

Selous & Ruaha - Undiscovered Tanzania

Naturetrek Tour Report

28 September - 8 October 2017



Nile Crocodile



Hippopotamus with Grey Heron & Cattle Egret



White-crowned Lapwing



Leopard

Report & Images compiled by Zul Bhatia



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Yustin Kayombo (local guide & driver – Ruaha NP),
Together with six Naturetrek clients

Summary

The trip to southern Tanzania, visiting Selous Game Reserve and Ruaha National Park (staying four nights in each) lived up to all its expectations and more. We saw plenty of wildlife and often had it to ourselves with no other vehicles present – a nice feature of these less-visited places. It was particularly dry at Ruaha and the Great Ruaha River was reduced to a few pools. We saw some very exciting wildlife including hundreds of Crocodiles and Hippopotamus, many Greater Kudu and Elephants, 23 Lions, two Leopards, five Cheetahs and two African Civets.

Mammal spotting was generally the order of most days with birds as a bonus. There were some very keen mammal observers in the group resulting in a list of 34 species of mammal. 170 species of bird were recorded including some very special ones of course, with highlights being Black and Woolly-necked Storks, Malagasy Pond Heron, Martial, African Fish and Verreaux's Eagles, Grey-crowned Crane, White-crowned Lapwing, three species of roller, four of kingfisher and five of bee-eater. We also saw three Tanzanian endemics – Ruaha Red-billed Hornbill, Ashy Starling and Yellow-collared Lovebird. Due to the very dry weather, opportunistic breeders such as bishops, whydahs, widow-birds and weavers, with some notable exceptions, were mainly absent.

Our two local driver/guides, Metele (in the Selous) and Yustin (at Ruaha) were outstanding and made the main contributions to the success of the safari. With very pleasant personalities, nothing was too much trouble for them to keep us all happy. Not only did they have a great deal of knowledge, they both carried books and were keen to learn from us too.

The accommodations we stayed in were superb

Day 1

Thursday 28th September

London to Nairobi

Six of us met at Heathrow Airport for the 6.25pm Kenya Airways flight to Nairobi. Our departure was delayed by about half an hour, although we still made it to Nairobi more or less on schedule. Although the plane was really full, it was quite comfortable.

Day 2

Friday 29th September

Nairobi to Rufiji River Camp, Selous Game Reserve (via Dar es Salaam)

We arrived at Nairobi airport at 5.15am and had just under two hours to wait for our flight for Julius Nyererere International Airport at Dar es Salaam. Mount Kilimanjaro showed well from plane with hardly any snow on the summit. We arrived at Dar es Salaam about 8.30am, proceeded through immigration without any problems and awaited our luggage. Everyone's luggage arrived except Zul's so form-filling ensued. The local agents were very helpful and promised to do whatever was necessary to find the missing bag. We then transferred to the nearby domestic flights airport.

At 10.30am, we boarded a Cessna C208 9-seater plane and left Dar es Salaam. The ride to Mtemere airstrip in the Selous was short (just over half an hour), but a bit bumpy at times. We were met at the airstrip by a driver from Rufiji River Camp, our base for the next four nights. It was a short transfer of a few minutes to our lodge on the banks of the mighty River Rufiji.

Our Lodge was wonderfully located and very luxurious too. Everyone had two full-sized double beds in each tent with all sorts of mods and cons. After an excellent lunch and a short siesta, we went out in a flat-bottomed, very stable metal boat on the River Rufiji from 4.15pm to 6.10pm. Our boatman, Diamond, was very experienced and got us close to many birds and animals. Crocodiles and Hippopotamus were abundant, and we also saw Giraffe and Elephants. Other highlights were many African Fish Eagles, Goliath Heron, several species of kingfisher including Malachite and Giant Kingfishers, White-crowned Lapwing and White-fronted Bee-eaters. It was a magical experience for us all.

The camp was visited nightly by various animals, and so we were not allowed to walk to and from the rooms after dark. A Masai guard accompanied us every time and this was to become our daily routine.

