

Tanzania's Great Migration

Naturetrek Tour Report

22 February - 3 March 2018



Leopard and cub



Blue Wildebeest



Secretary-bird



Lion

Report compiled by Rob Mileto
Images courtesy of Chris Hall



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Tour participants: Rob Mileto (leader), Witness Emmanuel, Wilfred Lembris (local guides/drivers)
With 12 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Thursday 22nd February

London to Nairobi

For most of us, the tour started when we met up and boarded an uneventful Kenya Airways flight to Nairobi. Two of the group had already been adventuring in East Africa.

Day 2

Friday 23rd February

Nairobi to Ngorongoro Crater via Lake Manyara National Park

Our two and a half hour wait at Nairobi airport gave us the chance have coffee and watch the sunrise. The short flight to Kilimanjaro airport gave us a fine view of Mount Meru and the iconic Kilimanjaro itself. On arrival, after immigration formalities, we met up with our two local driver/guides; Witness and Wilfred and the walk to our safari trucks gave us our first Tanzanian bird, the aptly named Superb Starling. Then off we set on our safari, stopping after an hour and a bit at the Arusha Coffee House. Here, unsurprisingly, some had coffee and we all met up with the remainder of our party who had been enjoying time with the gorillas in neighbouring Uganda. Rob gave a quick briefing of what to expect and what to watch out for and then we set off again, lunch packs on laps (and quickly demolished!). There were a few roadside birds to be seen as we headed west towards Lake Manyara, especially Abdim's Storks stalking the pastures and Common Fiscals being sentries on the powerlines.

By the early afternoon we had arrived at the park entrance. Driving through the rather dense and dark forest (growing here because of groundwater close to the surface) it was hard to spot anything small, so we 'made do' with the Blue Monkey and Olive Baboon antics (our first mammals for the trip). Around the hippo pools the vegetation opened out and, as well as Hippopotamus, we saw a whole host of birds (over 35 species) including, Hottentot Teal, African Jacana, Black Heron, Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters, White-faced Whistling-ducks, Great White Pelicans, hundreds of Yellow-billed Storks and a fly-over of Collared Pratincoles. The star of the show was though, a stonking great Goliath Heron, dwarfing the Grey Heron nearby. There were also our firsts of what was to be very many Thomson's Gazelles, Blue Wildebeest, African Buffalo and Plains Zebra.

Leaving the park in the late afternoon, we ascended the spectacular great rift escarpment and took many photos from its top. Two hours later we had another stunning view – the 16km wide Ngorongoro caldera from its rim. Its wealth of grazing animals were just tiny dark dots in the sea of green below us. Rob spotted two dots that were lighter than the rest and after scrabbling around in his luggage for his tripod, his now stable telescope confirmed they were a Black Rhino and her well grown calf – what a start!

Soon after, we were ensconced in our aptly named Rhino Lodge nestled in the montane forest where a fine buffet dinner was followed by an early night.

Day 3

Saturday 24th February

Ngorongoro Crater

An early (6am) buffet breakfast was followed by a drive along the crater rim. In places, the weird moss-clad Flat-topped Acacias, dripping with lichen, were being browsed by Maasi Giraffe, elsewhere, small herds of wildebeest and zebra grazed the montane grasslands. At the entrance to the descent road into the crater, some spotted African Citril and, as we descended, we all saw the very smart Schalow's (now Abyssinian) Wheatear along with Klaas's Cuckoo, Red-collared Widow and an obligingly perched Lanner Falcon.

On reaching the floor of the crater, we were soon amongst herds of wildebeest, zebra, Thompson's and Grant's Gazelle. Hence, unsurprisingly, there were also many attendant predators and the morning drive was punctuated with a series of excellent sightings of lions, Spotted Hyenas and African Golden Wolves (Golden Jackals). The first lions we saw were little more than distant tan blobs, but as the morning progressed, we seemed to draw closer and closer to them, culminating in one lioness walking up to our two trucks and lying down in the shade it cast behind the front truck (thus confusing the truck occupants who saw it walk behind them, but not out again!). Equally enthralling was a big male lying in the middle of a track, forcing all trucks to go around him! The hyenas we saw seemed mostly intent on cooling off in puddles and muddy hollows, although one clan had obviously recently killed as we saw several individuals running off with limbs and other bits of carcass. We were also treated to some 60 hippos squashed into a small pool (with Black-crowned Night Herons looking on) and a fairly distant Black Rhino. The morning loo stop had the added excitement of being near to a large lone bull elephant busy quenching its thirst and Little Swifts using the roof of the toilet block as a nest site.

