

TROPICAL BIRDING

Namibia & Botswana

The Audubon Shop Custom tour

3rd - 19th September, 2013

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Report by Charley Hesse. **Photos by** Charley Hesse & Jerry Connolly.



Our group in the dunes just after finding the endemic Dune Lark (Jerry Connolly)

This trip was the 4th annual Audubon Shop Namibia/Botswana custom tour. The tried and tested itinerary remained unchanged from previous years although we did get to stay at some great new accommodations for the first time. From Windhoek we dropped off the escarpment and crossed the Namib Desert, experiencing an ever-changing landscape and finding the rare Hartmann's Mountain Zebra. In the Walvis Bay area we found the Namibian endemic Dune Lark and saw extraordinary numbers of both flamingos on the coast. The famous *inselberg* of Spitzkoppe produced the rare Herero Chat against a stunning backdrop and clients were charmed by the incredible location of the Erongo Wilderness Lodge with all its interesting specialties, including the charismatic Rockrunner. Etosha National Park never disappoints and this year we had great action with many lions and elephants around waterholes during the day, and with the drought, especially large numbers of Black Rhinos at night. We also watched Spotted Hyaenas on many occasions and even watched one group swimming! Boat rides on the Kavango River in Namibia and more in the Okavango Pan-handle in Botswana were also a highlight with the awesome Pel's Fishing-Owl. Jerry never fails to bring a nice bunch of people and this year he excelled himself. What a great time we had!

3rd September – Arrival in Windhoek

After meeting the group at the airport, we drove towards town, spotting our first **Chacma Baboons** and **Warthogs** on the way. The scattered trees were filled with the messy nests of **White-browed Sparrow-Weavers** and we saw a few of these chunky birds along with a **Gabar Goshawk**. We had just enough time to visit Avis Dam before heading to the guest house. We stepped out at the car park and scanned the dam for our first water birds of the trip. We saw many **Egyptian Geese**, several **Red-billed Ducks**, a single **African Darter** perched on a stump and a distant **African Fish-Eagle** perched on the other side of the water. The water level was very low reflecting the very dry year it has been. On the exposed mud edges we saw **Three-banded Plover & Little Stint** and then spotted a much closer **White-throated Swallow** perched nearby. On the other side of the lake, a **Peregrine Falcon** glided by and a pair of **Monteiro's Hornbills** flopped from tree to tree on the far side. In some grass by the lakeside, a **Black-headed Heron** stood perfectly still and an **African Pipit** busily searched for food. In the nearby bushes we called in a very pretty **Acacia Pied Barbet** and also found the not-quite-so-striking **Black-chested Prinia** and **Marico Flycatcher**. We saw large flocks of **Red-billed Queleas** and **Shaft-tailed Whydahs** in the distance and even had a small flock of **African Quailfinches** flyby, giving themselves away by their calls. As we headed back to the vehicles we saw our first **Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill** and also a pair of **Yellow Canaries** before we got in and made our way to our comfortable guest house. In the evening we drove to the famous Jo's Beerhouse where many of the group tried some of Namibia's famous game meat.



The variable Mountain Wheatear is a common inhabitant of rocky areas in Namibia (Charley Hesse)

4th September – Windhoek to Swakopmund

Today was our long day driving along the fabulous C28 road down off the escarpment and crossing the Namib Desert to Swakopmund on the coast. As we loaded the luggage into the vehicles, **Little Swifts** were criss-crossing the sky and our first **African Gray Hornbill** was perched in a nearby tree. We set off west, straight out of Windhoek and at a nice lookout point we got out to see what we could find. As we walked up to the edge, a small covey of francolins took to the air and flew to the slope across from us. They were **Orange River Francolins** but it took a short while to relocate and get them in the scopes for better views. Other good birds we saw there were **Cape Penduline-Tit**, a splendid male **Short-toed Rock-Thrush**, the rather drab **Familiar Chat** plus **Cape Glossy Starlings**, **Cape Bunting** and **Southern Grey-headed Sparrow**. After things had slowed down we set off again finding our first **Grey Go-away Birds** and the beautiful **Southern Pale Chanting-Goshawk**. In a dry river bed, we had a group of **Red-billed Francolins** and then saw a **Gabar Goshawk** which appeared to be hunting something in the rocks below. We also had **Greater Striped-Swallow**, a pair of tiny **Yellow-bellied Eremomelas** and a troupe of **Chacma Baboons**.

Rocky areas along the road held many **Cape Rock Hyraxes** and the odd **Mountain Wheatear** and we even saw a small group of **Greater Kudus**. We passed a small corral where we picked up our first **Great Rufous Sparrows** and **Red-billed Buffalo-Weavers** and then reached a rather productive area of Kalahari scrub with some nice birds like **Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler**, **Kalahari Scrub-Robin**, **Scaly-feathered Finch**, **Black faced Waxbill**, **Violet-eared Waxbill** and **Red-headed Finch**, many of which responded nicely to our whistled owl impersonations. One of the main mammal targets of the day was **Hartmann's Mountain Zebra** which Judy spotted way over on a distant hillside. We ate our packed lunch at the Boshua Pass where we had our first **Alpine Swift**, **Eurasian Kestrel** and a family of 3 **Verreaux's Eagles** which offered great views as they sailed over head. From here it was all downhill, so to speak. We picked up **Pririt Batis** and the near endemic **White-tailed Shrike** in some of the last areas of trees and **Long-billed Pipit** on a rocky slope.



The cryptic Ruppell's Korhaan blends in to its dry Namib Desert home (Charley Hesse)

The habitat changed dramatically and we entered the dry open plains bordering the Namib Desert where **Chat Flycatchers** perched on fence posts and cheeky **South African Ground Squirrels** got up on their hind legs to scan for danger. We saw some huge **Sociable Weaver** colonies near the road in the few trees that remained and also saw some **Warthogs** and our first **Gemsbok**, surely one of the most beautiful antelopes. We did a U-turn when the back vehicle spotted one of the main targets along this stretch, **Rueppell's Korhaan**. We also saw a pair of **Common Duikers** under a tree and 2 **Slender Mongooses** ran across the road in front of us. The habitat got drier and drier, perfect for larks. We had **Spike-heeled**, **Stark's & Sabota Larks** along with **Karoo Chat** and eventually **Common Ostrich** and our first **Springbok**. This was the Namib Desert proper here and our last bird was a **Greater Kestrel** perched on post. We had timed it well and got to the end of the road well before dark. Just before getting to Swakopmund, we crossed the Swakop river bed which had a bit of water still in it. It was packed with water birds, and here we saw **Cape Teal**, **Greater Flamingo**, many **Lesser Flamingos**, **Chestnut-banded Plover**, **Pied Avocet**, **Curlew Sandpiper** and a **Kelp Gull**. As we pulled up in front of our hotel we saw a **Dusky Sunbird** feeding on a flower in the garden and on walk to dinner, some **Helmeted Guinea fowl** going to roost in the tree. Swakopmund is famous for seafood and we were treated to some delicious fish in one of the restaurants.

5th September – Windhoek to Swakopmund road

After an early breakfast, we headed to Rooibank, next to the dry Kuiseb River and the edge of the dunes. This is the home to Namibia's only full geopolitical endemic bird, the **Dune Lark**. We parked and as we started walking towards the dunes, we saw our first **Cape Sparrow** (which is very common there), the colourful **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater**, another Dusky Sunbird, several **Grey-backed Sparrowlarks** flying overhead, and a **Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler**. We arrived at the habitat of our target and within minutes, one of the participants spotted a bird. It was indeed, a pair of **Dune Larks** which were very confiding and gave us great views. On the way back we saw the Namibian form of the **Southern Fiscal** with its distinctive white eye-brow, a nice **African Hoopoe** and after much effort, the colourful **Bokmakierie**. On the way out we searched hard for the Tractrac Chat but instead found the near-endemic **Gray's Lark**. We drove back to Walvis Bay and checked out the Lagoon where the tide was just perfect for observing birds. There were hundreds of birds close in and we saw many **Greater and Lesser Flamingos**, **White-breasted Cormorant**, **Great White Pelican**, **Pied Avocet**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **Black-bellied**, **White-fronted & Chestnut-banded Plovers**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Sanderling**, **Little Stint** and **Caspian Tern**.



The Dune Lark is Namibia's only full geopolitical endemic bird species (Charley Hesse)

We had lunch at a café nearby during which Ken scoped out a park nearby and found us a pair of **Orange River White-eyes**. After lunch we went to check out the salt works. On the way out we added **Cape Shoveler**, **Cape Teal**, **Eared Grebe**, **Common Greenshank**, **Marsh & Wood Sandpiper**, **Ruff** plus **Common**, **Great Crested & Sandwich Terns**. By the time we reached the sea it was very misty and our plans for sea watching had to be abandoned, but we did take a group photo and spotted a **Cape Fur Seal** playing nearby in the waves. On the way back we added **Whimbrel** and a surprise **Terek Sandpiper**, a good find in this area. We stopped at a guano platform on the way back to Swakopmund where we found our target **Crowned & Cape Cormorants** along with a pod of **Common Bottlenose Dolphins** and some **Hartlaub's Gulls**. Most people took the opportunity to do some shopping in town but the hardcore continued birding with a trip to the Swakopmund saltworks where they added the near-endemic **African Black Oystercatcher**. In the evening we treated ourselves at Swakopmund's best known Seafood restaurant, 'The Tug'.

