

There was just time for a short walk in the evening light and familiarise ourselves with some of the commoner bird life such as Grey Go-away Birds, Southern Masked Weavers, Crimson-breasted Shrike, and Greater Striped Swallow. Douw located a small cicada which a few people photographed. Towards dusk noisy groups of Namaqua Sandgrouse flew overhead on their way to unknown water holes. Some of the group saw three or four Swallow-tailed Bee-eaters on the return walk, and then we enjoyed some delicious home farm cooking before a welcome early night.

Day 3

Sunday 11th November

Clear and hot.

Woken at 6.00 am for a photo safari (on foot). Some went off with Douw and Richard to take pictures of rock formations in the early light, while Chris stayed with those who preferred to have a crack at the commoner birds such as the nest-building Southern Masked Weavers, a striking but elusive male Scarlet-chested Sunbird, and a small flock of gorgeous Rosy-faced Lovebirds which were pinching the chicken feed.

Departing Namib Grens after breakfast, it didn't take us long to find a couple of diminutive Klipspringer in the rocky terrain, and pause for photos. Then we made the dramatic 2000 metre descent from the plateau down through the Spreetshoogte Pass to the Namib Desert. A short refreshment and re-fuelling stop at Solitaire, and we managed to reach Kulala Desert Lodge for a late lunch. As it cooled down in the late afternoon we made an excursion into the Namib Naukluft National Park to assess the photographic possibilities of the famous red dunes, making it as far as "Dune 45". This was our first good opportunity to exercise the cameras and utilise the warm evening light. Back at camp, the water hole was lit up, attracting a few Springbok and two Oryx, then a Spotted Eagle Owl flew in. Barking Geckos provided the soundtrack.

Day 4

Monday 12th November

Clear and very hot. Windy later.

Early rise at 05.00 ready for 06.00 departure. Sunrise at 06.10 saw us poised at the private park entrance gate. A very photogenic Oryx greeted us just inside. Our aim was to reach Sossusvlei as early as possible, and our advance party were among the first few park visitors to arrive at Dead Vlei, to capitalise on the early light and beat the crowds. The second group were held up by some Ostriches and Springbok, and a Ludwig's Bustard also flew by. Back in Dead Vlei, the 900 year old Camelthorn Acacias on the lime clay made interesting subjects. Rory gamely ascended the Big Daddy dune (well, as far as base camp) for a better view of the vlei. Douw found us a Shovel-snouted Lizard to photograph, and some more challenging Tok-tokki (Tenebrionid beetles). Then some refreshments in Sossusvlei, for us and the Cape Sparrows, Red-headed Finches, and a cheeky Pied Crow.

Back at KDL it was siesta time. Liz pointed out a Lilac-breasted Roller to others in the party, but they could only see a plastic bag. Then we made a late afternoon ascent in the Land Rovers to a glorious vantage point overlooking the vast desert landscape. A strong breeze and driving sand made photography particularly challenging, but the sundowners amply compensated.

Day 5

Tuesday 13th November

Clear and very hot, perhaps over 40C.

The keen landscape photographers opted for another very early start, and a return to the red dunes and dead acacia forest. Geoff & Liz and Rory meanwhile staked out the water hole by Kulala Desert Lodge where they saw Springbok drinking and some Namaqua Sandgrouse. After breakfast, Geoff, Liz, Miranda and Chris joined Richard for the long drive north to Walvis Bay (in the squeaky vehicle) stopping briefly at Sesriem Canyon. After promises of “six thongs”, the males in the party thought it rather an anticlimax but Miranda seemed pleased. At some point in the long journey we crossed the Tropic of Capricorn (celebrated with a pole dance), the Kuiseb Canyon, and rather a lot of featureless sand. The apple pie from Solitaire was too much for us. It became markedly cooler as we approached Walvis Bay.

Meanwhile, the remainder of our group lounged by the pool at Kulala Desert Lodge all day, until taking the scenic flight in the late afternoon, over the Namib and finishing in Swakopmund. Although the two Cessnas were a little late, this apparently gave better light on the dunes just after take-off, and all the fliers seemed thrilled with their experience. We rejoined for a late dinner at the excellent Raft restaurant in Walvis Bay, surrounded by floodlit Greater Flamingos partaking of their own seafood soup.