Favourites amongst the birdlife included many stately Kori Bustard, some with inflated throat pouches hoping to attract a lady bustard. Grey-crowned Cranes also caused a bit of a stir with their silly yellow pompom 'hats'. Into the bargain, Black Crake, Sacred Ibis, Crowned and Long-toed Lapwings were additional treats. Inexplicably, few people got excited by the several Red-capped and Rufous-naped Larks we also saw?!

Lunch was at the Ngoitokitok springs and lake, a very popular picnic spot with attendant Black and Yellow-billed Kites ready to snatch a piece of sandwich or chicken from the hands of any less than vigilant tourist – including us... though only one chicken wing was lost! Picking up the dropped crumbs were the rather less daunting Rufous-tailed and Speke's Weavers.

After lunch, we set off again and were soon amongst herds of gazelle, zebra and wildebeest again. There were two more rhino at some distance, probably the same two we had seen the day before and many more lion and hyena. We saw our first 'kill', albeit just a golden wolf catching and gulping down an unfortunate beetle. A drive through the Lerai forest gave us fine views of White-backed and the rarer Ruppell's Griffon Vulture, along with a pair of smart perched Bateleur.

Very unexpectedly, we chanced upon a lone cheetah. These cats are very unusual in the crater due to the intense competition with, and persecution from, lion and hyena, but there it was under a shady tree. It gave us brief but clear glimpses of its lithe, sinuous body. This was a fine finale to our day in the crater.

We were back at Rhino lodge in time for tea at sunset, with Defassa Waterbuck grazing on the lawns. After dinner, they were replaced by buffalo noisily grazing the grass whilst we tried to sleep!

Day 4

Sunday 25th February

Ngorongoro to Nduvu (south Serengeti)

We had a mini lie-in until 06:30ish(!) and left promptly at 07:00. The drive along the crater rim and then westwards towards Serengeti was punctuated with a series of lovely birds that included African Hoopoe, Hildebrandt's Starling, Eurasian White Stork, Fischer's Sparrow-lark and 'his' Lovebird too. Top spot though was almost certainly the several Eastern Chanting Goshawk using the roadside rocks as vantage points to hunt from. One dutifully gave us our second 'kill' of the trip by pouncing onto an unsuspecting big fat caterpillar! A young Martial Eagle on the nest and a second in a tree just further along came a close second though.

Mammal sightings were dominated by giraffe, several grazing on the Whistling Thorn bushes that dominated some parts we passed through... and their inflated thorn bases with holes do, allegedly, whistle, should the wind be blowing in the right direction and at the right speed, but not today... We also oooohed and aaaahed over a tiny Thompson's Gazelle fawn that was so newly born it could barely stand. There was even a couple of reptiles to entertain us in the form of a (surprisingly speedy) Leopard Tortoise and a dashing Southern Tree Agama.

We arrived at Katikati (No. 3) Camp in the Nduvu area of the Serengeti National Park at lunchtime. Shaking off the dust, we had a simple but tasty buffet before retiring for a shower and siesta.

By 16:00 we were all ready to head off again and almost immediately came across a stonking African Hawk Eagle and soon after a group of dinky Yellow-throated Sandgrouse trying hard to pretend they weren't there, right next to the trucks. A Lilac-breasted Roller made for a classic African safari photo and many Ostrich jogging across the endless grass plain made for another.

