



Field Guides Tour Report

East Africa Highlights: Kenya & Tanzania II 2016

Jul 2, 2016 to Jul 22, 2016

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For our tour description, itinerary, past triplists, dates, fees, and more, [please VISIT OUR TOUR PAGE.](#)



The Lilac-breasted Roller is one of East Africa's quintessential birds -- and one even the nonbirders love to see! Photo by participant Eugenia Caldwell.

Our July 2016 East Africa Highlights tour took us on our well-tried route from Gibb's Farm, the Ngorongoro Crater, the Serengeti, and Tarangire in Tanzania to Nairobi, Lake Nakuru, Kakamega Forest, Baringo, and Mount Kenya in Kenya.

Beginning our first day in Nairobi National Park, we drove across the grasslands, seeing our first Common Ostrich, Saddle-billed Stork, Gray Crowned-Crane, Blacksmith Lapwing, Rufous-naped Lark, Stout Cisticola, and Superb Starling, while the bush country held Dusky Turtle-Dove, Speckled and Blue-naped mousebirds, Long-tailed Fiscal and gorgeous male Variable Sunbirds. However, it was around the small lakes where we found the most species, with just a few of our highlights being Sacred and Hadada ibises, African Spoonbill, African Fish-Eagle, Black Crake, and Malachite Kingfisher. The mammal spectacle included Burchell's Zebra, Warthog, Hippo, Common Giraffe, African Buffalo, Hartebeest, Impala, and two distant Black Rhinos.

We then flew to Tanzania and drove to Gibb's Farm, on the slopes of the Crater Highlands. A walk in the forest the following morning brought such varied species as a fabulously close Schalow's Turaco, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater, Black-throated Wattle-eye, Tropical Boubou, White-tailed Blue-Flycatcher, Brown-headed Apalis, Gray-capped Warbler, Collared Sunbird, and Thick-billed Seed-eater.

Continuing on, we spent two nights at a lodge on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater -- with a spectacular day in the crater for photography and close encounters with many mammals. Again, just a few of the highlights included Spotted Hyaena, 18 Lions (including a mating pair), African Elephant, at least 2000 Burchell's Zebras, 6000 Blue Wildebeest, and more than 1000 Thomson's Gazelles. Birds included Hildebrandt's Francolin, Greater and Lesser flamingos, Hamerkop, Bateleur, Kori Bustard, Woodland Kingfisher, Lilac-breasted Roller, Black-crowned Tchagra, Red-capped Lark, Hildebrandt's Starling, Red-billed and Yellow-billed oxpeckers, Malachite Sunbird, and the endemic Rufous-tailed Weaver.

We then made our way west for a three night stay in the Serengeti, stopping at Oldupai (formerly Olduvai) Gorge along the way. On the Serengeti, we drove tracks across the plains, along wooded creeks, and by the rocky kopjes, seeing Gray-breasted Francolin (a Tanzanian endemic), the massive Marabou Stork, Secretary-bird, Lappet-faced Vulture, Martial Eagle, Black-breasted Snake-Eagle, Spotted Thick-knee, Chestnut-bellied and Yellow-throated sandgrouse, Bare-faced Go-away-bird, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Green Woodhoopoe, Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill, Red-fronted Barbet, Pygmy Falcon, Fischer's Lovebird, Magpie Shrike, Red-throated Tit, Silverbird, and Southern Grosbeak-Canary. Our numerous observations of mammals included fun groups of Banded and Eastern Dwarf mongoose, our first Black-backed Jackals, more hyaenas, a Leopard lounging in a tree, at least 35 more Lions, a Cheetah right next to our vehicle, and numerous herds of zebra, giraffe, buffalo, wildebeest, and Thomson's and Grant's gazelles.

The final part of the Tanzanian leg of our tour was to Tarangire National Park, south of Arusha. Here, we drove through rocky grasslands scattered with giant baobab trees and lovely palms -- a magical place where we all enjoyed a good selection of waterbirds (including a flock of more than 600 African

Openbills), Brown Snake-Eagle, White-bellied Bustard, Long-toed Lapwing, African Jacana, Abyssinian Scimitarbill, Red-and-yellow Barbet, Yellow-collared Lovebird (another endemic), Red-bellied Parrot, African Penduline-Tit, Northern Pied-Babbler, Ashy Starling, Red-headed Weaver, and a new mammal -- Common Waterbuck.

After the return flight and a night in Nairobi, we then headed north, into the Rift Valley at Lake Nakuru. High water levels meant that only small numbers of flamingoes were present this year (fortunately no problem, since we'd all had great looks at both species in Tanzania). So we now enjoyed a good variety of other waterbirds, including cormorants, ducks, herons, and egrets, both Great White and Pink-backed pelicans, a gorgeous White-winged Tern in full breeding plumage, Hartlaub's Turaco drinking at the lodge birdbath, Meyer's Parrot, Chinspot Batis, White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher, and a Long-tailed Widowbird -- displaying in breeding plumage. Mammal highlights were White Rhino, Common Eland, and the rare Rothschild's Giraffe.

Heading further north, we then had a three-night stay in the famous Kakamega Forest. As we were in a habitat totally different from anything we had visited so far, almost all of the birds were new; Crowned Hawk-Eagle (a juvenile and an adult in the lodge garden), White-spotted Flufftail (one running along a stream for some of the group), Great Blue Turaco, African Emerald Cuckoo, White-headed Woodhoopoe, Black-and-white-Casqued Hornbill, Blue-headed Bee-eater, Yellow-billed Barbet, Golden-crowned Woodpecker, Brown-throated and Jameson's wattle-eyes, Pink-footed Puffback, Dusky-crested Flycatcher, eight species of greenbuls, Black-faced Rufous-Warbler, Scaly-breasted Illadopsis (great looks at this real skulker), Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat, White-tailed Ant-Thrush, Red-headed Malimbe, and Red-headed Bluebill were among the highlights.

