

Field Guides Tour Report

East Africa Highlights: Kenya & Tanzania 2015

Jan 17, 2015 to Feb 6, 2015 Terry Stevenson

For our tour description, itinerary, past triplists, dates, fees, and more, please VISIT OUR TOUR PAGE.



When you look good, shouldn't you strut your stuff? This Kori Bustard put on a great show! (Photo by Terry Parrinello)

Our 2015 "East Africa Highlights: Kenya & Tanzania" tour was different this year in that to save on some of the long drives we flew from Nairobi to Kilimanjaro and back. We also used new lodges at both Ngorongoro Crater and in the Serengeti -- all adding to the overall enjoyment of the tour.

Beginning as usual with a visit to Nairobi National Park, we were soon enjoying such diverse species as Ostrich (the world's largest bird), African Darter (our only ones of the tour), the magnificent Martial Eagle, Gray Crowned-Crane, Speckled Mousebird, Malachite Kingfisher, African Paradise-Flycatcher, the endemic Northern Pied-Babbler, just gorgeous Superb Starlings, and a variety of highland shrikes, sunbirds, weavers, and waxbills. Mammals were good, too, with 3 Lions, a Black Rhino, and mixed herds of Burchell's Zebra, Common Eland, Hartebeest, Impala, and Grant's Gazelle.

The following day we took the early flight to Kilimanjaro airport, where we arrived in pouring rain. This was, however, the last we saw of this type of weather, and the remainder of the tour turned out to be far drier than usual.

We began the Tanzanian part of our tour with a visit to Gibb's Farm on the outer slopes of the Crater Highlands. Here, based in lovely accommodations, we walked in the forest above the farm where highlights were Ayres's Hawk-Eagle, Red-chested Cuckoo, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater, Moustached Tinkerbird, Gray-olive Greenbul, Brown-headed Apalis, Collared Sunbird, and Abyssinian Crimsonwing.

We then headed to our lodge on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater and one of the world's most spectacular views. Our day in the crater added a variety of waterbirds, our first Helmeted Guineafowl, 16 different raptors, a displaying Kori Bustard, Lilac-breasted Roller, both Red-billed and Yellow-billed oxpeckers, and endemic Rufous-tailed Weavers -- literally at our feet. However, for some it was the spectacular scenery and the mammals that stood out most, with our first jackals, Spotted Hyaena, nice looks at a Serval, Lions, African Elephants (including some big tuskers), 3 Black Rhino, and of course several thousand zebra, buffalo, antelopes and gazelles.

We then headed further west to Olduvai Gorge -- which was made famous by the Leakey family when they discovered the remains of several species of hominids here. After a short talk describing their finds, we were soon on our way and then spent three nights in the vast expanse we all know as The Serengeti. Again making things slightly different this year, we had two nights at one lodge and then a single night at another -- as such we were able to cover more ground and make sure we could find the nomadic herds for which this area is so famous. We were not disappointed; Wildebeest (which give birth at this time of year) were in their many, many thousands, as were zebras, but we also enjoyed two glorious Leopards, no fewer than 3 adult and 3 young Cheetahs, almost 100 Hippos together in the river near our lodge, and, as in Ngorongoro Crater, numerous other antelopes and gazelles. Birds of

course, were not forgotten, and just a few highlights were Gray-breasted Francolin, Greater and Lesser flamingos, flocks of Abdim's and White storks, Secretary-bird, 5 species of vultures, 3 bustards, Yellow-throated Sandgrouse, Bare-faced Go-away-bird, Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill, Fischer's Lovebird, Magpie Shrike, Silverbird, and breeding-plumage male Straw-tailed Whydahs.

The last part of our Tanzania tour took us back east to Tarangire National Park, a wonderful area of dry bush, marsh, palms, and baobab trees. During a two-night stay here we drove the sandy trails enjoying yet more birds and mammals including Red-necked and Yellow-necked francolins, Goliath Heron, Mottled Spinetail, Green Woodhoopoe, Southern Ground-Hornbill, Red-bellied Parrot, and endemic Yellow-collared Lovebirds and Ashy Starlings. New mammal highlights included more Lions and more than 500 Elephants.

After our return flight to Nairobi, we then left the next morning for the Kenya leg of our tour. A brand new but faulty speed governor (compulsory in Kenya) gave us a two-hour delay, but in a way that worked out well as we diverted to Naivasha for lunch and saw our only Black Heron, Giant Kingfisher, and Red-headed Weaver of the tour. Back on track, we found the high-water levels at Nakuru meant flamingo numbers were down (but both species were still present in low numbers). Other birds, though, were outstanding, with great looks at Saddle-billed Stork, Hamerkop, Lesser Spotted Eagle, a good variety of Palearctic shorebirds, White-bellied Tit, Little Rock-Thrush, and Mocking Cliff-Chat. Mammals included yet another Black Rhino, about 20 introduced White Rhinos, and the rare Rothchild's Giraffe.

For a total change of scene we then went to Kakamega Forest in the western highlands. Although green and a forest, it was its driest in more than 30 years, and we struggled for some birds. However, there's always so much to see here, and just a few of the highlights were Great Blue, Ross's, and Black-billed turacos, Yellow-billed and Yellow-spotted barbets, Thick-billed Honeyguide, a close displaying African Broadbill, Brown-throated Wattleeye, Western Black-headed Oriole, Dusky Tit, Red-tailed Bristlebill, Ansorge's Greenbul, Green Hylia, Black-faced Rufous-Warbler, Mountain Illadopsis, Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat, White-tailed Ant-Thrush, and Red-headed Bluebill.

From Kakamega we headed east to the Baringo-Bogoria area in one of the most spectacular parts of the Great Rift Valley -- and one of the most birdy areas in the whole of East Africa. Here we added the following (and many more): Bat Hawk, Three-banded Courser, White-crested Turaco, African Scops-Owl, Northern White-faced Owl, Northern Carmine Bee-eater, Jackson's and Hemprich's hornbills, Double-toothed Barbet, Pygmy Batis, Blackheaded Gonolek, Somali Tit, Pale Prinia, Brown Babbler, the little-known Gambaga Flycatcher, Bristle-crowned Starling, Kenya Violet-backed and Shining sunbirds, Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver, and Northern Masked-Weaver.

Finally, as we returned to Nairobi we stopped for a night at Mountain Lodge on the south-west flank of Mt. Kenya, yet again a different habitat where we stayed in a lodge with a floodlit salt lick and waterhole. Long-crested Eagle, Delegorgue's Pigeon, Hartlaub's Turaco, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Redfronted Parrot, Black-tailed Oriole, Mountain Yellow-Warbler, and Golden-winged Sunbird were all birds that we saw well. Mammal sightings included some very close Sykes's Monkeys, and our first Large-spotted Genet, White-tailed Mongoose, and Bushbuck.

Thanks to all for traveling with us on this tour! I hope to see you in the field again some time soon.

--Terry

KEYS FOR THIS LIST

One of the following keys may be shown in brackets for individual species as appropriate: * = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic, N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant

BIRDS

Struthionidae (Ostrich)

OSTRICH (COMMON) (Struthio camelus massaicus) – Common in many areas of open country, like Nairobi NP, Ngorongoro and the Serengeti; in all we saw about 180.

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

WHITE-FACED WHISTLING-DUCK (Dendrocygna viduata) – About a dozen at Tarangire.

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK (Dendrocygna bicolor) – About 20 at Tarangire.

COMB DUCK (OLD WORLD) (Sarkidiornis melanotos melanotos) – We saw a single female at Tarangire.

EGYPTIAN GOOSE (Alopochen aegyptiaca) – Common and widespread at wetlands throughout the tour.

SPUR-WINGED GOOSE (Plectropterus gambensis) – Five in the Serengeti, and 2 at Tarangire.

YELLOW-BILLED DUCK (Anas undulata) – About a dozen at Limuru Pond.

NORTHERN SHOVELER (Anas clypeata) – We saw a total of about 250 at various wetlands in the Serengeti.

RED-BILLED DUCK (Anas erythrorhyncha) – About 200 at Limuru Pond, 10 at Ngorongoro, and 6 at Tarangire.

HOTTENTOT TEAL (Anas hottentota) - Twenty at Limuru Pond, 5 at Ngorongoro, and 2 at Tarangire.

CAPE TEAL (Anas capensis) - Twenty at Ngorongoro, 40 in the Serengeti, and about 100 at Nakuru.

Numididae (Guineafowl)

HELMETED GUINEAFOWL (Numida meleagris) - Common and widespread in open woodland, bush country and grassland.

Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)

COQUI FRANCOLIN (Francolinus coqui) - Good looks right next to the vehicle in the Serengeti and at Tarangire.

CRESTED FRANCOLIN (Francolinus sephaena) - Five in the Serengeti, and about 10 at Tarangire.

HILDEBRANDT'S FRANCOLIN (Francolinus hildebrandti) – Eight at Ngorongoro, and 1 at Tarangire.

YELLOW-NECKED FRANCOLIN (Francolinus leucoscepus) – About 60 at Tarangire.

