



## **MEGAFARI 2: Uganda and** **Rwanda: *Shoebill experience, Nyungwe's*** ***Albertine Rift and Great Apes***

**27 July – 7 August 2010 (12 days), Leader: Keith Barnes, Custom trip**

**Photos by Keith Barnes. All photos taken on this trip.**



*The spectacular Green-breasted Pitta was the star of the show in Uganda. We found only the sixth-ever nest of this species and spent a few hours with it gathering valuable information on the breeding biology of this species. Here a male droops his wings and displays to a female on the ground.*

## Introduction

This was the first leg of our second Megafari of 2010 – a true trip of a lifetime for most of the participants. The main aims of the Uganda and Rwanda leg was to see a Shoebill stalking in deep Papyrus swamps, attempt to see the most unlikely scarce Central African denizen, Green-breasted Pitta, score a gamut of rainforest birds in both the lowlands of Kibale NP and then also the impressive montane forests of the incredible Nyungwe NP, and to see primates, and of course, the irrepressible great apes, Chimpanzee and Mountain Gorilla. Fortunately, we achieved all these aims, netting 346 bird species on this 12-day leg of the trip, of which only 9 were spent birding, as well as accumulating an incredible 652 bird species and 60 mammals in just over four-weeks of the Megafari. The Megafari was a boon for spectacular birds and we saw 32 species of bird of prey, 8 species of turaco, 7 species of kingfisher, 8 species of bee-eater, 9 species of hornbill, and 28 species of sunbird. We also saw the famous Big-5 mammals and had incredible encounters with Mountain Gorillas and Chimpanzees amongst 12 species of primates. For the extremely successful Kenya portion of the tour, read that trip report.



*The only thing more comical than a Great Blue Turaco is a tree full of them. These birds were common in both Uganda and Rwanda.*

**27 July:** ARRIVAL Entebbe.  
**28 July:** Mabamba Swamp – Kibale NP.  
**29 – 30 July:** Kibale NP.  
**31 July:** Kibale NP to Entebbe.  
**1 August:** Entebbe – Kigali – Nyungwe NP.  
**2 – 4 August:** Nyungwe NP.  
**5 August:** Nyungwe – Volcans NP.  
**6 August:** Volcans NP. Gorilla trekking.  
**7 August:** Volcans NP - Kigali

**27 July: ARRIVAL Entebbe.**

We all arrived in Entebbe quite late, and all hit the sack after a long day, and dreamt of the big grey giant.

**28 July: Mabamba – Fort Portal.**

An early departure saw us make for Mabamba Swamp. On the edge of Lake Victoria, this is the nearest place to the city to try for Shoebill. This swamp supports a great array of Victoria basin specialties. Standing at the jetty waiting for our canoes netted us lifers immediately, with Red-chested Sunbird and Long-toed Lapwing right in the swamp's entrance channel. Once we were on the water, Pied and Malachite Kingfishers were everywhere, electric jewels dangling in front of the boats as we ploughed our way through the papyrus. Occasionally, a Swamp Flycatcher would alight up ahead on the boat. The waterlilies provided habitat for both African and the uncommon Lesser Jacanas that darted over the floating masses of vegetation. Sat sentinel on Papyrus heads were a few Blue-headed Coucal that bubbled away to themselves. Blue-breasted Bee-eaters were also seen in the swamps and Winding Cisticola's were abundant. The swamps supported a whole suite of storks and herons and Gray Crowned-Crane, and eventually, rounding a corner we scored with the prehistoric-looking and amazing Shoebill. It was a little distant, but we all had great views of this mega, that took to the wing and flew away from us. Our trip was literally only hours old and we had connected with one of the main targets. Once back on shore we made a quick stop at a weaver colony for Northern Brown-throated, Slender-billed, Orange and Viellot's Weavers. The terrestrial vegetation supported Crowned Hornbill, the amazing Splendid Starling, Angola Swallow and Cape Wagtail and we saw our first Great Blue Turacos on the outskirts of Entebbe. These amazingly cool birds were soaked up and enjoyed to the max, but were commonly seen throughout our time in Uganda and Rwanda.

We left Mabamba in the mid-morning, very chuffed with our success, and started the long journey to Fort Portal, with a stop for lunch on the outskirts of Kampala. En route we saw hundreds of Marabou Storks. Leaving the congested city, the going was initially slow with much roadwork, but once we hit the resurfaced road we sailed to Fort Portal, and once the roadwork is finished this will be a simple three-hour journey! We arrived at Ndali Lodge in the late afternoon, with some time for birding the odd crater-lake surroundings. One would not expect too many forest birds in this scrub, but it is surprisingly productive. The flowering gardens were particularly rewarding for sunbirds, and we racked up Olive-bellied, Green-throated, Green-headed, Marico and Coppery pretty quickly. A late afternoon visitor was the amazing Black-and-White Casqued Hornbills, quite the garden bird, and a pair of stunning Great Blue Turacos. It seems ridiculous, but one eventually stops looking for these birds as they occur in almost any forest patch in Uganda. However, one always looks at them once they are found. The only thing more comical than a GBT is a tree full of

them, and we had at least 12 birds feasting in the figs near the lodge. A strident Sooty Chat, with his females in tow made himself known, and the tree-full of Viellot's Black Weavers that crack and swizzle as they attempt to attract mates kept us well entertained. Green Hylas sang out, and a flock of Purple-headed Glossy Starlings adorned a tree nearby, while a family of Cinnamon-chested Bee-eaters, including several recently fledged young, worked the understorey. As the light faded over the crater lake we retreated to our well-appointed rooms and enjoyed a stunning sundowner and delightful dinner put on by the staff on Ndali.