We then drove easterly, and once more descended into the Great Rift Valley. Our base was Bogoria, which enabled us to have a day of superb birding at Lake Baringo. Accompanied by our local guide Francis, we were soon tracking down his nocturnal 'stakeouts,' which included Three-banded Courser, African Scops-Owl, Northern White-faced Owl, Grayish Eagle-Owl, Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, and Slender-tailed Nightjar -- all in the daytime! Other highlights here were African Darter, Goliath Heron, Verreaux's Eagle, White-bellied Go-away-bird, Hemprich's and Jackson's hornbills, Giant Kingfisher, Lanner Falcon, Somali Tit, Brown-tailed Chat, Bristle-crowned Starling, Beautiful Sunbird, Northern Masked and Golden-backed weavers, and Green-winged Pytilia.

Finally, we completed our circuit by driving east and south with a one-night stay at Mount Kenya before we returned to Nairobi. The high-altitude forest at Mountain Lodge was exceptionally chilly, but we still slowly added more new species, with a Large-spotted Genet coming at night to a feeder, plenty of Bushbuck, and two tiny Suni. Additional birds included Scaly Francolin, Rameron and Delegorgue's pigeons, Crowned Hornbill, Gray Cuckooshrike, Mountain Yellow-Warbler, the endemic Hunter's Cisticola, and the striking Rueppell's Robin-Chat.

Thanks for joining me for this wonderful highlights tour.

-- 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)

COMMON OSTRICH (*Struthio camelus massaicus*) -- Common throughout many of the open grassland areas we visited during the tour; in all we saw about 240.

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

WHITE-FACED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna viduata*) -- About 20 at Tarangire, and 30 at Limuru Pond.

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) -- Twelve at Tarangire.

WHITE-BACKED DUCK (*Thalassornis leuconotus*) -- Fairly uncommon in East Africa, so we were lucky to see 2 at Tarangire, and about a dozen at Limuru Pond.

COMB DUCK (OLD WORLD) (*Sarkidiornis melanotos melanotos*) -- Six at Tarangire included two adult males with huge 'combs'.

EGYPTIAN GOOSE (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*) -- Common and widespread.

SPUR-WINGED GOOSE (*Plectropterus gambensis*) -- Six in the Serengeti.

YELLOW-BILLED DUCK (*Anas undulata*) -- Four at Limuru Pond, and 2 at Nakuru.

RED-BILLED DUCK (*Anas erythrorhynchos*) -- Eight at Limuru Pond, and 4 at Nakuru.

HOTTENTOT TEAL (*Anas hottentota*) -- Ten at Tarangire.

CAPE TEAL (*Anas capensis*) -- Ten on the alkaline lake near Ndutu, and 4 at Nakuru.

SOUTHERN POCHARD (*Netta erythrophthalma*) -- Two males and a female at Limuru Pond.

Numididae (Guineafowl)

HELMETED GUINEAFOWL (*Numida meleagris*) -- Common in many areas of bushy grassland; in all we saw about 700.

Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)

SCALY FRANCOLIN (*Pternistis squamatus*) -- One crossed the road as we drove away from Mountain Lodge.

HILDEBRANDT'S FRANCOLIN (*Pternistis hildebrandti*) -- Nice looks at a pair along the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

YELLOW-NECKED FRANCOLIN (*Pternistis leucoscepus*) -- About 20 at Tarangire.

GRAY-BREASTED FRANCOLIN (*Pternistis rufopictus*) -- We had good looks at about 25 of these endemic francolins in the Serengeti. [E]

RED-NECKED FRANCOLIN (*Pternistis afer*) -- About 20 at Tarangire.

CRESTED FRANCOLIN (*Fringilla sphenops*) -- Eight in the Serengeti, and 30+ at Tarangire.

COQUI FRANCOLIN (*Peliperdix coqui*) -- Five in the Serengeti, and 4 at Tarangire.

Podicipedidae (Grebes)

LITTLE GREBE (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) – Twenty at Limuru Pond were the most together, but we also saw a few others in the Serengeti and at Tarangire.

Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)

GREATER FLAMINGO (*Phoenicopterus roseus*) – About 30 in Ngorongoro Crater, 30 at Lake Magadi, and 350+ at Lake Nakuru.

LESSER FLAMINGO (*Phoeniconaias minor*) – At least 200,000 were on the lake in Ngorongoro Crater, and we also saw 1500 near Ndutu, and 500+ at Nakuru.

Ciconiidae (Storks)

AFRICAN OPENBILL (*Anastomus lamelligerus*) – Three in Ngorongoro Crater, and then the spectacular sight of at least 600 together at Tarangire.

WHITE STORK (*Ciconia ciconia*) – Very surprising at this time of year - we saw 25 in the Serengeti.

SADDLE-BILLED STORK (*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*) – One at Nairobi NP.

MARABOU STORK (*Leptoptilos crumenifer*) – Widespread in small numbers; with a total of about 90.

YELLOW-BILLED STORK (*Mycteria ibis*) – At least 200 were seen at their breeding colony at Mto Wa Mbu, and then a few singles at wetlands elsewhere.

Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)

GREAT CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) – One hundred and sixty at Nakuru, and about 20 at Baringo.

LONG-TAILED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax africanus*) – Ten at Nairobi NP, 40 at Nakuru, and 16 at Baringo.

Anhingidae (Anhingas)

AFRICAN DARTER (*Anhinga rufa rufa*) – Three at Lake Baringo.

Pelecanidae (Pelicans)

GREAT WHITE PELICAN (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) – Twenty at Lake Nakuru.

PINK-BACKED PELICAN (*Pelecanus rufescens*) – Some of the group saw a flying bird at Mto Wa Mbu, and then everyone saw about 25 at Nakuru.

Scopidae (Hamerkop)

HAMERKOP (*Scopus umbretta*) – Widespread in small numbers; in all we saw about 25.

Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

GRAY HERON (*Ardea cinerea*) – Widespread at wetlands throughout the tour, with a total of about 15.

BLACK-HEADED HERON (*Ardea melanocephala*) – Not so dependent on water as the previous species and mostly in grasslands; we saw about a dozen.

GOLIATH HERON (*Ardea goliath*) – The world's largest heron; we saw 1 at Lake Baringo.

PURPLE HERON (*Ardea purpurea*) – One at Limuru Pond, and 2 near Bogoria.

GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*) – Small numbers were seen at a variety of scattered wetlands.

INTERMEDIATE EGRET (*Mesophoyx intermedia*) – One at Nairobi NP, 10 at Nakuru, and 2 at Baringo.