Day 6

Wednesday 14th November

Coastal fog at first, clearing mid morning.

A cooler day on the Atlantic coast was appreciated by all. We made our morning boat trip with Mola Mola tours and were soon seeing and photographing Cape Fur Seals and White Pelicans at close quarters. Nearer Pelican Point there were vast flocks of wintering terns, mostly Common and Sandwich Terns from Europe – it looked very similar to Blakeney Point though on a much grander scale, and here the Common Seals were replaced by fur seals. African Black Oystercatchers and flocks of Greater and Lesser Flamingos also served to remind us it was another continent. By the point, we saw a few Cape Gannets, several White-chinned Petrels, a couple of Arctic Skuas and a Sub-Antarctic Skua. Heaviside's Dolphins were present, and they breached a little but only at distance. The larger Bottlenose Dolphins gave a better show, though were still rather tricky to photograph. Our cruise was concluded with some interesting refreshments.

After lunch there was a short trip into town to get spectacles mended and purchase more plug adapters – by now the group must have an average of three per person. Then a late afternoon 4WD excursion via the salt pans along the Atlantic shore to Pelican Point, where there were great quantities of European migrant waders such as Sanderling, Curlew Sandpiper and Little Stint. Also many more flamingos, a few Avocet and Black-winged Stilt – reminding us why this wetland was designated a Ramsar site. Cape Fur Seals surfed in the breakers as the sun set, and we had a brief glimpse of a Damara Tern.

Day 7

Thursday 15th November

Coastal fog first thing, clearing late morning.

Today we made a special 4WD safari adventure to Sandwich Harbour; basically a 50km drive south along the beach from the Walvis Bay salt pans, only possible when tides permit. We stopped at some viewpoints to admire

the Atlantic surf and endless sand dunes, and witness some rather childish games between Douw and Richard. The freshwater springs and associated reed bed and other vegetation at Sandwich Harbour must be tremendously important to migrant birds, and the Barn Swallows flying south over the dunes emphasised that point. There was only a small window of opportunity at Sandwich Harbour, but we were able to take some photos of White Pelicans in flight against the dunes, a few flamingos, and more tern roosts.

Yet more spectacle repairs in the afternoon, then most of the group opted for a sightseeing and shopping trip to Swakopmund, while Douw and Chris accompanied Jeff, Duncan, Bryan and Linda on a quest to photograph flamingos – we found some reasonably close Lesser Flamingos, then groups of Greater in their curious “wing-salute” group display. Towards sunset, a kite surfer disturbed a few flocks giving us opportunities at some flying groups, before the advancing sea fog blocked the sunset.

Day 8

Friday 16th November

Coastal fog persisting all day, but clearer inland.

We made the journey from Walvis Bay north along the coast up to Cape Cross and its expansive colony of Cape Fur Seals. Here we spent an hour or so photographing dense groups of seals, bulls fighting, and calves suckling, in soft hazy light. Turnstones and Cape Gulls were feeding from the afterbirth, and Black-backed Jackals were in close attendance, many with mange or otherwise in poor condition.

From here we continued north through the featureless landscape of Skeleton Coast Park, then turning east into Damaraland towards the rather more dramatic Brandberg Mountains. A pair of Lappet-faced Vultures gave a fly-past. The veld glowed with Golden Bushman Grass, interspersed with desert adapted Euphorbias, aloes, and a sprinkling of mopane, African Star Chestnut and Shepherd's Trees. We stopped by a fairly dense patch of Welwitschias, and discovered their specific cotton stainer bugs *Odontopus sexpunctatus* which seemed to make Dave very happy. Gradually we began to see more Ostrich, Springbok, Oryx, scattered groups of Hartmann's Mountain Zebra, a few female Kudu and a couple of young Southern Giraffe. Just before dark, it was a great relief to arrive at Damaraland Camp and their customary hospitality.

Day 9

Saturday 17th November

Cloudy at dawn, soon clearing.