Day 3

Saturday 30th September

Selous Game Reserve

Our driver for our time in the Selous was Metele, a Masai who was an excellent driver and spotter, and knew his birds well too. No sooner had we left the camp just after 6.30am (with packed breakfast) and we got a report of a Wild Dog on the road between the border gate and the village of Mloka. We went to the area and saw the dog straightaway. We saw it several times in slightly different places in that area, but it always on the move and calling too like it was looking for its mates. It was a very lucky sighting as when we had asked about the possibility of seeing Wild Dog whilst based at Rufiji River Camp, we were told it was very unlikely we would see them as there had only been two sightings this year!

We had lovely breakfast besides Lake Mzizima watching waders, and stopped beside Lake Siwandu for a soda later in the morning before heading back to the camp for lunch. We saw our first Crawshay's Zebra (a subspecies of Plains Zebra). Other notable wildlife sightings today included Greater Kudu, Common Waterbuck, Purple-crested Turaco, Bohm's Bee-eater, the first of many Bateleurs and Speckle-throated Woodpecker.

After lunch there was time to relax, have a siesta, look at the comings and goings of wildlife on the river, or watch birds in the camp. Broad-billed Roller, Bearded Scrub Robin, Spot-flanked Barbet and Greater Honeyguide were all seen in the area of the bird bath.

We went out again from just after 4pm to 6.15pm, with one of the highlights being a small drying-out pool in the Sonongo area which held a good variety of birds including Malagasy Pond Heron, Malachite Kingfisher, Wood Sandpiper and Woolly-necked Stork.

Day 4

Sunday 1st October

Selous Game Reserve

Today our small party split up with three people going on a nature walk from 6.30am and the rest on a boat on the river from 6.45am to 11.30am. Those on the walk enjoyed it very much as the two leaders were very knowledgeable about the area. They also saw a few new birds for the trip: Blue Waxbill, Eastern Nicator, Green-winged Pytilia, Yellow-breasted Apalis and Cardinal Woodpecker. We were to catch up with all of them except Eastern Nicator later in the trip.

Those on the boat trip saw impressive numbers and variety of birds, and had breakfast on the boat tied up to one of the many sand islands on the river. Our first African Buffalo of the trip was spotted when someone went for a comfort stop, and our only Monitor Lizard of the trip was also seen. Other highlights included Striated Heron, Great Egret, many Little Bee-eaters, African Open-billed Stork, Palm-nut Vulture, African Skimmer, African Harrier-hawk and White-fronted Bee-eaters at a breeding colony in the river bank. We also had great, close, long views of a small group of Common Waterbuck.

After lunch and a siesta, we were off again from 4pm to 6.20pm. Our highlight was undoubtedly the eight Lions together near Lake Nzelekela. We had very close views, but they just slept the whole time we were with them. On leaving them, the light was beautiful and the Zebra and Kudu we saw positively glowed! We stopped briefly at Lake Nzelekela on the way back and the White-crowned Plovers put on a great show in the evening light too.

Day 5

Monday 2nd October

Selous Game Reserve

After a hot drink and a biscuit at 6.15am, we left shortly after 6.30am to explore the lakes in this part of the Selous. We carried packed breakfasts and lunches too.

We were not even out of our lodge grounds when one of the Masai was standing outside his hut and excitedly pointing something out. We stopped and found a partially-eaten Impala just beside the road. Soon we were seeing one Wild Dog after another. Eventually we had eight! Although they were in a wooded area and quite mobile, we all managed to get great views. Shortly after the Wild Dog sightings, two African Civets crossed the road in front of us. It was great to see these nocturnal animals, albeit briefly.

We headed for Lake Nzelekela, where we had seen the Lions yesterday. The lake looked beautiful in the early morning light and we saw a lot there including excellent views of 30+ Crocodiles, Greater Kudu, Bushbuck and many water birds of course. We also had our only Lichtenstein's Hartebeests of the safari. Some authorities treat this as a separate species from other hartebeests.

