

# Tanzania Highlights

Naturetrek Tour Report

24 January - 7 February 2013

---



Blue Wildebeest



Little Bee-eater



Spotted Hyena



African Lion

Report and images compiled by Zul Bhatia

---



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour leader:	Zul Bhatia	Naturetrek
	Hassan Marando	Local Guide/Driver
	Leaky Laiser	Local Guide/Driver
Participants:	Nicky Godbold	
	Peter Jenkins	
	Jan McCroddan	
	Linda Neal	
	Rosetta Neale	
	Valerie & John Osborn	
	Hilary Perring	
	Reuben Singleton	
	Janet Wall	
Catherine Webb		

## Summary

As ever, our two week trip to Northern Tanzania visiting the National Parks and the Ngorongoro Crater, was an incomparable wildlife spectacle. Once again on this trip we saw all the special things we might reasonably have hoped to have seen: we thought we were going to miss out on the vast herds of Wildebeest and Zebra as it had been so dry, but everything came right on the last day in the Serengeti NP and they appeared in untold numbers in areas that had been empty just five days before. We did particularly well for cats with 98 Lions, Six Leopards, Five Cheetahs as well as African Civet and Serval.

Despite the fact that it was very dry for most of the time, the start of the short rains at the end of last year had been prolific and as a result, many species such as Whydahs, Bishops and Widow Birds were in breeding plumage. This, together with there being several keen birders meant that the bird list was a respectable 320 species (274 in 2012). 47 species of mammals were seen too.

It was especially rewarding to be able to get close to and have good views of the more interesting species. Our two guides, Hassan & Leaky, were very incredibly knowledgeable, being some of the most experienced guides on the circuit. Nothing was too much trouble for them to make our visit especially memorable. Everybody went away with their own favourite moment but the highlight for me (Zul) was the first sightings on the Ngorongoro Crater and the vast herds on the plains.

## Day 1

## Thursday 24th January

Zul (the tour leader) met up with the others (except Jan who was meeting up with us at Nairobi tomorrow) at the departure gate at Heathrow for the 1900 Kenya Airways flight to Nairobi. It was a comfortable and not very full flight, so some people had three seats to themselves!

## Day 2

Friday 25th January

Hot, sunny & humid

We arrived at Nairobi Airport, Kenya at about 0630. We all relaxed in the upstairs restaurant area of the airport, had a drink/snack and started our trip bird list off, seeing Yellow-billed Kite, Red-winged & Superb Starlings, Speckled Pigeon, Little Swift, Sacred Ibis and African Pied Wagtail. We also took the opportunity to get to introduce ourselves to each other, outline what each of us hoped to get from our trip and get some background about the trip from Zul. Jan who had arrived via Manchester and Amsterdam joined our group. Hilary & Peter left for Kilimanjaro International Airport in Tanzania on a slightly earlier flight (0830) than the rest of us who left at 0900. Forty minutes later we were all in Tanzania, got through the airport formalities quite quickly and were met at the airport by two drivers, Imani & Willy. Mount Kilimanjaro was showing very well just as we left the airport, so we stopped, got out and took some photos. Next stop was Mountain Village Lodge, our accommodation for the next two nights. It was about an hours drive away. After freshening up, most people had a light lunch and then relaxed in the wonderful environs of the lodge. We met again at 1630 and went on a bird walk in the grounds until about 1800. Birding highlights were various sunbirds, Grosbeak Weaver and Violet-backed Starling. We also had great views of Blue Monkeys. After dinner, most people gathered to call the wildlife log for the day and then it was off to bed!

## Day 3

Saturday 26th January

Hot & sunny

Our drivers Hassan & Leaky, who were to be with us for the whole safari, arrived at Mountain Village Lodge well before 0800. They also brought with them James Wolstencroft, a friend of Zul's and excellent naturalist. As a resident of Arusha for seven years, James knew his wildlife (including calls) very well and was a great asset for the day and sat in the other vehicle to Zul's so everyone got off to a flying start with wildlife watching. Hassan & Leaky have guided for Naturetrek on many occasions and knew Zul quite well too, so it was a pleasure to welcome them. They turned out to be excellent companions for the whole safari and their knowledge was second to none. We left the lodge at 0815 and about half an hour later, we were watching our first large animals and new birds at Arusha National Park.

Whilst the drivers were getting our permits, we watched birds in the entrance gate area with the highlight for most being the Speke's Weavers at the nests. Soon we were on our way in to the park proper; one of the first birds we saw was a pair of African Stonechats sporting a number of colour rings. The drivers thought this was quite amusing and called them Masai Stonechats because of the bling! Next we climbed through forest up to the Ngurdoto Crater rim. It was fairly quiet in the forest for birds there, perhaps because of the wind, but we did see some very special birds from the rim including Black Stork, displaying Crowned Eagle and Hartlaub's Turaco, the last often being very elusive on other Naturetrek trips, but we saw several! We had amazing sightings of our target mammal, the Black & White Colobus Monkey and saw at least four groups well. We must have seen over 30 animals in total, probably a record number for a Naturetrek trip. After descending from the evergreen forest, we stopped briefly to look at wildlife on Lake Longil and saw our first (distant) Hippos, White-backed Ducks and African Jacanas. Next we headed for the lovely Small Momella Lake where we had our picnic lunches. There were many hirundines (mainly Plain Martin and Barn Swallows) and Little Grebes present there.

At the Big Momella Lake, there were large numbers of Flamingos and waders present and we enjoyed looking at all of those. After that, we headed for the Momella gate and picked up a ranger, who took us on a hike to a nearby waterfall. The highlights of the walk were getting very close to a herd of Buffalo (quite a different experience than from a car!) and excellent views of many White-fronted Bee-eaters. We also saw a Giraffe on the walk. At the waterfall, some of us saw a lovely male Grey Wagtail, quite a scarce bird in Tanzania. Then it was back to Mountain Village Lodge, arriving back at 1830, in good time to wash and brush up before the evening meal.