GRAY-BREASTED FRANCOLIN (Francolinus rufopictus) – We saw about 25 of these localised endemic francolins in the Serengeti. [E]

RED-NECKED FRANCOLIN (Francolinus afer) - One near Gibb's Farm, and about 80 at Tarangire.

HARLEQUIN QUAIL (Coturnix delegorguei) - One in the Serengeti, and 6 at Tarangire.

Podicipedidae (Grebes)

LITTLE GREBE (Tachybaptus ruficollis) - Most common at Nakuru (80+), and a few others elsewhere.

Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)

GREATER FLAMINGO (Phoenicopterus roseus) - About 85 in the Ndutu area of the Serengeti, and 350+ at Nakuru.

LESSER FLAMINGO (Phoenicopterus minor) – Sixty near Ndutu, and 100+ at Nakuru.

Ciconiidae (Storks)

ABDIM'S STORK (Ciconia abdimii) – Fabulous to see several large flocks south of Arusha, at Ngorongoro, and in the Serengeti; in all we saw about 4000.

WOOLLY-NECKED STORK (Ciconia episcopus) – One at a small pool near Eldoret.

WHITE STORK (Ciconia ciconia) – Three hundred at Ngorongoro were the largest flock, but we also saw about another 180 at a variety of scattered grassland areas.

SADDLE-BILLED STORK (Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis) - Singles at Serengeti and Tarangire, and 2 at Nakuru.

MARABOU STORK (Leptoptilos crumenifer) – Fairly common and widespread; we saw a total of about 160.

YELLOW-BILLED STORK (Mycteria ibis) - Eight at Ngorongoro, 1 in the Serengeti, and 10 at Nakuru.

Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)

GREAT CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax carbo) – About 400 at Nakuru, 4 at Ngorongoro, and 6 at Baringo.

LONG-TAILED CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax africanus) - One at Nairobi NP, and about 10 at Nakuru.

Anhingidae (Anhingas)

AFRICAN DARTER (Anhinga rufa rufa) – Two at Nairobi NP.

Pelecanidae (Pelicans)

GREAT WHITE PELICAN (Pelecanus onocrotalus) - Eight at Ngorongoro, 2 at Naivasha, and about 50 at Nakuru.

PINK-BACKED PELICAN (Pelecanus rufescens) – About 60 in flight over Gibb's Farm.

Scopidae (Hamerkop)

HAMERKOP (Scopus umbretta) – Small numbers at Nairobi, Nakuru, and Baringo.

Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

GRAY HERON (Ardea cinerea) – Widespread at wetlands throughout the tour.

BLACK-HEADED HERON (Ardea melanocephala) - Common and widespread throughout the tour.

GOLIATH HERON (Ardea goliath) – One at Tarangire - the world's largest heron!

PURPLE HERON (Ardea purpurea) – Two at Baringo.

GREAT EGRET (Ardea alba) – About 20 at Nakuru, and a few others at scattered wetlands.

INTERMEDIATE EGRET (Mesophoyx intermedia) – Small numbers at a variety of scattered wetlands.

LITTLE EGRET (Egretta garzetta) – Two at Nakuru, and 2 at Baringo.

BLACK HERON (Egretta ardesiaca) – Nice looks at 1 at Naivasha.

CATTLE EGRET (Bubulcus ibis) - Very common and widespread throughout the tour.

SOUACCO HERON (Ardeola ralloides) - Small numbers were widespread in a variety of marshy pools throughout the tour.

STRIATED HERON (Butorides striata) – One at Naivasha.

Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)

GLOSSY IBIS (Plegadis falcinellus) – About 25 at Tarangire, and 2 at Nakuru.

SACRED IBIS (Threskiornis aethiopicus) - Common and widespread; in all we saw about 240.

HADADA IBIS (Bostrychia hagedash) – Widespread in small numbers.

AFRICAN SPOONBILL (Platalea alba) - One at Ngorongoro, and 10 at Nakuru.

Sagittariidae (Secretary-bird)

SECRETARY-BIRD (Sagittarius serpentarius) – Four distantly in Nairobi NP, then 4 much closer in the Seronera area of Serengeti, and finally another 4 near Ndutu.

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE (Elanus caeruleus) – Widespread in open country; in all we saw about 20.

AFRICAN HARRIER-HAWK (Polyboroides typus) - Singles and pairs at Nairobi, Gibb's Farm, and in the Serengeti.

WHITE-HEADED VULTURE (Trigonoceps occipitalis) – Good looks at a pair in the Serengeti.

LAPPET-FACED VULTURE (Torgos tracheliotos) – We saw about 30 of these huge vultures in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area.

HOODED VULTURE (Necrosyrtes monachus) - Pairs at Ngorongoro, in the Serengeti, and near Eldoret.

WHITE-BACKED VULTURE (Gyps africanus) – By far the most numerous vulture; we saw a total of about 250.

RUEPPELL'S GRIFFON (Gyps rueppelli) – Two at Ngorongoro, and about 40 in the Serengeti.

BATELEUR (Terathopius ecaudatus) - Great looks at these beautiful eagles in the Serengeti, and at Tarangire.

BLACK-BREASTED SNAKE-EAGLE (Circaetus pectoralis) - Singles near Karatu and Ngorongoro, and 3 in the Serengeti.

BROWN SNAKE-EAGLE (Circaetus cinereus) – One at Tarangire.

BAT HAWK (Macheiramphus alcinus) – One at Bogoria.

CROWNED HAWK-EAGLE (Stephanoaetus coronatus) – One in flight over Kakamega Forest.

MARTIAL EAGLE (Polemaetus bellicosus) – Great looks at Nairobi NP, the Serengeti, and Tarangire.

LONG-CRESTED EAGLE (Lophaetus occipitalis) – Singles near Ndutu, and at Mt. Kenya.

LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE (Clanga pomarina) – One along the shore at Nakuru.

WAHLBERG'S EAGLE (Hieraaetus wahlbergi) – Two near Gibb's Farm.

BOOTED EAGLE (Hieraaetus pennatus) – Some of the group saw 1 at Nairobi NP.

AYRES'S HAWK-EAGLE (Hieraaetus ayresii) – One in flight near Gibb's Farm.

TAWNY EAGLE (Aquila rapax) - Fairly common in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area, and a few others elsewhere; in all we saw about 30.

STEPPE EAGLE (Aquila nipalensis) – About 10 in the Serengeti.

AFRICAN HAWK-EAGLE (Aquila spilogaster) - One east of Karatu.

DARK CHANTING-GOSHAWK (Melierax metabates) – Two in the Serengeti, and 1 at Tarangire.

EASTERN CHANTING-GOSHAWK (Melierax poliopterus) – One in the Serengeti, and 2 at Tarangire.

EURASIAN MARSH-HARRIER (Circus aeruginosus) – Singles at Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, and at Tarangire.

AFRICAN MARSH-HARRIER (Circus ranivorus) – Two at Ngorongoro, and 1 at Naivasha.

PALLID HARRIER (Circus macrourus) - Single males at Ngorongoro and Tarangire.

MONTAGU'S HARRIER (Circus pygargus) – Fairly common in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area, and a few others elsewhere; in all we saw about 35.

SHIKRA (Accipiter badius) – One, high over the cliffs at Baringo.

BLACK KITE (Milvus migrans) - Common around Nairobi and at Ngorongoro, and then much smaller numbers at a variety of small towns elsewhere.

AFRICAN FISH-EAGLE (Haliaeetus vocifer) – Singles and pairs at Tarangire, Naivasha, Nakuru, and Baringo.

COMMON BUZZARD (STEPPE) (Buteo buteo vulpinus) – Widespread in small numbers; with a total of about 12.

MOUNTAIN BUZZARD (Buteo oreophilus) – Two singles at Mt. Kenya.

AUGUR BUZZARD (Buteo augur) - Common and widespread in the high country; in all we saw about 60.

Otididae (Bustards)

KORI BUSTARD (Ardeotis kori) - Common in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area where we several males doing their fabulous display.

WHITE-BELLIED BUSTARD (Eupodotis senegalensis) - Five in the Serengeti, and 2 at Tarangire.

BLACK-BELLIED BUSTARD (Lissotis melanogaster) - Two, including a male doing a display flight in the Serengeti.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

BLACK CRAKE (Amaurornis flavirostra) - Fairly common (and easy to see) at a variety of scattered wetlands; in all we saw 28.

EURASIAN MOORHEN (Gallinula chloropus) – Small numbers at a variety of pools with vegetation.

RED-KNOBBED COOT (Fulica cristata) – About 30 at Nakuru.

Gruidae (Cranes)

GRAY CROWNED-CRANE (Balearica regulorum) – We saw about 100 of these beautiful birds at Ngorongoro, and another 40 in grasslands elsewhere.

Burhinidae (Thick-knees)

WATER THICK-KNEE (Burhinus vermiculatus) – Eight at Tarangire.

SPOTTED THICK-KNEE (Burhinus capensis) - Three at Nairobi NP, and 2 at Ndutu.

Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)

BLACK-WINGED STILT (Himantopus himantopus) – Fairly common at a variety of alkaline pools; with a total of about 120.

PIED AVOCET (Recurvirostra avosetta) – Twelve at Nakuru.

Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

LONG-TOED LAPWING (Vanellus crassirostris) – One at Nairobi NP, and 3 at Ngorongoro.

BLACKSMITH LAPWING (Vanellus armatus) - Very common and widespread.

SPUR-WINGED LAPWING (Vanellus spinosus) - Two at Nakuru, and 4 at Bogoria.

BLACK-WINGED LAPWING (Vanellus melanopterus) – About 30 at Ngorongoro.

CROWNED LAPWING (Vanellus coronatus) – Fairly common and widespread.

KITTLITZ'S PLOVER (Charadrius pecuarius) – Small numbers at Ngorongoro, in the Serengeti, and at Nakuru.

COMMON RINGED PLOVER (Charadrius hiaticula) - Two near Ndutu, and 4 at Nakuru.

THREE-BANDED PLOVER (Charadrius tricollaris) - Small numbers at Nairobi, the Serengeti, and at Tarangire.

CHESTNUT-BANDED PLOVER (Charadrius pallidus) – We saw 3 of these charming tiny plovers near Ndutu.

Jacanidae (Jacanas)

AFRICAN JACANA (Actophilornis africanus) – About 20 at Limuru Pond, 1 at Ngorongoro, and a dozen at Tarangire.

Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)

COMMON SANDPIPER (Actitis hypoleucos) – Singles at Tarangire and Baringo.

GREEN SANDPIPER (Tringa ochropus) - Small numbers at Nairobi NP, the Serengeti, and at Nakuru.

COMMON GREENSHANK (Tringa nebularia) – Singles at Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, and Nakuru.

MARSH SANDPIPER (Tringa stagnatilis) – About 10 at Nakuru, and a few others at scattered wetlands elsewhere.

WOOD SANDPIPER (Tringa glareola) – Fairly common and widespread; with a total of about 70.

RUFF (Calidris pugnax) – Most common at Nakuru (200+) and a few others at a variety of widespread wetlands.

CURLEW SANDPIPER (Calidris ferruginea) - About 10 at Nakuru.

LITTLE STINT (Calidris minuta) – About 350 at Nakuru, and 80 in the Serengeti.

COMMON SNIPE (Gallinago gallinago) – One in the Serengeti.

Glareolidae (Pratincoles and Coursers)

DOUBLE-BANDED COURSER (Smutsornis africanus) – Five in the Serengeti, and 2 at Tarangire.

THREE-BANDED COURSER (Rhinoptilus cinctus) – Thanks to our local guide Francis, we had great views of 1 on a nest at Baringo.

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

GRAY-HOODED GULL (Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus) – Three at Nakuru.

GULL-BILLED TERN (Gelochelidon nilotica) – A total of about 200 were seen feeding over the Serengeti grasslands.

WHITE-WINGED TERN (Chlidonias leucopterus) – Twenty at Limuru Pond, about 50 at Tarangire, and 150+ at Nakuru.

WHISKERED TERN (Chlidonias hybrida) – About 30 (with several in fine breeding plumage) at Tarangire.

Pteroclidae (Sandgrouse)

CHESTNUT-BELLIED SANDGROUSE (Pterocles exustus) - Nice looks, close to our vehicle in the Serengeti.

YELLOW-THROATED SANDGROUSE (Pterocles gutturalis) – We saw a flocks of about 100 on the Serengeti Plains.

BLACK-FACED SANDGROUSE (Pterocles decoratus) - Two in the Serengeti, and about 30 at Tarangire.

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

ROCK PIGEON (Columba livia) – Small numbers in a variety of towns and villages.

SPECKLED PIGEON (Columba guinea) – Common and widespread.

DELEGORGUE'S PIGEON (Columba delegorguei) – Great looks at about 30 from the roof of Mountain Lodge.

DUSKY TURTLE-DOVE (Streptopelia lugens) - Singles at Ole Sereni, Gibb's Farm, Naivasha, and Mountain Lodge.

MOURNING COLLARED-DOVE (Streptopelia decipiens) – Four in the Serengeti, and then perhaps a couple of hundred in the Baringo-Bogoria area

RED-EYED DOVE (Streptopelia semitorquata) – Widespread in the highlands; with a total of about 60.

RING-NECKED DOVE (Streptopelia capicola) – Very common and widespread.

LAUGHING DOVE (Streptopelia senegalensis) – Very common and widespread.

EMERALD-SPOTTED WOOD-DOVE (Turtur chalcospilos) – One at Tarangire (for some of the group), and then up to 3 for everyone at Baringo.

TAMBOURINE DOVE (Turtur tympanistria) - Nice looks at Gibb's Farm, and then briefly at Kakamega and Mountain Lodge.

NAMAQUA DOVE (Oena capensis) – Small numbers at several scattered sites in dry bush country.

AFRICAN GREEN-PIGEON (Treron calvus) – Two at Gibb's Farm, 1 at Kakamega, and 4 at Mountain Lodge.

Musophagidae (Turacos)

GREAT BLUE TURACO (Corythaeola cristata) – Amazing looks right in the garden of our lodge at Kakamega where they were nesting.

SCHALOW'S TURACO (Tauraco schalowi) – Heard by everyone, and seen by just a couple of the group at Ngorongoro.

BLACK-BILLED TURACO (Tauraco schuettii) - Rare in Kenya, so we were lucky to get good looks at a pair at Kakamega.

WHITE-CRESTED TURACO (Tauraco leucolophus) – Perhaps the most gorgeous turaco? We saw 2 in the Kerio Valley.

HARTLAUB'S TURACO (Tauraco hartlaubi) – About 6 at Mountain Lodge. [E]

ROSS'S TURACO (Musophaga rossae) - Four at Kakamega, where they are generally very uncommon.

BARE-FACED GO-AWAY-BIRD (Corythaixoides personatus) – About 20 in the Serengeti, and 8 at Tarangire. These birds are sometimes split from the Ethiopian nominate race and known as Black-faced Go-away-bird 'C. leopoldi'.

WHITE-BELLIED GO-AWAY-BIRD (Corythaixoides leucogaster) - Three south of Arusha, 6 at Tarangire, and about 20 in the Baringo-Bogoria area.

Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

PIED CUCKOO (Clamator jacobinus) – One near Ndutu.

LEVAILLANT'S CUCKOO (Clamator levaillantii) - One at our lodge on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO (Clamator glandarius) – Two in the Serengeti, and 3 at Tarangire.

RED-CHESTED CUCKOO (Cuculus solitarius) – Two at Gibb's Farm, 1 at Kakamega, and several others heard.

BLACK CUCKOO (Cuculus clamosus) - One at Kakamega.

AFRICAN CUCKOO (Cuculus gularis) – About 5 at Tarangire.

KLAAS'S CUCKOO (Chrysococcyx klaas) - One at Gibb's Farm, and then 1 at Baringo that was being fed by a Red-fronted Warbler.

AFRICAN EMERALD CUCKOO (Chrysococcyx cupreus) - Heard in 2 or 3 areas during the tour, but unfortunately never seen.

DIDERIC CUCKOO (Chrysococcyx caprius) – Four in the Serengeti, and 4 at Tarangire.

BLACK COUCAL (Centropus grillii) - Two of these rather shy coucals showed well in the Serengeti grasslands.

WHITE-BROWED COUCAL (Centropus superciliosus) – Small numbers in the Serengeti and at Tarangire.

Strigidae (Owls)

AFRICAN SCOPS-OWL (Otus senegalensis) – Great day time looks at 1 at Baringo.

NORTHERN WHITE-FACED OWL (Ptilopsis leucotis) - Thanks again to local guide Francis we saw 2 of these cryptic owls at Baringo.

CAPE EAGLE-OWL (NORTHERN) (Bubo capensis mackinderi) – One near Kiawara.

GRAYISH EAGLE-OWL (Bubo cinerascens) - One on a nest at Baringo.

PEARL-SPOTTED OWLET (Glaucidium perlatum) – Singles at Ndutu and Tarangire.

Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)

SLENDER-TAILED NIGHTJAR (Caprimulgus clarus) – We saw a male at a day roost site at Baringo.

SQUARE-TAILED NIGHTJAR (Caprimulgus fossii) – Some of the group saw singles at Tarangire.

Apodidae (Swifts)

MOTTLED SPINETAIL (Telacanthura ussheri) - About 8 flying around the baobabs at Tarangire.

SCARCE SWIFT (Schoutedenapus myoptilus) – About 20 from the roof of Mountain Lodge.

COMMON SWIFT (Apus apus) – About 30 at Ngorongoro.

NYANZA SWIFT (Apus niansae) - Two at Limuru, and 1 at Nakuru.

LITTLE SWIFT (Apus affinis) – Common and widespread.

WHITE-RUMPED SWIFT (Apus caffer) – Small numbers at a variety of scattered sites.

AFRICAN PALM-SWIFT (Cypsiurus parvus) – Two at Tarangire, and near Kakamega.

Coliidae (Mousebirds)

SPECKLED MOUSEBIRD (Colius striatus) – Very common and widespread.

BLUE-NAPED MOUSEBIRD (Urocolius macrourus) – Occurs in drier country than the previous species; we saw 2 south of Arusha, and about 20 at Baringo.

Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)

MALACHITE KINGFISHER (Corythornis cristatus) – Singles at Nairobi NP, Tarangire, and Baringo.

AFRICAN PYGMY-KINGFISHER (Ispidina picta) - One at the edge of Kakamega Forest.

GRAY-HEADED KINGFISHER (Halcyon leucocephala) - Small numbers in open woodland at Serengeti, Tarangire, and Baringo.

WOODLAND KINGFISHER (Halcyon senegalensis) – Two at Ngorongoro, and 1 in the Serengeti.

STRIPED KINGFISHER (Halcyon chelicuti) – One in the Serengeti.

GIANT KINGFISHER (Megaceryle maxima) – Great looks at 1 at Naivasha.

PIED KINGFISHER (Cervle rudis) – Small numbers at Tarangire, Nakuru and Baringo; in all we saw about a dozen.

Meropidae (Bee-eaters)

WHITE-FRONTED BEE-EATER (Merops bullockoides) – Five in the Kerio Valley.

LITTLE BEE-EATER (Merops pusillus) – Fairly common and widespread; with a total of about 30.

CINNAMON-CHESTED BEE-EATER (Merops oreobates) - Common in all areas of highland forest throughout the tour.

WHITE-THROATED BEE-EATER (Merops albicollis) – Three at Kakamega.

BLUE-CHEEKED BEE-EATER (Merops persicus) – About 30 along the shore of the marsh at Tarangire.

EUROPEAN BEE-EATER (Merops apiaster) – Two at Kakamega, and 3 at Baringo.

NORTHERN CARMINE BEE-EATER (Merops nubicus) – One at Baringo.

Coraciidae (Rollers)

EUROPEAN ROLLER (Coracias garrulus) – Fairly common during the Tanzania part of the tour.

LILAC-BREASTED ROLLER (Coracias caudatus) - Common and widespread away from forest; we saw a total of about 120.

RUFOUS-CROWNED ROLLER (Coracias naevius) - One in the Serengeti.

BROAD-BILLED ROLLER (Eurystomus glaucurus) – One at Ngorongoro.

Upupidae (Hoopoes)

EURASIAN HOOPOE (CENTRAL AFRICAN) (Upupa epops waibeli) – One at Nakuru.

EURASIAN HOOPOE (AFRICAN) (Upupa epops africana) - Small numbers in the Serengeti, Tarangire, and at Nakuru.

Phoeniculidae (Woodhoopoes and Scimitar-bills)

GREEN WOODHOOPOE (Phoeniculus purpureus) – Two at Tarangire, and 8 in the Kerio Valley.

ABYSSINIAN SCIMITAR-BILL (Rhinopomastus minor) – Singles at the bottom of the Crater Highlands and Tarangire.

Bucorvidae (Ground-Hornbills)

SOUTHERN GROUND-HORNBILL (Bucorvus leadbeateri) - A single and then a pair at Tarangire.

Bucerotidae (Hornbills)

NORTHERN RED-BILLED HORNBILL (Tockus erythrorhynchus) – About a dozen at Tarangire, and 2 at Baringo.

TANZANIAN RED-BILLED HORNBILL (Tockus ruahae) – One in the Seronera area of the Serengeti. [E]

JACKSON'S HORNBILL (Tockus jacksoni) – Six at Baringo.

VON DER DECKEN'S HORNBILL (Tockus deckeni) – We saw a total of about 30 between Karatu, the Serengeti, and Tarangire.

CROWNED HORNBILL (Tockus alboterminatus) – Four near Mt. Kenya.

HEMPRICH'S HORNBILL (Tockus hemprichii) – Great looks at this localised bird along the cliffs at Baringo.

AFRICAN GRAY HORNBILL (Tockus nasutus) - Small numbers at Serengeti, Tarangire, and in the Kerio Valley.

SILVERY-CHEEKED HORNBILL (Ceratogymna brevis) – Ten near Lake Manyara, and then at least 40 at Mountain Lodge.

BLACK-AND-WHITE-CASQUED HORNBILL (Ceratogymna subcylindrica) – About 40 at Kakamega.

Lybiidae (African Barbets)

YELLOW-BILLED BARBET (Trachyphonus purpuratus) – Difficult this tour, but eventually we all had great looks at 2 at Kakamega.

RED-AND-YELLOW BARBET (Trachyphonus erythrocephalus) - We saw these striking barbets at Olduvai Gorge and Tarangire.

D'ARNAUD'S BARBET (Trachyphonus darnaudii) - One at Tarangire, and about a dozen in the Kerio Valley and Baringo area.

D'ARNAUD'S BARBET (USAMBIRO) (Trachyphonus darnaudii usambiro) – Sixteen in the Serengeti. This 'form' is often split from the previous 'form'.

GRAY-THROATED BARBET (Gymnobucco bonapartei) – About 50 at Kakamega.

MOUSTACHED TINKERBIRD (Pogoniulus leucomystax) – Nice looks at 1 in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

YELLOW-RUMPED TINKERBIRD (Pogoniulus bilineatus) – Four at Kakamega, and 2 at Mountain Lodge.

RED-FRONTED TINKERBIRD (Pogoniulus pusillus) – Two near Karatu, 1 at Nakuru, and 2 at Baringo.

YELLOW-SPOTTED BARBET (Buccanodon duchaillui) - Two in the high canopy at Kakamega.

RED-FRONTED BARBET (Tricholaema diademata) – Four singles in the Serengeti, and 1 at Nakuru.

SPOT-FLANKED BARBET (Tricholaema lacrymosa) - One at Nairobi, and 1 in the Kerio Valley.

BLACK-THROATED BARBET (Tricholaema melanocephala) – One at Baringo.

WHITE-HEADED BARBET (Lybius leucocephalus) – One at Nakuru.

DOUBLE-TOOTHED BARBET (Lybius bidentatus) – We saw 2 of the striking barbets in the Kerio Valley.

Indicatoridae (Honeyguides)

GREEN-BACKED HONEYGUIDE (Prodotiscus zambesiae) – Also known as Eastern Honeybird, we saw 1 in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

LEAST HONEYGUIDE (Indicator exilis) - One at Kakamega.

THICK-BILLED HONEYGUIDE (Indicator conirostris) – One at Kakamega.

Picidae (Woodpeckers)

NUBIAN WOODPECKER (Campethera nubica) – One in the Serengeti, 4 at Tarangire, and 4 at Baringo.

CARDINAL WOODPECKER (Dendropicos fuscescens) – Two at Kakamega.

BEARDED WOODPECKER (Dendropicos namaquus) – One in the Serengeti.

GOLDEN-CROWNED WOODPECKER (Dendropicos xantholophus) - Good looks at 1 at Kakamega.

MOUNTAIN GRAY WOODPECKER (Dendropicos spodocephalus rhodeogaster) – One in the Serengeti, and 4 at Tarangire.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

PYGMY FALCON (Polihierax semitorquatus) - Nice looks at Serengeti, Tarangire, and Baringo.

LESSER KESTREL (Falco naumanni) – Two single males in the Serengeti.

EURASIAN KESTREL (Falco tinnunculus) - Common at Ngorongoro and in the Serengeti; with a total of about 70.

GREATER KESTREL (Falco rupicoloides) – Good looks at 1 by the road side in Serengeti.

EURASIAN HOBBY (Falco subbuteo) – Two singles at Tarangire.

LANNER FALCON (Falco biarmicus) - Singles near Arusha and Baringo, and an adult and immature together at Ngorongoro.

Psittaculidae (Old World Parrots)

FISCHER'S LOVEBIRD (Agapornis fischeri) – We saw over 100 (especially in the Ndutu area) at Serengeti. [E]

YELLOW-COLLARED LOVEBIRD (Agapornis personatus) – Four to south of Arusha, and about 250 at Tarangire. [E]

Psittacidae (New World and African Parrots)

RED-FRONTED PARROT (Poicephalus gulielmi) – About 60 at Mountain Lodge.

MEYER'S PARROT (Poicephalus meyeri) - One at Tarangire.

RED-BELLIED PARROT (Poicephalus rufiventris) – More commonly known as African Orange-bellied Parrot, we saw about a dozen at Tarangire.

Calyptomenidae (African and Green Broadbills)

AFRICAN BROADBILL (Smithornis capensis) - Fantastic looks at a close displaying bird at Kakamega.

Platysteiridae (Wattle-eyes and Batises)

BROWN-THROATED WATTLE-EYE (Platysteira cyanea) – About 6 at Kakamega.

CHINSPOT BATIS (Batis molitor) - Pairs at Limuru, Gibb's Farm, Nakuru, and Mt. Kenya.

BLACK-HEADED BATIS (Batis minor) – We saw a pair of this localised batis in the Kerio Valley.

PYGMY BATIS (Batis perkeo) – Two pairs in the dry thorn bush at Baringo.

Malaconotidae (Bushshrikes and Allies)

BRUBRU (Nilaus afer) - Singles at Naabi Hill, Ndutu, and Baringo.

BLACK-BACKED PUFFBACK (Dryoscopus cubla) – Three in the Gibb's Farm area.