Early start: 05.00 calls, departed at 06.00. We were treated to three of the camp's own 4x4s, just for this morning, while Douw's vehicle underwent some hasty field repairs to the differential. We drove down to the Huab River valley where our guide showed us a Euphorbia plant where an elephant had laid – apparently they use the toxins in the plant's latex to kill off ectoparasites. We surprised a Steinbok, and shortly afterwards located the desert-adapted African Elephants. First the elderly former matriarch, out on her own, then the rest of the herd of eleven animals, browsing on the acacias. It was possible to approach remarkably close in the vehicles. A young calf of less than six months old hogged our attention, and was especially delightful when it played with another slightly older calf – rolling in the dust and head-butting each other. “Oscar” of TV fame, the only male in the herd, got familiar with some of the ladies in the Land Rover. So all in all there were some brilliant photography opportunities with spectacular backgrounds.

Easily overlooked, but there were also quite a few new birds in this area such as the “flying bananas” (Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill), the endemic Carp’s Black Tit and Bare-cheeked Babbler. We later made an afternoon safari drive to Springbok River to search for Black Rhino, and unbelievably we managed to find a cow and calf. We stalked on foot for the last stage, taking care to stay downwind, but it was still rather difficult to get close enough for photos. Douw reminded us that these are the last remaining free range Black Rhino in the world. Also seen were a family party of Giraffe, quite a few Kudu and three dainty Steinbok. A bush dinner under the stars rounded off a long and very successful day.

Day 10

Sunday 18th November

Light cloud throughout the day, very hot.

We checked out of Damaraland Camp, somewhat disappointed to be leaving. It wasn’t far to Twyfelfontein where we called to see and photograph the remarkably clear 5000-6000 year old rock engravings of animals. A pair of colourful Namibian Rock Agamas here were very obliging for the cameras, posing against the red sandstone. We continued our journey northwards, into ever denser and more verdant mopane woodland. Thunderstorms were seen over Etosha to our east in the late afternoon. Entering the grounds of Hobatere, we saw a close Klipspringer, enjoyed some good views of Hartmann’s Mountain Zebra, a few Giraffe and Kudu, and a close Steinbok. The woodland supported lots of birds, including quite a few hornbills. After dinner, our night drive was fairly quiet, but “we” nevertheless managed to find Springhare, Small Spotted Genet, Bat-eared Fox, African Wildcat and a Rufous-cheeked Nightjar.

Day 11

Monday 19th November

Bright start, cloud building, Thundery showers from late afternoon.

Everybody was awake bright and early. A male Lion and two cubs were still visible from the observation hide until about 07.00, though a bit distant for photography. We were joined at our al fresco breakfast by a pair of Damara Hornbills, several Burchell’s Starlings, a covey of Red-billed Francolins and a Wart Hog. From Hobatere, we entered Etosha National Park by the western gate, the landscape now much flatter, with the mopane forest interspersed with termite mounds.

The trees thinned out considerably as we travelled the 150km or so eastwards towards the saltpan and Okaukuejo Camp, save for the Fairy Tale forest of Moringa trees. Hartmann’s Mountain Zebras were gradually replaced by Burchell’s Zebras, the antelope count increased, and blue Wildebeests were new to us. One or two Steinbok popped up here and there. Birdwise, a melanistic Gabar Goshawk was perhaps the most interesting sighting. Calling at a number of water holes en route, we were thrilled to find a couple of bull elephants drinking at one pool, which proceeded to spray themselves with muddy water to the delight of the snappers. Then another five elephants soon followed. We checked in to the new improved accommodation at Okaukuejo, before a late afternoon drive (very local) in the developing thundery showers. Oryx, Springbok and a male Northern Black Korhaan glowed eerily in the stormy light against the bleached vegetation. Rain stopped play at the camp water hole after dinner.

Day 12

Tuesday 20th November

Cloudy start, soon clearing to give a much brighter day.

We left Okaukuejo just as soon as we were allowed at 06.15. Intending to visit a water hole to look for lions, but we were diverted by a Spotted Hyena which was being harassed by a couple of Black-backed Jackals. We spent some time photographing that, and then an “implausibility” of Blue Wildebeest. Among the new birds were Spotted Thick-knee, Double-banded Courser, Ant-eating Chat and Secretary Bird. Geoff glimpsed an African Wildcat on our return to camp, and a dung beetle held us up for a while. Following breakfast, we headed south from Okaukuejo to search for Black Rhino, and eventually found a bull in the shade of a tree. Near here we also found a male Lion retreating into the shade, and our first few Black-faced Impala.