All eight Lions were not far from where we had seen them yesterday. They had killed a Zebra in the night. Most seemed to have had their fill and were sleeping it off, except the adult male who kept noisily chomping away at the meat and bones. After a while, a young Lion started toying with a Zebra leg. It was all fascinating to watch and brilliant for photography of course. We stayed there quite a while.

We had our breakfast beside Lake Siwandu, where many water birds were visible including African Spoonbill, Black Heron (showing off its umbrella fishing technique), Blacksmith Lapwing and many Palaearctic waders.

The next lake in the series was Lake Manze and this held a huge number of water birds. We saw our only Little Stints of the trip here. Very cute however was the tiny Spur-winged Lapwing chick that was accompanied by a parent. The last lake we visited was Lake Tagalala where we witnessed impressive fights between two different pairs of Hippopotamus. There was a lot of noise and water splashing about as they tried to get at each other with their tusks. We returned to Lake Manze and had our lunch here overlooking a sandy bar that had at least 150 African Skimmers resting. When they took off, as they did from time to time, they made a very impressive sight.

We got back to the Lodge at 2.25pm and then had the rest of the day off. Our game drive had been nearly eight hours long and everyone was glad of the free time and some took advantage of the swimming pool too. Best news of the day for Zul was that his missing bag arrived! It was a relief as the only spare clothes he had over the last four days was one shirt and a pair of underpants that he had used to wrap his camera and lens in!

A Hippopotamus visited the camp at night, inspecting fallen leaves right by some of the tents!

Day 6

Tuesday 3rd October

Selous Game Reserve to Ruaha National Park

Today we were leaving the Selous GR and transferring to Ruaha NP. However there was time to have a shorter than normal game drive and we were out from 6.45am to 8.50am. The highlight was undoubtedly the very obliging two Wild Dogs that we had to ourselves for a long time. Unlike the others we had seen, these were right out in the open and very close to our vehicle. They were completely unbothered by our presence and we were able to enjoy observing them and take photographs to our heart's content of their various activities.

After breakfast it was time to bid farewell to the lovely Rufiji River Camp staff and board our Cessna for the short (just over an hour) flight to Ruaha National Park. Our pilot was Ben, the same one that had flown us from Dar es Salaam to the Selous. The views of the mighty River Rufiji were fabulous and you could see what a wild and volatile river it was, not constrained by human activities at all. Our first stop was Jongomeru in the western part of Ruaha NP. We picked up two passengers and then had a short (10 minute) flight to the Msembe airstrip where Yustin, our driver and guide for our Ruaha NP stay, was waiting for us. He had arrived with lunch boxes for us. Whilst he was loading the vehicle with our luggage and getting our permits, we had lunch. Then it was game-viewing en route to Ruaha River Lodge - our home for the next four nights. We saw some lovely Elephant groups (for which Ruaha is famous) on the way. It was incredibly dry everywhere and the Great Ruaha River was reduced to just a few small pools here and there. We also saw three Tanzanian endemics: Ruaha Red-billed Hornbill, Ashy Starling and Yellow-collared Lovebird, the latter a very striking species.

We settled in to our lovely rooms overlooking the Great Ruaha River and had time to relax and have tea and cake before setting off for a drive from 4.35pm to 6.25pm. We went up river and saw our first Black-backed Jackals of the trip. There were many new birds of course including a pair of Hildebrandt's Francolin accompanied by a well-grown chick.

After dinner, it was off to our rooms accompanied by our Masai guard. A Freckled Nightjar was calling at 9pm as we walked along to our rooms. One of the three Masai guards (Kotipe, Paino or Leteyo) also came to 'pick us up' before dinner every day as well as check the areas between our rooms and the dining area before giving us a shout at 6am! During the course of our four-night stay, the Lodge was visited by Lion, Leopard and Hippopotamus, so we were very grateful for the Masai guards.

Day 7

Wednesday 4th October

Ruaha National Park

An all-day game drive began at 6.35am after a quick coffee and biscuit. At 8.45am we were watching a male Leopard happily snuggled in to a fork of a Sausage Tree (*Kigelia africana*). Although it was quite close and we repositioned our vehicle several times to try and get a better view, it was not ideal. After a short while, breakfast beckoned and we had this at a designated picnic spot besides the Mwangusi Sand River. It was a lovely place to be.