6th September – Spitzkoppe to Omaruru

We departed Swakopmund early, heading back inland along the main highway before turning off to Namibia's most famous inselberg, Spitzkoppe. We made good time and the beautiful mountain came into view as dawn broke. Our first birding stop was to try for **Karoo Long-billed Lark**. On cue, as soon as we played the tape a bird flew right in and gave great views. We stopped briefly at the entrance to buy our tickets and looked at some of the numerous bird species nearby, including many pretty **Rosy-faced Lovebirds**, **Pale-winged Starlings** and a **Mountain Wheatear**. We made our way along some quiet tracks to our stakeout for the **Herero Chat**, whose scientific name, *Namibornis*, reflects its near-endemic status. We found the birds in their usual spot pretty quickly. Afterwards we observed many other nice birds nearby, like **Lanner Falcon** and **Bradfield's Swifts** flying against the mountain, **Monteiro's Hornbill**, **Acacia Pied Barbet**, **Yellow-bellied Eremomela**, **Layard's Tit-Babbler** and **Dusky Sunbird** in the nearby trees. We headed back to the vehicles for our packed breakfasts, after which we continued our birding, with **Cape Bunting**, some cooperative **Ashy Tits**, **Black-faced Waxbill** and **Pirit Batis**. We made our way out of the park and driving along the highway had a few stops to pick up new birds such as **Northern Black Korhaan**, **Short-toed Rock-Thrush** and **Black-chested Snake-Eagle**.



The lovely Violet-eared Waxbill adds a splash of colour to the dry Kalahari Scrub (Charley Hesse)

We had a nice leisurely lunch in Omaruru after which we checked in and relaxed for a bit before taking a walk in dry river bed behind our guest house. Ken managed to locate one of our main targets in the area, **Ruppell's Parrot**, but it took us all a long time to get views of the bird up in the canopy. We went on but some tired in the heat and headed back early to the rooms. Those that stayed out were rewarded with nice scope views of the localized **Damara Red-billed Hornbill** and nice close views of the very attractive **Violet-eared Waxbill**. After dinner we all took a short night drive on which we managed to find some fairly common animals such as **Scrub Hare** and **Steenbok** as well as much more seldom seen ones like **Jameson's Red Rock Rabbit**, **Springhare** and even a **Striped Polecat**.

7th September – Omaruru to Erongo

Before breakfast, one of the caretakers found us a huge **Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** in the garden, which stared down at us from a large tree, posing nicely for photos. After breakfast we took a morning walk in river bed behind the lodge to try and pick up some of the birds we had missed yesterday. Straight off we saw a **Shikra** being mobbed by a **Little Sparrowhawk** and probably the same **Ruppell's Parrot** flying in to feed in the same tree as yesterday. We managed to relocate the **Damara Red-billed Hornbills** for yesterday's early retirees and also had nice views of **Pirit Batis**, **Long-billed Crombec** and **Brubru**. One of the main targets of the morning was a pair of **Southern Pied Babblers** which we saw perched in some long grass, vocalizing loudly. We had some nice **Pearl-breasted Swallows** which were probably recent arrivals. We also had a surprise **White-tailed Shrike** which we had much better views of than before. These were once a bit of a taxonomic enigma but are now thought to be unusually large members of the batis family. Before leaving the guest house we had a pair of **Groundscraper Thrushes** on the roof to see us off.



Cape Rock Hyraxes are everywhere at Erongo (Charley Hesse)

We set off on the short drive into the Erongo Conservancy, and in the way in, we had an out-of-range **Hooded Vulture**, nice views of **African Hawk-Eagle**, a tiny **Pearl-spotted Owlet**, more **Monteiro's Hornbills** and finally a **Bearded Woodpecker** where the road ran next to the large trees by the dry river bed. We had an early lunch at the amazing Erongo Wilderness lodge during which we saw many interesting birds, including **Augur Buzzard**, **African Gray Hornbill**, **Ashy Tit**, **Pale-winged Starling**, the colourful **Green-winged Pytilia**, very cute **Rosy-faced Lovebirds** and also countless **Cape Rock Hyraxes**. It was hard to believe that these cuddly guinea pig-sized animals are distant relatives of the elephants! After a rest in our luxurious tented rooms, we took an afternoon walk. We saw many typical birds associated with this rocky terrain, like **Rock Kestrel**, **Speckled Pigeon** and **Rock Martins** as well as other common birds like **Gray-backed Camaroptera**, **Grey Go-away Bird** and **Red-billed Francolins**. We even found Namibia's smallest antelope, the tiny **Damara Dikdik**. Our main quarry of the afternoon though was the charismatic **Rockrunner**. This bird was another taxonomic trouble-causer but now seems to have settled in the African Warbler family along with the tiny crombecs. We found a singing bird in thick bushes by the car park, but getting everybody to see it required some teamwork from the Jerry and the guides. We enjoyed a dinner by the fire and under the stars during which we had a magnificent **Greater Kudu** come in to drink at the small floodlit waterhole and a **Freckled Nightjar** landed on top of a nearby rock. It had been a very special day.

8th September – Erongo to Etosha NP

The highlight of staying at Erongo Wilderness Lodge is undoubtedly feeding time. Every morning, just after dawn, they put out a lot of seed for the birds and large numbers come in very close and the photographic opportunities are hard to beat. One of the main targets here was the **Hartlaub's Francolin** which are found in this rocky landscape. They are difficult to find elsewhere but regularly attend the feeding station, and sure enough we had a pair just below us. Another highlight were the large number of **Rosy-faced Lovebirds** at close range. During the morning we saw many other good birds, like **White-browed Scrub-Robin**, **Lark-like & Cape Buntings**, **Great Sparrow**, **Green-winged Pytilia** and **African Gray Hornbill**. One of the participants took a walk nearby and came back with a photo to identify, and this turned out to be a **Rockrunner** which we had put so much effort into finding yesterday. We packed our bags and said goodbye to the lodge staff and headed a few kilometres further into the conservancy to try again for **Violet** (not 'violent') **Woodhoopoe** in another dry riverbed. On the way, we had excellent views of a pair of **African Hawk-Eagles** and a troupe of **Chacma Baboons**. We tried for the woodhoopoes (not 'Wood Who-doo's') but there was no sign of them. On the way out we saw our first **Red-crested Korhaan**.



Erongo is one of the best places to see Rosy-faced Lovebirds up close and personal (Charley Hesse)

We were now on our way to Etosha National Park and we had a few stops where we saw **Swallow-tailed Bee-eaters**, **Short-toed Rock-Thrush**, **Southern Pale Chanting-Goshawk** & **Monteiro's Hornbill**. The highlight of the ride though was a pair of **Namaqua Sandgrouse** with very cute, fluffy chicks, right by the side of the road. We took a short cut along a gravel road after the town of Kalkfeld which was particularly good for larks and other open country birds. Along here we saw **Sabota**, **Fawn-colored** & **Stark's Lark** as well as **Southern Pied Babbler**, **Kalahari Scrub-Robin**, **Southern Anteater-Chat**, **Long-billed Pipit** and **Scaly-feathered Finch**. We stopped for a nice lunch in the town of Outjo before continuing with just another hour's drive to the park gate. We stopped to do some birding nearby, picking up **Long-billed Crombec**, **Southern Masked- & Village Weavers**, **Pirit Batis** and the stunning **Crimson-breasted Shrike**. We checked out the first waterhole where we had our first **Kori Bustard**. Here we also saw the attractive **Northern Black Korhaan**, **Crowned Lapwing** and our first **Elephants** of the trip. Driving along towards the camp we added **Springbok**, **Black-faced Impala**, **Giraffe** and **Burchell's Zebras**. After checking into our wonderful rooms we checked out the amazing Okakuejo waterhole. **Sociable Weavers** were chattering everywhere and going to and fro from their huge nesting colonies over our heads. Beyond the electric fence, **Blacksmith Lapwings** flew around in a panic from the **Black-backed Jackal** jogging by, a flock of **Cape Teal** were flushed up from the water, a **Pearl-spotted Owlet** gave its wonderful call nearby and **Giraffes** began to come in to drink. At dusk, hundreds of **Double-banded Sandgrouse** circled the waterhole and landed before walking up and drinking at the water's edge. After dinner, several people stayed up and their patience was rewarded with many **Black Rhinos** and even **Lions**.

9th September –Etosha NP

We met just at dawn at the waterhole, and there were still some **Double-banded Sandgrouse** having their morning drink. Their arrival and departure times are like clockwork. As the surroundings slowly lit up, we saw a **Tawny Eagle** perched on a distant snag and had a stunning pair of **Crimson-breasted Shrikes** hopping around a tree behind us. We went to breakfast and set off on our morning drive straight afterwards. Fairly soon we came across a **Red-crested Korhaan** and several **Swallow-tailed Bee-eaters**. The first waterhole we reached was called Gembokvlakte, which, as always, had plenty of **Burchell's Zebras** and **Blue Wildebeest**. The open ground nearby held **Red-capped, Stark's & Spike-heeled Lark** as well as many **Grey-backed Sparrowlarks**. On to Olifantsbad which had **Black-winged Stilt & Common Greenshank** and many smaller birds coming in to drink, like **Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark** and **Lark-like Bunting**. We had many stately **Greater Kudus** and our first **Red Hartebeest**. Further on we had a merciful bathroom break, after which we checked out the Aus waterhole which had many smaller birds including **Red-headed Finch, Long-tailed Paradise-Whydah** in non-breeding plumage, **Black-throated Canary** and **Great Sparrow**. On the home stretch, we saw **Southern Pale Chanting-Goshawk**, another huge **Kori Bustard** and a pair of **Red-breasted Swallows**.