Another drive in the late afternoon, and we just had to stop for two close Cape Ground Squirrels. We didn't have far to drive before we discovered a party of eight Lions lying in the grass. That led to a stake-out for a couple of hours in case they were motivated to hunt or move towards a water hole, but they remained pretty lethargic throughout. However, a Ratel (honey Badger) ran by while we were waiting, and the sunset was pretty spectacular. After dinner, there was just time before bed to see three Black Rhino (including a small calf) coming to the camp water hole to drink in the floodlight.

Day 13

Wednesday 21st November

Clear at first, cloud developing, thundery showers from mid afternoon.

We left Okaukuejo after early breakfast, and journeyed eastwards through Etosha calling at various water holes. One of our first encounters was a pair of mating Ostriches. Thereafter a couple of separate male Lions sheltering in the shade of their respective trees, our first Red Hartebeest, and a fine “dazzle” of zebras on edge of the pan. Martial Eagle, Booted Eagle, an immature Bateleur, Blue Waxbill and Violet-eared Waxbill were among the more impressive birds. Lunch was taken at the Halali rest camp, and although we couldn't find Violet Wood-hoopoe here, a huge Spotted Emperor Moth modelled for the photographers instead. Other interesting diversions en-route included a Giant Millipede and a Leopard Tortoise. Most excitingly, a lioness and cub were watched for a while at very close range. The mother began to stalk an Oryx which had carelessly strayed into hunting range, but the cub's inexperience soon led to the Oryx gaining a reprieve. Shortly after we reached our destination at Namutoni, the rest camp built around an old German colonial fort, with its swish new accommodation. Big showers, comfy beds and air-conditioning were all most welcome. A large Rock Python was seen at the new water hole by floodlight.

Day 14

Thursday 22nd November

Little cloud now, hotter.

We followed the dik-dik drive shortly after daybreak, and saw 8 or so Damara Dik-dik. This was also a great area of bush for birds (including Red-crested Korhaan) and Black-faced Impala. After breakfast, we headed north along edge of the pan. Here we found more birds of prey than of late; Bateleur, Tawny Eagle, Black-chested Snake-eagle, and both Lappet-faced and White-backed Vulture. Other bird highlights were Southern Pied Babbler, Lilac-breasted Roller, Jacobin Cuckoo, and nine Blue Cranes.

We found a group of bull Kudu daubing their horns with mud, and then a procession of elephants which had a wide choice of natural pools to use after the recent rains. Three bulls in particular gave a good show of drinking, bathing and mock-fighting next to a picturesque acacia tree. An aerial gathering of 40 or so vultures gave away the location of a recent lion kill which we had been tipped off about, and we found two female Lions lying in shade. One was roused to defend the remains of their prey, as the first White-backed Vulture made a tentative landing and inspection.

On our evening drive we were excited to find 10 lioness and cubs by a water hole, and we were pleased to be able to photograph most of them drinking, in groups and singly. Two cubs played with each other briefly. Just before sunset we watched 18 Cape eland at another water hole. Namutoni Camp had a few problems with water and electricity in camp and the table service at dinner but it was hardly enough to detract from another great day in Etosha.

Day 15

Friday 23rd November

Clear and hot.

We managed to squeeze in one final game drive before departing Namutoni. A group of six young male Lions were soon found near a water hole, and one came to drink offering perfect clear reflections. We waited a while for the biggest guy to see what he did, but they all gradually wandered off to find shade as the day warmed. Lots of Burchell's Zebra, Blue Wildebeest, Springbok, Black-faced Impala and a single Cape Eland watched from a respectful distance, not daring to approach too close. Meanwhile a pair of marauding Jackals kept circling the water hole, as too a couple of Pale Chanting Goshawk. One of the Jackals was the first to get lucky, and we witnessed it capture and devour an unwary Cape Turtle Dove. The other jeep had their own success, seeing three Giraffe drinking and able to take close-up photos with reflections. Leaving Etosha, we headed south for Waterberg on the freshly paved road. We enjoyed a fine lunch at a family restaurant in the charming town of Otjiwarango, famous as the birth place of one Richard Fryer, and reached Waterberg in the late afternoon where we relaxed until our evening meal. Damara Dik-diks (or "tic-tacs") graced our lawns as we returned to the chalets.