*The amazing Shoebill was found within three-hours of the tour starting, a great kick-off for this Megafari.*

**29-30 July: Kibale Forest NP.**

We were up early on our first morning, we had arranged to meet the man who knows where the Green-breasted Pittas hang out in Kibale. This scarce, enigmatic and simply gorgeous bird has become more and more reliable at Kibale NP in recent

years, and one now has a reasonable chance of seeing them if you know what you are doing. With much anticipation we drove to Kibale in the dark and started the walk into the forest expecting to get to the site where you wait in the predawn light and track the bird down as it displays high in a tree. If the bird does not call, your chances of seeing them are dramatically reduced. We arrived at the spot and waited. It got lighter, and lighter, and lighter, and no bird called. I looked over at our local guide, who had a look of concern in his face. It should have called by now "he said". He started walking around the forest, in wider and wider loops, while we stayed put. He returned a couple of times, looking more and more concerned. Then while he was away I too walked away from the display ground a bit and then "hop", something landed on a branch at eye-level about 5 m away. It was a Green-breasted Pitta, with a leaf in it's mouth. We just looked at it, gobsmacked. It is big for a pitta, and the iridescent blue rump and spots glow considerably, even in the dark understory. Then it flew up and went straight into a tangle. We had been standing under it's nest! To my knowledge, this is only the sixth nest ever found. We retreated so that we were a reasonable distance from the birds, and then spent about an hour observing both of the pair nest-building that morning. We got to see this incredible bird better than we could ever have imagined. So often with these near-mythical birds you have to be satisfied with a glimpse, or a distant look, but not this morning with Green-breasted Pitta. We were able to watch it, for as long as we wanted, as much as we wanted. With amazing looks at this stunning creature we spent the remainder of the morning exploring Kibale. Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher and Rufous Thrush were some reward, but the going was tough. We exited and had a thoroughly enjoyable lunch, a much animated one at that, talking about the most memorable encounter with one of Africa's top 5 birds. With Shoebill having fallen yesterday this trip was already a success no matter what other birds we saw on the rest of it! After lunch we headed back towards Fort Portal, where I planned to bird some more open forest. On route a group of four Chimpanzees ambled across the road in front of us! It truly was turning out to be an amazing day, when all of a sudden, our luck ran out, and a horrendous sound echoed from the engine and the vehicle lost all power. Oh dear! After a few frantic phone calls and a bit of an emergency rear-guard action, a mechanic was on his way from Fort Portal. But based on the sound, and the fact that Fort Portal is a good 30 km away on a dirt road, this was not something that would be sorted out soon. At least we were in the forest though, and we had just eaten lunch, and we picked up Yellow-throated and Speckled Tinkerbirds. Yellow-spotted Barbet was tempted to show as was Little and Toro Olive Greenbuls. A Mountain Wagtail patrolled a small stream and a Shining Blue Kingfisher came hurtling past, and then a stunning Black Bee-eater swooped down and nabbed a dragonfly off the river edge before sunning himself. Resplendent in his attire of black, crimson and turquoise.



*The Green-breasted Pitta (top left) forages on the ground, flicking through leaf-litter looking for invertebrates. The domed nest (top right), being lined with decomposed leaves. The crater at Ndali Lodge (bottom) is a stunning setting and is surprisingly rich in birds.*

An hour had passed and we still hadn't even seen the mechanic come past us on his way to the car, so when I heard a vehicle approaching from behind us, I tried to flag it down. It stopped immediately, and out leapt a tall man by the name of General Muhanguzi of the Ugandan Army. "How may I assist you?" he asked quickly. I explained our predicament, and he said he would happily return us to our lodge. The lodge grounds were good for birding, and I needed to spend an afternoon there, so we may as well make it today I thought. It turns out, the general had been at a meeting with district commissioners to discuss counter-terrorism strategies. This was only a week after the horrendous bombings in Kampala on the night of the World

Cup Final. I didn't quite realize it at the time, but the general proceeded to drive nearly 30 km out of his way to drop us at the lodge. On route we discussed many things, and he was a charming man. As we arrived at the lodge I offered to pay for fuel that he had used to get me to my destination, but he refused, saying, "The wellbeing of tourists in my country is in the national interest, so I am just doing my job". He was right, but I can hardly imagine too many other military men around the world grasping that transporting stranded tourists in a remote areas is an important job. We were extremely grateful for his assistance, we were in a pickle, and he saved the day. It turned out that our car only showed up at midnight, so coming back to the lodge was a good idea. Furthermore, we scored loads of new birds here in the late afternoon including Woodland Kingfisher, White-headed Sawwing, Green Crombec, Red-faced Cisticola, Giant Kingfisher, Black-necked Weaver and Red-billed Firefinch. We enjoyed a stunning dinner in the congenial surroundings of Ndali, a truly classy place.