## Day 4

Sunday 27th January

Hot & sunny. Thunderstorms in the evening

Some were up for some very early morning bird watching in the grounds of Mountain Village. Nothing very unusual was seen, but it was nice to get more familiar with some of the commoner species. We assembled at 0815 at reception where Jan made a very eloquent speech on behalf of all of us to thank the various staff and leave a small tip for all that had looked after us so well there.

We left Mountain Village at 0840 and stopped in Arusha town for about 20 minutes to try and buy postcards and stamps, but everywhere was shut as it was still quite early on a Sunday. Zul bought some snacks for our journey and the drivers fuelled up and we were off to the wilds by 1000. Just about noon (after a stop to buy water at Makuyuni village), we arrived at the entrance gate to Tarangire NP. Normally, that area has a lot of easy to see birds and it's often difficult to tear oneself away, but there were very few birds today (probably as it was so hot and the time of the day), so we didn't linger long and made our way to Tarangire Safari Lodge, our base for the next two nights. Our arrival there was delayed by a very nice group of elephants enjoying a very muddy waterhole quite close to the lodge. It was particularly interesting watching the very young ones playing.

At the lodge, we were warmly welcomed by Annette & John Simonson, the owners who Zul had known for many years. The African Scops Owl that was roosting in the camp during Zul's last visit in October 2012 was still there and we were quick to all go and see it...a very obliging bird indeed. In fact the camp was excellent for some very tame wildlife with many normally shy species such as Kirk's Dikdik being very approachable. The Black-faced Vervets were very bold indeed and had even learnt to open up tent zips, as a neighbour of ours found out when they raided it for fruit which they had mistakenly left inside!

The weather was hot that we decided to delay our departure for the afternoon game drive to 1630. This was not a hardship at all, as the lodge is built on a fantastic vantage point and there is much to see all the time. There was also a swimming pool which some people enjoyed. The afternoon game drive was great for wildlife sightings, notable being brilliant views of Elephants and an active Hamerkop's nest. We got back to the lodge just before nightfall at about 1900.

Some people went on a night drive led by Brendan, the son of the owners of the lodge we were staying at. They were rewarded by some excellent sightings including Bat-eared Foxes, African & Spring Hares, White-tailed Mongoose and most amazingly three Cheetahs! They also had sightings of two species of owl – Verreaux's Eagle and African Marsh. Needless to say, they were well pleased! These night drives are a new feature at Tarangire NP.

## Day 5

Monday 28th January

Cloudy in the morning. Sunny in afternoon

It was a beautiful sunrise at about 0615 and Reuben made some atmospheric sound recordings, dominated by the very noisy Crested Francolins! After an early breakfast, our departure from the lodge was delayed by excellent sighting of six Lions just below the lodge! It was great that many of the lodge staff (who rarely, if at all, go on game drives) were able to enjoy the spectacle too. After that, we went on a long game drive to the main part of the park with ample routes to explore the area. We had another group of Lions on the drive – nine of them closely watched by a Giraffe that seemed unwilling to move very far away! Whilst we were watching a large group of the very colourful Yellow-collared Lovebirds (endemic to Tanzania) at a small waterhole, a Helmeted Terrapin climbed out and walked past us. As this is not a creature that is often observed on our safaris, it was a nice bonus. Other highlights during the morning drive were; a Black Stork, a very colourful Red & Yellow Barbet and a very obliging Woodland Kingfisher posing for photos. Watching a large group of Elephants bathing and playing in the river was also a very popular stop. We were back at the lodge for a hot lunch and siesta/relax.

For the afternoon game drive, we went to a different part of the park, doing the 'River Circuits'. The birding highlights were undoubtedly two nocturnal species - a pair of the Heuglin's Courser and three Spotted Thick-Knees. We also had excellent views of a Bearded Woodpecker and Northern Pied Babbler. A bird of prey had us fooled briefly and it turned out to be an immature Eastern Chanting Goshawk. As we neared our lodge at the end of the afternoon, we came across four Lions (presumably part of the same group we had seen from the veranda at breakfast).

A group of us went on a night drive with Brendan, with Val and John going again too. Surprisingly, what we saw was significantly different from the night drive the day before, even though we went to the same areas. Obviously, we had some of the same species, but we also had Southern White-faced Owl (the first Brendan had seen on his night drives), several Bronze-winged Coursers, but it was remarkable for the small cats we found towards the end of the drive...in a quarter of an hour period, we had Serval, both Large-spotted & Small-spotted Genets and two African Civets. The National Park Ranger we had with us got very excited about the Serval as it was the first one of that species that he had **ever** seen!

## Day 6

Tuesday 29th January

Hot & sunny, but windy

Today we said goodbye to the wonderful Tarangire Safari Lodge and National Park. It had been a brilliant stay here. As we weren't leaving at the crack of dawn, we managed an hour looking for wildlife in and around the camp. Easily the highlight was a group of five Lionesses and four cubs down by the river. We also had a lovely group of Elephants in the river too. We finally had excellent views of the Red-chested Cuckoo that we had heard so often at different places! On our way out to the park gate, we saw five additional Lions under the large baobab where we had seen them before.

Next stop was the Esilale Masai School where we visited two classes – the most junior and the most senior ones. It was fascinating to learn about the school and to understand the effort involved by some of the pupils in getting there, with some of the children walking for two hours each way.

Lunch for all was a soup which the children took it in turns to make. The quality of work of the older pupils was quite impressive. All enjoyed our visit here and many left donations for the school too.