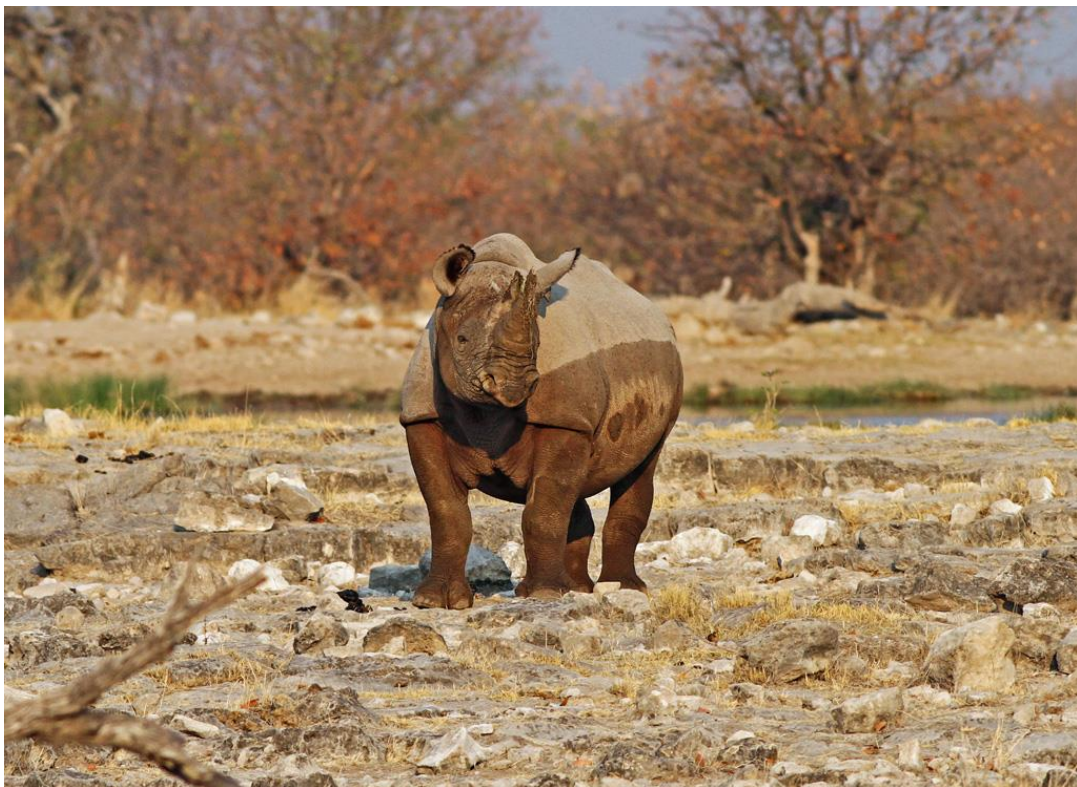


Red Hartebeest gets its name from the heart-shape its horns make (Charley Hesse)

We had lunch at Okakuejo and were joined by several **Southern Yellow-billed Hornbills** looking for scraps. In the afternoon, we headed north on the Okondeka loop which passed through mainly dry open ground. Straight off we had the target **Pink-billed Lark**, but further up in one of the few areas with trees we failed to find the tiny Pygmy Falcon around its usual Sociable Weaver nesting colony. We did see some **White-backed Vulture** nests, some **Southern Fiscals** and a large bull **Elephant**. Passing out into the open plains again we saw many beautiful **Northern Black Korhaans**, 2 rare **Caspian Plovers** which flushed up, some **Double-banded Coursers**, **Namaqua Sandgrouse**, an **Eastern Clapper Lark** and some **South African Ground Squirrels**. We also had **Springbok** and **Gemsbok** in beautiful light. We reached Okondeka but failed to find the pride of lions that usually frequents there. We did see however some **South African Shelduck, Cape Teal** and **Chestnut-banded Plover** hanging out at the little water that remained. On the way back we had brief views of a pair of perched **Greater Kestrels** but time was short to make it back to the gate before sunset. Once back, we checked out the waterhole before dinner and saw a **Black Rhino** and some **Giraffe**. We also had a **Black-backed Jackal** begging at dinner, which seemed to show that some irresponsible tourists throw them scraps, a practice that is not to be encouraged. Some people went back to see what action they would get at the waterhole.

10th September –Etosha NP

After breakfast, we began our drive to Halali Restcamp with many planned stops along the way. First of all we drove along a road towards the Pan's edge. Here was the habitat of the uncommon **Rufous-eared Warbler** which has an isolated population in this immediate area. We played the tape for this pretty bird and soon had one perched up on a small bush, posing nicely for photos. Back on the main road east we saw **Greater Kestrel**, a couple of us had **Burchell's Courser** in flight, nice views of the tiny **Steenbok** (with its huge ears), a pair of **Red-breasted Swallows**, and then great views of **Spotted Hyaena**, which ran across the road just in front of us. Nebrowni waterhole was excellent as ever, with large numbers of game, including **Burchell's Zebra**, **Gemsbok**, **Springbok** and **Giraffe**. We had the largest bird in the world, the **Common Ostrich**, and the heaviest flying bird in the world, the **Kori Bustard**. On the other end of the scale, we saw many **Great Rufous Sparrows** and **Red-headed Finches** which were miniscule in comparison. Charitsaub also had huge numbers of **Burchell's Zebra** and **Blue Wildebeest** whereas **Salvadora** was devoid of game, and when a young male lion got up and started walking around, we could see why. We also saw a large **Booted Eagle** being mobbed by a **Red-necked Falcon**. A little further on, we took a bathroom break. One of the bathrooms had a sign informing us that **African Wild Cat** was inside. We poked our heads around the door, and there was a wildcat taking a nap on the toilet seat!

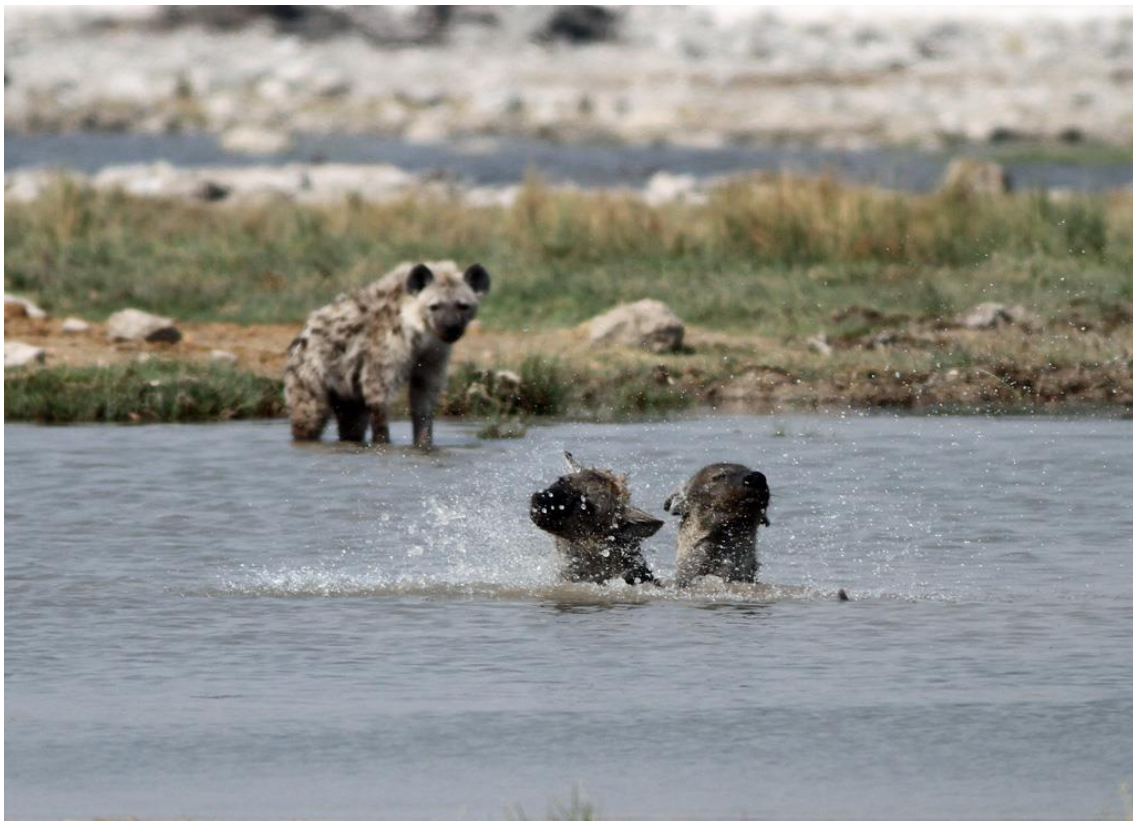


Etosha has the biggest population of Black Rhinos in the world (Charley Hesse)

As we continued, we passed through an open area with many **Grey-backed Sparrowlarks**, **Red-capped & Stark's Larks** as well as **Namaqua Sandgrouse** and **Northern Black Korhaan**. We reached Rietfontein waterhole, which had a large herd of **Elephants** bathing along with many water birds, including **Little Grebe**, **Common Ringed & Three-banded Plovers**, our first **African Jacana**, **Little Stint** and **Curlew Sandpiper**. We drove the short distance from here to Halali spotting our first **Rufous-crowned Roller** on the way. After lunch there, we took a rest in our spacious rooms before heading out again in the afternoon. We took a short walk around the grounds before setting off, and saw **Violet Woodhoopoes** (finally), and **Southern Red-billed Hornbill**. In the Mopane woodland surrounding Halali we saw an **African Hoopoe**, **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater**, **Bateleur** and **Gabar Goshawk**. We made for the Goas waterhole where we spent the rest of the afternoon. As we pulled up we had a **Spotted Hyaena** walking close by and also saw a **Tawny Eagle** by a nest. Goas is always good for water birds, and it didn't disappoint, with **South African Shelduck**, **Red-billed & Cape Teal**, **Ruff**, **Wood Sandpiper** and even a **Greater Painted-snipe**, usually a very tricky bird to find. We also had a group of **Swainson's Francolins** by the waterhole, with **Groundscraper Thrush** nearby. The highlight of the afternoon though was a **Black Rhino** which after drinking at the waterhole, passed very close by our vehicles. We made it back to camp just before they closed the gates and had some time to freshen up before dinner. Walking to the restaurant, Ken spotted a pair of **Lesser Bushbabies**, which were very cute indeed. After dinner, we drove to the Moringa Waterhole where there was a small group of **Elephants**, a **Black Rhino** and several **Black-backed Jackals**.