*Muhanguzi and his merry men were our saviours today.*

The following morning we headed to Bigodi Swamp, a community-based project on the borders of the national park. This is an amazing little project that has already built a school and community hall. The local guides are superb and there is a raised boardwalk that goes through forest fringe edge as well as Papyrus swamp. There are also some cultivated fields, so the habitat diversity is excellent, and the ease with which one can see forest species is much better than in the forest. One of the first birds was a stunningly co-operative Brown-eared Woodpecker. A small flock including Olive-green Camaroptera and Buff-throated Apalis come through with Lead-coloured Flycatcher. A small family party of White-chinned Prinia worked in the low scrub, occasionally popping up for a look, while the secretive but stunning Papyrus Gonolek and White-winged Warbler were eventually lured out with a tape. A White-spotted

Flufftail hooted away in the undergrowth, while Black-crowned Waxbill and Black-and-White Mannikins worked the seeding grasses on the field edges and a Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo showed briefly. Both Dusky-Blue and Vanga Flycatchers worked the forest edges, while Little Grey, Slender-billed and Yellow-whiskered Greenbills all responded to playback. A crimson flash at the edge of the forest revealed the stunning Red-headed Bluebill and an insistent "chack" call showed a Western Nicator at close range. A Senegal Lapwing was nesting in the surrounding fields, which also held Superb and Green Sunbirds, and the loquacious Eastern Gray Plantain-eater. This area is also superb for primates, and on the morning walk we netted no fewer than five species of monkeys including Guereza Colobus, Central African Red Colobus, Gray-cheeked Mangaby, L'Hoest's Monkey and Red-tailed Monkey. Quite a haul.



*Bigodi yielded five species of monkeys including the handsome Guereza Colobus (left) and Red-tailed Guenon (right).*





*Bigodi has some great infrastructure and supports a fabulous community project, and what's more, it's just pumping with birds!*

The afternoon saw us exploring more forest and forest edge, finding Chestnut-winged Starling, Joyful Greenbul, Luehder's Bush-shrike, Gray Parrot, Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Scaly-breasted Illadopsis, Chestnut Wattle-eye and the neat Grey-capped Warbler. Adjacent scrub offered Brown-backed Scrub-Robin, Brown-crowned Tchagra and Village Indigobird. A long drape-like nest of Blue-throated Brown Sunbird was found, with a female in attendance, and the sweet Bocage's Bush-shrike called incessantly in the canopy above it, revealing itself eventually. We had to work a little harder to find calling Brown Illadopsis, Cassin's Honeybird, Yellowbill and Snowy-headed Robin-chat, but they all yielded in the end. A surprise late afternoon find was a rare *cyclotis* form "Forest" Elephant, this smaller cousin to the savanna giants are much less frequently seen, and we had one near the Chimps Nest camp. It was the first one seen by staff there for 4 years, so much excitement for all, and a fine end to the day.

### **31 July: Fort Portal - Entebbe.**

The following morning we worked a forest patch outside Fort Portal. New finds included Narrow-tailed Starling and the loud Black-faced Rufous Warbler. A patch of highly degraded forest proved to be a boon for hole-nesters with excellent views had of Yellow-billed and Hairy-breasted Barbet, as well as superb views of Grey-throated Barbet and Blue-throated Roller. The adjacent grassy hillside held displaying Flappet Larks. Before long though, we had to make the long journey back to Kampala. Arriving there with a few hours of daylight to spare we investigated the Botanical Gardens at Entebbe, where Slender-billed Weaver, Blue-breasted and Madagascar Bee-eaters proved to be late highlights.



*Some forest-edge species that are seldom photographed, Blue-throated Roller (top) and Grey-throated Barbet (bottom).*

### **1 August: Entebbe-Kigali-Nyungwe NP.**

After a really early morning wake-up call we were on our way to Rwanda. The flight was relatively uneventful and after picking folks up we were on our way to Nyungwe. The genocide is hard to understand in the context of just how nice the people of Rwanda are, and how enjoyable their country is. We made almost straight for the forest stopping for lunch in Butare. The only highlight in the much-altered Eucalyptus woodland being a *collaris* race of White-headed Black Chat, which is now considered a separate species, Ruaha Chat. As we got to Nyungwe we stopped in some high altitude scrub and were quickly oogling a bevy of handsome Albertine Rift-endemic birds including Ruwenzori Double-collared Sunbird, Regal Sunbird, Collared Apalis, Masked Mountain Apalis, Ruwenzori Batis, and a distant calling Ruwenzori Turaco, just to whet the appetite for the following day.