A phone call alerted us to another Leopard, not far from the first one and we went off to try and see it. This one was very showy indeed and gave us brilliant views and photographic opportunities. We stayed there a long time. Several other vehicles were present (the most we had seen in our whole safari), but they didn't detract from the sighting. It was amazing!

Next we went looking for Cheetah at the area called the Small Serengeti (Serengeti Ndogo). This is an area of rolling grassy plain dotted with acacia, reminiscent of the more famous park further north. After a brief stop at the picnic site there with brilliant views of the surrounding area, we combed the area for Cheetah to no avail. We did see some Grant's Gazelle though, our first for the trip. We checked several other Cheetah areas too, but they were being very elusive. No one had sighted any today.

We got back to our lodge at 4pm via the Ruaha River Drive (spotting our first Grey-crowned Cranes) just in time for tea and cake. Time spent at the lodge wildlife-viewing was well spent as there were animals coming down to the river and birds always present, including many Pied Kingfishers, African Jacana, Common and Wood Sandpipers, Three-banded Plover, etc. The dry part of the camp area had many flowering Combretum bushes which were popular with small birds such as Beautiful and Eastern Violet-backed Sunbirds, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Yellow-breasted Apalis and Green-backed Camaroptera. A group of Banded Mongoose (30+ animals) went past all our rooms, mainly foraging in the sandier areas of the river. They were fascinating to watch.

Day 8

Thursday 5th October

Ruaha National Park

After the usual coffee and biscuit at dawn, we set off from our camp at 6.40am. Just outside the camp was a lovely group of Yellow Baboons interacting with each other and we watched them for a while. Not far away, Yustin's colleague had just seen three Lions resting by the near riverbank, so we went there to have a look. Unfortunately they had moved off and were on the opposite bank, still moving and difficult to see. Some of us did manage to locate them in the distance though.

We were still on the hunt for Cheetah today. We decided to explore areas near the Mwangusi Sand River. En route, we saw a pair of Verreaux's Eagles at Kimiramatonge Hill. At Mwangusi we were rewarded with a pair of

courting Lions sitting under a Baobab not far from the Mwagusi camp. It was great to see them and have them all to ourselves; one of the joys of safaris in areas not full of tourists.

We had our breakfasts at the same picnic site as yesterday, on the banks of the Mwagusi Sand River. There were lots of animals on view today from our breakfast table including Giraffe, Elephant and Impala. Yustin also pointed out a female Ostrich, the only sighting of this species during the whole trip.

We then explored the Ruaha River Drive, one of the most productive areas for wildlife viewing. We came across a different pair of courting Lions and were watching them when a call came through to say that Cheetahs had been seen in an area not too far from where we were. We went there and saw five Cheetahs together. Whilst we all saw them well and sometimes quite close too, they were quite skittish and when stationary, always chose dense bush to rest in. Getting a clear photograph was difficult. Still, we were delighted to see them. We got back to our lodge at 1.40pm, had lunch, rested, and had tea and cake before setting out again at 4.35pm. Just before lunch, the Lodge Manager, Mette Erno, showed us the beautiful African Scops Owl that was roosting in the camp. We had heard it several times in the preceding two days.

The afternoon drive took us to the Hippopotamus and Crocodile pool, a very tranquil and very scenic part of the Great Ruaha River. There were indeed a lot of Hippopotamus and Crocodiles there, and many birds too including Water Thick-knee, Goliath Heron and Giant Kingfisher. We got back to our lodge at 6.40pm. Other notable birds seen today were several Buff-crested Bustard (stunning views), Martial Eagle, Grey Kestrel, Crested Francolin and Purple Roller.

Day 9

Friday 6th October

Ruaha National Park

Our last full day in Ruaha NP started, as usual, with tea/coffee/biscuits at sunrise. We left the lodge at 6.35am and were back at 12.25pm. Yustin tried (unsuccessfully) to find us Bat-eared Foxes in an area he had seen them often in the past. We did see other wildlife of course including an Elephant snapping a tree.