A short drive later (less than half an hour) and we were at the Manyara Wildlife Safari Camp. This was the first time a Naturetrek group had stayed there. A very nice location and although the camp had been in existence for ten years, it had undergone extensive renovation and opened fully only last year, so everything was new. After lunch and relaxing for a while, we visited Lake Manyara NP for a few hours. There was so much wildlife to see at the Hippo Pool in the park area (both birds and mammals) that we were fully occupied identifying everything and sharing the sightings. The bird list increased significantly and we saw many hippos and our first Wildebeest and Thompson's Gazelle of the trip too.

## Day 7

Wednesday 30th January

Mostly overcast and cooler than of late. Some very light rain

Jan, Linda and Reuben joined Zul for a very early morning bird walk just next to our camp. At first, birds were difficult to find but soon things changed and we ended up seeing many species, highlights being a stunning adult male Irania (or White-throated Robin) which even sang briefly for us and gave excellent views to all. Reuben also found a lovely Lesser Grey Shrike, an unusual sighting for January – they being most often recorded in Tanzania on passage in April.

We left the camp at 8.30am, stopping briefly just outside to watch a breeding plumaged male Straw-tailed Whydah. Just as we hit the tarmac (about 1.5 km from our camp), we were entertained by two Grey-headed Kingfishers perching on a roadside fence and putting on quite a show. After that, it was a long climb up the Rift Valley escarpment to a fabulous viewpoint where we had about 15 minutes admiring the scene below us and taking photos. A very obliging male Mourning (or Schalow's) Wheatear at the viewpoint was a new bird for the trip.

We stopped at Karatu, the last town before the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, at about 1000 for fuel, arriving at the Ngorongoro CA gate at 1025. Hassan and Leaky checked us in and paid the fees, and we visited the very nice displays at the Information Centre. Using the relief map there, Zul gave us a short talk about some of the features of the area. Despite the large number of vehicles, the park staff members were quite efficient at dealing with the paperwork, and we were able to get away only twenty minutes after we arrived there. Twenty minutes later, we were enjoying our first views of the Ngorongoro Crater from the viewpoint on the rim. No matter how many times I (Zul) have seen it (dozens over 40+ years!), it is still a magical, almost spiritual experience for me and always nice to share it with other people in the party. We stopped here for a while savouring the atmosphere and used the telescope to identify some of the specks we could see about 2000 feet below us. Then we drove along the forested Crater rim, with wonderful trees encrusted with hanging lichens, and enjoyed spectacular views of the old extinct volcanoes as well as a lovely African Harrier Hawk, before dropping down to the vast plains with their wonderful vistas. The short grass plains of the Ngorongoro CA/Serengeti NP were pretty dry and mainly devoid of mammals except for a few gazelles. In another year with good rains these areas would be teeming with animals. We did however come across a dead Zebra with many attendant Spotted Hyenas, vultures and Marabou Storks in attendance. As all this action was happening quite close to the road, cameras clicked away...

We had our packed lunches with us and ate them at the picnic tables at Naabi Hill, the entrance gate to the Serengeti NP. There are many tame birds and mice there, so they provided much of interest and many folk took the opportunity of walking the nature trail to the top of the small hill there too. We finally left there at 1535. Shortly afterwards, near the Simba Kopjes we came across some large congregations of Zebra and Wildebeest with long lines crossing the road too. We enjoyed watching these for quite a while. Soon after that, we came across some Lions at a roadside culvert – we could see three cubs and at least an adult male and adult female, but there may have been more. On our arrival in the Seronera area of the Serengeti NP, we soon learnt of a large group of Lions and went off to see them. There were at least 12 young and a few adult females with them too (one of which was neck-collared). We finally arrived at Seronera Wildlife Lodge, our home for the next two nights at c1800.

## Day 8

Thursday 31st January

Overcast at first, hot & sunny later

Early breakfast and off at 0740. By the small lake that was the water supply for the accommodation, was a small group of Lions (4 females and at least 2 cubs) at a kill, although there only seemed to be skin left. At least three Hyenas were around there too, trying to snatch bits of the kill which they eventually did as the Lions moved off. At the edge of a muddy hole near the Lions was our first Striated (or Green-backed) Heron of the trip and there were a few waders at the lake edge too.

Next stop was the Mawe Mwaupe ('White Rock') picnic site game viewing en route. Whilst we were at the loos, word came on the radio that the occupants of our other vehicle had seen a Serval and were watching a Leopard not very far away! We got back in the vehicle and hurried back to where the others were and had great views of the Leopard. After watching it for quite a long time, we set off again only to come across another Leopard less than half a mile away! Whilst we were watching this second one, the first one climbed down its tree and made its way to near where we were and we had great views of it on the ground, crossing the road and disappearing in to the long grass. The Leopard action had been amazing this morning and everyone was very pleased. Then it was back to the lodge for lunch and a siesta!

In the afternoon, we went to the Masai Kopjes where we saw a couple of magnificent male Lions stretched out high up on the kopje. We also saw an enormous herd of buffalo. Best birds were many Double-banded Coursers and a lovely male White-bellied Bustard. We got back to the lodge at about 1830, just in time for a few sunset photographs.

## Day 9

Friday 1st February

Mainly overcast with some rain, occasionally quite heavy

Some people were up very early to photograph the sunrise, but unfortunately there was very little colour this morning. We left the lodge just after 8am, en route for Lobo Lodge in the northern part of Serengeti NP. We went via the wonderful Retima Hippo Pool where there was an amazing concentration of more than 300 Hippos together! En route there, we had prolonged views of a Black-backed Jackal quite close to us. Just before we got to the lodge, we had our first sightings of Klipspringer for which the area is famous.

We arrived at Lobo Wildlife Lodge at 1345 and it was straight to lunch after dropping our stuff off in the rooms. On arrival, Zul had the usual 'discussion' about bureaucratic form-filling with the management and was able to save everyone having to fill in a form. The Manager remembered him from previous visits!