### **2-4 August: Nyungwe NP.**

We spent three full days soaking up the majesty of Nyungwe Forest. This is one of the largest and finest stretches of Albertine Rift forest remaining in the world. An incredible place that throbs with Albertine Rift endemic birds and pristine forest.



*Strange Weaver (right) and Red-collared Mountain Babbler (left) are both Albertine Rift-endemics. Nyungwe NP supports some of the most extensive montane rainforest in Africa, and it is a wonderful and wild area.*

We started cleaning these up as soon as we'd left the quaint Gisakura Guest House on our first morning. The guest house itself did not offer much. But as soon as we entered the forest proper, we made our first birding stop, and within 10 minutes we had racked up 10 Albertine Rift endemic species. It was phenomenal! The birds to fall at this first stop were Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher, electric Regal Sunbird, cute Ruwenzori Apalis, dapper Ruwenzori Batis, well-presented Masked Mountain Apalis, obscure Red-faced Woodland Warbler, grating Graurer's Warbler, and the indulgent Stripe-breasted Tit. After this endemic-athon, we popped back into the car, only to come to a screeching halt when a long-tailed Purple-breasted Sunbird flitted across the car and landed in a giant *Lobelia* next to the road. After soaking this bird up (even though it was in eclipse plumage) we headed off again. As the days passed we worked trails, coming up with many common forest species including Mountain

Thrush, Olive Woodpecker, Olive-breasted Mountain-Greenbul, Waller's Starling, Gray Cuckooshrike, Lemon Dove, Black-crowned Waxbill, Streaky Seed-eater, Thick-billed Seed-eater, Golden-breasted Bunting, White-headed Woodhoopoe, Tullberg's Woodpecker, Cabanis' Greenbul, White-starred Robin, Green-headed Sunbird, Black-billed Turaco, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater, Great Blue Turaco, Doherty's Bushshrike, Mountain Illadopsis, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, African Goshawk, Mountain Buzzard, Mountain Black Boubou, Black-faced Prinia, Chestnut-throated Apalis, Forest Weaver, Black-throated Apalis, and Montane Oriole. Gardens at the Gisakura Guest house held Northern Double-collared, Bronze and Variable Sunbirds. A morning down at Cyamudongo, was not particularly birdy, but we did score several very nice birds that were seen only here, chief amongst them Kungwe Apalis. However our prime goal here was to see Chimpanzees, and we failed magnificently. They gave us a torrid run-around as they moved rapidly from their nesting area to their feeding area avoiding us with magical ease. Leslie in particular was very disappointed, so when, while birding a few days later we found a male and a couple of cohorts in a fig tree scoffing figs, she was just delighted with this most unlikely of catch-ups! Watching the antics of these Great Apes is akin to holding up a mirror, there is much of us in them. Their interactions, screams and yelps are one of the great attractions and characteristic sounds of African rainforest.



*We surprised ourselves by finding these Chimps after dipping them on our "official" Chimp trek at Cyamudongo the previous day.*

We had to work harder though for a few of the more localised endemics, eventually finding the skulky Short-tailed Warbler, vocal but skittish Ruwenzori Turaco, and furtive Red-throated Alethe. One of the main attractions of this park, and for obvious reason is the stellar Red-collared Mountain-Babbler. In the strange genus *Kupeornis*, this species is highly localized and it's red-and-black plumage, with bright yellow eyes, make it a stunner to boot. The evenings revealed Ruwenzori Nightjar, which would fly from the roadside. On our final morning we got excellent views of Handsome Francolin right by the roadside. After collecting this handsome swag-bag of endemic loot we were ready to make our way farther north.

### **5 August: Nyungwe – Volcans.**

Today was a long driving day, and we made a brief stop for our last endemic in a small swamp, the Graurer's Rush Warbler. Our route back through dry woodland revealed another Ruaha Chat, and a post-lunchtime stop near Kigali revealed a few additional waterbirds. In the afternoon we arrived at Volcans with the twin peaks of Mt Visoke and Mt Karasimbi towering over us and we prepared ourselves for one of the finest wildlife experiences of them all, trekking with wild Mountain Gorillas.

### **6 August: Volcans NP – Gorilla trekking.**

The day dawned and we made our way to the bright and sunny HQ for a briefing. Our spirits were high, as we prepared for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see Mountain Gorillas. As soon as we hit the park HQ we were impressed with the way the Rwandan parks folks facilitated and ran the trekking operation. There was loads of info about the animals, the way to behave, and the operations of the parks authority ORTPN. After our briefing, we were off. Our group had been split, but both parties enjoyed equal success. Before long we were passing through fields on the edge of the park and then had a short climb to the animals, who are accompanied by trackers almost 24-7. Moving around the bamboo was phenomenal, we were constantly having to back off, as the gorillas would approach you too close for their own good. We had a phenomenal encounter with a female with a baby that could not have been more than 6 months old. The antics of the youngster were something to behold as he played with leaves and drank milk from his mother. It was all very touching. Eventually the group spilled out onto an open clearing where they cavorted and munched celery to their heart's content. All in all, it was everything it was cracked up to be, and more!