At the Maganga Maduma viewpoint, we had a couple of new birds for the trip: a few Yellow-throated Sandgrouse went over and there were a couple of Hottentot Teal on the river. After that, we went back to the Ruaha River Drive and had our breakfast at the newly opened picnic site on the banks of the river. It was lovely to sit in the shade provided and watch Elephants digging for water on the sandy bits of the river. A singing Spotted Palm Thrush kept us company at the picnic site too. We had great views of a group of Greater Kudu near the Park HQ at Msembe – these were fully out in the open and very close to our vehicle too.

After lunch and a siesta for some, we set off at 4.35pm and had some quality time with Elephants. It was fascinating watching them arrive, ignore the water in the pools (probably quite polluted with droppings) and dig holes for clean, filtered water in the sandy areas.

A Black Stork flew over the river next to our lodge after lunch – a scarce bird and not often seen on our safaris. What was probably the same bird was seen later when we were on our game drive and watching Elephants by the river. There was a beautiful sunset as we neared our lodge and we stopped to take a few photographs of it. A large number of Banded Mongoose greeted us when got to camp.

Day 10

Saturday 7th October

Ruaha National Park & travel to Dar es Salaam

Some of us went on an early morning (6.30am – 8am) wildlife walk led by Yustin and Zul. A number of species were seen including some new for the trip. Highlights were Gabar Goshawk, Beautiful and Variable Sunbirds, Nubian Woodpecker, many Ruaha Hornbills, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Black-backed Puffback and Grey-headed Bush Shrike.

We left the lodge about 9.30am and as we didn't need to be at the airstrip until about 12.30pm, there was plenty of time for wildlife viewing. Not far from the lodge there were very impressive flocks of Marabou and Yellow-billed Storks, and White Pelicans wheeling overhead. Yustin also took us to a dubious-looking rope bridge across a (now dry) sand river, that they use during the rains to get visitors from one side of the river to the other. Some brave members of our group had the experience of crossing it too!

Sadly it was time to leave Ruaha and we caught the same Cessna with the same pilot (Ben) and left from the Msembe airstrip at 12.45pm. As we left, we could see Elephants at the river as well as a Saddle-billed Stork. We had several short flights getting to Dar es Salaam, stopping at Selous, Ras Kutani, Bagamoyo and Zanzibar (where two of our party got off) before we arrived at the domestic terminal in Dar es Salaam at 4.50pm. We were greeted by a taxi driver and taken to the International terminal.

Our KLM flight wasn't scheduled to depart until 11.10pm, so we had quite a long wait. We spent quite a bit of time at a fairly comfortable restaurant. Most of us had a meal.

Day 11

Sunday 8th October

Overnight flight to Amsterdam and then on to the UK & Denmark

Our plane arrived on schedule at Amsterdam about 7.30am. We said our goodbyes to each other and went our separate ways with fond memories of what had been a great trip.

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Species Lists

Birds (H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October								
			29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>							1		
2	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>		23		20					
3	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	1	10	11	10	6	10	8	20	2
4	Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>								2	
5	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	6	20		6	31	40	30	40	10
6	Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>							1		
7	Hildebrandt's Francolin	<i>Pternistis hildebrandti</i>					2				
8	Red-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis afer</i>					6	8	12	15	3
9	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	2	1	427	10	40	20	26	25	75
10	African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>	3	8	73	15	1				
11	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>								1	
12	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>		1	2		1				
13	Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>			2		3	3	4	8	1
14	Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>	4	15	12		25		20	4	30
15	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	1			4					
16	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	4	6	2	10	2	6	2	4	2
17	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		2		4					
18	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>		2		15					
19	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	1	2	3				1		
20	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		1		2					
21	Malagasy Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola idae</i>		2							
22	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	3		4	30					
23	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		3	1	3	3	1		1	
24	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	1			1					
25	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	1		4	1			1		
26	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			5	6	10			1	
27	Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>		1		1					
28	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1	1	4	20				1	
29	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>		6			1	4	6	6	1