11th September –Etosha NP

We started off just after dawn at the waterhole. There were no mammals to speak of, but the birds were active and there was **Familiar Chat** on the nearby rock and a bush full of small birds, with **Blue & Violet-eared Waxbills**, **Red-headed Finch**, **Dusky Sunbird** and **Lark-like Bunting**. We took a walk to breakfast and saw **Monteiro's & Southern Red-billed Hornbill**, **Carp's Black Tit**, great views of the tiny **Pearl-spotted Owlet** and a very vocal pair of **Southern White-crowned Shrikes**. After breakfast we managed to relocate **Violet Woodhoopoe** for those who hadn't seen them yesterday. After checking out we went back to Goas, where the same **Tawny Eagle** was sat in the same tree and many of the same waterbirds, including **South African Shelduck** and **Little Grebe**. One new bird we found was a single **Chestnut Weaver** mixed in with other weavers and finches. The highlight though was a large group of **Spotted Hyaenas**. Most of them were lazing around the back of the waterhole but a couple of them went in and started swimming. They would dive down and come up, shake their heads and then toss a piece of something down their throats. It became obvious that there was a kill in the water. Whether they had killed it in there or dragged it in, was unclear. Still, it was fascinating behaviour that I had never seen before.



Spotted Hyaenas swimming in a waterhole (Charley Hesse)

We continued on to the Kalkheuvel waterhole, where we saw a group of **Cape Teal**, a **Slender Mongoose** and then some **Greater Kudu** looking very wary. Their bodies were alert and we figured there must be a predator nearby. Just then we saw a male **Lion** stride into view and plonk itself down in the shade of a bush next to the car park. We took some pictures before continuing on to Namutoni. On the way we found a **Lappet-faced Vulture** nest set back from the road, a **Bateleur**, **Sabota & Red-capped Larks**, our first **Desert Cisticola**, a nice male **Short-toed Rock-Thrush** plus several **Red Hartebeest & Blue Wildebeest**. We got to Namutoni and were greeted by several **Burchell's Starlings** and **Grey Go-away Birds** which are both common in the camp. Everybody sat down for lunch while Ken & I delivered all the bags to the rooms. We waited for it to cool down a bit before heading out for an afternoon drive. We went first to the nearby Klein Namutoni where we saw **Kittlitz's Plover**, **Marsh & Wood Sandpipers**, **Little Stint**, **Ruff**, **Whiskered Tern**, **Cape Shoveler & Red-billed Teal**. There were a lot of cars there on one side of the waterhole and on closer inspection we saw why. There was a family of lions lying motionless in the heat of the afternoon. All the cars were jostling for the best positions, so we left them to it. On the way out we spotted another tiny **Damara Dikdik** next to the road and started making our way to check out another couple of waterholes. We drove first along the Fisher's Pan drive which was very scenic, and we saw **Swainson's Francolin**, **Common Ostrich**, lots of **Kori Bustards** and even a Black Rhino. We went to check out Klein Okevi waterhole where there was a young **Martial Eagle** that was down to drink. We again got back in to camp with just a few minutes to spare and somebody commented that we had seen no Elephants that day. A few seconds later we spotted a huge bull **Elephant** on the other side of the fence.

12th September – Etosha NP to Shamvura

Today was our last morning in Etosha and our long drive north to the Kavango River. After breakfast we checked out and spent a while in the car park birding while they checked the rooms. There was a lot of activity in the trees and we saw **Long-billed Crombec**, **Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler**, **Burchell's Starling** and **Marico & White-bellied Sunbird**. We drove north, stopping at the Tsumcor waterhole. We didn't see our hoped for Burchell's Sandgrouse but we did see **White-backed Vulture**, **Northern Black Korhaan**, **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater** and also **Steenbok**, **Greater Kudu** and even **Black Rhino**. We continued north to the beautiful Andoni Plain. An isolated tree had a **Tawny Eagle** perched on top and a **Lion** below it in the shade, in the distances we saw several **Common Ostriches**, **Kori Bustards** and also a **Rock Kestrel** flying by. Our main target were the Blue Cranes that frequent this area but we checked a waterhole for them without success. We did have quite a bit of game there though, with **Giraffe**, **Burchell's Zebra**, **Warthog**, **Springbok**, **Red Hartebeest** and **Blue Wildebeest**. I was excited when some sandgrouse flew in but they turned out to be **Namaqua Sandgrouse** and not Burchell's. We exited the gate and got out to stretch our legs, just because we could. A pair of large **Red-breasted Swallows** winged their way slowly past and once we were on our way again, we got our best views of **Greater Kestrel** on top of a bush.



The stately Kori Bustard is remarkably common in Etosha (Charley Hesse)

We stopped to scan over a distant pond a little further north and found **South African Shelduck**, **Greater Flamingo**, **Grey Heron**, **Great & Little Egrets** and also **Pied Avocets**. For lunch we made it to the rather interesting Roy's Camp where we had our meal waiting for us. We searched the grounds for the localized Black-faced Babbler but only found **Red-billed Francolin**, **Grey Go-away Bird**, **White-crowned Shrike**, **Gray-backed Camaroptera** and **Blue Waxbill**. En route to our lodge, we had a couple of birding stops, finally finding **Black-faced Babbler** along with **Lilac-breasted Roller** and **Green Woodhoopoe** at one spot, then large numbers of **Bradfield's & African Gray Hornbills** along with **Gabar Goshawk** further on. It had been a long driving day and it was just getting dark as we pulled in the gate to Shamvura Camp. Our final bird of the day was a **Fiery-necked Nightjar** on the entrance road.

13th September – Shamvura

As all of us would not fit on the boat at one time, we split into 2 groups, one that would do a morning boat ride and the other that would do an afternoon one. After breakfast, the morning boat ride people followed me down the steps to the jetty. We had an amazing morning seeing an incredible amount of waterbirds. We started off with many common ones flying to and fro across the river, including **White-faced Whistling-Ducks, Reed Cormorant, African Darter, Hamerkop, Purple, Squacco, Rufous-bellied and Striated Herons**. Our boatman, Mark, took us to an area of flooded grass and muddy edges where we waited for a while being rewarded with loads of great birds, with **Spur-winged Goose, Black Crake, Eurasian Moorhen, Blacksmith & African Wattled Lapwings, Three-banded Plover, Black-winged Stilt, African Jacana, Common & Wood Sandpipers, Common Greenshank, Ruff, African Snipe and Cape & African Pied Wagtails**. We went around the end of an island to find a sizeable pod of **Hippopotamuses** which posed nicely for photos. Next, Mark took us to his stake out for **White-backed Night-Heron**. We edged the boat in under a bush and I pointed these shy birds out to everybody. We also had a **Water Thick-knee** on the bank nearby. We moved downstream spotting more birds in flight, with **African Openbill, African Fish-Eagle, African Marsh-Harrier and Gabar Goshawk** all showing well. There were many species of swallows flying over the water and we saw **Brown-throated & Banded Martins, Lesser Striped & Red-breasted Swallows**. On some sand banks, we saw many **Collared Pratincoles** and a few **African Skimmers** and a short diversion into a near oxbow lake, produced **African Purple Swamphen** and a **Spot-necked Otter**. We went by many areas of reeds with **Chirping Cisticola, Tawny-flanked Prinia, African Stonechat, Little Bee-eaters, many Pied Kingfishers** and even a **Giant Kingfisher** perched on a log sticking out of the water. The main attraction though was a visit to a small **Southern Carmine Bee-eater** colony. It was lit up beautifully in the morning light and we managed to get some nice shots of these gorgeous birds.



One of the highlights of our trip is always a visit to the Southern Carmine Bee-eater Colony (Charley Hesse)

Meanwhile, the other half of the group were having a morning drive to local birding sites. They did very well in this tricky habitat where the emphasis is very much on quality rather than quantity. They saw some **Mosque Swallows**, a **Dark Chanting-Goshawk** perched in a tree by the roadside, some **Meyer's Parrot** flying by, **Sharp-tailed Starlings** and **Golden-tailed, Cardinal & Bearded Woodpeckers**. Tramping around the dry forest and scrub, they found many small flocking species with **Brubru, Southern Black Tit, Grey Penduline-Tit, Neddicky, Brown-crowned Tchagra and Pale Flycatcher**. They found the tiny **Striped Kingfisher, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird**, the uncommon **Brown-backed Honeybird**, and even stumbled across a day roosting **Spotted Eagle-Owl**. We all met up in the late morning for a brunch and continued to see some nice birds in the garden, with **Black-collared Barbet, White-crested Helmetshrike, Wattled, Cape Glossy and Greater Blue-eared Starlings** and **Collared & White-bellied Sunbirds**.

The morning boat ride group took an afternoon bird walk just around the gardens, but found we found plenty of good birds there. We had both **Crested & Red-billed Francolins** running around the edge of the lawn, **Arrow-marked Babbler**, **Kurrichane Thrush**, many male **Violet-backed Starlings**, **Holub's Golden & Thick-billed Weavers** and **Yellow-bellied Greenbul** coming to drink at the bird bath and many small birds hopping around the nearby bushes, like **Chinspot Batis**, **Long-billed Crombec**, **Yellow-breasted Apalis**, **African Yellow White-eye**, **White-browed Scrub-Robin** and **White-browed Robin-Chat**. We took a short walk around the property but it was much quieter than the garden. We did however stumble upon a day-roosting **Southern White-faced Owl** which was a great find. Meanwhile the other group were enjoying their afternoon boat ride. As well as seeing many of the same birds as the morning, they added several new ones, with **White-breasted Cormorant**, **Glossy Ibis**, **African Spoonbill**, **Whimbrel**, **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Coppery-tailed Coucal**, **Malachite Kingfisher**, **White-fronted Bee-eater**, **Greater Swamp-Warbler**, **Hartlaub's Babbler** and some **Red-billed Oxpeckers** on some cattle. They visited a different **Southern Carmine Bee-eater** colony further downstream with good light in the afternoon. Nearby there they were lucky enough to see the dapper **Rock Pratincole** on a rock in the middle of the river. At dinner, we all got together to discuss our best sightings of the day. After dinner we heard the hoot of the **African Wood-Owl** and quickly located them and had great views in the spotlight.