We spent the afternoon basking in the knowledge that we had taken phenomenal photos of these amazing animals, and the lodge grounds offered us more photo opportunities of Chubb's Cisticola, Bronze Sunbird, Yellow-backed Weaver and Cape Robin-chat.

### **7 August: Volcans NP - Kigali**

After a lazy breakfast we said goodbye to a couple, who decided to stay behind and climb Mt. Bisoke! The rest of us returned to Kigali where this phenomenal tour drew to an amazing close. The Megafari continued in Kenya. Roll on more Megafaris.



*Gorillas at Volcans. A protective female with her young baby (top), Silverback strips some celery (middle left), a youngster looks melancholically at the camera (middle right) and a female wraps herself in a self-embrace (bottom). All in all a stunning experience.*

## **BIRD LIST**

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow: **Clements, James F. 2000. *Birds of the World: A Checklist. Fifth Edition. Vista, CA: Ibis Publishing Co.*** Includes recent updates.

All the birds on this list were seen by at least one person in the group other than the leader, except those marked with an 'LO' = leader only or 'HO' = heard only. 417 bird species were recorded on the tour. Albertine Rift endemics and specialties are marked ARE.

PELICANS: Pelecanidae

Pink-backed Pelican *Pelecanus rufescens*

CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae

Long-tailed Cormorant *Phalacrocorax africanus*

ANHINGAS: Anhingidae

Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNs: Ardeidae

Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala*

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Striated Heron *Butorides striatus*

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

HAMERKOPS: Scopidae

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta*

STORKS: Ciconiidae

Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis*

African Openbill *Anastomus lamelligerus*

Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumeniferus*

SHOEBILLS: Balaenicipitidae

Shoebill *Balaeniceps rex*

IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae

Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus*

Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash*

DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS: Anatidae

White-faced Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna viduata*  
Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiacus*  
Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis*  
Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata*

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES: Accipitridae  
Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*  
Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius*  
African Fish-Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer*  
Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus*  
Black-breasted Snake-Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis*  
Brown Snake-Eagle *Circaetus cinereus*  
Banded Snake-Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens*  
African Marsh-Harrier *Circus ranivorus*  
African Harrier-Hawk *Polyboroides typus*  
Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*  
Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar*  
African Goshawk *Accipiter tachiro*  
Shikra *Accipiter badius*  
Little Sparrowhawk *Accipiter minullus*  
Mountain Buzzard *Buteo oreophilus*  
Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur*  
Wahlberg's Eagle *Aquila wahlbergi*  
Cassin's Hawk Eagle *Spizaetus africanus*  
Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis*  
Crowned Hawk-Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus*

FALCONS: Falconidae  
Eurasian Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*  
Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

FRANCOLINS AND QUAIL: Phasianidae  
Crested Francolin *Francolinus sephaena*  
Scaly Francolin *Francolinus squamatus*  
Handsome Francolin ARE *Francolinus nobilis*

GUINEAFOWL: Numididae  
Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris*

CRANES: Gruidae  
Gray Crowned-Crane *Balearica regulorum*

RAILS, CRAKES, GALLINULES AND COOTS: Rallidae  
White-spotted Flufftail *Sarothrura pulchra* HO  
Red-chested Flufftail *Sarothrura rufa* HO  
Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostris*



JACANAS: Jacanidae

Lesser Jacana *Microparra capensis*  
African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus*

THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae

Water Thick-knee *Burhinus vermiculatus*

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae

Long-toed Lapwing *Vanellus crassirostris*  
Spur-winged Plover *Vanellus spinosus*  
Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus*  
Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricoloris*

SANDPIPERS: Scolopacidae

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*  
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

GULLS: Laridae

Gray-headed Gull *Larus cirrocephalus*

TERNs: Sternidae

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*  
White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae

Rock Dove *Columba livia*  
Lemon Dove *Columba larvata*  
Dusky Turtle-Dove *Columba lugens*  
African Mourning Dove *Streptopelia decipiens*  
Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*  
Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*  
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove *Turtur afer*  
Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria*  
African Green-Pigeon *Treron calva*

PARROTS: Psittacidae

Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus*  
Meyer's Parrot *Poicephalus meyeri*

TURACOS: Turacidae

Great Blue Turaco *Corythaeola cristata*  
Black-billed Turaco *Turaco schuettii*  
White-crested Turaco *Tauraco leucocephalus*  
Ross' Turaco *Musophaga rossae*  
Ruwenzori Turaco ARE *Ruwenzorornis johnstoni*