BROWN-CROWNED TCHAGRA (Tchagra australis) – Singles at the Serengeti, Tarangire, and in the Kerio Valley.

LUEHDER'S BUSHSHRIKE (Laniarius luehderi) – Three in the tangled vines at Kakamega.

TROPICAL BOUBOU (Laniarius major) - Fairly common and widespread; with a total of about 30.

BLACK-HEADED GONOLEK (Laniarius erythrogaster) – We saw at least 2 of these striking bushshrikes in the Kerio Valley.

SLATE-COLORED BOUBOU (Laniarius funebris) – Small numbers at Serengeti, Tarangire, and Baringo.

SULPHUR-BREASTED BUSHSHRIKE (Telophorus sulfureopectus) – Great looks at a gorgeous adult in the Kerio Valley.

BLACK-FRONTED BUSHSHRIKE (Telophorus nigrifrons) – Heard (and glimpsed by some) in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

Laniidae (Shrikes)

GRAY-BACKED FISCAL (Lanius excubitorius) - About 60 in the Serengeti, and then 3 Nakuru, and 4 at Bogoria.

LONG-TAILED FISCAL (Lanius cabanisi) - Six in Nairobi NP, and about 20 at Tarangire.

TAITA FISCAL (Lanius dorsalis) – Two near Olduvai Gorge.

MACKINNON'S SHRIKE (Lanius mackinnoni) - About 6 at Kakamega.

NORTHERN FISCAL (Lanius humeralis) – Common and widespread.

MAGPIE SHRIKE (Corvinella melanoleuca) – Sixty in the Serengeti, and 40 at Tarangire.

WHITE-RUMPED SHRIKE (Eurocephalus rueppelli) - Common in the Serengeti, Tarangire, and Baringo; in all we saw about 120.

Oriolidae (Old World Orioles)

WESTERN BLACK-HEADED ORIOLE (Oriolus brachyrhynchus) – Two singles at Kakamega.

AFRICAN BLACK-HEADED ORIOLE (Oriolus larvatus) – Nice looks at 1 in the Kerio Valley.

BLACK-TAILED ORIOLE (Oriolus percivali) – Two at Mountain Lodge.

Dicruridae (Drongos)

SQUARE-TAILED DRONGO (Dicrurus ludwigii) - About 10 in the forest interior at Kakamega.

FORK-TAILED DRONGO (Dicrurus adsimilis) - Common away from the Kakamega Forest.

Monarchidae (Monarch Flycatchers)

AFRICAN PARADISE-FLYCATCHER (Terpsiphone viridis) – Widespread in small numbers.

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

CAPE CROW (Corvus capensis) – Fairly common and widespread; with a total of about 60.

PIED CROW (Corvus albus) - Common and widespread.

FAN-TAILED RAVEN (Corvus rhipidurus) – About 8 along the escarpment at Iten, and 4 at Baringo.

WHITE-NECKED RAVEN (Corvus albicollis) - Six at our lodge on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater, and 1 at Iten.

Alaudidae (Larks

RUFOUS-NAPED LARK (Mirafra africana) - Common at Ngorongoro and in the Serengeti; with a total of about 80.

FLAPPET LARK (Mirafra rufocinnamomea) – One in the Serengeti.

FOXY LARK (Calendulauda alopex intercedens) – One at Tarangire.

FISCHER'S SPARROW-LARK (Eremopterix leucopareia) - Common in the Serengeti, where we saw a total of about 300.

RED-CAPPED LARK (Calandrella cinerea) - Thirty at Ngorongoro, and about a dozen in the Serengeti.

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

PLAIN MARTIN (Riparia paludicola) – Twenty at Nairobi NP.

BANDED MARTIN (Riparia cincta) - One at Nairobi NP, and 6 at Ngorongoro.

ROCK MARTIN (Ptyonoprogne fuligula) – Widespread around buildings and cliffs.

BARN SWALLOW (Hirundo rustica) – Very common and widespread.

WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW (Hirundo smithii) - Pairs at Ngorongoro, and Nakuru.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW (Cecropis daurica) - Common and widespread.

LESSER STRIPED-SWALLOW (Cecropis abyssinica) – Widespread in small numbers.

MOSQUE SWALLOW (Cecropis senegalensis) - Pairs at Nakuru, and Mountain Lodge.

COMMON HOUSE-MARTIN (Delichon urbicum) - One at Olduvai Gorge, and 2 at Kakamega.

WHITE-HEADED SAWWING (Psalidoprocne albiceps) – About 30 at Kakamega.

BLACK SAWWING (Psalidoprocne pristoptera) - Small numbers in the highlands of both Kenya and Tanzania.

GRAY-RUMPED SWALLOW (Pseudhirundo griseopyga) - Two of our group saw 2 in flight near Eldoret.

Stenostiridae (Fairy Flycatchers)

AFRICAN BLUE-FLYCATCHER (Elminia longicauda) - We saw 4 of these attractive 'Fairy Flycatchers' at Kakamega.

Paridae (Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice)

WHITE-BELLIED TIT (Melaniparus albiventris) - Four at Nakuru, and 3 at Thomson's Falls.

DUSKY TIT (Melaniparus funereus) – Five at Kakamega.

RED-THROATED TIT (Melaniparus fringillinus) – Five at the bottom of the Crater Highlands, and 4 at Naabi Hill. [E]

SOMALI TIT (Melaniparus thruppi) – Two along the cliffs at Baringo.

Remizidae (Penduline-Tits)

MOUSE-COLORED PENDULINE-TIT (Anthoscopus musculus) – Nice looks at 4 at Baringo.

AFRICAN PENDULINE-TIT (BUFF-BELLIED) (Anthoscopus caroli sylviella) – Two at the bottom of the Crater Highlands.

Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)

SLENDER-BILLED GREENBUL (Stelgidillas gracilirostris) - Three in the canopy at Mountain Lodge.

RED-TAILED BRISTLEBILL (Bleda syndactylus) – Great looks at this forest undergrowth skulker at Kakamega.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN-GREENBUL (OLIVE-BREASTED) (Arizelocichla nigriceps kikuyuensis) – One at Mountain Lodge; often split from the following 'form'.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN-GREENBUL (MOUNTAIN) (Arizelocichla nigriceps nigriceps) – Singles at Gibb's Farm and Ngorongoro; often split from the previous 'form'.

JOYFUL GREENBUL (Chlorocichla laetissima) – About a dozen at Kakamega.

HONEYGUIDE GREENBUL (Baeopogon indicator) – Heard at Kakamega.

YELLOW-THROATED GREENBUL (Atimastillas flavicollis) - One in the garden at Rondo Retreat.

ANSORGE'S GREENBUL (Eurillas ansorgei) – Two at Kakamega.

PLAIN GREENBUL (Eurillas curvirostris) – Four in the middle-levels at Kakamega.

YELLOW-WHISKERED GREENBUL (Eurillas latirostris) – Very common at Kakamega; with a total of about 50.

NORTHERN BROWNBUL (Phyllastrephus strepitans) – Three in the Kerio Valley.

GRAY-OLIVE GREENBUL (Phyllastrephus cerviniventris) – Three in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

CABANIS'S GREENBUL (Phyllastrephus cabanisi) - One at Gibb's Farm, and 3 at Kakamega.

COMMON BULBUL (DARK-CAPPED) (Pycnonotus barbatus tricolor) - Very common and widespread.

Macrosphenidae (African Warblers)

RED-FACED CROMBEC (Sylvietta whytii) - Singles at Olduvai Gorge, Serengeti, Nakuru, and Baringo.

GREEN HYLIA (Hylia prasina) - One at Kakamega.

Phylloscopidae (Leaf-Warblers)

UGANDA WOOD-WARBLER (Phylloscopus budongoensis) – Three at Kakamega.

BROWN WOODLAND-WARBLER (Phylloscopus umbrovirens) – Two in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

WILLOW WARBLER (Phylloscopus trochilus) – Widespread in small numbers; with a total of about 20.

Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)

EASTERN OLIVACEOUS WARBLER (Iduna pallida) – Two in the Kerio Valley.

MOUNTAIN YELLOW-WARBLER (Iduna similis) - Two at Mountain Lodge.

OLIVE-TREE WARBLER (Hippolais olivetorum) – One along the cliffs at Baringo.

AFRICAN REED-WARBLER (Acrocephalus baeticatus) – One in a marsh near Eldoret.

LESSER SWAMP-WARBLER (Acrocephalus gracilirostris) – One at Naivasha, and 2 near Eldoret.

Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)

BLACK-COLLARED APALIS (Apalis pulchra) - Tough this year, but we eventually all saw at least 1 (of 4) at Kakamega.

YELLOW-BREASTED APALIS (Apalis flavida) – Pairs at Limuru, Tarangire, and Nakuru.

YELLOW-BREASTED APALIS (BROWN-TAILED) (Apalis flavida viridiceps) – Two at Baringo.

BUFF-THROATED APALIS (Apalis rufogularis) - We saw a single male and then a female at Kakamega.

CHESTNUT-THROATED APALIS (Apalis porphyrolaema) – One at Mountain Lodge.