LITTLE EGRET (*Egretta garzetta*) – One in the Serengeti, 10 at Nakuru, and 2 at Baringo.

CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*) – Common and widespread.

MADAGASCAR POND-HERON (*Ardeola idae*) – One on a small pool at Tarangire.

STRIATED HERON (*Butorides striata*) – About 6 at Lake Baringo.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) – Four in Ngorongoro Crater, and 2 at Lake Nakuru.

Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*) – Two singles in the Serengeti, and then about 30 at Tarangire.

SACRED IBIS (*Threskiornis aethiopicus*) – Common and widespread; with a total of about 600.

HADADA IBIS (*Bostrychia hagedash*) – Widespread in small numbers; with a total of about 70.

AFRICAN SPOONBILL (*Platalea alba*) – Three at Nairobi NP, 3 in Ngorongoro Crater, and about a dozen at Nakuru.

Sagittariidae (Secretary-bird)

SECRETARY-BIRD (*Sagittarius serpentarius*) – Great looks at about 20 of these fabulous birds in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area, and 1 at Tarangire.

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE (*Elanus caeruleus*) – Six in the Serengeti, 1 at Tarangire, and 1 at Nakuru.

AFRICAN HARRIER-HAWK (*Polyboroides typus*) – Nice looks at a perched adult at Lake Nakuru Lodge.

LAPPET-FACED VULTURE (*Torgos tracheliotos*) – We saw 2 pairs of these huge vultures at Ngorongoro and in the Serengeti.

HOODED VULTURE (*Necrosyrtes monachus*) – One in the Serengeti, and 3 along the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

WHITE-BACKED VULTURE (*Gyps africanus*) – By far the most common vulture, but sadly (as with so many other vulture species) declining; we saw a total of about 90.

RUEPPELL'S GRIFFON (*Gyps rueppelli*) – Four in the Serengeti.

BATELEUR (*Terathopius ecaudatus*) – A gorgeous bird of the open skies; we saw a total of about 20 between the Serengeti and Tarangire.

BLACK-BREASTED SNAKE-EAGLE (*Circaetus pectoralis*) – We saw a total of 5 between Ngorongoro and the Serengeti.

BROWN SNAKE-EAGLE (*Circaetus cinereus*) – One in the Ndutu area, and then at least 6 at Tarangire.

CROWNED HAWK-EAGLE (*Stephanoaetus coronatus*) – We all had super close views of a newly fledged juvenile at Kakamega, and then some of the group saw an adult coming in with lunch - a Blue Monkey!

MARTIAL EAGLE (*Polemaetus bellicosus*) – Nice looks at an adult in the Serengeti.

LONG-CRESTED EAGLE (*Lophaetus occipitalis*) – Bev saw 1 from the plane as we flew to Arusha, and then everyone saw up to 4 others between Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, and at Tarangire.

BOOTED EAGLE (*Hieraaetus pennatus*) – We saw a white morph bird over Kakamega Forest - extremely unusual at this time of year!

TAWNY EAGLE (*Aquila rapax*) – A total of about 30 were seen in the Serengeti and Tarangire areas.
VERREAUX'S EAGLE (*Aquila verreauxii*) – Two along the cliffs at Baringo.
AFRICAN HAWK-EAGLE (*Aquila spilogaster*) – Two at Tarangire.
DARK CHANTING-GOSHAWK (*Melierax metabates*) – One in the Serengeti.
GABAR GOSHAWK (*Micronisus gabar*) – Singles at Nairobi NP, and near Ndutu.
AFRICAN MARSH-HARRIER (*Circus ranivorus*) – One over the marsh at Tarangire, and 1 near Kapsabet.
BLACK KITE (*Milvus migrans*) – Most common around Nairobi (50), and a few others at a variety of widespread sites.
AFRICAN FISH-EAGLE (*Haliaeetus vocifer*) – We saw a total of 8 at a variety of wetlands throughout the tour.
AUGUR BUZZARD (*Buteo augur*) – Common and widespread.

Otididae (Bustards)

KORI BUSTARD (*Ardeotis kori*) – Two in Ngorongoro Crater, and 2 in the Serengeti.
WHITE-BELLIED BUSTARD (*Eupodotis senegalensis*) – We saw a male in the Serengeti, and a pair at Tarangire.
BLACK-BELLIED BUSTARD (*Lissotis melanogaster*) – We saw a single female in the Serengeti.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

BLACK CRAKE (*Amaurornis flavirostra*) – Great looks at this widespread and often rather tame rail at a number of widespread wetlands.
AFRICAN SWAMPHEN (*Porphyrio madagascariensis*) – One at Nairobi NP, 2 at Tarangire, and 1 at Limuru Pond.
EURASIAN MOORHEN (*Gallinula chloropus*) – Fifteen at Limuru Pond were the most for one area, but we also saw a few others at Ngorongoro, Tarangire, and Kapsabet.
RED-KNOBBED COOT (*Fulica cristata*) – At least 250 were at Limuru Pond.

Sarothruridae (Flufftails)

WHITE-SPOTTED FLUFFTAIL (*Sarothrura pulchra*) – Some of the group saw a male running along a stream bed at Kakamega.

Gruidae (Cranes)

GRAY CROWNED-CRANE (*Balearica regulorum*) – These spectacular cranes were common and widespread in grasslands; in all we saw about 320.

Burhinidae (Thick-knees)

WATER THICK-KNEE (*Burhinus vermiculatus*) – Two at Tarangire.
SPOTTED THICK-KNEE (*Burhinus capensis*) – Two near Ndutu Lodge.

Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)

BLACK-WINGED STILT (*Himantopus himantopus*) – Six at Lake Magadi, and 2 at Nakuru.

Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

LONG-TOED LAPWING (*Vanellus crassirostris*) – Two in Ngorongoro Crater, about 40 at Tarangire, and 2 at Lake Baringo.
BLACKSMITH LAPWING (*Vanellus armatus*) – Common and widespread.
SPUR-WINGED LAPWING (*Vanellus spinosus*) – Small numbers at Nairobi, in the Serengeti, Nakuru, and Baringo.
BLACK-WINGED LAPWING (*Vanellus melanopterus*) – About 20 in the Serengeti.
CROWNED LAPWING (*Vanellus coronatus*) – Common in open grassland areas; in total we saw about 100.
WATTLED LAPWING (*Vanellus senegallus*) – Two in flight near Kapsabet.
KITTLITZ'S PLOVER (*Charadrius pecuarius*) – Four near Ndutu.
THREE-BANDED PLOVER (*Charadrius tricollaris*) – One at Nairobi NP, 3 in the Serengeti, and 1 at Tarangire.

Jacaniidae (Jacanas)

AFRICAN JACANA (*Actophilornis africanus*) – Thirty at Tarangire, 6 at Limuru Pond, and 4 at Baringo.

Glareolidae (Pratincoles and Coursers)

DOUBLE-BANDED COURSER (*Smutsornis africanus*) – One near Olduvai Gorge, and about 20 in the Serengeti.
THREE-BANDED COURSER (*Rhinoptilus cinctus*) – Fabulous close scope views of a pair at Baringo.

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

GRAY-HOODED GULL (*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*) – Singles at Ngorongoro and Nakuru.
GULL-BILLED TERN (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) – One at Lake Nakuru.
WHITE-WINGED TERN (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) – Thirty at Nakuru included a striking male in full breeding plumage.
WHISKERED TERN (*Chlidonias hybrida*) – Six at Ngorongoro, and about 20 at Tarangire.

Pteroclididae (Sandgrouse)

CHESTNUT-BELLIED SANDGROUSE (*Pterocles exustus*) – Twenty in the Serengeti.
YELLOW-THROATED SANDGROUSE (*Pterocles gutturalis*) – About 30 in the Serengeti.
BLACK-FACED SANDGROUSE (*Pterocles decoratus*) – Two in the Serengeti, and about a dozen at Tarangire.

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*) – About half a dozen in the Crater Highlands.
SPECKLED PIGEON (*Columba guinea*) – Very common and widespread.
RAMERON PIGEON (*Columba arquatrix*) – About 50 were seen in flight at Mountain Lodge.
DELEGORGUE'S PIGEON (*Columba delegorguei*) – Seven females and 2 males at Mountain Lodge.
DUSKY TURTLE-DOVE (*Streptopelia lugens*) – Two at Nairobi and 3 at Ngorongoro Crater.
MOURNING COLLARED-DOVE (*Streptopelia decipiens*) – One at Naabi Hill, and then about 40 at Lake Baringo.

RED-EYED DOVE (*Streptopelia semitorquata*) – Widespread in small numbers.
RING-NECKED DOVE (*Streptopelia capicola*) – Common and widespread.
LAUGHING DOVE (*Streptopelia senegalensis*) – Common and widespread.
EMERALD-SPOTTED WOOD-DOVE (*Turtur chalcospilos*) – Three at Nairobi NP, 2 at Tarangire, and 6 at Baringo.
NAMAQUA DOVE (*Oena capensis*) – Singles in dry country like Olduvai, Serengeti, and Baringo.
AFRICAN GREEN-PIGEON (*Treron calvus*) – We had scope views of 3 perched birds at Rondo Retreat.

Musophagidae (Turacos)

GREAT BLUE TURACO (*Corythaeola cristata*) – Difficult this year, but eventually we all got great looks of 2 birds at Kakamega.
SCHALOW'S TURACO (*Tauraco schalowi*) – Fabulous, in the garden at Gibb's Farm.
HARTLAUB'S TURACO (*Tauraco hartlaubi*) – Another gorgeous turaco we saw well - first at Nakuru, and then at Mountain Lodge. [E]
ROSS'S TURACO (*Musophaga rossae*) – Some of the group saw 1 at Kakamega.
BARE-FACED GO-AWAY-BIRD (*Corythaixoides personatus*) – Common in the Serengeti and at Tarangire; in all we saw about 55.
WHITE-BELLIED GO-AWAY-BIRD (*Corythaixoides leucogaster*) – One at Tarangire, and 8 in the Bogoria-Baringo area.

Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

PIED CUCKOO (*Clamator jacobinus*) – One at Baringo.
RED-CHESTED CUCKOO (*Cuculus solitarius*) – Singles at Kakamega, in the Kerio Valley, and at Baringo.
KLAAS'S CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx klaas*) – Heard at Nairobi NP.
AFRICAN EMERALD CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx cupreus*) – Nice scope views of this gorgeous cuckoo at Kakamega.
DIDERIC CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx caprius*) – Two at Nakuru.
WHITE-BROWED COUCAL (*Centropus superciliosus*) – Small numbers in the Serengeti and Tarangire.

Strigidae (Owls)

AFRICAN SCOPS-OWL (*Otus senegalensis*) – Thanks to our local guide we had super close day time looks at Baringo.
NORTHERN WHITE-FACED OWL (*Ptilopsis leucotis*) – Wow, super looks at this cryptic owl at Baringo.
GRAYISH EAGLE-OWL (*Bubo cinerascens*) – Once again thanks to our local guide we had super looks at Baringo.
VERREAUX'S EAGLE-OWL (*Bubo lacteus*) – And yet again, there's no knowledge like local knowledge, so thanks once more to our local guide at Baringo.
PEARL-SPOTTED OWLET (*Glaucidium perlatum*) – One at Ndutu.

Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)

ABYSSINIAN NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus poliocephalus*) – By chance we flushed 1 at Gibb's Farm.
SLENDER-TAILED NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus clarus*) – Great day time views at Baringo.

Apodidae (Swifts)

NYANZA SWIFT (*Apus niansae*) – About 30 at Nakuru.
LITTLE SWIFT (*Apus affinis*) – Widespread around buildings, cliffs and bridges throughout the tour.
AFRICAN PALM-SWIFT (*Cypsiurus parvus*) – Two near Kapsabet.

Coliidae (Mousebirds)

SPECKLED MOUSEBIRD (*Colius striatus*) – Common and widespread.
BLUE-NAPED MOUSEBIRD (*Urocolius macrourus*) – Five at Nairobi NP, and about a dozen at Baringo.