Eastern Plantain-eater *Crinifer zonurus*

CUCKOOS: Cuculidae

Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii*

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius* HO

Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* HO

Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx montanus*

Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx mechowi* HO

Klaas' Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas*

African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus*

Dideric Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius*

Yellowbill *Ceuthmochares aereus*

Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus*

White-browed Coucal *Centropus superciliosus*

OWLS: Strigidae

Red-chested Owlet *Glaucidium tephronotum* HO

African Wood-Owl *Strix woodfordii* HO

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae

Ruwenzori Nightjar ARE *Caprimulgus ruwenzorii*

Plain Nightjar *Caprimulgus inornatus*

SWIFTS: Apodidae

Scarce Swift *Schoutedenapus myoptilis*

Sabine's Spinetail *Rhaphidura sabini*

African Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus parvus*

Little Swift *Apus affinis*

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer*

MOUSEBIRDS: Colidae

Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus*

TROGONS: Trogonidae

Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina* HO

Bar-tailed Trogon *Apaloderma vittatum* HO

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae

Malachite Kingfisher *Alcedo cristata*

African Pygmy-Kingfisher *Ispidina picta*

Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis*

Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica*

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti*

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima*

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*

BEE-EATERS: Meropidae

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus*  
Blue-breasted Bee-eater *Merops variegatus*  
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater *Merops oreobates*  
White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis*  
Madagascar Bee-eater *Merops superciliosus*  
Black Bee-eater *Merops gularis*

ROLLERS: Coraciidae

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*  
Blue-throated Roller *Eurystomus gularis*

HOOPOES: Upupidae

African Hoopoe *Upupa africana*

WOOD-HOOPOES: Phoeniculidae

Green Woodhoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus*  
White-headed Woodhoopoe *Phoeniculus bollei*

HORNBILLS: Bucerotidae

Crowned Hornbill *Tockus alboterminatus*  
African Pied Hornbill *Tockus fasciatus*  
Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill *Ceratogymna subcylindricus*

BARBETS: Capitonidae

Gray-throated Barbet *Gymnobucco bonapartei*  
Speckled Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus scolopaceus*  
Yellow-throated Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus subsulphureus*  
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus bilineatus*  
Yellow-spotted Barbet *Buccanodon duchaillui*  
Hairy-breasted Barbet *Tricholaema hirsuta*  
Red-fronted Barbet *Tricholaema diademata*  
Spot-flanked Barbet *Tricholaema lachrymosa*  
Double-toothed Barbet *Lybius bidentatus*  
Yellow-billed Barbet *Trachyphonus purpuratus*

HONEYGUIDES: Indicatoridae

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor*  
Least Honeyguide *Indicator exilis*  
Cassin's Honeybird *Protodiscus insignis*

WOODPECKERS: Picidae

Buff-spotted Woodpecker *Campethera nivosa*  
Brown-eared Woodpecker *Campethera caroli*  
Yellow-crested Woodpecker *Dendropicus xantholophus*  
Gray Woodpecker *Dendropicus goertae*

Olive Woodpecker *Dendropicos griseocephalus*

PITTAS: Pittidae

Green-breasted Pitta *Pitta reichenowi*

BROADBILLS: Eurylaemidae

African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis* HO

LARKS: Alaudidae

Flappet Lark *Mirafraga rufocinnamomea*

SWALLOWS: Hirundinidae

Plain Martin *Riparia paludicola*

Banded Martin *Riparia cincta*

Rock Martin *Hirundo fuligula*

Angola Swallow *Hirundo angolensis*

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii*

Mosque Swallow *Hirundo senegalensis*

White-headed Sawwing *Psalidoprocne albiceps*

Black Sawwing *Psalidoprocne holomelas*

WAGTAILS AND PIPITS: Motacillidae

African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp*

Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis*

Mountain Wagtail *Motacilla clara*

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Yellow-throated Longclaw *Macronyx croceus*

African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus*

CUCKOO-SHRIKES: Campephagidae

Gray Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina caesia*

BULBULS: Pycnonotidae

Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus*

Little Greenbul *Andropadus virens*

Kakamega (Shelly's) Greenbul *Andropadus kakamegae*

Slender-billed Greenbul *Andropadus gracilirostris*

Yellow-whiskered Bulbul *Andropadus latirostris*

Eastern Black-headed Mountain Greenbul *Andropadus nigriceps*

Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator*

Yellow-throated Leaflove *Chlorocichla flavicollis*

Yellow-bellied Greenbul *Chlorocichla flaviventris*

Cabanis' Greenbul *Phyllastrephus cabanisi*

Toro-Olive Greenbul *Phyllastrephus hypochloris*

Yellow-streaked Bulbul *Phyllastrephus flavostriatus*

White-throated Greenbul *Phyllastrephus albigularis*

Common Bristlebill *Bleda syndactyla*  
Red-tailed Greenbul *Criniger calurus*  
Western Nicator *Nicator chloris*

BABLERS: Timaliidae

Scaly-breasted Illadopsis *Illadopsis albipectus*  
Mountain Illadopsis *Illadopsis pyrrhoptera*  
Brown Illadopsis *Illadopsis fulvescens*  
Ruwenzori Hill Babbler *Illadopsis atriceps*  
Red-collared Mtn-Babbler ARE *Kupeornis rufocinctus*