Four lions had dragged the carcass of some unfortunate beast (a wildebeest?) into the shade of a large bush and two of them were still busy crunching on the meat, bone and sinew in what was rather a gruesome encounter. Down by Lake Nduvu, two young male lions were brazenly lying in a large area of bare mud and hardly batted an eyelid as we parked pretty much right next to them for photos. Closer to the water, there were several waterbirds that we had previously not come across, including Cape Teal, Black-winged Stilt, African Openbill, many Little Stints, Kittlitz's and Caspian Plovers.

Returning to our camp, some fluttering on the trunk of a nearby dead tree turned out to be an African Harrier Hawk trying to reach into a hole with its long, ridiculously flexible legs, but the hole seemed too small and too downward facing to allow it access. On arrival at Katikati, perfect temperature water was soon added to our 'bucket' camp showers and we were soon refreshed, clean and ready for our dinner. This was followed by cake and songs to celebrate the birthday of one of our party. The checklist was the last thing on the day's agenda and was serenaded by Slender-tailed Nightjar.

Day 5

Monday 26th February

Seronera area (central Serengeti)

After an early breakfast, we chose our own picnic lunches which the camp staff then immediately packaged up for us, since we were going to be out for the day.

Heading east then north we soon bumped into some wildlife in the form of golden wolf pups enjoying the early morning sun. One truck then had a large male lion cross right in front of it and Topi and Coke's Hartebeest were new mammals for the trip. At the Naabi gate, there was an opportunity to get up close to, and differentiate between, the rather similar Hildebrandt's and Superb Starlings, since here they were used to people - and on the lookout for scraps! It was also an opportunity to offload the product of all the tea, coffee and juice we had consumed at breakfast!

North of the gate, we were soon seeing long snaking lines of wildebeest. The rains were late and patchy and this had confused the herds and split them into factions, each seeking the fresh, mineral rich grass they prefer at this calving time. They crossed the track as they do rivers, in a line and at speed, although there were clearly no crocs here to worry about! Some Secretary-birds were a welcome find, as were a pair of lions, a male and a female who had separated from the pride for mating purposes, although they didn't mate whilst we were there!

Nearby, some lines of wildebeest and many zebra had coalesced into reasonable sized herds of some low tens of thousands, such that there were animals in all directions. This gave us a strong impression of the hundreds of thousands that sometimes come together in these parts. Our self chosen picnics were enjoyed at the Mawe nyeupe ("white stones") picnic site in the company of Superb Starling, White-headed Buffalo-weaver, Silverbird, Rufous-tailed Weaver and African Grass Rats! .

Replete, we hit the road and soon found a large buffalo breeding herd of 500+. The huge muscular males made some effort to form a cordon of massive horns around the females and young, but some ignored us as being of no threat. A nearby fast shrinking pool held far more (flatulent) hippos than was good for it and the scars on some back were testament to some aggression between the occupants. Here too were a handful of Whiskered and Gull-billed Terns.

Wending our way towards Lake Magadi, Magpie Shrike, Arrow-marked Babbler, Purple Grenadier, Cardinal Woodpecker and Bare-faced Go-away Bird were all new to our trip list. The lake itself was largely dry but had 2 lionesses in residence. Heading back towards camp, there were miles and miles of seemingly empty grass ... and then a Cheetah under a lone acacia bush! Sadly, with no prey in sight, it didn't look as if it was going anywhere in a hurry, so we tootled on back to camp and a welcome shower before dinner. The checklist that day was accompanied by lion roars!

Day 6

Tuesday 27th February

Ngorongoro Conservation Area

We had a 07:00 departure and quickly found a rather dashing Black-breasted Snake-eagle perched in the top of a tree. Not too far away a Double-banded Courser had, rather bizarrely, barricaded itself into the centre of a zebra poo. It was unclear if it was on a nest, but it seemed more than happy sitting amongst the smelly surrounds.

Much to everyone's delight, we managed to find three Bat-eared Fox, sitting near the edge of their den entrance, warming themselves in the morning sun. These cute little bandit masked foxes use their unfeasibly large ears pinpoint prey in long grass and probably also to thermoregulate .