We went out again from 1630 to dusk taking the Ndasiata game circuit. Very quickly after leaving the lodge, we were treated to a pair of Verreaux's (or Black) Eagles, one of the highlights of the area and not seen on every trip. There were also seven Lions quite close to the lodge too and we had more fabulous views of Klipspringers. Back at the lodge, several of us went to the Sunset Viewpoint, but unfortunately, the hoped for colours did not materialise.

## Day 10

Saturday 2nd February

Overcast at first. Hot & sunny later

For a game drive this morning, we travelled the main road towards Bologonja Springs, near the Kenya border. Progress was slow due to good wildlife sightings, notable being a wonderful group of Elephants all around us, a lovely Leopard Tortoise, and several new birds most notable being Yellow-mantled Widowbird including some in breeding plumage. We got as far as the turning for the Lobo Hill Circuit and were back at our Lobo Lodge at 1230.

As we were going to be in the vehicles for a long time tomorrow (our longest journey of any of the days on safari), Zul gave us all several hours off! Some joined him for some birding in the lodge grounds before we set off for the afternoon/evening game drive at 1700. Others relaxed in the lovely environs of the lodge, which is built on a kopje and gives fantastic views over the surrounding area. For the game drive, one group went to the public campsite near the lodge, got out and walked around there and saw a few birds. We thought we were on to an owl or snake as many small species of birds were going berserk in one area with very loud alarm calling, but we never found the cause of the upset. The other vehicle chanced on two Leopards near the Lobo Airstrip and radioed us! We rushed off there to try and see them, but no luck. We were all back at the lodge for sunset.

## Day 11

Sunday 3rd February

Overcast for part of day. Hot & sunny later

We left Lobo Lodge at 0810 and had a long day's drive ahead of us, punctuated by the inevitable wildlife sightings and the odd break of course. The whole journey would be inside the protected areas of the Serengeti NP/Ngorongoro CA, so there was plenty to see. After a brief stop for three Ground Hornbills in a tree, our first significant stop was just before 1000 when we stopped to look at a Leopard in a tree. It had been an amazing safari for Leopard sightings as this was our sixth!

We had a good break at the Seronera Visitor Centre where most people experienced the excellent raised Interpretative Trail that told you much about the habitats in the park and the inhabitants there, both animal and human. We asked around if any Cheetahs had been sighted in the Seronera area (normally an excellent place for them), as apart from the brief sightings of three seen by some of the group on a night drive at Tarangire NP, we hadn't encountered any but unfortunately none had been seen.



The short rains last November/December had been prolific resulting in long grass everywhere making Cheetah sightings difficult. Reluctantly, we pressed on towards Naabi Hill (the entrance/exit gate to Serengeti N/Ngorongoro CA) where we were to have lunch. Just before we got to Naabi Hill, we came across two Cheetahs! Although not great for photographs as they were a little bit distant and there was some heat haze too, it was great to see them! When they were lying down, they were invisible, but they did sit up occasionally and even walked a little bit nearer to us. Whilst we were stopped for the Cheetahs, a beautiful Isabelline Wheatear posed nicely besides our vehicle, allowing good photos.

Lunch was about three-quarters of an hour at the picnic tables at Naabi Hill, where once again we were entertained by some very tame wildlife (mainly birds). Our next stop was at Oldupai Gorge, the 'Cradle of Mankind' where an informative guide told us about the hominid history of the area dating back to nearly two million years before the present and also told us about the various archaeologists who had worked there and made the place famous. There is a very good museum with replicas of many of the fossils found and we all found this fascinating too. There were many birds around, including several stunning breeding-plumaged Vitelline Masked Weavers. We left Oldupai at 1630, having spent about three-quarters of an hour there.

Next, most of us visited a Masai village fairly close by. The Masai of course are very striking, photogenic people. Although they will often pose by the roadside asking to be photographed in return for payment, it is actually forbidden to photograph them except at such villages where you can photograph them to your heart's content. A small fee is charged for the visit and is part of Ngorongoro's Cultural Tourism programme which aims to bring tangible benefits to those living inside the Conservation Area. The Masai sang and danced for us, took us to see inside their huts and some people even went to the children's school. It was all very colourful and fascinating. We were guided round by Malo, who was the son of the Chief.

We got to the Ngorongoro Wildlife Lodge at about 1830. The lodge is set in a spectacular location right on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater with fabulous views, including from every bedroom. Within minutes of arriving, we were watching two Black Rhino through Zul's telescope, the main balcony at the lodge being an excellent place to observe them from, particularly at dawn and dusk. Although it had been a long drive today, it didn't seem too bad as we were in protected areas all the time with great scenery, had some good stops and there were some great wildlife sightings.

## Day 12

Monday 4th February

### Hot & sunny

Some got up just after 0600, to be able to watch the sunrise over the crater from the balcony. Two Black Rhinos were seen from there too. Most people were in for breakfast shortly after 0630 and we left the lodge at 0735 to go down in to the Ngorongoro Crater. The descent road is several kilometres round the rim from our lodge and we stopped a couple of times to admire the views and check for birds. Our paperwork was checked at the descent road gate by Ranger Abdi, who was very excited to see Zul again as he had travelled with him 'many times'! We finally made it to the floor of the crater just before 0900, having stopped just short of it to look at the lovely Mourning (or Schalow's) Wheatear and Anteater Chats.

The most sought after mammal in the Crater is the Black Rhino and sometimes they are very elusive and one has to be contentment with distant views of 'lumps' in the heat haze. Not so today! We had fabulous close views of two beside Lake Magadi. At times, they lay down; sometimes they got up and started walking. All within good photographic range of our vehicles and with a backdrop of Flamingos! We couldn't have wished for better...