GRAY APALIS (Apalis cinerea) – Four at Mountain Lodge.

BROWN-HEADED APALIS (Apalis alticola) – Two in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

GREEN-BACKED CAMAROPTERA (GRAY-BACKED) (Camaroptera brachyura brevicaudata) - Common and widespread.

OLIVE-GREEN CAMAROPTERA (Camaroptera chloronota) – Several heard and 1 seen at Kakamega.

RED-FRONTED WARBLER (Urorhipis rufifrons) – About 8 at Baringo.

GRAY WREN-WARBLER (Calamonastes simplex) – Two at Baringo.

WHITE-CHINNED PRINIA (Schistolais leucopogon) - About a dozen along the forest edge at Kakamega.

RED-FACED CISTICOLA (Cisticola erythrops) – Four at Gibb's Farm, and 1 at Ngorongoro.

CHUBB'S CISTICOLA (Cisticola chubbi) – One at Kakamega.

HUNTER'S CISTICOLA (Cisticola hunteri) – Two at Limuru, and 6 at Mountain Lodge. [E]

RATTLING CISTICOLA (Cisticola chiniana) - Common and widespread in acacia country.

WINDING CISTICOLA (Cisticola galactotes) – Two in Nairobi NP.

LEVAILLANT'S CISTICOLA (Cisticola tinniens) – One in a marsh near Eldoret.

STOUT CISTICOLA (Cisticola robustus) - Four in the grasslands of Nairobi NP.

CROAKING CISTICOLA (Cisticola natalensis) - Heard at Tarangire.

PECTORAL-PATCH CISTICOLA (Cisticola brunnescens) - Fairly common in the grasslands at Ngorongoro and the Serengeti.

GRAY-CAPPED WARBLER (Eminia lepida) - Singles at Limuru, Gibb's Farm, and Mt. Kenya.

BLACK-FACED RUFOUS-WARBLER (Bathmocercus rufus) - Nice looks at this skulker in the undergrowth at Kakamega.

BUFF-BELLIED WARBLER (Phyllolais pulchella) – Small numbers in the Serengeti and at Nakuru; we saw a total of about 10.

TAWNY-FLANKED PRINIA (Prinia subflava) – Two near Gibb's Farm, about 6 at Tarangire, and 2 near Kakamega.

PALE PRINIA (Prinia somalica) - One at Baringo.

BANDED PRINIA (BLACK-FACED) (Prinia bairdii melanops) – One seen and several heard at Kakamega.

YELLOW-BELLIED EREMOMELA (Eremomela icteropygialis) - Singles at Naabi Hill, and Baringo.

Sylviidae (Sylviid Warblers)

BLACKCAP (Sylvia atricapilla) – Widespread in small numbers; with a total of about 20.

BROWN WARBLER (Sylvia lugens) – Two at Gibb's Farm.

GREATER WHITETHROAT (Sylvia communis) – Three on the way to Karatu.

Zosteropidae (White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies)

AFRICAN YELLOW WHITE-EYE (Zosterops senegalensis) – About 20 at Kakamega.

BROAD-RINGED WHITE-EYE (Zosterops poliogastrus) – Six along the rim at Ngorongoro, and about 10 at Mountain Lodge.

WHITE-BREASTED WHITE-EYE (Zosterops abyssinicus) - More commonly known as Abyssinian White-eye, we saw 2 in the Serengeti.

Pellorneidae (Ground Babblers and Allies)

MOUNTAIN ILLADOPSIS (Illadopsis pyrrhoptera) – Nice looks at 3 of these skulkers at Kakamega.

Leiothrichidae (Laughingthrushes and Allies)

RUFOUS CHATTERER (Turdoides rubiginosa) – Three at Baringo.

BLACK-LORED BABBLER (Turdoides sharpei) – Three and then 8 in the Serengeti.

NORTHERN PIED-BABBLER (Turdoides hypoleuca) – Six in the Nairobi NP area, and then 5 at Tarangire. [E]

BROWN BABBLER (Turdoides plebejus) – Seven at Baringo.

ARROW-MARKED BABBLER (Turdoides jardineii) - Small noisy flocks at Gibb's Farm, Tarangire, and Nakuru.

Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)

SILVERBIRD (Empidornis semipartitus) – About 10 in the Serengeti.

PALE FLYCATCHER (Bradornis pallidus) – One in the Kerio Valley.

GRAYISH FLYCATCHER (Bradornis microrhynchus) – Fairly common in dry acacia country; in all we saw about 40.

WHITE-EYED SLATY-FLYCATCHER (Melaenornis fischeri) - Common in the highlands.

NORTHERN BLACK-FLYCATCHER (Melaenornis edolioides) – Two in the Kerio Valley.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER (Muscicapa striata) – Singles at Tarangire and Nakuru.

GAMBAGA FLYCATCHER (Muscicapa gambagae) – We saw this rare and little known flycatcher in the Kerio Valley.

DUSKY-BROWN FLYCATCHER (Muscicapa adusta) – More commonly known as African Dusky Flycatcher, we saw 7 in the Gibb's Farm to Ngorongoro area, and 2 at Mt. Kenya.

ASHY FLYCATCHER (Muscicapa caerulescens) - One at Kakamega.

GRAY TIT-FLYCATCHER (Myioparus plumbeus) – Two in the Kerio Valley.

RED-BACKED SCRUB-ROBIN (Cercotrichas leucophrys) – Small numbers in a variety of acacia woodlands; we saw about 14 in all.

CAPE ROBIN-CHAT (Cossypha caffra) – Four in the Nairobi area, and 6 at Ngorongoro.

RUEPPELL'S ROBIN-CHAT (Cossypha semirufa) – One at Mountain Lodge.

WHITE-BROWED ROBIN-CHAT (Cossypha heuglini) – Small numbers in the highlands of both Kenya and Tanzania; we saw a total of about a dozen.

SNOWY-CROWNED ROBIN-CHAT (Cossypha niveicapilla) – Nice looks in the garden at Rondo Retreat.

SPOTTED MORNING-THRUSH (Cichladusa guttata) - Small numbers at Serengeti, Tarangire, and at Baringo.

BROWN-CHESTED ALETHE (Pseudalethe poliocephala) – Three along the quiet trails at Kakamega.

WHITE-THROATED ROBIN (Irania gutturalis) – One at the bottom of the Crater Highlands.

LITTLE ROCK-THRUSH (Monticola rufocinereus) – Two at Nakuru.

RUFOUS-TAILED ROCK-THRUSH (Monticola saxatilis) - Singles at Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, and at Baringo.

WHINCHAT (Saxicola rubetra) – One in Nairobi NP.

AFRICAN STONECHAT (Saxicola torquatus) - Four at Limuru, 6 at Ngorongoro, and 2 near Eldoret.

NORTHERN ANTEATER-CHAT (Myrmecocichla aethiops) – Most common at Nakuru (30), and a few others elsewhere.

MOCKING CLIFF-CHAT (Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris) – Two males and a female at Nakuru.

BROWN-TAILED CHAT (Cercomela scotocerca) – We saw four of the localised chats at Baringo.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR (Oenanthe oenanthe) – We saw about a dozen in a variety of widespread areas.

ABYSSINIAN WHEATEAR (Oenanthe lugubris schalowi) - One at Ngorongoro.

PIED WHEATEAR (Oenanthe pleschanka) – We saw a single male at Ngorongoro.

CAPPED WHEATEAR (Oenanthe pileata) – About 20 in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area.

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR (Oenanthe isabellina) – Two at Ngorongoro.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

WHITE-TAILED ANT-THRUSH (Neocossyphus poensis) – One at Kakamega.

ABYSSINIAN THRUSH (Turdus abyssinicus) – Small numbers were widespread in the highlands of both Kenya and Tanzania.

AFRICAN THRUSH (Turdus pelios) - Six at Kakamega.

Sturnidae (Starlings)

WATTLED STARLING (Creatophora cinerea) - About 40 near Karatu, and then 300 in the Serengeti area, and 60 at Tarangire.

GREATER BLUE-EARED GLOSSY-STARLING (Lamprotornis chalybaeus) - Four at Nairobi, 20 at Nakuru, and 6 near Eldoret.

RUEPPELL'S GLOSSY-STARLING (Lamprotornis purpuroptera) – Twenty in the Serengeti, 10 at Nakuru, and 40 in the Baringo-Bogoria area.

SUPERB STARLING (Lamprotornis superbus) - Very common and widespread; with a total of about 500.

HILDEBRANDT'S STARLING (Lamprotornis hildebrandti) - Two at Ngorongoro, and about 40 in the Serengeti. [E]

ASHY STARLING (Spreo unicolor) – About 40 at Tarangire. [E]

RED-WINGED STARLING (Onychognathus morio) – Fairly widespread in small numbers; in all we saw about 40.

WALLER'S STARLING (Onychognathus walleri) – Two from the roof of Mountain Lodge.

BRISTLE-CROWNED STARLING (Onychognathus salvadorii) – About 10 along the cliffs at Baringo.

STUHLMANN'S STARLING (Poeoptera stuhlmanni) – We saw a single male at Kakamega.