A pair of African Wood-Owls frequents the garden at Shamvura Camp (Charley Hesse)

14th September – Shamvura to Shakame (Botswana) via Mahango

Today we were leaving Shamvura camp and heading to the Pan Handle of the Okavango in Botswana. We had a leisurely breakfast in the garden and saw many of the same birds as yesterday with **Crested Francolin**, **African Yellow White-eye**, **Holub's Golden & Thick-billed Weavers**, **Green-winged Pytilia** and both **White-browed Scrub-Robin** & **Robin-Chat** around the lawn and bushes. We also had an **African Harrier Hawk** which sailed overhead. We packed up and said goodbye to our hosts and set off, but only got as far as the junction with the main road where there seemed to be a concentration of birds. We saw a pair of **Mosque Swallows** which flew overhead and perched in a tree, then a **Southern Black Flycatcher** (masquerading as a drongo), a pair of **Southern Black Tits** and some **Sharp-tailed Starlings** which are a real specialty of the area. Further along the road we had a **Shikra** doing a fascinating flight display. We stopped briefly in the town of Divundu where we saw some **Red-billed Buffalo-Weavers** at gas station. Here, the Kavango River changes course, no longer forming the border with Angola, but starting to head south east towards Botswana. It passes a section of rocks in the river and we stopped here to check for **Rock Pratincole**. We found one straight away and also **Wire-tailed Swallows**, **Lilac-breasted & Rufous-crowned Rollers**, **Magpie Shrike**, **Wattled Starlings** and **Yellow-fronted Canary**.

We reached the entrance to the Mahango Game Reserve and paid our entry fees before continuing inside. Straight away we saw a **White-headed Vulture** (a really good find), followed by **Southern Carmine Bee-eater**, **Pale Flycatcher**, a flock of **White-crested Helmetshrikes**, our first **Meve's Starling** and several **Impala**, which were the nominate race rather than the black-faced ones we had seen up until now. We watched a group of **Elephants** ripping branches off small trees and were impressed by the awesome power of these animals. We reached an open area where we got out to scan with the scope and found **African Fish-Eagle**, **White-backed & Lappet-faced Vulture**, **Marabou Stork**, **Yellow-billed Kite** and even the rare **Roan antelope**. Further on we found a group of long-tailed birds flying in to a tall tree and got out to find a family of **Green Woodhoopoes** along with a **Common Scimitar-bill** and the beautiful **Orange-breasted Bushshrike**. We reached our first view of flood plain and scanned to find **Saddle-billed & Yellow-billed Storks**, the enormous **Goliath Heron**, a flock of **Sacred Ibis** and several **African Jacanas** as well as our first **Red Lechwe** and **Southern Reedbuck**. Further on we found the colourful **Little Bee-eater**, **Black-collared Barbets**, **Cardinal Woodpecker**, the plain **Burnt-neck Eremomela** and some rather extra-limital **Cape Penduline-Tits**.



Little Bee-eaters are delightful riverside birds (Charley Hesse)

We stopped at the Giant Baobab for lunch in the shade and took some pictures of this enormous tree. It was also on the edge of the flood plain and we added **White-faced Whistling-Duck**, **Spur-winged Goose**, **African Openbill**, **Intermediate Egret**, **Squacco Heron**, **African Spoonbill**, **Black-chested Snake-Eagle** and **Long-toed Lapwing** to our already ample day list. We also had many **Lesser Striped-Swallows** flying over and a rather uncooperative pair of **Swamp Boubous** hopping about in the upper branches of the giant baobab. We also had our first **Vervet Monkeys** of the trip and a few distant **Hippopotamuses** out of the water on the flood plain. We packed up, and moved on to another picnic site by the river spotting a **Dark Chanting-Goshawk** and a nice herd of **Tsessebe** on the way. The picnic site was a nice shady spot by the river and there were plenty of birds around. We saw the similar **Hartlaub's & Arrow-marked Babblers** and then **Crimson-breasted Shrike** and brief views of **Lesser Honeyguide**. Our last stop in the park was for a large, distant herd of **Sable**, a rare and valuable antelope. We also had **Burchell's Zebra** and a pair of **Bateleurs** on the ground. It was just a short distant from here to the Botswana border, surely one of the most relaxing border crossings in Southern Africa. After we had finished the border formalities, we drove the short distance to the town of Shakawe, with **Crowned Lapwing**, **African Mourning Dove**, **Bradfield's Hornbill**, **Greater Blue-eared Starlings** and **Shaft-tailed Whydahs** on the way. After some shopping for supplies, we continued on to our luxurious lodge for the next 2 nights.

15th September –Shakawe (Botswana)

After an early breakfast it was time for our morning boat ride. Straight off the bat, we were lucky enough to enjoy the spectacle of feeding an **African Fish-Eagle**. To stop it sinking, they put a small stake through the fish to keep it afloat. The boat man started calling the fish eagles and then threw the fish. Moments later this majestic raptor flew down and snatched it right before our eyes. What a spectacle! We carried on upstream spotting many common birds of the river, including **Reed Cormorants** and **African Darters**. This section of the river with its abundant papyrus was a great place for **Malachite Kingfisher** and the exposed earth banks for **White-fronted, Little & Southern Carmine Bee-eater** nests. We saw many hirundines on the river, including **Brown-throated & Banded Martins**, **Wire-tailed, Lesser Striped-Swallow** and even **South African Cliff Swallow**. We also had flybys of **Hamerkop**, flocks of **White-faced Whistling-Duck**, a couple of **African Marsh-Harriers**, **Fan-tailed Widowbird** and also some flocks of **Burchell's Sandgrouse**. We were lucky to see the shy **Little Bittern** fly across the river and perch at the top of some reeds, and further along, we saw **Purple, Black & Squacco Herons** concentrated at a barbel run. This is where a type of catfish moves along the river to spawn. They are followed by many birds and tigerfish, with their respective birders and fishermen in tow. The great birding continued, with **Sacred Ibis**, **Black-shouldered Kite**, **Black Crake**, **Water Thick-knee**, **Long-toed Lapwing**, **African Jacana** and **African Pied Wagtail**. We had great views of the normally skulking **Coppery-tailed & White-browed Coucals** and further on, our best views of the rare **White-backed Night-Heron**. The main target of our boat ride however was the enormous **Pel's Fishing-Owl** and our boatmen knew exactly where to find it. We got off the boat and were taken under a large tree where an enormous orange-brown owl was peering down at us. It seemed perfectly happy for us to take pictures, and when we had taken our fill, we left this amazing bird.



The enormous Pel's Fishing-Owl is one of the most prized birds by Southern African birders (Charley Hesse)

After an incredible morning, we went back for a lunch overlooking the river and saw both **Giant & Pied Kingfishers** by the water's edge. After some down time in the heat of the day, we took an afternoon walk around the garden. There were a lot of birds around, and we saw **Holub's Golden Weaver**, **Swamp Boubou**, a flock of **Red-faced Mousebirds**, our first **Crested** and more **Black-collared Barbets**, the tiny **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird** in the very top of the tree, **White-browed Robin-Chat**, **Yellow-bellied Greenbul** and **Terrestrial Brownbul**. We walked out along the entrance road through much drier and lower stature *Acacia* forest that was also very productive. Here we saw a pair of **Greater Honeyguides**, **Brubru**, **Black-backed Puffback**, **Blue Waxbill**, **Green-winged Pytilia** and **White-bellied Sunbird**. The highlight though was an **African Barred Owlet** which showed nicely. Our newly refurbished lodge had an Italian chef and that evening we enjoyed some great pizza cooked in a wood-fired oven.

16th September –Shakawe (Botswana)

Our boat ride today was in the afternoon, so in the morning we took another walk around the grounds. We started off by the dock where we tried to pick up some of the difficult skulking warblers in the papyrus bed. We did well, bringing **Greater & Lesser Swamp-** and **Little Rush Warblers** in close, although not everybody saw all of them. **Spectacled Weaver** was more cooperative, as were some noisy **Giant Kingfishers**. Next we took a walk through forest and picked up some quality birds, including **Ovambo Sparrowhawk**, **African Green-Pigeon**, **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**, **African Black-headed Oriole**, **Violet-backed Starling**, **Collared Sunbird** and our first **Southern Brown-throated Weaver**. We were moving to a different place for our final night in the Pan Handle and we drove to the equally luxurious lodge nearby in time for lunch. The garden was full of birds, and from the balcony of the main building we could see **Brown Firefinch**, **Meve's & Burchell's Starling**, **Swamp Boubou** and **Hartlaub's Babbler**. **Marico Sunbirds** were feeding on Aloe flowers nearby and we saw **Gray Tit-Flycatcher** on the way back to our rooms where we took a rest.



The Okavango is one of the strongholds for the globally-threatened Wattled Crane (Charley Hesse)

We met up again in the mid afternoon for our boat ride and watched a **White-fronted Bee-eater** perched very close by the dock. Once we boarded the boat, we worked our way slowly along the edge of the papyrus bed and got some nice photos of the gorgeous little **Malachite Kingfisher**. We sped up to make it far upstream to the flood plain where there were many interesting birds to see. On the way, the boat man spotted a pair of **Wattled Cranes** between the long stands of reeds and we pulled to a stop to see these birds up close. In the same spot we also saw **Water Thick-knee**, **African Snipe** and the small but attractive **African Stonechat**. We were going pretty fast to make the distance to the floodplain and we went shooting by many familiar birds like **Striated Heron**, **African Skimmers** on sand banks, a small **Southern Carmine Bee-eater** colony, plus many **Brown-throated Martins** and **Wire-tailed Swallows** flying low over the water. At the flood plain, we used the scope to scan the large number of waterbirds. Here we saw **White-faced**, **Red-billed & Comb Ducks**, **Three-banded Plover**, **Yellow-billed Stork**, **Glossy Ibis**, **African Marsh-Harrier**, **African Jacana**, **Ruff**, **Collared Pratincole**, **Coppery-tailed Coucal** and **African Pied Wagtail**. We got back on the boat and entered an inlet that allowed us to get closer to many of the waterbirds and get some photos of **Hamerkop**, **Spur-winged Goose**, **Intermediate Egret**, **Black & Squacco Herons**, **Wood Sandpiper** and even a **Lilac-breasted Roller** chasing a **Blacksmith Lapwing**. The highlight though was the rare **Slaty Egret** at close range that posed beautifully for photos. On the way back we passed a pod of **Hippos** plus **African Openbills** and **Sacred Ibis** going to roost. It had been another wonderful boat ride on the Okavango.