We were headed towards the literally named 'big marsh' and there were several lovely bird species that we saw en route, namely Brown Snake-eagle, the oh so cute and dinky Pigmy Falcon and hundreds of Yellow-throated and Chestnut-bellied Sand Grouse that were visiting waterholes in the marsh to take a morning drink. There were, apparently, some lion in the locality, but they were so far in the dense reeds and tall grass that they were impossible to see, so we caught up with two sub-adult Cheetah nearby instead! These were lounging under the only bush for miles around, and, with no obvious prey to be seen, we guessed they weren't going to do much, so we headed for the camp, lunch and a siesta.

At 16:00 prompt, we loaded ourselves back into the trucks and headed off vaguely in the direction we had seen the cheetah. We found them too! They had moved some distance and had recently killed a wildebeest calf which they were busy gobbling up chunks of when we arrived. Cheetah often have their hard won prey stolen by larger or more numerous predators such as lion and hyena, so it makes evolutionary sense to wolf as much down as quickly as feasible, and these two were certainly not wasting any time savouring every mouthful.

As we watched, talk of a Serval intensified over the radio. This leggy small cat is tricky to see and often nocturnal, but one had been spotted resting nearby... only where? In the Conservation Area, driving off-road in the rainy season is allowed, so how do you explain where you and the Serval are to others? Left after the 8th big acacia tree, west of the big marsh? That was sort of all we had to go on, but, after a bit of searching and helped by several trucks being parked around it, we found the little spotty cat relaxing in some long grass. We tried a number of different vantage points seeking the best view and were rewarded with some decent views and photos. Just as we had to leave to be back in camp for sunset, it deigned to rise from its resting place (perhaps one truck – not ours, had approached that touch too close?) and trot off a few metres where it groomed a little as we said bye bye to it.

It was now the slightly odd requirement of the Conservation Area rules that we had to book out before returning to our camp (which is just inside the Serengeti). However, serendipitously, this did mean we got some great views of Steel-blue Whydah - a tiny bird with a super long tail and Namaqua Dove - a tiny dove seemingly painted in black, browns, pinks and yellows.

Day 7

Wednesday 28th February

Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Hidden Valley)

On Lake Ndutu, a lone Greater Flamingo heralded in the sunrise. Our friends the Bat-eared Foxes had moved some 200m to an alternative den and were, again, suning themselves before their 'bedtime'. Overhead an African Goshawk and Long-crested Eagle had a bit of a tussle, with the former seeing off the latter, although quite why was a bit of a mystery.

At a pool in the big marsh an African Spoonbill cast a perfect reflection in the still waters and a flock Fischer's Lovebirds settled nearby to drink. The lions that had the previous day been hiding in the reeds had (probably) come out into the open and the male was laid on his back, paws in the air, looking more like a teddy bear than the 'king of the jungle'!

We were heading for a series of pools in an area known as the hidden valley, but we bumped into a pair of Cheetah en route. At first we thought they might be the two from the previous day, but closer inspection showed

that these were stockier and so probably older. Male cheetah form coalitions of 2 or 3, often brothers from the same litter and these two certainly seemed relaxed in each other company, with even some reciprocal grooming going on.

Arriving at a pool in the hidden valley, a seemingly endless line of wildebeest and zebra were filing in over a seemingly endless plain to drink and cool. Such a large agglomeration of meat on the hoof desperate to drink is bound to attract meat eaters and it was not long before we spotted four lionesses on the far side of the pool. Oddly, a lone truck parked nearby... and what was that right next to the truck? A very young zebra foal... We can only speculate at what had happened but the chances are some zebra had stumbled across the lion and dashed away. In the confusion, the foal lost its real mother and so immediately adopted the truck as a surrogate. This poor little thing had been spotted by the lionesses and it was clearly only a matter of time before it became a meal for them. When stood between the truck and the cats, they were relatively disinterested, probably because it lost its outline as prey. However, every time it ventured to one end of the truck and was silhouetted against the sky, it was immediately stalked. Eventually, the lionesses had stalked close enough to easily sprint the tiny distance remaining and it was game over – a remarkably sobering experience.