Buphagidae (Oxpeckers)

RED-BILLED OXPECKER (Buphagus erythrorhynchus) - Common in most areas with big game; we saw a total of about 150.

YELLOW-BILLED OXPECKER (Buphagus africanus) – Not so common as the previous species, and preferring to feed on buffalo and giraffe; we saw a total of about 75.

Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)

KENYA VIOLET-BACKED SUNBIRD (Anthreptes orientalis) – About 10 at Baringo.

GREEN SUNBIRD (Anthreptes rectirostris) – Four at Kakamega.

COLLARED SUNBIRD (Hedydipna collaris) - Two at Gibb's Farm, and 4 at Kakamega.

GREEN-HEADED SUNBIRD (Cyanomitra verticalis) - One at Limuru, and 4 at Kakamega.

EASTERN OLIVE SUNBIRD (Cyanomitra olivacea) – One near Limuru.

WESTERN OLIVE SUNBIRD (Cyanomitra obscura) – Three at Kakamega.

GREEN-THROATED SUNBIRD (Chalcomitra rubescens) – One at Kakamega.

AMETHYST SUNBIRD (Chalcomitra amethystina) - Singles at Nairobi, Nakuru, and near Mt. Kenya.

SCARLET-CHESTED SUNBIRD (Chalcomitra senegalensis) – We saw these striking sunbirds at Nairobi, in the Serengeti, and at Nakuru.

TACAZZE SUNBIRD (Nectarinia tacazze) – Some of the group saw a single female on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

BRONZE SUNBIRD (Nectarinia kilimensis) – Common and widespread in the highlands.

GOLDEN-WINGED SUNBIRD (Drepanorhynchus reichenowi) - Briefly at Ngorongoro, and then very nicely at Mountain Lodge.

NORTHERN DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD (Cinnyris reichenowi) - Three at Kakamega.

EASTERN DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD (Cinnyris mediocris) – Three near Limuru, about 20 at Ngorongoro, and a dozen at Mountain Lodge.

BEAUTIFUL SUNBIRD (Cinnyris pulchellus) - We saw these absolutely gorgeous sunbirds at Olduvai and Baringo.

MARIQUA SUNBIRD (Cinnyris mariquensis) – Two single males in the Serengeti.

SHINING SUNBIRD (Cinnyris habessinicus) – Another gorgeous sunbird we saw at Baringo.

VARIABLE SUNBIRD (Cinnyris venustus) – Widespread in small numbers; with a total of about 20.

Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)

WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL (Motacilla flava) - We saw a total of about 60 in a variety of widespread damp grasslands.

CAPE WAGTAIL (Motacilla capensis) – Two at Mountain Lodge.

MOUNTAIN WAGTAIL (Motacilla clara) – Two along a stream at Kakamega.

AFRICAN PIED WAGTAIL (Motacilla aguimp) - Very common and widespread; with a total of about 50.

AFRICAN PIPIT (Anthus cinnamomeus) - Small numbers in the Serengeti and Nakuru grasslands.

PLAIN-BACKED PIPIT (Anthus leucophrys) – One at Limuru.

TREE PIPIT (Anthus trivialis) – One at Kakamega.

YELLOW-THROATED LONGCLAW (Macronyx croceus) - Two in Nairobi NP.

Emberizidae (Buntings and New World Sparrows)

CINNAMON-BREASTED BUNTING (Emberiza tahapisi) - Three in the Kerio Valley.

Fringillidae (Finches, Euphonias, and Allies)

YELLOW-CROWNED CANARY (Serinus flavivertex) – Two at Mountain Lodge.

AFRICAN CITRIL (Serinus citrinelloides kikuyensis) – One near Limuru.

SOUTHERN CITRIL (Serinus hypostictus) – Four at Ngorongoro, and 6 at Kakamega.

REICHENOW'S SEEDEATER (Serinus reichenowi) - Two at Nairobi, 2 at Tarangire, and 4 near Bogoria.

WHITE-BELLIED CANARY (Serinus dorsostriatus) – About 30 in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area.

SOUTHERN GROSBEAK-CANARY (Serinus buchanani) - Good looks at 2 of these rather uncommon canaries at Olduvai Gorge.

BRIMSTONE CANARY (Serinus sulphuratus) – One at Nairobi, and 2 at Nakuru.

STREAKY SEEDEATER (Serinus striolatus) – We saw a total of about 40 at widespread sites in the highlands.

THICK-BILLED SEEDEATER (Serinus burtoni) – One at Gibb's Farm, and 2 at Ngorongoro.

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)

HOUSE SPARROW (Passer domesticus) – Small numbers in the early part of the tour.

KENYA RUFOUS SPARROW (Passer rufocinctus) - Widespread in acacia country throughout the tour; in total we saw about 100.

NORTHERN GRAY-HEADED SPARROW (Passer griseus) - Twenty in the Karatu area, and another 20 at Nakuru and near Mt. Kenya.

PARROT-BILLED SPARROW (Passer gongonensis) – Two at Baringo.

SWAHILI SPARROW (Passer suahelicus) – Common in the Serengeti.

CHESTNUT SPARROW (Passer eminibey) – About 30 south of Arusha, and 1 at Tarangire.

YELLOW-SPOTTED PETRONIA (Petronia pyrgita) – Four along the cliffs at Baringo.

Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)

WHITE-BILLED BUFFALO-WEAVER (Bubalornis albirostris) - One on the bird feeder at Baringo.

RED-BILLED BUFFALO-WEAVER (Bubalornis niger) - Common from near Arusha to the Serengeti and Tarangire.

WHITE-HEADED BUFFALO-WEAVER (Dinemellia dinemelli) – We saw about 80 from the Serengeti to Tarangire, and then 10 at Baringo.

SPECKLE-FRONTED WEAVER (Sporopipes frontalis) – About 20 in the Serengeti.

WHITE-BROWED SPARROW-WEAVER (Plocepasser mahali) - Twenty at Nairobi, and 60+ in the Baringo-Bogoria area.

CHESTNUT-CROWNED SPARROW-WEAVER (Plocepasser superciliosus) – Nice looks at this localised species in the Kerio Valley.

RUFOUS-TAILED WEAVER (Histurgops ruficauda) – This Tanzanian endemic was common from south of Arusha to the Serengeti and at Tarangire; in all we saw about 180. [E]

GRAY-HEADED SOCIAL-WEAVER (Pseudonigrita arnaudi) - Ten in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area.

RED-HEADED WEAVER (Anaplectes rubriceps) – We saw a single male at Naivasha.

BAGLAFECHT WEAVER (Ploceus baglafecht) - Common and widespread.

LITTLE WEAVER (Ploceus luteolus) - One at Baringo.

SPECTACLED WEAVER (Ploceus ocularis) – Two near Gibb's Farm.

 $\label{eq:AFRICAN GOLDEN-WEAVER} AFRICAN\ GOLDEN-WEAVER\ (Ploceus\ subaureus) - One\ in\ the\ Serengeti.$

HOLUB'S GOLDEN-WEAVER (Ploceus xanthops) – Two at Gibb's Farm.

NORTHERN MASKED-WEAVER (Ploceus taeniopterus) – We saw about 6 of these extremely localised weavers at Baringo.

LESSER MASKED-WEAVER (Ploceus intermedius) – Twenty in the Serengeti, and 1 in the Kerio Valley.

VITELLINE MASKED-WEAVER (Ploceus vitellinus) – Widespread in small numbers, including several making their tightly woven onion-shaped nests.

SPEKE'S WEAVER (Ploceus spekei) – Fairly common at Nairobi, in the Serengeti, and at Nakuru.

VIEILLOT'S WEAVER (Ploceus nigerrimus) - About 50 pairs were breeding in the grounds of Rondo Retreat.

VILLAGE WEAVER (Ploceus cucullatus) – Twelve in the Serengeti, and about 50 at Baringo.

GOLDEN-BACKED WEAVER (Ploceus jacksoni) – One at Tarangire, and 40 at Baringo.

CHESTNUT WEAVER (Ploceus rubiginosus) – We saw about 50 (with many in breeding plumage) south of Arusha, and then another 8 at Tarangire.

FOREST WEAVER (Ploceus bicolor) – Six at Kakamega.

BROWN-CAPPED WEAVER (Ploceus insignis) – We saw 2 pairs of these attractive weavers at Kakamega.

RED-BILLED QUELEA (Quelea quelea) – At least 5000 were at Tarangire, and a few others elsewhere.

BLACK BISHOP (Euplectes gierowii friederichseni) – We saw about 10 between Olduvai Gorge and Ngorongoro - and despite the very dry conditions many males were in breeding plumage.

YELLOW BISHOP (Euplectes capensis) – One at Nairobi, and 3 at Ngorongoro.

WHITE-WINGED WIDOWBIRD (Euplectes albonotatus) – Four in the Serengeti.

RED-COLLARED WIDOWBIRD (Euplectes ardens) – Several males along the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

FAN-TAILED WIDOWBIRD (Euplectes axillaris) - About 20 at the lake within Ngorongoro Crater.

Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)

GRAY-HEADED NIGRITA (Nigrita canicapillus) – Four at Kakamega.