We finally tore ourselves away and continued our exploration of the crater. There were so many storks around – both White and Abdim's and many other birds of course. It was especially nice to see many Yellow Wagtails – a species in very serious decline in the UK. We had our lunch at Ngoitokitok Springs (where most of the visitors to the crater have their lunches). The Black Kites here are very cheeky, stealing food from the tourists, so we had our food inside the vehicles, but we had plenty of time afterwards to stretch our legs and have a good break. We left there at 1345 and went straight to the Munge River area of the crater where we had report of Lions. There were certainly plenty of them around when we got there, at least 15, and they had been displaced from their buffalo kill by a massive herd of buffalos. There was plenty of action there with hyenas, jackals and vultures present too.

The Munge River area is one of the best places in Tanzania for the Grey Crowned Crane and Reuben decided to count them for the log. He got to 156!! The normal crater ascent road was closed for repairs and so we had to take a long route back to the lodge. The ascent was via the easy Sopa route, but then we had to drive over 20Km round the rim! We arrived back at our lodge at 1625.

## Day 13

Tuesday 5th February

### Hot & sunny

Early to breakfast today, leaving the lodge just after 0700. No hanging about on the rim today though and we got down to the crater floor about 0800. We visited the Hippo Pool in the crater, a very different experience from the one we visited in the Serengeti NP all those days ago. This one had few Hippos but lots of birds.

A definite highlight today was time spent with the calving group of Wildebeest. Although we didn't actually see a calf being born, we saw several that were just minutes old. Hyenas were in evidence nearby and we witnessed an amusing incident when a group of Zebras took exception and chased a Hyena off! We also had close views of Eland and some bull Elephants with very large tusks.

We went back to the area of Munge River where we had seen all those Lions yesterday. There were still a few visible including one seeking shade and snuggled up against the tyre of one of the vehicles! As we were only having half a day in the crater, we left the lions at c1100, were on the crater rim at 1130 and at our lodge for lunch.

In the afternoon, a walk had been arranged for us with an armed guard. We picked him up at the Ngorongoro CA HQ and then drove for about half an hour through Masai settlements, left the vehicles and went on a short walking safari. The terrain was mostly gently undulating grassland high up above Lake Eyasi and we had lovely views of this lake, another in the chain of Rift Valley lakes.

There was a Masai settlement nearby and we were joined by many Masai children for much of the walk. By the end, many were holding hands with a few of our group! Although we didn't actually see that much wildlife on the walk, it was an interesting diversion from the 'normal' one of being in vehicles all the time.

## Day 14

Wednesday 6th February

### Hot & sunny

Our time at in the Ngorongoro area had sadly come to an end. There was a lovely sunrise and a small amount of time for birding in the grounds before we left the lodge just after 0800. We passed the crater viewpoint where we had had our first views all those days ago and said our goodbyes to this wonderful area. We got to the Ngorongoro CA gate at 0840 and were there for about quarter of an hour. En route to the gate, we saw where Elephants had been digging for minerals in the cliffs at the side of the road.

Passing the busy town of Karatu, we got to the wonderful Gibb's Farm at about 0930 and were there until 1400. The farm is an old coffee plantation, with wonderful flower and vegetable gardens, great views and a superb place for 'chilling out'. It is right next to the Ngorongoro Highland Forest Reserve and so has some very good birding too. There was also a well stocked bird table which was frequented by many birds including White-headed Barbet and White-browed Robin Chat. The very small pond had Grosbeak Weavers with their massive bills weaving their very delicate nests and some other birds coming for a drink. Many other birds were seen at Gibb's Farm and included great views of Paradise Flycatcher and a flock of European Bee-eaters overhead.

Jan, Reuben, Val & John took the strenuous option and went for a walk to the Elephant caves inside the forest reserve. Reuben, Val & John also took a short farm tour afterwards. Most took a more leisurely approach and took the tour of the garden and farm and then just relaxed in the wonderful surroundings. We had arranged to have our lunch outside and enjoyed one of their famed buffet lunches before leaving there. Hilary fell for a painting done by one of the two artists in residence at Gibb's and bought it.

We stopped for about half an hour at 'African Galleria' - a very large 'tourist shop' near the turning for the Lake Manyara Hotel to buy some souvenirs. There was a bewildering array of crafts and other items to look at. Some serious bargaining ensued! We left there at 1510. Our travel to Arusha was delayed due to some road works and heavy traffic, but we got to the Rangers Safari compound where we said our goodbyes to Hassan & Leaky later than planned. We transferred in to our transfer minibuses with drivers Willie and Siddiqi and left there at 1745. They got us to the airport by 1900. Our flight was scheduled to depart at 1940, and we weren't the last to arrive, so all was well...Zul said his goodbyes to the group at the airport as they began their journey home.

## Day 15

Thursday 7th February

Arrival back at London Heathrow in the morning.

### Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk) to sign up.

## Species Lists

Birds (Key: m = male; H – heard only; ✓ = seen but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>			20	4	8	20	10	3	3	4	6	50	
2	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>		2	4	10	6	6	60	70	40	50	12	10	
3	Coqui Francolin	<i>Peliperdix coqui</i>							2						
4	Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>			12	20	10	4							
5	Hildebrandt's Francolin	<i>Pternistis hildebrandti</i>				4									
6	Yellow-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis leucoscepus</i>			6	10	2								
7	Grey-breasted Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis rufopictus</i>							3	4	1	5			
8	Red-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis afer</i>				10	8	2							
9	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>			2		150					2			
10	Fulvous Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>					200								
11	White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>		20											
12	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>						1					8	1	
13	Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>			1	5	20							2	
14	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>		3	2	2	100	10	10	1			40		
15	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>		10											
16	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>											30		
17	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>		20				4				1	1		
18	Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>											10		
19	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		100											
20	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>		50				00's					50	✓	
21	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>		2k				1k					000's	✓	
22	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>					10								
23	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>		1		1									
24	Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>	200		1000		200	10				100	500	500	
25	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	100		200			100			800	100	30	200	
26	Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>											1		
27	Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>	1	4	1	3	1	20	40	50		30	10	8	
28	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	5	6									6	10	
29	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>		3	10										