17th September – Shakawe to Maun

We had time just for a short walk around the grounds of our lodge but we saw some great birds. The dry acacias around the garden held **Yellow-breasted Apalis**, **Rattling Cisticola**, **White-bellied Sunbird**, **White-fronted Bee-eater** and **Hartlaub's Babbler** as well as **Vervet Monkeys** and **Tree Squirrels**. We walked through some thicker and lush forest though and saw some very different birds, like **Little Sparrowhawk**, **Yellow-bellied Greenbul**, **Retz's Helmetshrike**, **Collared Sunbird** and **African Green-Pigeon**, while our first **Common Swifts** flew overhead. We went back to pack up our bags, said goodbye to our friendly hosts and set off on our drive to Maun. We saw many familiar birds on the way, like **Little & Southern Carmine Bee-eaters**, **African Harrier Hawk**, **Southern Pale Chanting-Goshawk**, a flock of **Burchell's Sandgrouse**, **Rufous-crowned Roller**, **Red-billed**, **Southern Yellow-billed & African Gray Hornbills**, **Southern White-crowned Shrike**, **Meve's & Burchell's Starling**, **Yellow-billed Oxpeckers** on livestock and Ken's vehicle even had some **Elephants**. We stopped for lunch under the shade of some trees where there were some benches to sit on. It was very hot at midday, but birds were surprisingly active and we had nice views of **Crimson-breasted Shrike**, **Red-faced Mousebird**, **Violet-eared Waxbill**, **Cardinal Woodpecker** and **Common Scimitar-bill**. We reached our comfortable lodge in Maun, which commanded a beautiful view over the Thamalakane River. There were many waterbirds, including **Little Grebe**, **African Openbill**, **Black Crake** and **African Jacana**, plus many other nice birds around the garden, with **Coppery-tailed & Senegal Coucals**, **Lilac-breasted Roller** (which we finally got pictures of), **Crested Barbet**, **Southern Black Flycatcher** and **Arrow-marked Babbler**. We enjoyed our last meal together as a group and reminisced about many of the fantastic experiences of the tour.



The dainty African Pygmy-Goose is easily seen at our comfortable Maun lodge (Jerry Connolly)

18th September – Maun

Sadly, the guides had to set off back to Namibia to start another tour but we left the group to enjoy the birding here for the rest of the day. They did well adding 4 more species to the trip list, including some distant **Southern Ground Hornbill**, **Lesser Masked & Red-headed Weavers** and several **African Pygmy Geese**. We had some unforgettable moments of the tour and racked up an impressive list of species of birds, mammals, and reptiles. It was the trip participants that really made the tour this year though. What an amazing group of people! We hope to see you all in the future.

BIRD LIST

Taxonomy following Clements 6th edition (updated August 2013)

Struthionidae (Ostrich)

1	Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	Seen at C28 & Etosha.
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Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

2	White-faced Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & Maun.
3	Comb Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
4	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Swakopmund, Etosha & Mahango.
5	South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen at Etosha.
6	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
7	African Pygmy-Goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>	Seen at Maun.
8	Cape Shoveler	<i>Anas smithii</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
9	Red-billed Duck	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	Seen at Avis Dam & Shakawe.
10	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Walvis Bay & Etosha.

Numididae (Guineafowl)

11	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Omaruru & Etosha.
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Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)

12	Crested Francolin	<i>Francolinus sephaena</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
13	Orange River Francolin	<i>Francolinus levaillantoides</i>	Seen at C28.
14	Hartlaub's Francolin	<i>Francolinus hartlaubi</i>	Namibian near endemic. Seen at Erongo.
15	Red-billed Francolin	<i>Francolinus adspersus</i>	Seen at C28, Omaruru, Erongo, Etosha, Roy's Camp, Shamvura & Shakawe.
16	Swainson's Francolin	<i>Francolinus swainsonii</i>	Seen at Etosha.

Podicipedidae (Grebes)

17	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Seen at Etosha & Maun.
18	Eared Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.

Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)

19	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Walvis Bay & Etosha.
20	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>	Near-threatened. Seen at Swakopmund & Walvis Bay.

Ciconiidae (Storks)

21	African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & Maun.
22	Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>	Seen at Mahango.
23	Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>	Seen at Mahango.
24	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.

Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)

25	Great (White-breasted) Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo (lucida)</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay & Shamvura.
26	Cape Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>	Near-threatened. Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Walvis Bay.
27	Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & Maun.
28	Crowned Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax coronatus</i>	Near-threatened. Southern African endemic. Seen at Walvis Bay.

Anhingidae (Anhingas)

29	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & Maun.
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Pelecanidae (Pelicans)

30	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
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Scopidae (Hamerkop)

31	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & on the way to Maun.
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Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

32	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
33	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Walvis Bay, Mahango, Shakawe.
34	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	Seen at Avis Dam & Shakawe.
35	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.
36	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
37	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Seen at Etosha, Mahango & Shakawe.
38	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.
39	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay, Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
40	Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
41	Slaty Egret	<i>Egretta vinaceigula</i>	Vulnerable. Seen at Shakawe.
42	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
43	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
44	Rufous-bellied Heron	<i>Ardeola rufiventris</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
45	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
46	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Heard at Shamvura.
47	White-backed Night-Heron	<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.

Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)

48	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
49	Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.
50	Hadedda Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	Seen at Shakawe & heard at Shamvura.
51	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Mahango.

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

52	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
53	Black (Yellow-billed) Kite	<i>Milvus migrans (parasitus)</i>	Seen at Mahango, Shakawe & on the way to Maun.
54	African Fish-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
55	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	Endangered. Seen at Erongo.
56	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	Endangered. Seen at Etosha & Maun.
57	Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>	Vulnerable. Seen at Etosha & Maun.
58	White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>	Vulnerable. Seen at Mahango.
59	Black-breasted Snake-Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>	Seen at near Spitzkoppe, Etosha & Mahango.
60	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	Near-threatened. Seen at Etosha & Mahango.
61	African Marsh-Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
62	African Harrier Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
63	Dark Chanting-Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Mahango.
64	Southern Pale Chanting-Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at C28, Etosha & on the way to Maun.
65	Gabar Goshawk	<i>Melierax gabar</i>	Seen at most sites.
66	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Seen at Omaruru & Shamvura.
67	Little Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter minullus</i>	Seen at Omaruru, Mahango & Shakawe.
68	Ovambo Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter ovampensis</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
69	Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>	Seen at C28 & Erongo.

70	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	Seen at Etosha, Roy's Camp & Mahango.
71	Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>	Seen at C28.
72	African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>	Seen at Erongo.
73	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	Seen at Etosha.
74	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	Near-threatened. Seen at Etosha.

Otididae (Bustards)

75	Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>	Seen at Etosha.
76	Rueppell's Bustard	<i>Eupodotis rueppellii</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at C28.
77	Red-crested Bustard	<i>Eupodotis ruficrista</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Erongo & Etosha.
78	White-quilled Bustard	<i>Eupodotis afraoides</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe & Etosha.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

79	African Rail	<i>Rallus caerulescens</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
80	Black Crake	<i>Amauornis flavirostra</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & Maun.
81	Purple Swampfen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
82	Eurasian Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Seen at Etosha & Shamvura.

Gruidae (Cranes)

83	Wattled Crane	<i>Grus carunculatus</i>	Vulnerable. Seen at Shakawe.
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Burhinidae (Thick-knees)

84	Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
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Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)

85	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay, Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
86	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Walvis Bay & Etosha.

Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)

87	African Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Near-threatened. Seen at Swakopmund.
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Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

88	Long-toed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.
89	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & Maun.
90	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	Seen at Etosha & near Shakawe.
91	Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
92	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
93	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	Seen at Etosha.
94	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Seen at Etosha.
95	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Swakopmund, Walvis Bay, Etosha, Shamvura & Shakawe.
96	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay & Shamvura.
97	Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	Near-threatened. Seen at Swakopmund, Walvis Bay & Etosha.

Rostratulidae (Painted-Snipes)

98	Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	Seen at Etosha.
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Jacanidae (Jacanas)

99	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africana</i>	Seen at Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango, Shakawe & Maun.
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Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)

100	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Tringa cinerea</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
101	Common Sandpiper	<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Etosha, Shamvura & Shakawe.
102	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay, Etosha, Shamvura & Shakawe.
103	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay, Etosha & Shamvura.
104	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay, Etosha, Shamvura & Shakawe.
105	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay & Shamvura.
106	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay & Shamvura.
107	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
108	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Walvis Bay & Etosha.
109	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Seen at Swakopmund, Walvis Bay & Etosha.
110	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay, Etosha, Shamvura & Shakawe.
111	African Snipe	<i>Gallinago nigripennis</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.

Glareolidae (Pratincoles and Coursers)

112	Burchell's Courser	<i>Cursorius rufus</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Etosha.
113	Double-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>	Seen at Etosha.
114	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
115	Rock Pratincole	<i>Glareola nuchalis</i>	Seen at Shamvura & near Divundu.