Upupidae (Hoopoes)

EURASIAN HOOPOE (CENTRAL AFRICAN) (*Upupa epops waibeli*) – Widespread; with a total of about 12.
EURASIAN HOOPOE (AFRICAN) (*Upupa epops africana*) – Several authorities now split this as African Hoopoe; we saw 1 at Tarangire.

Phoeniculidae (Woodhoopoes and Scimitar-bills)

GREEN WOODHOOPOE (*Phoeniculus purpureus*) – Two in the Serengeti, and 2 at Tarangire.
WHITE-HEADED WOODHOOPOE (*Phoeniculus bollei*) – Nice looks at 1 at Kakamega Forest.
COMMON SCIMITAR-BILL (*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*) – One at Nakuru.
ABYSSINIAN SCIMITAR-BILL (*Rhinopomastus minor*) – Some of the group saw 1 near Ndutu, and then we all had good looks at 2 at Tarangire.

Bucerotidae (Hornbills)

CROWNED HORNBILL (*Lophoceros alboterminatus*) – One at Thomson's Falls.
HEMPRICH'S HORNBILL (*Lophoceros hemprichii*) – One in the dead trees along the shore of Lake Baringo.
AFRICAN GRAY HORNBILL (*Lophoceros nasutus*) – Singles at Ndutu, Tarangire, and Baringo.
JACKSON'S HORNBILL (*Tockus jacksoni*) – About 10 at Lake Baringo.
VON DER DECKEN'S HORNBILL (*Tockus deckeni*) – We saw a total of about a dozen between Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, and Tarangire.
TANZANIAN RED-BILLED HORNBILL (*Tockus ruahae*) – Good looks at this recently split species in the Seronera area of Serengeti. [E]
NORTHERN RED-BILLED HORNBILL (*Tockus erythrorhynchus*) – About 20 at Tarangire, and 3 in the Kerio Valley.
BLACK-AND-WHITE-CASQUED HORNBILL (*Bycanistes subcylindricus*) – These huge striking hornbills were quite common at Kakamega; in all we saw about 80.

Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)

MALACHITE KINGFISHER (*Corythornis cristatus*) – One at Nairobi NP, and 3 at Lake Baringo.
GRAY-HEADED KINGFISHER (*Halcyon leucocephala*) – One at Tarangire, and 2 near Bogoria.
WOODLAND KINGFISHER (*Halcyon senegalensis*) – We saw these gorgeous kingfishers at Ngorongoro and Baringo.

STRIPED KINGFISHER (*Halcyon chelicuti*) – One in the Serengeti, and 4 at Nakuru.

GIANT KINGFISHER (*Megaceryle maxima*) – Two singles in the Bogoria-Baringo area.

PIED KINGFISHER (*Ceryle rudis*) – One at Tarangire, and about 10 at Lake Baringo.

Meropidae (Bee-eaters)

BLUE-HEADED BEE-EATER (*Merops muelleri*) – Fabulous looks at this uncommon bee-eater in Kakamega Forest.

WHITE-FRONTED BEE-EATER (*Merops bullockoides*) – One at Nakuru, and then about 10 in the Kerio Valley.

LITTLE BEE-EATER (*Merops pusillus*) – Small numbers were widespread in several areas of dry acacia bush country.

CINNAMON-CHESTED BEE-EATER (*Merops oreobates*) – Similar to the previous species, but inhabiting forest; we saw a total of about 30 in the Crater Highlands, Nakuru, Kakamega, and at Mt. Kenya.

MADAGASCAR BEE-EATER (*Merops superciliosus*) – One at Lake Baringo.

Coraciidae (Rollers)

LILAC-BREASTED ROLLER (*Coracias caudatus*) – Common and widespread.

RUFIOUS-CROWNED ROLLER (*Coracias naevius*) – One at Baringo.

Lybiidae (African Barbets)

YELLOW-BILLED BARBET (*Trachyphonus purpuratus*) – Several heard and 1 seen at Kakamega Forest.

RED-AND-YELLOW BARBET (*Trachyphonus erythrocephalus*) – We saw these striking colorful barbets at Tarangire, and in the Bogoria-Baringo area.

D'ARNAUD'S BARBET (*Trachyphonus darnaudii*) – Four at Tarangire.

D'ARNAUD'S BARBET (USAMBIRO) (*Trachyphonus darnaudii usambiro*) – We saw a total of about 20 in the Serengeti.

GRAY-THROATED BARBET (*Gymnobucco bonapartei*) – Fairly common at Kakamega.

YELLOW-RUMPED TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus bilineatus bilineatus*) – Many heard, and single birds seen at Kakamega and Mt. Kenya.

RED-FRONTED TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus pusillus*) – Heard in Nairobi NP.

RED-FRONTED BARBET (*Tricholaema diademata*) – Three as we drove from Ngorongoro to the Serengeti, and 1 at Nakuru.

SPOT-FLANKED BARBET (*Tricholaema lacrymosa*) – One in the Kerio Valley.

BLACK-THROATED BARBET (*Tricholaema melanocephala*) – Two in the acacia woodland at Baringo.

Picidae (Woodpeckers)

NUBIAN WOODPECKER (*Campethera nubica*) – Three at Tarangire, and 1 at Baringo.

CARDINAL WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos fuscescens*) – Singles at Kakamega, and near Mt. Kenya.

BEARDED WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos namaquus*) – One near Gibb's Farm.

GOLDEN-CROWNED WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos xantholophus*) – Often difficult, but we were lucky this tour with no less than 6 at Kakamega.

MOUNTAIN GRAY WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos spodocephalus rhodeogaster*) – One in the Crater Highlands.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

PYGMY FALCON (*Polihierax semitorquatus*) – Great close looks at this tiny falcon in the Ndutu area.

EURASIAN KESTREL (*Falco tinnunculus*) – One at Olduvai Gorge.

LANNER FALCON (*Falco biarmicus*) – We saw a perched bird along the cliffs at Baringo.

Psittaculidae (Old World Parrots)

FISCHER'S LOVEBIRD (*Agapornis fischeri*) – This attractive Tanzanian endemic was common in the Serengeti. [E]

YELLOW-COLLARED LOVEBIRD (*Agapornis personatus*) – Another Tanzanian endemic; we saw a total of about 150 at Tarangire. [E]

Psittacidae (New World and African Parrots)

RED-FRONTED PARROT (*Poicephalus gulielmi*) – Two fly-by's at Mountain Lodge.