ABYSSINIAN CRIMSON-WING (Cryptospiza salvadorii) - Nice looks at both Gibb's Farm, and then at Ngorongoro.

CRIMSON-RUMPED WAXBILL (Estrilda rhodopyga) – Singles at Limuru, Olduvai, and Baringo.

COMMON WAXBILL (Estrilda astrild) – About a dozen in Nairobi NP.

BLACK-CROWNED WAXBILL (Estrilda nonnula) – One at Kakamega.

BLACK-CHEEKED WAXBILL (Estrilda charmosyna) – One at Olduvai Gorge, and about 10 in the Serengeti. More commonly known as Blackfaced Waxbill.

RED-HEADED BLUEBILL (Spermophaga ruficapilla) – Nice looks at 1 at Kakamega.

RED-CHEEKED CORDONBLEU (Uraeginthus bengalus) – Widespread in small numbers in acacia country.

BLUE-CAPPED CORDONBLEU (Uraeginthus cyanocephalus) – We saw about 25 of these beautiful waxbills at scattered sites in Tanzania.

PURPLE GRENADIER (Granatina ianthinogaster) – Other fabulous waxbill; we saw a total of 10 at widespread scattered sites.

GREEN-WINGED PYTILIA (Pytilia melba) - One near Karatu, 2 at Tarangire, and 2 at Baringo.

RED-BILLED FIREFINCH (Lagonosticta senegala) – Widespread in small numbers.

AFRICAN QUAILFINCH (Ortygospiza fuscocrissa) – Great looks at a male drinking from a small pool near Eldoret.

BRONZE MANNIKIN (Spermestes cucullata) – About 15 at Kakamega.

<u>Viduidae (Indigobirds)</u>

PIN-TAILED WHYDAH (Vidua macroura) – We saw a single male in the Ndutu area of Serengeti.

STRAW-TAILED WHYDAH (Vidua fischeri) - We saw males (in full breeding plumage) at the bottom of the Crater Highlands and near Ndutu.

VILLAGE INDIGOBIRD (Vidua chalybeata) - A single male was at the Ole Sereni bird feeding table, Nairobi.

MAMMALS

BROWN GREATER GALAGO (Otolemur crassicaudatus) - Two came to the feeder at Gibb's Farm.

BLUE MONKEY (Cercopithecus mitis) – About 80 at Kakamega.

SYKES MONKEY (Cercopithecus albogularis) - One at Nairobi, and about a dozen at Mountain Lodge.

BLACK-CHEEKED WHITE-NOSED MONKEY (Cercopithecus ascanius) – We saw about 20 of these attractive monkeys at Kakamega.

BLACK-FACED VERVET MONKEY (Cercopithecus aethiops) - Common and widespread; in all we saw about 300.

OLIVE BABOON (Papio anubis) - Common and widespread; with a total of about 450.

MANTLED GUEREZA (Colobus guereza) - Eighty at Kakamega, and 10 at Mountain Lodge.

CAPE HARE (Lepus capensis) – One in the Serengeti.

UNSTRIPED GROUND SQUIRREL (Xerus rutilus) – Two at Tarangire.

FOREST GIANT SQUIRREL (Protoxerus stangeri) – Two at Kakamega.

OCHRE BUSH SQUIRREL (Paraxerus ochraceus) – We saw 10 at Tarangire, 1 in the Kerio Valley, and about a dozen at Mountain Lodge.

RED-LEGGED SUN SQUIRREL (Heliosciurus rufobrachium) - One at Kakamega.

BLACK-BACKED JACKAL (Canis mesomelas) - Small numbers at Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, Tarangire and Nakuru; in all we saw about 10.

COMMON JACKAL (Canis aureus) – Six at Ngorongoro, and 4 in the Serengeti.

COMMON (SMALL-SPOTTED) GENET (Genetta genetta) – Four (in the dining room) at Ndutu Lodge.

LARGE-SPOTTED GENET (Genetta tigrina) – Two on the feeder at Mountain Lodge.

EGYPTIAN MONGOOSE (Herpestes ichneumon) – One in the Serengeti.

SLENDER MONGOOSE (Herpestes sanguineus) - Singles at Nairobi NP, Gibb's Farm, the Serengeti, and Tarangire.

BANDED MONGOOSE (Mungos mungo) - We saw about 30 in the Serengeti, and 20 at Tarangire.

WHITE-TAILED MONGOOSE (Ichneumia albicauda) – One at the floodlit water hole at Mountain Lodge.

SPOTTED HYAENA (Crocuta crocuta) – Ten in Ngorongoro Crater was then most on a single day, but we also saw then in the Serengeti, and at Mountain Lodge; in all we saw about 25.

SERVAL (Felis serval) - We saw this shy and difficult to observe cat at both Nairobi NP, and then in Ngorongoro Crater.

LEOPARD (Panthera pardus) – Two singles in the Serengeti, including 1 only 8 feet from our vehicle.

LION (Panthera leo) – Many great encounters (although most were sleeping as usual), however we also saw a mating pair, and most surprisingly 2 from the veranda of the Ole Sereni Hotel in Nairobi!

CHEETAH (Acinonyx jubatus) – Two in the Seronera area of Serengeti, and then 1 with 3 young ones nearer to Ndutu.

AFRICAN ELEPHANT (Loxodonta africana) – Many great and close encounters; in all we saw about 650 (with 500 of those at Tarangire).

ROCK HYRAX (Procavia capensis) – Two in the Serengeti, and 3 at Nakuru.

BUSH (YELLOW-SPOTTED) HYRAX (Heterohyrax brucei) - Twenty in the Serengeti, and about 60 at Tarangire.

TREE HYRAX (Dendrohyrax arboreus) – Heard at Mountain Lodge.

BURCHELL'S ZEBRA (Equus burchelli) – Several thousand in the Serengeti, and other herds of 20 to 80 at several widespread scattered sites.

BLACK RHINOCEROS (Diceros bicornis) – Very lucky this tour; with 1 at Nairobi NP, 3 at Ngorongoro, and 1 at Nakuru.

WHITE RHINOCEROS (Ceratotherium simum) – Introduced to Kenya; we saw 1 in Nairobi NP, and about 20 at Nakuru. [I]

WARTHOG (Phacochoerus aethiopicus) – Very common and widespread.

HIPPOPOTAMUS (Hippopotamus amphibius) – Very common in the rivers of Serengeti, and the pools of Ngorongoro (with a few others elsewhere); in all we saw about 220.

COMMON GIRAFFE (Giraffa camelopardalis) – Ten in Nairobi NP, and then about 120 in the Serengeti, and 30 at Tarangire.

ROTHSCHILD'S GIRAFFE (Giraffa rothschildi) – Five at Nakuru.

BUSHBUCK (Tragelaphus scriptus) – About 20 around the waterhole at Mountain Lodge.

COMMON ELAND (Taurotragus oryx) - Widespread in reserve with open grassland; in all we saw about 100.

AFRICAN BUFFALO (Syncerus caffer) – Seventy-five in Nairobi NP, and then about 1000 in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area, 20 at Nakuru, and 14 at Mountain Lodge.

COMMON WATERBUCK (Kobus ellipsiprymnus) - One at Ngorongoro, and about 20 at Tarangire.

DEFASSA WATERBUCK (Kobus defassa) – Three at Ngorongoro, 100+ at Nakuru, and 1 at Mountain Lodge.

BOHOR REEDBUCK (Redunca redunca) - We saw a single male from the veranda at Ole Sereni Hotel.

TOPI (Damaliscus lunatus) – About 120 in the Serengeti.

HARTEBEEST (KONGONI) (Alcelaphus buselaphus) - Fairly common in Nairobi NP, and the Serengeti; in all we saw about 200.

BLUE WILDEBEEST (Connochaetes taurinus) – Many many thousands in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area, of which quite a few were now giving birth. A wonderful spectacle.

SUNI (Neotragus moschatus) - Three in Nairobi NP, and a very tame 'old' one at Mountain Lodge.

KIRK'S DIK-DIK (Modoqua kirki) - About 60 at Serengeti, and a dozen at Tarangire.

IMPALA (Aepyceros malampus) – Very common and widespread; with a total of about 1400.

THOMSON'S GAZELLE (Gazella thomsoni) - Thousands in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area, and about 100 at Nakuru.

GRANT'S GAZELLE (Gazella granti) – About 600 in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area, and 5 at Nairobi NP.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Reptiles seen on the tour included;

Nile Crocodile; 2 in Nairobi NP, and 3 in the Serengeti.

Black Forest Cobra; we saw roughly a 7 foot long individual at Kakamega.

Water (Nile) Monitor; 2 in Nairobi NP, and 1 in the Serengeti.

Red-headed Rock Agama; common at Ngorongoro, Tarangire, and Baringo.

Mwanza Flat-headed Agama; about 30 in the Serengeti.

Blue-headed Tree Agama; 1 at Olduvai Gorge.

Striped Skink; small numbers in the Serengeti.

Tropical House Gecko; common and widespread.

'Pond' Terapin; small numbers at Tarangire.

Totals for the tour: 488 bird taxa and 50 mammal taxa