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

116	Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen at Walvis Bay.
117	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Seen at Swakopmund & Walvis Bay.
118	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
119	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>	Seen at Etosha & Shakawe.
120	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
121	Great Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
122	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
123	African Skimmer	<i>Rynchops flavirostris</i>	Near-threatened. Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.

Pteroclididae (Sandgrouse)

124	Namaqua Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Etosha.
125	Double-banded Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles bicinctus</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Etosha.
126	Burchell's Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles burchelli</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Shakawe & on the way to Maun.

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

127	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Seen at Avis Dam & Walvis Bay.
128	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay & Erongo.
129	Mourning Collared-Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	Seen at near Divundu, Shakawe & on the way to Maun.
130	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
131	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	Seen at most sites.
132	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	Seen at most sites.
133	Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
134	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	Seen at Rooibank, Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango & on the way to Maun.
135	African Green-Pigeon	<i>Treron calva</i>	Seen at Shakawe.

Musophagidae (Turacos)

136	Grey Go-away Bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>	Seen at most sites.
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Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

137	Coppery-tailed Coucal	<i>Centropus cupreicaudus</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Shakawe & Maun.
138	Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	Seen at Shakawe & Maun.
139	White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>	Seen at Shakawe.

Strigidae (Owls)

140	African Scops-Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>	Heard at Omaruru & Etosha.
141	Southern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis granti</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
142	Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
143	Verreaux's (Giant) Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>	Seen at Omaruru.
144	Pel's Fishing-Owl	<i>Scotopelia peli</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
145	Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>	Seen at Erongo, Etosha & heard on the way to Maun.
146	African Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium capense</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
147	African Wood-Owl	<i>Strix woodfordi</i>	Seen at Shamvura & heard at Shakawe.

Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)

148	Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	Seen at Shamvura & heard at Shakawe.
149	Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>	Seen at Erongo.
150	Square-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus fossii</i>	Seen at Shamvura.

Apodidae (Swifts)

151	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	Seen on the C28, near Spitzkoppe & Erongo.
152	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
153	Bradfield's Swift	<i>Apus bradfieldi</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe & Omaruru.
154	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Seen at Windhoek & Etosha.
155	African Palm-Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	Seen at Windhoek, Omaruru, Etosha, Mahango & Shakawe.

Coliidae (Mousebirds)

156	White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen on the C28.
157	Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>	Seen at Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.

Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)

158	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristata</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
159	Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
160	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
161	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.

Meropidae (Bee-eaters)

162	White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
163	Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
164	Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundinaceus</i>	Seen at Rooibank, Erongo & Etosha.
165	Southern Carmine Bee-eater	<i>Merops nubicoides</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.

Coraciidae (Rollers)

166	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>	Seen near Roy's Camp, Divundu, Shakawe & Maun.
167	Rufous-crowned (Purple) Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>	Seen at Etosha, near Divundu & on the way to Maun.

Upupidae (Hoopoes)

168	Eurasian (African) Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops (africana)</i>	Seen at Rooibank, Omaruru & Etosha.
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Phoeniculidae (Woodhoopoes and Scimitar-bills)

169	Green Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	Seen near Roy's Camp & Mahango.
170	Violet Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus damarensis</i>	Seen at Etosha & heard at Omaruru.
171	Common Scimitar-bill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>	Seen at Mahango & on the way to Maun.

Bucerotidae (Hornbills)

172	Monteiro's Hornbill	<i>Tockus monteiri</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Avis Dam, Spitzkoppe, Erongo & Etosha.
173	Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus rufirostris</i>	Seen at Etosha & on the way to Maun.
174	Damara Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus damarensis</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Omaruru.
175	Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at most sites.
176	Bradfield's Hornbill	<i>Tockus bradfieldi</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Roy's Camp & near Shakawe.
177	African Gray Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>	Seen at most sites.

Bucorvidae (Ground-Hornbills)

178	Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>	Vulnerable. Seen at Maun.
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Lybiidae (African Barbets)

179	Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>	Seen at Shakawe & Maun.
180	Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe
181	Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Avis Dam, Spitzkoppe & Etosha.
182	Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.

Indicatoridae (Honeyguides)

183	Wahlberg's Honeyguide	<i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
184	Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.
185	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	Seen at Shakawe.

Picidae (Woodpeckers)

186	Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
187	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & near Maun.
188	Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>	Seen at Erongo & Shamvura. Heard at Mahango.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

189	Eurasian (Rock) Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus (rupicolus)</i>	Seen at C28, Swakopmund, Erongo & Etosha.
190	Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>	Seen at C28 & Etosha.
191	Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>	Seen at Etosha.
192	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	Seen at Spitzkoppe & Etosha.
193	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Seen at Avis Dam.

Psittacidae (Parrots)

194	Rosy-faced Lovebird	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe, Omaruru & Erongo.
195	Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
196	Ruppell's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus rueppellii</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Omaruru.

Platysteiridae (Wattle-eyes and Batises)

197	Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Mahango.
198	Pirit Batis	<i>Batis pirit</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at C28, Omaruru & Etosha.
199	White-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanioturdus torquatus</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at C28 & Omaruru.

Vangidae (Vangas, Helmetshrikes, and Allies)

200	White Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Mahango.
201	Retz's Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops retzii</i>	Seen at Shakawe.

Malaconotidae (Bushshrikes and Allies)

202	Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>	Seen at Omaruru, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
203	Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
204	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>	Heard at Shamvura.
205	Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
206	Gabon Boubou	<i>Laniarius bicolor</i>	Seen at Mahango, Shakawe & Maun. Heard at Shamvura.
207	Crimson-breasted Gonolek	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Etosha, Mahango & Shakawe.
208	Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen on the C28 & at Rooibank. Heard at Spitzkoppe.
209	Sulphur breasted Bushshrike	<i>Telophorus sulfureopectus</i>	Seen at Mahango & heard at Shakawe.

Laniidae (Shrikes)

210	Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	Seen on the C28, at Rooibank & Etosha.
211	Magpie Shrike	<i>Corvinella melanoleuca</i>	Seen at Shamvura, near Divundu, Shakawe & on the way to Maun.
212	White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus anguitimens</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Etosha, Roy's Camp & near Maun.

Oriolidae (Old World Orioles)

213	African Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	Seen at Shakawe & Maun.
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Dicruridae (Drongos)

214	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	Commonly seen at all sites.
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Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

215	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	Seen at Etosha & on the way to Maun.
216	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	Seen near Spitzkoppe, at Etosha, Roy's Camp, Shamvura, Divundu & near Maun.

Alaudidae (Larks)

217	Eastern Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafrasciata</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Etosha.
218	Sabota Lark	<i>Calendulauda sabota</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28, at Kalkfeld & Etosha.
219	Fawn-colored Lark	<i>Calendulauda africanoides</i>	Seen on the C28 & at Kalkfeld.
220	Dune Lark	<i>Calendulauda erythrochlamys</i>	Namibian endemic. Seen at Rooibank.
221	Gray's Lark	<i>Ammomanopsis grayi</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Rooibank.
222	Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28, near Spitzkoppe & at Etosha.
223	Karoo Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda subcoronata</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe.
224	Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark	<i>Eremopterix leucotis</i>	Seen at Etosha.
225	Grey-backed Sparrowlark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Rooibank, Kalkfeld & Etosha.
226	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	Seen at Etosha.
227	Stark's Lark	<i>Spizocorys starki</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at C28, Kalkfeld & Etosha.
228	Pink-billed Lark	<i>Spizocorys conirostris</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Etosha.

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

229	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
230	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
231	Rock Martin	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, C28, Rooibank, Spitzkoppe, Erongo & Etosha.
232	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Seen at Etosha.
233	White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	Seen at Avis Dam.
234	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	Seen at near Divundu & Shakawe.
235	Pearl-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>	Seen at Omaruru.
236	Greater Striped-Swallow	<i>Cecropsis cucullata</i>	Seen on the C28.
237	Lesser Striped-Swallow	<i>Cecropsis abyssinica</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
238	Rufous-chested Swallow	<i>Cecropsis semirufa</i>	Seen at Etosha & Shamvura.
239	Mosque Swallow	<i>Cecropsis senegalensis</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
240	South African Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon spilodera</i>	Southern African breeding endemic. Seen at Shakawe.

Paridae (Chickadees and Tits)

241	Ashy Tit	<i>Melaniparus cinerascens</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe & Erongo.
242	Southern Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus niger</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Mahango.
243	Carp's Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus carpi</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Erongo & Etosha.

Remizidae (Penduline-Tits)

244	Southern Penduline-Tit	<i>Anthoscopus minutus</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28 & at Mahango.
245	African Penduline-Tit	<i>Anthoscopus caroli</i>	Seen at Shamvura

Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)

246	Yellow-bellied Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
247	Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
248	Black-fronted Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Commonly seen at all sites.
249	Common (Dark-capped) Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus (tricolor)</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.

Macrosphenidae (African Warblers)

250	Cape Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>	Seen at Omaruru, Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
251	Rockrunner	<i>Achaetops pycnopygius</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Erongo.

Phylloscopidae (Leaf-Warblers)

252	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Seen at Omaruru.
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Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)

253	Greater Swamp-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus rufescens</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
254	Lesser Swamp-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	Seen at Shakawe & heard at Shamvura.

Locustellidae (Grassbirds and Allies)

255	Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>	Seen at Shakawe & heard at Shamvura.
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Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)

256	Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
257	Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>	Seen at Erongo, Etosha, Roy's Camp, Shamvura & Shakawe. Heard at Omaruru.
258	Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen at Etosha.
259	Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>	Seen at Omaruru, Etosha, near Divundu & Shakawe.

260	Chirping Cisticola	<i>Cisticola pipiens</i>	Seen at Shamvura & heard at Shakawe.
261	Neddicky	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
262	Desert Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aridulus</i>	Seen at Etosha.
263	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
264	Black-chested Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>	Seen at most sites.
265	Yellow-bellied Eremomela	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>	Seen at C28, Spitzkoppe, Omaruru & Mahango.
266	Burnt-neck Eremomela	<i>Eremomela usticollis</i>	Seen at Mahango.