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October								
			29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>									40
31	Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>			2	5					
32	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	50		35	30	6				
33	African Harrier-hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>			4						
34	Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>	3		2	1					
35	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>					2			2	
36	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	1	1	7	3	40				
37	White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>				2					
38	Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>								2	
39	Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>									1
40	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>		1			6	3	2	3	1
41	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>							1	1	
42	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>						1	2	1	
43	Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>							2		
44	African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>		1							
45	Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>								1	1
46	African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	3	9	11	4	2	3	1	3	1
47	Buff-crested Bustard	<i>Lophotis gindiana</i>						H	2	4	
48	Grey Crowned Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>						2		4	
49	Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	3	1	11				3	1	
50	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		8	6	25		4		3	
51	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>				2		4			
52	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>		10	2	7		2	2	4	
53	White-crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>	8	12	26	15		20	6	12	2
54	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>								3	
55	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>		1		2					
56	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	1			2					
57	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>		1				2			
58	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>		3		4		1	2	4	6
59	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>			2	10	2				
60	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	5	6	3	4		5	2	2	1
61	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>					1	1		2	

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October								
			29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
62	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	1	10	4	10	3	5		4	1
63	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	6	8	4	5	2	4	1	3	1
64	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>				20					
65	African Skimmer	<i>Rynchops flavirostris</i>	12		14	150					
66	Yellow-throated Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles gutturalis</i>								8	
67	Black-faced Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles decoratus</i>					5		3	4	
68	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>								12	
69	Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>					2	2	1	1	1
70	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>			3		1				
71	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>		20	10	30	80	50	40	50	30
72	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>							1	1	
73	Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>		10	8	8	8	5	6	10	3
74	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>			1	1	2	1	2	2	1
75	African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>					2				
76	Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>		2			H				
77	Bare-faced Go-away-bird	<i>Corythaixoides personatus</i>					8	6	10	6	2
78	White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>	H	1				1			
79	Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>			H						
80	African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>					H	H	1	1	H
81	Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>					H				
82	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	5	10	16	10		25	10		
83	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>							10		
84	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>		1							
85	Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>						8			
86	Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>						1	1		
87	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>		2	2	6		6	8	4	2
88	Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	4		3	1					
89	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>			5	1	H				
90	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	3	1	2						
91	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	1		1				1		
92	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	4	2	18		3	4	5	3	
93	Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>									1*

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October								
			29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
94	Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	6	8	14	2	2	10	6	5	
95	White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>	150	25	40	6	4				
96	Böhm's Bee-eater	<i>Merops boehmi</i>		2	1	1					
97	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>							6	12	
98	Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>			1	5	6				
99	Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>					1				
100	Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>		2		13	4	1		13	
101	Von Der Decken's Hornbill	<i>Tockus deckeni</i>					1	3	2		
102	Ruaha Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus ruahae</i>					3	30	50	30	6
103	Crowned Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros alboterminatus</i>	1	3		4		1		2	
104	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>		10	10						
105	Trumpeter Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes bucinator</i>		1			3				
106	Spot-flanked Barbet	<i>Tricholaema lacrymosa</i>		1							
107	Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>		3		1					
108	D'arnaud's Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus darnaudii</i>					1			2	1
109	Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>									1
110	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>		1		1	1	2H		H	H
111	Speckle-throated Woodpecker	<i>Campethera scriptoricauda</i>		1							
112	Nubian Woodpecker	<i>Campethera nubica</i>					1				
113	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>			2			1		1	
114	Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>						1			
115	Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>							1		
116	Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>	6								
117	Yellow-collared Lovebird	<i>Agapornis personatus</i>					2		7		
118	White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>			6	5	10	4	12	10	
119	Retz's Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops retzii</i>		4							
120	Grey-headed Bushshrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>					1				1
121	Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>						2	1	3	1
122	Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>		1						1	1
123	Slate-coloured Boubou	<i>Laniarius funebris</i>					1	2	4	2	2
124	Magpie Shrike	<i>Urolestes melanoleucus</i>						3	4		1
125	Long-tailed Fiscal	<i>Lanius cabanisi</i>			1						