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
30	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>					1						20		
31	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					100							4	
32	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>		1			1		1				1		
33	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>													
34	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	500		500	20	100	100					50	50	
35	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>											3		
36	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>						3	10	1		2	1	1	
37	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	4	1											
38	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>		1											
39	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	2	1	1	1			1	1		2			
40	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>											2		
41	Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>		1			3								
42	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>			1								4		
43	White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>	1	1											
44	Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>			2				1	4	1	3		2	
45	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>						20	15	2		2			
46	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	4	2	4			1		2			20	4	2
47	African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>				1	2								
48	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>				1		2		1	2	1	2		
49	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>			10	25		12	20	10		10	30		
50	Rüppell's Vulture	<i>Gyps rueppellii</i>						40				50			
51	White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>			1										
52	Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>						4							
53	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>			10	6	2	2	3	2		1			
54	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>											1		
55	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>						1m	1m						
56	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>						2m	1m			2m			
57	African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>						1							
58	Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>							2	1	3	2			
59	Eastern Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax poliopterus</i>				2									
60	Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>				1									

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February													
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
61	Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>		1	2				3	1			2	4	2	
62	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>			2	6			2	2	2				1	
63	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>				2			1							
64	Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>									2					
65	African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>			1											
66	Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>				1										
67	Crowned Eagle	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>		1												
68	Pygmy Falcon	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>						2			2	4	1			
69	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>							25				40			
70	Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>							3	1						
71	Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>				1			1		1					
72	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>						1								
73	Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>							5	1	3		6	2	2	
74	White-bellied Bustard	<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>				6			2	2	2				2	
75	Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>							1		3		2	2	1	
76	Hartlaub's Bustard	<i>Lissotis hartlaubii</i>									3					
77	Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>		1					4	4						
78	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		1											1	
79	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>		30												
80	Grey Crowned Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>						6						156	100	
81	Water Thick-Knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>			2	2	2				2					
82	Spotted Thick-Knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>			P	3							2			
83	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		10						8				100		
84	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		1										50		
85	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>		3	10	20	40	6	12					100	50	
86	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>		3			10									
87	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>				10	2						12	4		
88	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>												20		
89	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>												10		
90	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>			4				4	6	1		2			
91	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>		20												

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
92	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		1					1	1					
93	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>							1				2		
94	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			2	2			1						
95	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		1	2	1									
96	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		5	2	4	1	2	4						
97	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		2			1		1						
98	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		2					6	4			50		
99	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>		12		6	30	12	15			2	50		
100	Temminck's Courser	<i>Cursorius temminckii</i>					1								
101	Double-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>			P	30	4		20	4					
102	Three-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus cinctus</i>				2									
103	Bronze-winged Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus chalcopterus</i>				4									
104	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>					200								
105	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>											20		
106	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>						20					50		
107	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>		1											
108	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>				1									
109	Black-faced Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles decoratus</i>				20			2	6		1			
110	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	8		6							4	20	6	
111	African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>	6	5	6										
112	Dusky Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia lugens</i>										4	1	2	
113	Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>				2		1				2			
114	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	3	6	2		2								2
115	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>			20	50	20	10	12	100	60	40			
116	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>			1	1		2		1	1				
117	Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>			1	1	1	1							
118	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>					2	2							
119	African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>	2	1											
120	Fischer's Lovebird	<i>Agapornis fischeri</i>							20	12	4	10			
121	Yellow-collared Lovebird	<i>Agapornis personatus</i>			40	60	20								
122	Hybrid lovebird	<i>Agapornis sp.</i>					6	6							

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
123	Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>			1	4				2	1				
124	Red-bellied Parrot	<i>Poicephalus rufiventris</i>			3	6	1								
125	Schalow's Turaco	<i>Tauraco schalowi</i>											2		
126	Hartlaub's Turaco	<i>Tauraco hartlaubi</i>		6											
127	Bare-faced Go-away-Bird	<i>Corythaixoides personatus</i>			4	2			2		2	1			
128	White-bellied Go-away-Bird	<i>Corythaixoides leucogaster</i>			4	4	2								
129	Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>			1	2		4	3	1	1	1			
130	Black Coucal	<i>Centropus grillii</i>							3						
131	Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>								1		1			
132	Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>					1			1	2				
133	African Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i>		H											
134	Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>		2		2	2								
135	African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>			1	1									
136	Southern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis granti</i>				1									
137	Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>			1										
138	Marsh Owl	<i>Asio capensis</i>			1										
139	Slender-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus clarus</i>			P	20	4								
140	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>			2	10	4								
141	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>						50		20		20			
142	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	10			100	20	50	50	100	50	50	50	30	
143	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	1	6							20	6			
144	Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>		15											
145	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	2		6	2	4	2	1		1	3	4	5	6
146	Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>				1									
147	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>			40	50	10	2	25	6	6	10			
148	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				2				2		2			
149	Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>					1	3							
150	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>		3		1									
151	Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>				1					2				
152	Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>			2	2									
153	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>				1					2				



	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
154	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>			2	2									
155	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>				1						1			
156	Little Bee-Eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>		3			2	1	3	1	10	3	8	2	
157	Cinnamon-chested Bee-Eater	<i>Merops oreobates</i>		2										1	
158	White-fronted Bee-Eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>		40											
159	European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>								4					20
160	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>				1						1			
161	Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>				1									
162	Crowned Hornbill	<i>Tockus alboterminatus</i>					1								
163	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>				4		1		2	2				
164	Northern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>			4	10									
165	Von Der Decken's Hornbill	<i>Tockus deckeni</i>				4					1				
166	Silvery-cheeked Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes brevis</i>	3		10										
167	Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>					5		3			2			
168	White-eared Barbet	<i>Stactolaema leucotis</i>		2											
169	Spot-flanked Barbet	<i>Tricholaema lacrymosa</i>		2							2				
170	Black-throated Barbet	<i>Tricholaema melanocephala</i>						2							
171	White-headed Barbet	<i>Lybius leucocephalus</i>									2				
172	Brown-breasted Barbet	<i>Lybius melanopterus</i>	1												
173	Red-and-yellow Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus erythrocephalus</i>				2									
174	Usambiro Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus darnaudii usambiro</i>							6	2					
175	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>				H									
176	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>								1					
177	Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>				1									
178	African Grey Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos goertae</i>				2	1								
179	Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>								1	3				
180	Rosy-patched Bushshrike	<i>Telophorus cruentus</i>				2									
181	Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>		1				1	1	1	2				
182	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>											1		
183	Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>		1			1				2		1		
184	Slate-colored Boubou	<i>Laniarius funebris</i>				1	2		1	2	2				