Day 16

Saturday 24th November

Clear and hot.

Some took the opportunity of an invigorating early morning hike up to the Waterberg plateau, and were rewarded with spectacular views. Birds included a magnificent male African Paradise Flycatcher, Alpine Swifts, Short-toed Rockthrush and Bearded Woodpecker. Rory was able to video a sleepy Rock Hyrax. After breakfast we packed ready for the final journey back to Windhoek airport, and then relaxed in the gardens and by the pool until it was time to go. There were a few further bird sightings of Marico Sunbird, Bradfield's Hornbill and Rüppell's Parrot.

We sat down to our final lunch, after which Chris thanked Douw and Richard for their monumental efforts on our behalf, prompting a round of applause. On our way to the airport we passed the junction to the town of Gross Barmen, deciding not to stop off there for a drink.

Day 17

Sunday 25th November

We arrived bright and early at Gatwick airport on a clear morning. After baggage reclaim, the group said their farewells and went off their separate ways.

Summary

A splendid holiday in an enchanting country, packed with wonderful wildlife. We seemed to enjoy more than our fair share of sightings of Lion, Black Rhino and African Elephant in particular, and our experiences with the desert-adapted elephants in Damaraland were quite extraordinary. The enthusiasm of the group for photography and making the most of the light meant a lot of early mornings and a fairly packed itinerary, but everybody turned up for just about every activity, and it's hard to identify what we might have dared to leave out. A great introduction to a fascinating part of Africa made all the more enjoyable by our Namibian hosts.

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Species Lists

Birds

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>												2			
2	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>						1									
3	White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>					c10										
4	Cape Gannet	<i>Morus capensis</i>					3										
5	White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>				X	X	X	X								
6	Cape Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>				X	X	X	X								
7	Eastern White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>				X	X	X									
8	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>				1	1	c10						1			
9	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>					X	X									
10	White stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	2														
11	African Marabou	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>													X		
12	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>				X	X	X									
13	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>					X	X									
14	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>										X	X	X	X		
15	Knob-billed (Comb) Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>													X		
16	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>					X	X									
17	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>												X			
18	Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotus</i>								2	3	2			X	X	
19	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>										2			>40	X	X
20	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>												X	3		
21	Black-breasted Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		1									1		1		
22	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>										1			1		1
23	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>													X		
24	Black (Verreaux's) Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>	2			1					1	2					
25	African Hawk Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>	2									3	2			1	
26	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>												1			
27	Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>		1													
28	Steppe Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>															X

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
29	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>												2			X
30	Pale Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>	X	X	X	X						X	X	X	X	X	X
31	Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>											1			2	
32	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>														1	
33	Rock (Common) Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	X	X		X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X
34	Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>											X		X	X	
35	Red-billed Francolin	<i>Francolinus adspersus</i>									X	X		X	X	X	X
36	Swainson's Francolin (Spurfowl)	<i>Francolinus swainsonii</i>														X	
37	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	X	X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
38	Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
39	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>						X									
40	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						X						X			
41	Blue Crane	<i>Anthropoides paradisea</i>														9	
42	Secretary Bird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>											2	2	1		
43	Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>										2	X	X	X	X	
44	Ludwig's Bustard	<i>Neotis ludwigii</i>			1												
45	Ruppell's Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis rueppellii</i>		8	X	8			X	X	X						
46	Red-crested Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis ruficrista</i>														3	
47	Northern Black Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis afroides</i>									2	X	X				
48	African Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>					X										
49	Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>					X	X									
50	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					X	X					1				
51	Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					X	X									
52	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>												X		X	
53	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>					X	X	X								
54	Crowned Plover (Lapwing)	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>										X	X		X	X	
55	Blacksmith Plover (Lapwing)	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>										X	X	X	X	X	
56	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>						X									
57	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>					X	X									
58	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>					X	X	X								
59	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>					X	X									
60	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>					X	X									