MEYER'S PARROT (*Poicephalus meyeri*) – Two at Tarangire, and 2 at Nakuru.

RED-BELLIED PARROT (*Poicephalus rufiventris*) – More commonly known as African Orange-bellied Parrot, we saw about 16 at Tarangire.

Platysteiridae (Wattle-eyes and Batises)

BROWN-THROATED WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira cyanea*) – Many heard, and 3 or 4 pairs seen at Kakamega.

BLACK-THROATED WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira peltata*) – Two males and a female seen at Gibb's Farm.

CHESTNUT WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira castanea*) – Heard at Kakamega Forest.

JAMESON'S WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira jamesoni*) – Seen by some the group at Kakamega Forest.

CHINSPOT BATIS (*Batis molitor*) – We saw a pair in the Serengeti, and then 2 more pairs at Nakuru.

PYGMY BATIS (*Batis perkeo*) – Heard at Baringo.

Vangidae (Vangas, Helmetshrikes, and Allies)

GRAY-CRESTED HELMETSHRIKE (*Prionops poliophus*) – Good looks at 4 of these rather rare endemic helmetshrikes at Nakuru. [E]

Malaconotidae (Bushshrikes and Allies)

BRUBRU (*Nilaus afer*) – We saw a total of about 5 in the Ngorongoro-Seregenti area.

NORTHERN PUFFBACK (*Dryoscopus gambensis*) – One in the Kerio Valley.

BLACK-BACKED PUFFBACK (*Dryoscopus cubla*) – Singles at Nairobi NP, and near Gibb's Farm.

PINK-FOOTED PUFFBACK (*Dryoscopus angolensis*) – We saw a single male at Kakamega Forest.

BLACK-CROWNED TCHAGRA (*Tchagra senegalus*) – Two singles in Ngorongoro Crater.

BROWN-CROWNED TCHAGRA (*Tchagra australis*) – Three in the Serengeti.

LUEHDER'S BUSHSHRIKE (*Laniarius luehderi*) – Difficult this year, but eventually we all had good looks in Kakamega Forest.

TROPICAL BOUBOU (*Laniarius major*) – About 8 at Gibb's Farm, and then 2 at Mt. Kenya.
BLACK-HEADED GONOLEK (*Laniarius erythrogaster*) – We saw 3 of these striking birds in the Kerio Valley.
SLATE-COLORED BOUBOU (*Laniarius funebris*) – Singles in the Serengeti, and at Baringo.
GRAY-GREEN BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus bocagei*) – Two singles at Kakamega Forest.
SULPHUR-BREASTED BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus sulfureopectus*) – Nice looks at this beautiful bird in the Kerio Valley.

Campephagidae (Cuckooshrikes)

GRAY CUCKOOSHRIKE (*Coracina caesia*) – One at Mountain Lodge.
BLACK CUCKOOSHRIKE (*Campephaga flava*) – We saw a single female in the Kerio Valley.
PETIT'S CUCKOOSHRIKE (*Campephaga petiti*) – One at Kakamega Forest.

Laniidae (Shrikes)

GRAY-BACKED FISCAL (*Lanius excubitorius*) – Fairly common in the acacia bush country around the Seronera area of Serengeti.
LONG-TAILED FISCAL (*Lanius cabanisi*) – Four in Nairobi NP, and about 20 at Tarangire.
TAITA FISCAL (*Lanius dorsalis*) – Two singles near Olduvai Gorge.
MACKINNON'S SHRIKE (*Lanius mackinnoni*) – Three at Kakamega.
NORTHERN FISCAL (*Lanius humeralis*) – Common and widespread.
MAGPIE SHRIKE (*Corvinella melanoleuca*) – Common from Ngorongoro to Tarangire.
WHITE-RUMPED SHRIKE (*Eurocephalus rueppelli*) – More commonly known as Northern White-crowned Shrike, we saw about 120 in the acacia woodlands of the Serengeti and Tarangire.

Oriolidae (Old World Orioles)

WESTERN BLACK-HEADED ORIOLE (*Oriolus brachyrhynchus*) – Heard at Kakamega.
AFRICAN BLACK-HEADED ORIOLE (*Oriolus larvatus*) – One at Tarangire.

Dicruridae (Drongos)

SQUARE-TAILED DRONGO (*Dicrurus ludwigii*) – About 12 at Kakamega Forest.
FORK-TAILED DRONGO (*Dicrurus adsimilis*) – Widespread away from thick forested areas.

Monarchidae (Monarch Flycatchers)

AFRICAN PARADISE-FLYCATCHER (*Terpsiphone viridis*) – We saw a total of about 12 between Kakamega, Baringo, and Mt. Kenya.

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

CAPE CROW (*Corvus capensis*) – Small numbers in the Crater Highlands, Nakuru, and near Kakamega.
PIED CROW (*Corvus albus*) – Common and widespread.
FAN-TAILED RAVEN (*Corvus rhipidurus*) – About 30 near Iten - on the escarpment of the Kerio Valley.
WHITE-NECKED RAVEN (*Corvus albicollis*) – Three at Ngorongoro Crater, and 2 near Iten.

Alaudidae (Larks)

RUFIOUS-NAPED LARK (*Mirafra africana*) – We saw a total of about 30 in the Ngorongoro - Serengeti area.
FOXY LARK (*Calendulauda alopecurus intercedens*) – One in the dry acacia country of the Serengeti.
FISCHER'S SPARROW-LARK (*Eremopterix leucopareia*) – Common in the Serengeti.
RED-CAPPED LARK (*Calandrella cinerea*) – Another common lark of the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area.