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February													
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
185	Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius major</i>	1	2												
186	Magpie Shrike	<i>Urolestes melanoleucus</i>			10	25			20	20	4	10				
187	Northern White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus ruppelli</i>			20	20	6	10	40	30	10	20				
188	Red-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius phoenicuroides</i>						3								
189	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>						1								
190	Grey-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>							20	2	6					
191	Long-tailed Fiscal	<i>Lanius cabanisi</i>			1	10	1	1								
192	Taita Fiscal	<i>Lanius dorsalis</i>										2				
193	Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>		20	10			1					6	4		
194	Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>			1											
195	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>			1	1	2		2	2						
196	African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>								1	4					
197	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>						6				10		6		
198	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	4		10	1										
199	White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>										4	3	3		
200	Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafraga africana</i>		2				5	10	6	5	10	12	10		
201	Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafraga rufocinnamomea</i>								2	4	2				
202	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>											3			
203	Fawn-coloured Lark	<i>Mirafraga africanoides</i>				1										
204	Fischer's Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix leucopareia</i>			20	12	50			10						
205	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus layardi</i>	10	10	6	2	2	2		2	6	10	6	2		
206	Black Saw-Wing	<i>Psaldoprocne pristopectera</i>		12				6					10	12	2	
207	Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>		20										2		
208	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>						2		4						
209	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		10	20	10	10	30	10	100	100		50	100	6	
210	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>					2	2			2					
211	Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>								2	6	2				
212	Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	6		2	4			2	2	6					
213	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>				2	2									
214	Red-faced Crombec	<i>Sylvietta whytii</i>		6								1				
215	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		2							2					

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
216	Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida</i>				1	4								
217	Trilling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola woosnami</i>		10											
218	Hunter's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola hunteri</i>												3	
219	Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>		1					4	6	10	4	6		
220	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>													
221	Singing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cantans</i>		1											
222	Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>		1											
223	Stout Cisticola	<i>Cisticola robustus</i>							1						
224	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>		3											
225	Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>		1											
226	Grey-capped Warbler	<i>Eminia lepida</i>												1	
227	Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>		2		1				1	2	2	2		
228	Black-lored Babbler	<i>Turdoides sharpei</i>								5		7	1		
229	Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>						4							
230	Northern Pied Babbler	<i>Turdoides hypoleuca</i>			1	4									
231	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		1	1										
232	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>							1						
233	Banded Parisoma	<i>Sylvia boehmi</i>									2				
234	Abyssinian White-Eye	<i>Zosterops abyssinicus</i>	4												
235	Montane White-Eye	<i>Zosterops poliogastrus</i>												1	
236	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>			10				4				1		
237	Rüppell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuroptera</i>								25	6	10	4		
238	Superb Starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i>	1		100	75	30	40	50	50	4	20	4	50	
239	Hildebrandt's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis hildebrandti</i>			1			20		1		10	1		
240	Ashy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis unicolor</i>			50	30	10								
241	Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	1												
242	Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>			12	2				3	4	4		3	
243	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>				20	10		2	10	✓				
244	Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>		20						10	✓			2	
245	Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>											2	1	
246	White-throated Robin	<i>Irania gutturalis</i>							1m						

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February													
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
247	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>												1	1	
248	Rüppell's Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha semirufa</i>			1											
249	White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>										4				
250	Spotted Palm Thrush	<i>Cichladusa guttata</i>					1	2								
251	White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Erythropygia leucophrys</i>		1	1											
252	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		1												
253	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>		6					1			3	4	10		
254	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>						6				12				
255	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>						1		2		1		1		
256	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				1				1	2	1	4	4		
257	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>						1		1	1	4				
258	Mourning Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe lugens</i>						2								
259	Anteater Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla aethiops</i>											3	10		
260	Sooty Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla nigra</i>									4					
261	Mocking Cliff Chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>									3	2	1			
262	White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher	<i>Dioptromis fischeri</i>						1					2	2		
263	African Grey Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis microrhynchus</i>				1				4						
264	Pale Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis pallidus</i>								2						
265	Silverbird	<i>Empidonax semipartitus</i>				2			10	2		2				
266	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	1	1		2	4				1		1			
267	African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>		2									2			
268	Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>	2	1												
269	Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>		3												
270	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>				1				2	3					
271	Tacazze Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia tacazze</i>											1	2		
272	Bronzy Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i>									2					1
273	Eastern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mediocris</i>											2	4		
274	Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>				1	1									
275	Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>									1					
276	Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>	2	1						1	1		4	6		
277	Rufous-tailed Weaver	<i>Histurgops ruficauda</i>			20	50	30	20	12	20		12	10	4		