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
61	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>					X	X									
62	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>														X	
63	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>														X	
64	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	X														
65	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>					6	X						2			
66	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>					X	X									
67	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>						X									
68	Spotted Dikkop (Thick-knee)	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>											2				
69	Burchell's Courser	<i>Cursorius rufus</i>		X	X							X	X				
70	Double-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>											X		X		
71	Sub-Antarctic Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>					1	3									
72	Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>					3										
73	Cape (Kelp) Gull	<i>Larus vetula</i>				X	X	X	X								
74	Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Larus hartlaubii</i>				X	X	X									
75	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>					X	X									
76	Swift Tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>					X		X								
77	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>				X	X	X	X								
78	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				X	X	X	X								
79	Damara Tern	<i>Sterna balaenarum</i>					1	6	X								
80	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>						1									
81	Namaqua Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>	X		X	X							X	X	X	X	
82	Rock (Speckled) Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>			X	X											
83	Cape Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
84	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>		X		X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
85	Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calva</i>															2
86	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	X	X		X						X	X	X	X	X	
87	Ruppell's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus rueppellii</i>									X						X
88	Rosy-faced Lovebird	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	X	X							X					X	X
89	Grey Lourie	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>	X	X							X			X	X	X	X
90	African Grey Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus gularis</i>									X						
91	Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>												X	X	X	
92	Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>													2		

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
93	Spotted Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>		1													
94	Rufous-cheeked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus rufigena</i>									1		2				
95	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>															X
96	Bradfield's Swift	<i>Apus bradfieldi</i>	X									X		X			X
97	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>													X	X	X
98	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>										X	X			X	X
99	African White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	X				X										
100	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>													X		
101	Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Colius indicus</i>	X												2		
102	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>											X				
103	Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>	3							X					X		X
104	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudata</i>													X		
105	Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevia</i>											2	X	2		
106	Bradfield's Hornbill	<i>Tockus bradfieldi</i>															1
107	Monteiro's Hornbill	<i>Tockus monteiri</i>									X						X
108	Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>										X					X
109	Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus flavirostris</i>								X	X				X	X	
110	Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>									X			X	X		
111	Damara Hornbill	<i>Tockus damarensis</i>										X					
112	African Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>	X							X	X		X		X		
113	Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>									1	1	X	X		X	
114	Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Lybius leucomelas</i>		1										2			
115	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicops fuscescens</i>										X			X		
116	Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Thripias namaquus</i>															2
117	Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafra apiata</i>													X		
118	Sabota Lark	<i>Mirafra sabota</i>				X						X	X	X	X		
119	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>											X				
120	Stark's Lark	<i>Calandrella starki</i>		X													
121	Grey-backed Finch Lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>				X			X				X	X		X	
122	Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>								X			X				
123	Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo semirufa</i>															X
124	Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Hirundo cucullata</i>	X	X													

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
125	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X			X	X	X				X		X	X		
126	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>										X	X		X		
127	African Rock Martin	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>	X	X	X	X	X				X			X		X	X
128	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicurus adsimilis</i>	X	X	X	X				X	X	X		X	X	X	X
129	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
130	Black Crow (Cape Rook)	<i>Corvus capensis</i>							X			X	X	X	X		
131	Carp's Black Tit	<i>Parus carpi</i>								X	X				X		
132	Bare-cheeked Babbler	<i>Turdoides gymnogenys</i>								X							
133	Southern Pied Babbler	<i>Turdoides bicolor</i>													X		
134	Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>	X	X		X					X		X	X	X	X	
135	Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>	X	X									X	X	X	X	X
136	Short-toed Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola brevipes</i>															X
137	Familiar Chat	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>		X	X	X					X		X				
138	Tractrac Chat	<i>Cercomela tractrac</i>							X	X							
139	Mountain Chat (Wheatear)	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>		X		X			X	X	X	X					
140	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>											X				
141	Southern Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>											X		X		
142	White-browed Scrub-robin	<i>Erythropygia leucophrys</i>													X	X	
143	Karoo Scrub-robin	<i>Erythropygia coryphoeus</i>	X	X						X	X						
144	African Marsh (Reed) Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>					X	X	X								
145	Grey-backed Cameroptera	<i>Cameroptera brevicaudata</i>										X			X	X	X
146	Chestnut-vented Titbabbler	<i>Parisoma subcaeruleum</i>	X								X						
147	Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>													X		
148	Fan-tailed (Zitting) Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>												X	X		
149	Desert Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aridula</i>											X				
150	Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>															X
151	Black-chested Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>										X			X		
152	Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>											X				
153	Chat Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis infuscatus</i>											X	X			
154	Marico Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis mariquensis</i>												X	X		
155	African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>															1m
156	Orange River White-eye	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>						1									