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October									
			29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
126	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>		6				3	4	20	6	1
127	Eastern Nicator	<i>Nicator gularis</i>			1							
128	Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>		10	6		6	4	2	4	2	
129	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	6		6	2			2			1
130	Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>							2			
131	Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	1			8						2
132	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>					4					
133	Red-faced Crombec	<i>Sylvietta whytii</i>			2							
134	Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>						1				
135	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>								1		
136	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>										4
137	Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>			1			1	1			1
138	Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>							2			2
139	Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>		8	6	2	2					
140	Superb starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i>						1	4	8		
141	Ashy starling	<i>Cosmopsarus regius</i>					10	40	60	20	15	
142	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>			2	20			10			
143	Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>		3	1	5		2		1		
144	Bearded Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas quadrivirgata</i>	1									
145	White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>			H		2		1	1	1	
146	White-browed Robin-chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>							H			
147	Collared Palm Thrush	<i>Cichladusa arquata</i>			1	2			2			
148	Spotted Palm Thrush	<i>Cichladusa guttata</i>								1		
149	Mocking Cliff Chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>								1		
150	Arnot's Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla arnotti</i>					1					
151	Eastern Violet-backed Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes orientalis</i>						2	1			1
152	Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>					1					
153	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>				1			1			
154	Purple-banded Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris bifasciatus</i>		2								
155	Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>										1
156	Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>						1				2
157	White-browed Sparrow-weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>	10	30	40	30	20					

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October								
			29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
158	Swahili Sparrow	<i>Passer suahelicus</i>						3		20	4
159	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>				1					
160	Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>						30	30	30	
161	White headed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Dinemellia dinemelli</i>						6	6	4	3
162	Eastern Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus subaureus</i>		10	10						
163	Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>						1			
164	Grey-headed Social-weaver	<i>Pseudonigrita arnaudi</i>					20		30	10	
165	Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>			1				1		2
166	Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>		3							
167	Jameson's Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta nitidula</i>									2
168	Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>			8					10	
169	Red-cheeked Cordonbleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>						4		6	2
170	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	6		7		1	2		4	1

Mammals

1	Yellow-winged Bat	<i>Lavia frons</i>				1					
2	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>	4	6	7		5	2	2	2	2
3	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	75	10	150	60	3	H	10	30	1
4	Masai Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	2	15	13	40	12	25	20	20	6
5	Kirk's Dik-Dik	<i>Rhynchotragus kirki</i>					2	2	2	3	2
6	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>		3	1	1					
7	Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>				1					
8	Common Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>		10	6	1	15				
9	Defassa Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa</i>					3	9	6		
10	Lichtenstein's Hartebeeste	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus lichtensteinii</i>				4					
11	Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>		4	1	4			5	12	20
12	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>		30	5	60					
13	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>		75	62	200	32	40	50	40	40
14	Grant's Gazelle	<i>Gazella granti</i>						5	5		
15	Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>		2	1						
16	African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>			107	75	150	150	50		
17	Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>		30	12	40	20	25	40	10	15

	Common name	Scientific name	September/October								
			29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18	Bush Hyrax	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>					4			3	25
19	African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	5		3		30	80	40	50	20
20	Smith's Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>					2			2	2
21	African Grass Rat	<i>Arvicanthis niloticus</i>								2	
22	African Wild Dog	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>		1		8	2				
23	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>					1			2	H
24	Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>	1							1	1
25	Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>			8	4		30	15	50	
26	Eastern Dwarf Mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>				1		1	1	1	
27	Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>		1	1	2		H			
28	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>			8	8			7		
29	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>						2			
30	Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>							5		
31	African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>				2					
32	Yellow Baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>		40	30	30	60	50	40	50	50
33	Vervet Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>		6	3	8	1	8	10	4	
34	Bushbaby sp	<i>Galago sp.</i>	H	H	H						

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	30	10	100	40			25	20	
2	Nile Monitor	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>			1						
3	Southern Foam-nest Frog	<i>Chiromantis xerampelina</i>		1	1	1					
4	Gecko sp		2	2	1						
5	Terrapin sp									1	



African Elephants