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February													
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
278	Grey-capped Social Weaver	<i>Pseudonigrita araudi</i>								10	10		20			
279	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		6	2		5	2	2		2	6				
280	Kenya Sparrow	<i>Passer rufocinctus</i>										2	1			
281	Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>						2		2	2	2				
282	Chestnut Sparrow	<i>Passer eminibey</i>								2	12					
283	Yellow-spotted Petronia	<i>Gymnoris pyrgita</i>					1									
284	Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>			20	50	20	10	12	20		6				
285	White-headed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Dinemellia dinemelli</i>									25	10				
286	Speckle-fronted Weaver	<i>Sporopipes frontalis</i>			4					2	1	2				
287	Baglafaecht Weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafaecht</i>	2	2				2				2	4	6	6	
288	Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>		2												
289	Vitelline Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>							2	6		12				
290	Speke's Weaver	<i>Ploceus spekei</i>		3								1	12			
291	Grosbeak Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>	6													
292	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>		10			50									
293	Black Bishop	<i>Euplectes gierowii</i>										1				
294	Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>							1?							
295	Black-winged Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes hordeaceus</i>							✓							
296	Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>										2	10	2		
297	White-winged Widowbird	<i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>										30	6	10		
298	Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>														
299	Yellow-mantled Widowbird	<i>Euplectes macroura</i>									7					
300	Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>							1	1						
301	Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>					2									
302	Red-cheeked Cordon-Bleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>			3	10		2								
303	Blue-capped Cordon-Bleu	<i>Uraeginthus cyanocephalus</i>							4	4						
304	Purple Grenadier	<i>Uraeginthus ianthinogaster</i>						2	2		1	2				
305	Crimson-rumped Waxbill	<i>Estrilda rhodopyga</i>		2				2	4							
306	Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>	4								2					
307	Black-and-white Mannikin	<i>Lonchura bicolor</i>	4													
308	Village Indigobird	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>					1									

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February													
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	
309	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>								1	1	1	1		Pr	
310	Straw-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua fischeri</i>					2	2								
311	Paradise Whydah	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>									10					
312	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>						10					20	100		
313	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		1m												
314	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	1	1	2	2	1	1		1	1			1	2	
315	Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>								3	1	6	1			
316	African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>		1						1				1	1	
317	Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>								1		1				
318	Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>		1												
319	Southern Citril	<i>Crithagra hyposticta</i>												2		
320	Thick-billed Seedeater	<i>Serinus burtoni</i>												2		
321	Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>										3				
322	White-bellied Canary	<i>Crithagra dorsostriata</i>									2		2		30	
323	Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>									1		3		4	
324	Streaky Seedeater	<i>Crithagra striolata</i>												10		
325	Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>									2	6				
326	Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>										1				

## Mammals

1	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>		10	8	12	4	6	6	16	20	1	100	50		
2	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>		6			10	50	60	500			20	8		
3	Masai Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>		20		6		20	12	30	8					
4	Kirk's Dik-Dik	<i>Rhynchotragus kirki</i>		1	4	10	3	1		20						
5	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>								6	8					
6	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>		10			2						2	2		
7	Eland	<i>Taurotragus derbianus</i>						30					10	7		
8	Common Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>		4	30	25	12									
9	Defassa Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa</i>											1			
10	Bohor Reedbuck	<i>Redunca redunca</i>						2								
11	Topi	<i>Damaliscus korrigum</i>							12	15	20	100				

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
12	Coke's Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus cokii</i>						20	4	20	30	100	10	20	
13	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>					100	1000s				10Ks	2K	2K	
14	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>			200	100	100	50	40	150	50	200			
15	Grant's Gazelle	<i>Gazella granti</i>			2	1		50	10	10		1000s	100	500	
16	Thomson's Gazelle	<i>Gazella thomsoni</i>					20	500	20	10		1000s	1000	1000	
17	Red Duiker	<i>Cephalophus natalensis</i>		2											
18	Steinbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>			2	1				2	1				
19	African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>		50		200	50	100	200	200	75	50	500	400	
20	Burchell's Zebra	<i>Equus burchelli</i>		40			50	1000				10Ks	2K	2K	
21	Black Rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>										2	6	4	
22	Yellow-spotted Rock Hyrax	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>			12	6		1	50	150	100	100			
23	African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>			100	60	30	18	20	8	70	40	2	31	
24	Unstriped Ground Squirrel	<i>Xerus rutilus</i>			4	4									
25	Ochre Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus ochraceus</i>	1			2									
26	African Hare	<i>Lepus habessinicus</i>			✓	6									
27	Spring Hare	<i>Pedetes capensis</i>			✓	8									
28	African Grass Rat	<i>Arvicanthis niloticus</i>						20				1			
29	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>			2		4	2	8	4	3	2	6	2	
30	Golden (Common) Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>										1	2	2	
31	Bat-eared Fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>			10	1					1				
32	Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>					1		1						
33	Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>					20		15		20				
34	Eastern Dwarf Mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>			1	4		1							
35	White-tailed Mongoose	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>			1	1									
36	Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>						9	6	1		1	20	10	
37	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>			4	19	14	20	9	8	1		18	5	
38	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>							3		2	1			
39	Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>			3							2			
40	Serval	<i>Felis serval</i>				1			1						
41	Olive Baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>		30		3	25	10	30	100	30	50	20	100	
42	Blue Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>	1	2			20								

	Common name	Scientific name	January/February												
			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
43	Vervet Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>			20	10	20	10	40	50	10	12	6		
44	Eastern Black & White Colobus	<i>Colobus guereza</i>		30											
45	Yellow-winged Bat	<i>Lavia frons</i>					2		1						
46	Large Spotted Genet	<i>Genetta tigrina</i>				1									
47	Small Spotted Genet	<i>Genetta genetta</i>				1									
48	Genet sp.	<i>Genetta sp.</i>			P										
49	African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>				2									
50	Bat sp.				50										
51	Free-tailed Bat sp.						10								

### Other Taxa

1	Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>							1	3		1			
2	Red-headed Rock Agama	<i>Agama agama</i>						3	12	20	50	10			
3	Leopard Tortoise	<i>Stigmochelys pardalis</i>					1								
4	Helmeted Terrapin	<i>Pelomedusa subrufa</i>				1									
5	Skink sp.		1	1					1	1	2				
6	Dung Beetle sp.		1											2	
7	Gecko sp.			1											
8	Frog sp.			1											
9	African Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Herse convolvuli</i>		2											
10	Cocktail Ant sp.									10					

### Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans. Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!