THRUSHES: Turdidae

Rufous Flycatcher Thrush *Stizorhina fraseri*  
Mountain (Olive) Thrush *Turdus olivaceus abyssinicus*  
African Thrush *Turdus pelios*  
Spotted Morning Thrush *Cichladusa guttata*  
Cape Robin-chat *Cossypha caffra*  
White-browed Robin-chat *Cossypha heuglini*  
Snowy-headed Robin-chat *Cossypha niveicapilla*  
Archer's Robin-chat ARE *Cossypha archeri*  
Red-backed Scrub-Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys*  
Brown-backed Scrub-robin *Cercotrichas hartlaubi*  
African Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*  
Sooty Chat *Myrmecocichla nigra*  
White-headed Black-chat *Myrmecocichla arnotti ruahae*  
Red-throated Alethe ARE *Alethe poliophrys*  
Fire-crested Alethe *Alethe diademata castanea*  
Brown-chested Alethe *Alethe poliocephala*  
White-starred Robin *Pogonocichla stellata*  
Equatorial Akalat *Sheppardia aequatorialis*  
Eastern Forest Robin *S. erythrothorax xanthogaster*

FLYCATCHERS: Muscicapidae

African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta*  
Ashy Flycatcher *Muscicapa caerulescens*  
Swamp Flycatcher *Muscicapa aquatica*  
Pale Flycatcher *Bradornis pallidus*  
White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher *Melaenornis fischeri*  
Northern Black-Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides*  
Yellow-eyed Black-Flycatcher ARE *Melaenornis ardesiacus*

MONARCH FLYCATCHERS: Terpsiphonidae

White-tailed Blue-Flycatcher *Elminia albicauda*  
White-bellied Crested Flycatcher *Trochocerus albiventris*  
African Paradise-Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis*

WARBLERS: Sylviidae (Sometimes placed in Cisticolidae)

Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops*

Whistling Cisticola *Cisticola lateralis*

Chubb's Cisticola *Cisticola chubbsi*

Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana*

Winding Cisticola *Cisticola galactotes*

Carruther's Cisticola *Cisticola carruthersi*

Stout Cisticola *Cisticola robustus*

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava*

White-chinned Prinia *Prinia leucopogon*

Black-faced (Banded) Prinia *Prinia bairdii melanops*

Chestnut-throated Apalis *Apalis porphyrolaema*

Buff-throated Apalis *Apalis rufogularis*

Ruwenzori (Collared) Apalis ARE *Apalis ruwenzorii*

Gray Apalis *Apalis cinerea*

Kungwe Apalis ARE *Apalis argentea*

Black-throated Apalis *Apalis jacksoni*

Masked Mountain Apalis ARE *Apalis personata*

Gray-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brachyura brevicaudata*

Olive-green Camaroptera *Camaroptera chloronota*

Mountain Yellow Warbler *Chloropeta similis*

African Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus baeticatus* HO

Great Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* HO

Greater Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus rufescens* HO

White-winged Warbler *Bradypterus carpalis*

Cinnamon Bracken-Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus*

Grauer's Rush Warbler ARE *Bradypterus graueri*

Buff-bellied Warbler *Phyllolais pulchella*

Rufous-crowned Eremomela *Eremomela badiceps*

Green Crombec *Sylvietta virens*

Green Hylia *Hylia prasina*

Short-tailed Warbler ARE *Hemitesia neumanni*

Black-faced Rufous Warbler *Bathmocercus rufus*

Yellow Longbill *Macrosphenus flavicans*

Gray Longbill *Macrosphenus concolor*

Red-faced Woodland-Warbler ARE *Phylloscopus laetus*

Grauer's Warbler ARE *Graueria vittata*

WHITE-EYES: Zosteropidae

African Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis*

BATISES AND WATTLE-EYES: Platysteridae

Brown-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira cyanea*

Chestnut Wattle-eye *Dyaphorophya castanea*

Chin-spot Batis *Batis molitor*

Rwenzori Batis ARE *Batis diops*

BUSHSHRIKES: Malaconotidae

Northern Puffback *Dryoscopus gambensis*

Pink-footed Puffback *Dryoscopus angolensis*

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegala*

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis*

Tropical Boubou *Laniarius aethiopicus*

Mountain Black Boubou *Laniarius poensis*

Black-headed Gonolek *Laniarius erythrogaster*

Papyrus Gonolek *Laniarius mufumbiri*

Luedher's Bushshrike *Laniarius luehderi*

Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike *Telophorus sulfureopectus*