Sylviidae (Old World Warblers)

267	Layard's Warbler	<i>Sylvia layardi</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe.
268	Rufous-vented Warbler	<i>Sylvia subcaerulea</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Avis Dam, C28, Rooibank, Etosha & Mahango.

Zosteropidae (Yuhinas, White-eyes, and Allies)

269	African Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
270	Cape (Orange River) White-eye	<i>Zosterops p. pallidus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.

Leiothrichidae (Laughingthrushes and Allies)

271	Hartlaub's Babbler	<i>Turdoides hartlaubii</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
272	Black-faced Babbler	<i>Turdoides melanops</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Roy's Camp.
273	Southern Pied Babbler	<i>Turdoides bicolor</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen at Omaruru & Kalkfeld.
274	Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.

Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)

275	Pale Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis pallidus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Mahango.
276	Chat Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis infuscatus</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at C28 & Etosha.
277	Mariqua Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis mariquensis</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at most sites.
278	Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Maun.
279	Ashy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>	Seen at Shamvura & heard at Shakawe.
280	Gray Tit-Flycatcher	<i>Myoparus plumbeus</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
281	Kalahari Scrub-Robin	<i>Cercotrichas paena</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28 & at Kalkfeld.
282	Red-backed Scrub-Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>	Seen at Erongo & Shamvura.
283	Herero Chat	<i>Namibornis herero</i>	Namibian near-endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe.
284	White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
285	Short-toed Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola brevipes</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28, near Spitzkoppe, Erongo & at Etosha.
286	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
287	Southern Anteat-Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen on the C28, Kalkfeld & Etosha.
288	Karoo Chat	<i>Cercomela schlegelii</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28.
289	Familiar Chat	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>	Seen on the C28, at Spitzkoppe & Etosha.
290	Mountain Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

291	Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Psophocichla litsipsirupa</i>	Seen at Omaruru & Etosha.
292	Kurrichane Thrush	<i>Turdus libonyanus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.

Sturnidae (Starlings)

293	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	Seen at Shamvura, near Divundu & Shakawe.
294	Cape Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	Seen at most sites.

295	Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>	Seen at Etosha, Shamvura & near Shakawe.
296	Meve's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis mevesii</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.
297	Burchell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis australis</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28, at Etosha, Mahango & Shakawe.
298	Sharp-tailed Starling	<i>Lamprotornis acuticaudus</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
299	Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
300	Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Spitzkoppe & Erongo.

Buphagidae (Oxpeckers)

301	Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Mahango.
302	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>	Seen on the way to Maun.

Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)

303	Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedidypna collaris</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
304	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>	Seen at Shamvura & heard Mahango.
305	Mariqua Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>	Seen at Etosha, Mahango & Shakawe.
306	White-breasted Sunbird	<i>Cinniris talatala</i>	Seen at Etosha, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
307	Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fusca</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28, at Rooibank, Spitzkoppe, Omaruru & Etosha.

Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)

308	Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Swakopmund, Walvis Bay, Shamvura & Shakawe.
309	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
310	African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, Erongo, Etosha & Shakawe.
311	Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>	Seen on the C28 & at Kalkfeld.

Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)

312	Lark-like Bunting	<i>Emberiza impetuani</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Erongo & Etosha.
313	Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at C28, Spitzkoppe & Erongo.

Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)

314	Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & near Divundu.
315	Black-throated Canary	<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>	Seen at Erongo & Etosha.
316	Yellow Canary	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Avis Dam.

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)

317	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
318	Great Rufous Sparrow	<i>Passer motitensis</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28, at Spitzkoppe, Erongo & Etosha.
319	Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at Rooibank.
320	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>	Seen at most sites.

Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)

321	Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>	Seen on the C28 & at Divundu.
322	Scaly Weaver	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen on the C28, at Kalkfeld, Etosha & near Divundu.
323	White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>	Seen at most sites.
324	Social Weaver	<i>Philetairus socius</i>	Southern African endemic. Seen on the C28 & at Etosha.
325	Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>	Seen at Maun.
326	Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>	Seen at Shakawe.

327	Holub's Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthops</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
328	Southern Brown-throated Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthopterus</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
329	Lesser Masked-Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>	Seen at Maun.
330	Southern Masked-Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	Seen at most sites.
331	Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	Seen at Omaruru, Etosha & Shamvura.
332	Chestnut Weaver	<i>Ploceus rubiginosus</i>	Seen at Etosha.
333	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	Seen at Avis Dam & Etosha.
334	Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
335	Grosbeak (Thick-billed) Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>	Seen at Shamvura.

Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)

336	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	Seen at Rooibank & Shamvura.
337	Black-cheeked (-faced) Waxbill	<i>Estrilda erythronotos</i>	Seen at C28 & near Spitzkoppe.
338	Blue-breasted Cordonbleu	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>	Seen at Etosha, Mahango & Shakawe.
339	Violet-eared Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus granatina</i>	Seen on the C28, Omaruru, Etosha, Shamvura & on the way to Maun.
340	Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>	Seen at Erongo, Shamvura & Shakawe..
341	Brown Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta nitidula</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
342	Red-headed Finch	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>	Southern African near-endemic. Seen at C28 & Etosha.
343	African Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>	Seen at Avis Dam.

Viduidae (Indigobirds)

344	Eastern Paradise-Whydah	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	Seen at Etosha.
345	Shaft-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua regia</i>	Seen at Avis Dam & near Shakawe.

MAMMAL LIST

Mammal Taxonomy follows J.Kingdon, The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals, 1997

Muridae (Rats & mice)

1	Four-striped Grass Mouse	<i>Rhabdomys pumilio</i>	Seen at Avis Dam.
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Petromuridae (Dassie Rat)

2	Dassie Rat	<i>Petromus typicus</i>	Seen at Erongo.
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Otariidae (Eared seals)

3	Cape Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
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Delphinidae (Oceanic dolphins)

4	Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Seen at Walvis Bay.
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Cercopithecidae (Old World monkeys)

5	Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, C28, Erongo & Roy's Camp.
6	Vervet Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	Seen at Mahango & Shakawe.

Galagidae (Galagos)

7	South African Galago	<i>Galago moholi</i>	Seen at Etosha.
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Sciuridae (Squirrels)

8	South African Ground Squirrel	<i>Geosciurus inauris</i>	Seen at C28 & Etosha.
9	Smith's Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	Seen at Etosha, Roy's Camp, Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.

Pedetidae (Springhares)

10	Springhare	<i>Pedetes capensis</i>	Seen at Omaruru.
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Leporidae (Rabbits & Hares)

11	Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	Seen at Omaruru.
12	Jameson's Red Rock Rabbit	<i>Pronolagus randensis</i>	Seen at Omaruru.

Canidae (Canids)

13	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>	Seen at Etosha & heard at Shakawe.
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Hyaenidae (Hyaenas)

14	Spotted Hyaena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	Seen at Etosha.
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Felidae (Cats)

15	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	Seen at Etosha.
16	African Wild Cat	<i>Felis sylvestris</i>	Seen at Etosha.

Herpestidae (Mongooses)

17	Slender Mongoose	<i>Galerella sanguinea</i>	Seen at C28 & Etosha.
18	Yellow Mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>	Seen on the C28 & Etosha.

Mustelidae (Mustelids)

19	Spot-necked Otter	<i>Lutra maculicollis</i>	Seen at Shamvura.
20	Striped Polecat	<i>Ictonyx striatus</i>	Seen at Omaruru.

Procaviidae (Hyraxes)

21	Cape Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	Seen on the C28 & Erongo.
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Elephantidae (Elephants)

22	(African) Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	Seen at Etosha, Mahango & on the way to Maun.
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Giraffidae (Giraffes)

23	Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	Seen at Etosha.
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Equidae (Horses)

24	Burchell's Common Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	Seen at Etosha & Mahango.
25	Hartmann's Mountain Zebra	<i>Equus hartmannae</i>	Seen on the C28.

Hippopotamidae (Hippos)

26	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	Seen at Shamvura, Mahango & Shakawe.
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Rhinocerotidae (Rhinoceroses)

27	Black Rhino	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>	Seen at Etosha.
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Suidae (Pigs)

28	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	Seen at Avis Dam, C28, Etosha & Mahango.
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Bovidae (Bovids)

29	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	Seen at Shakawe.
30	Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	Seen on C28, Erongo, Etosha & Mahango.
31	Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazella</i>	Seen on the C28, at Erongo & Etosha.
32	Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	Seen on the C28 & Etosha.
33	Roan	<i>Hippotragus equines</i>	Seen at Mahango.
34	Sable	<i>Hippotragus hippotragus</i>	Seen at Mahango.

35	Red Lechwe	<i>Kobus lechwe lechwe</i>	Seen at Mahango.
36	Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	Seen on the C28.
37	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	Seen on the C28, Omaruru & Etosha.
38	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	Seen at Erongo.
39	Tsessebe	<i>Damaliscus lunatus</i>	Seen at Mahango.
40	Damara Dikdik	<i>Madoqua kirkii damarensis</i>	Seen at Erongo & Etosha.
41	Southern Reedbuck	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	Seen at Mahango.
42	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	Seen at Etosha & Mahango.
43	Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>	Seen at Etosha.
44	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	Seen at Etosha.

REPTILE LIST

Reptile taxonomy follows B.Branch, Field Guide to Snakes and Other Reptiles of Southern Africa, 1998

1	Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
2	Namibian Rock Agama	<i>Agama planiceps</i>	Seen at Erongo.
3	Turner's Thick-toed Gecko	<i>Pachydactylus turneri</i>	Seen at Etosha.
4	Nile Monitor	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
5	Marsh Terrapin	<i>Pelomedusa subrufa</i>	Seen at Etosha.
6	Variegated Skink	<i>Mabuya variegata</i>	Seen at Omaruru.
7	Wedge-snouted Desert Lizard	<i>Meroles cuneirostris</i>	Seen at Shamvura & Shakawe.
8	Giant Plated Lizard	<i>Gerrhosaurus validus</i>	Seen at Erongo.
9	Cape Rough-scaled Lizard	<i>Ichnotropis capensis</i>	Seen at Shamvura.