Unsurprisingly, the afternoon drive (after a lovely lunch and siesta) was very tame in comparison. Nearly surrounded by threatening black clouds, we set off in the direction of the only clear sky. Luckily, that happened to be the planned route! We headed for Lake Masek near the head of the famous Oldupai Gorge. This lake, unlike Lake Ndutu has much less salt/soda laden water and so is drinkable by large mammals. Unfortunately for us, that included Maasai cattle which were allowed access given other water sources were dry. The Maasai do not hunt the wild mammals, but do scare them off. Consequently, they were wary round here and a few zebra, wildebeest, Warthog, dozens of grass rats and 'Billy' the lonely hippo proved to be the only mammal spots.

In contrast, the birdlife was prolific and it was good to see our first Scarlet-chested Sunbird along with a whole host of other top spots that included Black-lored Babbler, Little Bee-eater, Dideric Cuckoo, an eerie row of Black-headed Heron, an all too fleeting Verreaux's Eagle Owl and a glorious Red-headed Weaver.

Before dinner we warmed ourselves around the daily log fire and post dinner, we had a Maasai escort back to our tents as usual.

Day 8

Thursday 1st March

Seronera area (central Serengeti)

The light rain started soon after we left our camp (having again chosen our own picnic lunches). The small herds of wildebeest, zebra and gazelle all appeared hold either their bums or their faces into the rain, giving them a very orderly appearance. Hyena were much in evidence this day (and we had heard them cackling and calling in the night) lolloping around, looking for an easy meal, but we saw no signs they found one. Not so the kestrels (Lesser, Common and a single Greater), Black-winged Kite and even Tawny Eagle that were busy all around easily picking off winged termites that the rain had caused to emerge en masse.

Although it soon stopped, the rain was also encouraging wildebeest and zebra to go wandering in search of green pastures and on several occasions we had to wait for a gap in the long snaking lines of them crossing the track. In a marshy area, a large herd of elephant was a welcome sight. They grazed lazily on the tall marsh grasses that

the other grazers seemed to avoid - perhaps a touch too tall and coarse for their tastes? The central part of Serengeti (known as Seronera) is dotted with small rocky outcrops of wind and heat sculpted granite known as kopjes (pronounced koppies and technically known as inselbergs). This landscape is said to have been the inspiration for the backdrop to the Lion King film and sure enough, here was a lioness atop a kopje!

Along a small watercourse, a Rosy-throated Longclaw and a hippo uncharacteristically walking in the day time (perhaps because of the cloudy skies?) were the prelude to the target species of the day and it didn't take too long to find it in its preferred location. Draped over a large branch of a Sausage Tree was a large male Leopard. It looked around, adjusted its position and swung its thick tail about, but didn't seem to be planning to do much else. So, we headed off towards the visitor centre... only to find a Leopard mum and her Leopard cub slinking along the same watercourse and then up onto a dead tree. What a treat! There they were some 40m distant, playing about in plain sight! Eventually, they dropped back into the long grass and we continued on to our visitor centre lunch stop.

We had our packed lunches in the company of a host of birds including Grey-capped Social-weaver, Speckle-fronted Weaver and Usambiro Barbet. We were also joined by a band of Banded Mongoose and by both Southern Tree and Yellow-spotted Rock Hyrax. Post lunch, some strolled around the excellent self-guided walk up and around the kopje, where the centre is based.

We left in the mid-afternoon and enjoyed seeing a Coke's Hartebeests with calves on our return journey. A lone cheetah on termite mound scanning the horizon was an unexpected bonus and 11 lions, including cubs, on the same kopje where there had been only one that morning topped the afternoon viewing. In comparison, the amorous Speckled Pigeons at the Naabi gate hardly raised an eyebrow!

Day 9/10

Friday 2nd/Saturday 3rd March

Ndutu to London via Lake Diluti

Sadly, it was time to leave the welcoming and friendly camp that had been our home for the past week or so. Waving our farewells, we set off towards Seronera airstrip. Out on the short grass plains a mature male lion paced purposefully in our direction, naturally we parked to intercept it. Unfortunately (or fortunately, depending on your point of view), it took rather too close an interest in the back of one of the trucks and seemed intent on leaping up onto the spare tyres there. Given the truck had its pop up roof open, this would have been a rather too hazardous action to allow! So, Witress started the engine and this was enough to deter the lion from further investigations of the spare tyres or the 'contents' of the truck!