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

PLAIN MARTIN (*Riparia paludicola*) – Six near Ndutu, and about 10 at Limuru Pond.
BANDED MARTIN (*Riparia cincta*) – Ten over the grasslands in Ngorongoro Crater.
ROCK MARTIN (*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*) – Common and widespread.
BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*) – One near Ndutu was unusual for this time of year.
ANGOLA SWALLOW (*Hirundo angolensis*) – About 30 at Kakamega.
WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW (*Hirundo smithii*) – Ten at Nakuru, and 2 near Kapsabet.
RED-RUMPED SWALLOW (*Cecropis daurica*) – Small numbers in the Serengeti, Nakuru, and near Kapsabet.
LESSER STRIPED-SWALLOW (*Cecropis abyssinica*) – Widespread in small numbers.
MOSQUE SWALLOW (*Cecropis senegalensis*) – Two at Lake Nakuru.
WHITE-HEADED SAWWING (*Psalidoprocne albiceps*) – Fairly common in open spaces around Kakamega Forest.
BLACK SAWWING (*Psalidoprocne pristoptera*) – About half a dozen at Gibb's Farm.
GRAY-RUMPED SWALLOW (*Pseudhirundo griseopyga*) – Three near Eldoret.

Stenostiridae (Fairy Flycatchers)

AFRICAN BLUE-FLYCATCHER (*Elminia longicauda*) – Some of the group saw 1 at Kakamega.
WHITE-TAILED BLUE-FLYCATCHER (*Elminia albicauda*) – Good looks in the forest near Gibb's Farm.
DUSKY CRESTED-FLYCATCHER (*Elminia nigromitrata*) – We saw 2 of these rather uncommon monarchs in the Kakamega undergrowth.

Paridae (Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice)

WHITE-BELLIED TIT (*Melaniparus albiventris*) – One at Nakuru.
DUSKY TIT (*Melaniparus funereus*) – We saw a total of about 20 at Kakamega.
SOMALI TIT (*Melaniparus thruppi*) – Two along the cliffs at Baringo.
RED-THROATED TIT (*Melaniparus fringillinus*) – Two singles in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area. [E]

Remizidae (Penduline-Tits)

MOUSE-COLORED PENDULINE-TIT (*Anthoscopus musculus*) – Good looks at 1 at Baringo.

AFRICAN PENDULINE-TIT (BUFF-BELLIED) (*Anthoscopus caroli sylvielli*) – We watched 3 feeding on tiny grass seeds at Tarangire.

Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)

SLENDER-BILLED GREENBUL (*Stelgidillas gracilirostris*) – Singles at Kakamega and Mountain Lodge.

SHELLEY'S GREENBUL (KAKAMEGA) (*Arizelocichla masukuensis kakamegae*) – Two at Kakamega.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN-GREENBUL (MOUNTAIN) (*Arizelocichla nigriceps nigriceps*) – Two in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

JOYFUL GREENBUL (*Chlorocichla laetissima*) – These vocally joyful greenbuls were fairly common (and vocal) at Kakamega.

YELLOW-THROATED GREENBUL (*Atimastillas flavicollis*) – Heard (and seen briefly) at Kakamega.

ANSORGE'S GREENBUL (*Eurillas ansorgei*) – We saw about 6 of these rather uncommon greenbuls in the mid-levels of Kakamega Forest.

PLAIN GREENBUL (*Eurillas curvirostris*) – Three at Kakamega.

YELLOW-WHISKERED GREENBUL (*Eurillas latirostris*) – A fairly common and distinctive greenbul of Kakamega Forest.

COMMON BULBUL (DARK-CAPPED) (*Pycnonotus barbatus tricolor*) – Common and widespread.

Macrosphenidae (African Warblers)

RED-FACED CROMBEC (*Sylvietta whytii*) – Singles in the Serengeti and Tarangire.

GREEN HYLIA (*Hylia prasina*) – Heard at Kakamega.

Phylloscopidae (Leaf Warblers)

UGANDA WOODLAND-WARBLER (*Phylloscopus budongoensis*) – Many heard, and one of the group saw 1 at Kakamega.

Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)

AFRICAN YELLOW-WARBLER (*Iduna natalensis*) – One at Nairobi NP.

MOUNTAIN YELLOW-WARBLER (*Iduna similis*) – Two were seen from the viewing roof of Mountain Lodge.

EURASIAN REED-WARBLER (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*) – Very surprising to see this Palearctic migrant at Ndutu Lodge.

LESSER SWAMP-WARBLER (*Acrocephalus gracilirostris*) – One at Limuru Pond.

Locustellidae (Grassbirds and Allies)

LITTLE RUSH-WARBLER (*Bradypterus baboecala*) – Heard in the marsh near Kapsabet.

Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)

BLACK-COLLARED APALIS (*Apalis pulchra*) – Nice looks at this attractive warbler in the Kakamega undergrowth.

BLACK-THROATED APALIS (*Apalis jacksoni*) – Heard at Mountain Lodge.

YELLOW-BREASTED APALIS (*Apalis flavida*) – We saw several pairs at Nairobi NP, in the Crater Highlands, and at Nakuru.

YELLOW-BREASTED APALIS (BROWN-TAILED) (*Apalis flavida viridiceps*) – Sometimes split as Brown-tailed Apalis, we saw 1 at Baringo.

BUFF-THROATED APALIS (*Apalis rufogularis*) – Heard in the canopy at Kakamega Forest.

GRAY APALIS (*Apalis cinerea*) – Heard at Mountain Lodge.

BROWN-HEADED APALIS (*Apalis alticola*) – Good looks at this rather localized species in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

GREEN-BACKED CAMAROPTERA (GRAY-BACKED) (*Camaroptera brachyura brevicaudata*) – The gray backed form was widespread in small numbers.

OLIVE-GREEN CAMAROPTERA (*Camaroptera chloronota*) – We saw about half a dozen at Kakamega.

RED-FRONTED WARBLER (*Urorhipis rufifrons*) – Two singles along the cliffs at Baringo.

GRAY WREN-WARBLER (*Calamonastes simplex*) – Several heard and 1 seen well at Baringo.

WHITE-CHINNED PRINIA (*Schistolais leucopogon*) – We saw about 10 along the forest edges at Kakamega.

CHUBB'S CISTICOLA (*Cisticola chubbi*) – About 6 at Kakamega.

HUNTER'S CISTICOLA (*Cisticola hunteri*) – Two at Mountain Lodge. [E]

RATTLING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola chiniana*) – Small numbers in acacia country at a variety of widespread sites.

WAILING CISTICOLA (LYNES'S) (*Cisticola lais distinctus*) – Two along the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

WINDING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola galactotes*) – One at Nairobi NP.