Many-coloured Bushshrike *Telophorus multicolor*

Doherty's Bushshrike *Telophorus doherti*

Gray-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti*

SHRIKES: Laniidae

Mackinnon's Fiscal *Lanius excubitoroides*

Gray-backed Fiscal *Lanius excubitoroides*

Common Fiscal *Lanius collaris*

ORIOLES: Oriolidae

Montane Oriole *Oriolus percivali*

Western Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus brachyrhynchus*

African Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus*

DRONGOS: Drongidae

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis*

CROWS: Corvidae

Pied Crow *Corvus albus*

White-necked Raven *Corvus albicollis*

TITS: Paridae

Dusky Tit *Melaniparus funereus*

Stripe-breasted Tit ARE *Melaniparus fasciiventer*

STARLINGS: Sturnidae

Stuhlmann's Starling *Peoptera stuhlmanni*

Waller's Starling *Onychognathus walleri*

Slender-billed Starling *Onychognathus tenuirostris*

Rueppell's Glossy-Starling *Lamprotornis purpuropterus*

Splendid Starling *Lamprotornis splendidus*

Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*

SUNBIRDS: Nectarinidae

Bronze Sunbird *Nectarinia kilimensis*  
Purple-breasted Sunbird ARE *Nectarinia purpureiventris*  
Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra verticalis*  
Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Cyanomitra cyanolaema*  
Ruwenzori Blue-headed Sunbird ARE *Cyanomitra alinae*  
Western Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea*  
Northern Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris preussi*  
Ruwenzori Dbl-collared Sunbird ARE *Cinnyris stuhlmanni*  
Olive-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris chloropygia*  
Regal Sunbird ARE *Cinnyris regia*  
Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cuprea*  
Superb Sunbird *Cinnyris superba*  
Marico Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis*  
Red-chested Sunbird *Cinnyris erythrocerca*  
Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venusta*  
Green-throated Sunbird *Chalcomitra rubescens*  
Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis*  
Gray-chinned Green Sunbird *Anthreptes rectirostris*  
Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris*

SPARROWS: Passeridae

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*  
Northern Gray-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus*

WEAVERS: Ploceidae

Baglafaecht Weaver *Ploceus baglafaecht*  
Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis*  
Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus nigricollis*  
Compact Weaver *Ploceus superciliosus*  
Northern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus castanops*  
Orange Weaver *Ploceus aurantius*  
Village (Black-headed) Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus*  
Little Weaver *Ploceus luteolus*  
Slender-billed Weaver *Ploceus pelzelni*  
Yellow-backed Weaver *Ploceus melanocephalus*  
Golden-backed Weaver *Ploceus jacksoni*  
Forest Weaver *Ploceus bicolor*  
Weyn's Weaver *Ploceus weynsi*  
Strange Weaver ARE *Ploceus alienus*  
Black-billed Weaver *Ploceus melanogaster*  
Vieillot's Black Weaver *Ploceus nigerrimus*  
Grosbeak Weaver *Amblyospiza albifrons*  
Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea*  
Red-collared Widowbird *Euplectes ardens*  
Fan-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes axillaris*



Black-winged Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus*

FINCHES: Estrildidae

Grey-headed Negrofinch *Nigrita canicapilla*

Brown Twinspot *Clytospiza monteiri*

Dusky Crimsonwing ARE *Cryptospiza jacksoni*

Red-headed Bluebill *Spermophaga ruficapilla*

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala*

Red-cheeked Cordonbleu *Uraeginthus bengalus*

Fawn-breasted Waxbill *Estrilda paludicola*

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild*

Black-crowned Waxbill *Estrilda nonnula*

Black-headed Waxbill *Estrilda atricapilla*

Bronze Mannikin *Lonchura cucullata*

Black-and-white Mannikin *Lonchura bicolor*

WHYDAHS: Viduidae

Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura*

SEEDEATERS: Fringillidae

Oriole Finch *Linurgus olivaceus*

Yellow-crowned (Cape) Canary *Serinus canicollis flavivertex*

Western Citril *Serinus frontalis*

Yellow-fronted Canary *Serinus mozambicus*

Brimstone Canary *Serinus sulphuratus*

Streaky Seedeater *Serinus striolatus*

Thick-billed Seedeater *Serinus burtoni*

BUNTINGS: Emberizidae

Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris*

**MAMMALS**

Eastern Mountain Gorilla *Gorilla gorilla berengii*

Chimpanzee *Pan paniscus*

Gray-cheeked Mangaby *Lophocebus albigena*

Guereza Pied Colobus *Colobus guereza*

Ugandan Red Colobus *Procolobus tephrosceles*

Olive Baboon *Papio anubis*

Vervet Monkey *Cercopithecus aethiops pygerythrus*

Sykes Blue Gentle Monkey *Cercopithecus nictitans doggetti*

Dent's Mona Monkey *Cercopithecus mona denti*

Red-tailed Monkey *Cercopithecus ascanius schmidtii*

L'Hoest's Monkey *Cercopithecus lhoesti*

Striped Ground Squirrel *Euxerus erythropus*

Carruther's Mountain Squirrel *Funisciurus carruthersi*

Boehm's Squirrel *Paraxerus alexandri*

Red-legged Sun Squirrel *Heliosciurus rufobrachium*  
Ruwenzori Sun Squirrel *Heliosciurus ruwenzori*  
African (Forest) Elephant *Loxodonta Africana cyclotis*  
Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus*  
Bushbuck *Tragelaphus scriptus*  
Banded Mongoose *Mungos mungo*

**REPTILES, AMPHIBIANS AND OTHER ANIMALS**

Nile Soft-shelled Turtle *Trionyx triunguis*  
Red-headed Rock Agama *Agama agama*  
Nile Monitor *Varanus niloticus*  
Southern Rock Python *Python natalensis*