Hyena were again very evident and one seemed to be carrying prey – a small dark lump. It was being remarkably gently with it... hold on, it seems to have carefully put it down, taken a breather and carefully picked it up again! That's not prey, that's a cub!

As we slowly made our way towards the airstrip we spotted at least seven hyenas prowling along the edge of a mixed herbivore herd, but today we did not have the time to see what developed, we had a flight to catch. Arriving at the small airstrip, it was time to bid a fond farewell to our two excellent driver/guides who had shared their knowledge and enthusiasm with us that past week. There were pretty much no check in formalities required and within 30 minutes we were shown aboard the 13 seater by the pilot. He proceeded to show all the

dials and knobs to one of our group sat next to him and even went 'hands-free' to take a photo of his new 'co-pilot' at the controls! We did arrive safely at Arusha airport about an hour later and were very soon saying goodbye at coffee lodge to two of our party who were travelling on to Pemba and the luscious Indian Ocean. The rest of us travelled on a little further to lunch at Serena Hotel near the shore of Lake Diluti. Here we had a rather colonial style lunch, said our goodbyes to two more of the party who were off the next day to Tarangire National Park, and spent the early afternoon sipping tea on the lawn and watching the Silvery-cheeked Hornbill and Common Bulbul fly past.

At 17:30 it was off to Kilimanjaro airport for our late evening flight to Amsterdam where Rob headed off to a snowy Manchester whilst the rest of the gang headed for an equally snowy London. It had been a very memorable safari and each of us will have our own favourites amongst the 40 or so mammals and the 200 or so birds we saw on our 10 day odyssey.