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
157	Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	X			X	X	X	X								
158	Grassveld Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>		X	X							X					
159	Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>	X	X									X	X			
160	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>												X			
161	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>									X		X		X		
162	Fiscal Shrike	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	X								X		X	X			
163	White-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanioturdus torquatus</i>										X					
164	White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus anguitimens</i>												X	X		
165	Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>								X				X	X		
166	Glossy (Cape) Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	X	X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
167	Burchell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis australis</i>									X	X					
168	Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>		X	X	X					X	X					X
169	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia senegalensis</i>		X													X
170	Dusky Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia fusca</i>	X	X		X	X				X	X					X
171	Marico Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia mariquensis</i>															
172	Great Sparrow	<i>Passer motitensis</i>												X	X		
173	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		X		X			X		X						
174	Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	
175	Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>										X	X		X		
176	Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>												X	X	X	
177	White-browed Sparrow Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>									X	X	X				
178	Sociable Weaver	<i>Philetairus socius</i>				X							X				
179	Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	X	X		X	X	X					X	X	X	X	X
180	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>										X	X	X	X		
181	Scaly-feathered Finch	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>			X								X		X		
182	Red-headed Finch	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>			X								X	X	X	X	
183	Violet-eared Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus granatinus</i>												X	X		
184	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>					X	X	X								
185	Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>												X	X		
186	Yellow Canary	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	X			X	X	X						X			
187	White-throated Canary	<i>Serinus albogularis</i>	X	X					X	X	X	X		X	X		
188	Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>										X	X				

		November															
	Common name	Scientific name	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
189	Lark-like Bunting	<i>Emberiza impetuani</i>				X								X			
190	Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>		X													

X = Seen

Mammals

		November															
	Common name	Scientific name	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1	Cape Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>									X	X					
2	Southern Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>											1				
3	Ground Squirrel	<i>Xerus inauris</i>		X							X	X	X	X			
4	Striped Tree Squirrel	<i>Funisciurus sp.</i>									X						
5	Springhare	<i>Pedetes capensis</i>									X						
6	Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	X	X												X	X
7	Dassie Rat	<i>Petromus typicus</i>									X						
8	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>				1			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
9	Bat-eared Fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>									1						
10	Honey Badger (Ratel)	<i>Mellivora capensis</i>											1				
11	Yellow Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ochracea</i>	1									X	X				
12	Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>													X	X	X
13	Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>												X	X	X	
14	Spotted Hyaena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>											1				
15	Common Genet	<i>Genetta genetta</i>									2						
16	African Wild Cat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>								1	1	1					
17	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>										3	9	8	12	6	
18	Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>		X													X
19	African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta Africana</i>								12		7			>10		
20	Burchell's Zebra	<i>Equus burchelli</i>										X	X	X	X	X	
21	Hartmann's Mountain Zebra	<i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i>	>5						X	X	X	X					
22	Black Rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>								2			4				

	Common name	Scientific name	November														
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>									X	X	X	X	X	X	X
24	Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>							2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
25	Cape Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>												18	1		
26	Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	4						X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
27	Gemsbok (Oryx)	<i>Oryx gazella</i>		3	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
28	Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus caama</i>											X		X		
29	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>										X	X	X	X	X	
30	Black-faced Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus petersi</i>											2	X	X	X	
31	Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
32	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	X	2							1						
33	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>								X	X	X		X	2		
34	Damaraland Dik-dik	<i>Rhynchotragus kirki damarensis</i>													8	2	X
35	Cape Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>				X	X	X	X								
36	Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>					8										
37	Heaviside's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus heavisidii</i>					12										