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The Great Migration

Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2
1	Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	2	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	10	7						
3	Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>	1							
4	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1					1	1	
5	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>		1		✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	1							
7	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	2							
8	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1							
9	Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	4							
10	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	3	2						
11	Rufous-bellied Heron	<i>Ardeola rufiventris</i>	1							
12	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	20	100s		✓			✓	✓
13	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		2						
14	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>							1	
15	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	30	1				✓		
16	African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>			1					
17	Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>	4	100s	2					
18	Eurasian White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>			50	✓		✓	✓	✓
19	Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>			4	✓	✓	✓		✓
20	Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>		6						
21	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>								H
22	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	2	13						
23	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>	4	1		✓		✓		
24	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>						1		
25	White-faced Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	29							
26	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>	12	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>		1						
28	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>		1	41					
29	Red-billed Duck	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>				16		✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March								
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	
30	Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>	40	12							
31	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>		4							
32	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>			1	✓	✓				
33	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	45	130							
34	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus migrans aegyptius</i>		4							
35	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>		1		✓					
36	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>		4					✓	✓	✓
37	Rueppell's Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps rueppellii</i>		2		✓					✓
38	Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotus</i>		3	✓	✓	✓	✓			
39	White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>				3					
40	Black-breasted Snake-eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>				1	1				
41	Brown Snake-eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>						2			
42	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>		2	✓	✓				✓	
43	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		2		✓					
44	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>		2		✓			✓	✓	✓
45	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			2	✓	✓			✓	✓
46	African Harrier-hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>			1		✓	✓			
47	Eastern Chanting-goshawk	<i>Melierax poliopterus</i>			4				✓		
48	African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	1						1		
49	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>			2						
50	Mountain Buzzard	<i>Buteo oreophilus</i>		1							
51	Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>		1	✓			✓			
52	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
53	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>				✓					✓
54	Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>	2								
55	African Hawk-eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>			1						
56	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>			2						
57	Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>							1		
58	Secretary-bird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>			1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Pygmy Falcon	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>						2	✓		
60	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>			9	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
61	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		1		✓			✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March								
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	
62	Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>								1	
63	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>		1							
64	Coqui Francolin	<i>Francolinus coqui</i>				1					
65	Yellow-necked Francolin	<i>Francolinus leucoscepus</i>			1						
66	Grey-breasted Francolin	<i>Francolinus rufopictus</i>						4	✓		
67	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>		4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
68	Grey Crowned-crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	2	10				3			
69	Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostris</i>		1						✓	
70	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	2	✓							
71	Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>		10		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
72	White-bellied Bustard	<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>						3			
73	Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>								2	
74	Hartlaub's Bustard	<i>Lissotis hartlaubii</i>								1	
75	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	9	✓							
76	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		2							
77	Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	2	✓							
78	Temminck's Courser	<i>Cursorius temminckii</i>						3			
79	Double-banded Courser	<i>Smutsornis africanus</i>			2			2			
80	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	2	40		✓					
81	Long-toed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>	3								
82	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	1								
84	Black-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus melanopterus</i>		22							
85	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>		11	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
86	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>			3				4		
87	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>		1		✓					
88	Caspian Plover	<i>Charadrius asiaticus</i>			1						
89	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>							1		
90	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	13								
91	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	1								
92	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>						2	✓		
93	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>		15	✓		✓			✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March								
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	
94	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	4	✓	✓	✓				✓	
95	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>	1		5	✓	✓	✓	✓		
96	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>				3					
97	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>						100s			
98	Yellow-throated Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles gutturalis</i>			12			24	✓		
99	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>				4				✓	
100	African Mourning Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>		1	1						
101	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>			2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
102	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>		2							
103	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>						1			
104	Fischer's Lovebird	<i>Agapornis fischeri</i>			1			✓	✓	✓	
105	Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>				2					
106	Klaas' Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>		1							
107	Dideric Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>			1				✓		
108	White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>			1	✓			✓	✓	
109	Verreaux's Eagle-owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>				1			1		
110	Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>			H						
111	Slender-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus clarus</i>			H	H	H	H	H	H	
112	African Palm-swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	12								
113	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	2	✓							
114	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>		1							
115	Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>			3						
116	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	1								
117	Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>							4	✓	
118	Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	<i>Merops oreobates</i>				1	✓				
119	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>	6								
120	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		2	✓						
121	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudata</i>			2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
123	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>			1	✓	✓				
124	Green Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>				3					
125	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>						1			

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March								
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2	
126	Silvery-cheeked Hornbill	<i>Ceratogymna brevis</i>									2
127	Usambiro Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus usambiro</i>								1	
128	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>				1					
129	Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>			1	✓					
130	Grey Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos goertae</i>				1					
131	Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafra africana</i>		1							
132	Fischer's Sparrow-lark	<i>Eremopterix leucopareia</i>			3	✓					
133	Chestnut-backed Sparrow-lark	<i>Eremopterix leucotis</i>							3		
134	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>		18	✓						
135	Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	4								
136	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	100s		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
137	Lesser Striped-swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>								1	
138	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>		14	✓						
139	Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>								2	
140	Rosy-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx ameliae</i>								1	
141	Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>	1								
142	African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>				1					
143	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>									3
144	Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>		3							
145	Winding Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>				1					
146	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>				1					
147	Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>						1	1		
148	Red-faced Crombec	<i>Sylvietta whytii</i>						1	1		
149	Silverbird	<i>Empidonis semipartitus</i>				4					
150	African Grey Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis microrhynchus</i>			1						
151	Chin-spot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>								1	
152	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>				1					
153	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		1		1					
154	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			1						
155	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>		1							
156	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>		12	✓						
157	Schalow's (Abyssinian) Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe lugens schalowi</i>		10							

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2
158	Northern Anteater-chat	<i>Myrmecocichla aethiops</i>		3						
159	Black-lored Babbler	<i>Turdoides sharpei</i>						2		
160	Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>				1				
161	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>						1		
162	Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>					1	1		
163	Grey-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>				2			4	
164	Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
165	Magpie Shrike	<i>Corvinella melanoleuca</i>				6				✓
166	Northern White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus rueppelli</i>			3			✓	✓	✓
167	Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>						1		
168	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>		1						
169	Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius aethiopicus</i>		1						
170	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>			1	✓			✓	
171	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>			4	✓			✓	
172	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	12							✓
173	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>			6	✓		✓	✓	
174	Ruppell's Glossy-starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</i>				4				
175	Superb Starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i>	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
176	Hildebrandt's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis hildebrandti</i>			3	✓			✓	
177	Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>				4				
178	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>			3	✓			✓	
179	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			2					
180	Kenya Rufous-sparrow	<i>Passer rufocinctus</i>		2	✓			✓		
181	Swahili Sparrow	<i>Passer suahelicus</i>		2		✓				
182	Red-billed Buffalo-weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>							1	
183	White-headed Buffalo-weaver	<i>Dinemellia dinemelli</i>				12				
184	Speckle-fronted Weaver	<i>Sporopipes frontalis</i>				4	✓		✓	
185	Rufous-tailed Weaver	<i>Histurgops ruficauda</i>		12		✓	✓	✓		
186	Grey-headed Social-weaver	<i>Pseudonigrita arnaudi</i>							15	
187	Baglafaecht Weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafaecht</i>		2						
188	Vitelline Masked-weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>						1		
189	Speke's Weaver	<i>Ploceus spekei</i>		12						

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2
190	Golden-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus jacksoni</i>	4							
191	Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>				1		1		
192	Black Bishop	<i>Euplectes gierowii</i>		3						
193	Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>	4	2						
194	Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>		1						
195	Red-cheeked Cordonbleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>				2				
196	Purple Grenadier	<i>Uraeginthus ianthinogaster</i>				2	1		1	
197	Steel-blue Whydah	<i>Vidua hypocherina</i>					11			
198	African Citril	<i>Serinus citrinelloides</i>	1	✓	✓					
199	Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>			1		✓	✓		

Mammals

1	Yellow-winged Bat	<i>Lavia frons</i>							1	
2	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	5	✓		✓		✓	✓	
4	Masai Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Kirk's Dik-Dik	<i>Rhynchotragus kirki</i>			3	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	2							
7	Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>		1			✓	✓		
8	Common Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	2	13						
9	Defassa Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa</i>				10				
10	Bohor Reedbuck	<i>Redunca redunca</i>				2			✓	
11	Topi	<i>Damaliscus korrigum</i>				6			✓	
12	Coke's Hartbeeste	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus cokii</i>				23			✓	✓
13	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	12		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Grant's Gazelle	<i>Gazella granti</i>		34	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Thomson's Gazelle	<i>Gazella thomsoni</i>		55	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Red Duiker	<i>Cephalophus natalensis</i>		1						
18	Steinbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>					1			
19	African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	40	✓		✓			✓	
20	Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	33	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March							
			23	24	25	26	27	28	1	2
21	Black Rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>	2	3						
22	Yellow-spotted Rock Hyrax	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>							4	
23	Southern Tree Hyrax	<i>Dendrohyrax arboreus</i>							32	
24	African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	2	56		✓		✓	✓	
25	Unstriped Ground Squirrel	<i>Xerus rutilus</i>	1							
26	African Hare	<i>Lepus habessinicus</i>		2		✓			✓	
27	African Grass Rat	<i>Arvicanthis niloticus</i>			1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
28	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>			3	✓	✓	✓	✓	
29	African Golden Wolf (Golden Jackal)	<i>Canis aureus</i>		30		✓			✓	✓
30	Bat-eared Fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>					3	3		
31	Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>		1						
32	Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>			11				✓	
33	Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>		30	1	✓		✓	✓	✓
34	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>		34	4	6		9	17	4
35	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>							3	
36	Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>		1		1	2	2	1	
37	Serval	<i>Felis serval</i>					1			
38	Olive Baboon	<i>Papio anubis</i>	34	✓		✓			✓	
39	Blue Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>	5							
40	Vervet Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	13	✓		✓		✓	✓	

Other Taxa

Mwanza Flat-headed Rock Agama, *Agama mwanzae*

Southern Tree Agama, *Acanthocercus atricollis*

Nile Crocodile, *Crocodylus niloticus*

Leopard Tortoise, *Stigmochelys pardalis*