STOUT CISTICOLA (*Cisticola robustus*) – We saw a total of about 25 in Nairobi NP, and in the Serengeti.

GRAY-CAPPED WARBLER (*Eminia lepida*) – Three in the forest at Gibb's Farm.

BLACK-FACED RUFOUS-WARBLER (*Bathmocercus rufus*) – Nice looks at this attractive skulking warbler in the undergrowth at Kakamega.

BUFF-BELLIED WARBLER (*Phyllolais pulchella*) – Five in the acacia country near Olduvai Gorge, and 2 at Nakuru.

TAWNY-FLANKED PRINIA (*Prinia subflava*) – One at Tarangire.

YELLOW-BELLIED EREMOMELA (*Eremomela icteropygialis*) – One in the acacia's near Olduvai Gorge.

Sylviidae (Sylviid Warblers)

AFRICAN HILL BABBLER (*Sylvia abyssinica*) – Two in the forest above Gibb's Farm.

BANDED WARBLER (*Sylvia boehmi*) – Formerly known as Banded Parisoma, we saw singles near Ndutu, and at Tarangire.

Zosteropidae (White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies)

AFRICAN YELLOW WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops senegalensis*) – Five at Kakamega.

BROAD-RINGED WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops poliogastrus*) – About 30 in the Gibb's Farm-Ngorongoro area, and 10 at Mountain Lodge.

WHITE-BREASTED WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops abyssinicus*) – Four near Olduvai Gorge.

Pellorneidae (Ground Babblers and Allies)

MOUNTAIN ILLADOPSIS (*Illadopsis pyrrhoptera*) – Heard at Kakamega.

SCALY-BREADED ILLADOPSIS (*Illadopsis albipectus*) – Fantastic looks at this super skulker - out in the open on a trail at Kakamega!

Leiothrichidae (Laughingthrushes and Allies)

BLACK-LORED BABBLER (*Turdoides sharpei*) – About a dozen in the Serengeti.

NORTHERN PIED-BABBLER (*Turdoides hypoleuca*) – Five at Tarangire. [E]

BROWN BABBLER (*Turdoides plebejus*) – Two on the bird feeder at Baringo campsite.

ARROW-MARKED BABBLER (*Turdoides jardineii*) – Six at Gibb's Farm, and 4 at near Seronera in the Serengeti.

Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)

SILVERBIRD (*Empidonax semipartitus*) – We saw about 20 of these attractive flycatchers in the Serengeti.

GRAYISH FLYCATCHER (*Bradornis microrhynchus*) – Small numbers were seen in a variety of widespread acacia woodland areas.

WHITE-EYED SLATY-FLYCATCHER (*Melaenornis fischeri*) – Small numbers of this highland species were widespread in both Kenya and Tanzania.

NORTHERN BLACK-FLYCATCHER (*Melaenornis edolioides*) – Singles at Kakamega and in the Kerio Valley.

SWAMP FLYCATCHER (*Muscicapa aquatica*) – One in the marsh near Kapsabet.

DUSKY-BROWN FLYCATCHER (*Muscicapa adusta*) – Two at Gibb's Farm, and about 6 at Mountain Lodge.

RED-BACKED SCRUB-ROBIN (*Cercotrichas leucophrys*) – Three near Olduvai Gorge, and 3 at Baringo.

CAPE ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha caffra*) – Two at Nairobi NP, 1 at Gibb's Farm, and 1 at Mountain Lodge.

BLUE-SHOULDERED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha cyanocamptus*) – This skulking species was heard by everyone and seen by two of our group at Kakamega.

RUEPPELL'S ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha semirufa*) – Nice looks at 2 at Mountain Lodge.

WHITE-BROWED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha heuglini*) – Small numbers at Nairobi NP, Gibb's Farm, and Nakuru.

SNOWY-CROWNED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha niveicapilla*) – Another shy Robin-Chat that we saw well at Kakamega.

SPOTTED MORNING-THRUSH (*Cichladusa guttata*) – One in the Serengeti, and 3 at Baringo.

BROWN-CHESTED ALETHE (*Pseudaethya poliocephala*) – Good looks at 1 at Kakamega - and surprisingly high in a tree!

EQUATORIAL AKALAT (*Sheppardia aequatorialis*) – Another Kakamega skulker - we saw 1 well along one of the side trails.

AFRICAN STONECHAT (*Saxicola torquatus*) – One along the rim of Ngorongoro Crater, and 4 at Kakamega.

NORTHERN ANTEATER-CHAT (*Myrmecocichla aethiops*) – About 30 at Nakuru.

MOCKING CLIFF-CHAT (*Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris*) – Nice looks at a male at Iten.

FAMILIAR CHAT (*Cercomela familiaris*) – One at the bottom of the Crater Highlands on our way to Olduvai Gorge.

BROWN-TAILED CHAT (*Cercomela scotocerca*) – Two along the cliffs at Baringo.

ABYSSINIAN WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe lugubris schalowi*) – About 6 at Ngorongoro.

CAPPED WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe pileata*) – Common in the Serengeti.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

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

ABYSSINIAN THRUSH (ABYSSINIAN) (*Turdus abyssinicus abyssinicus*) – Formerly known as Olive Thrush; we saw small numbers in the highlands of both Kenya and Tanzania.

AFRICAN THRUSH (*Turdus pelios*) – One at Kakamega.

Sturnidae (Starlings)

WATTLED STARLING (*Creatophora cinerea*) – Common in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area and at Nakuru.

VIOLET-BACKED STARLING (*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*) – We saw a single female at Kakamega.

RED-WINGED STARLING (*Onychognathus morio*) – Ten at Tarangire, and 6 at Baringo.

BRISTLE-CROWNED STARLING (*Onychognathus salvadorii*) – We saw about 6 of these very localized starlings along the cliffs at Baringo.

SHARPE'S STARLING (*Pholia sharpii*) – Eight in the high canopy at Kakamega Forest.

STUHLMANN'S STARLING (*Poeyoptera stuhlmanni*) – About 100 at Kakamega.

HILDEBRANDT'S STARLING (*Lamprotornis hildebrandti*) – About 30 between Ngorongoro and the Serengeti, and 2 at Tarangire. [E]

RUEPPELL'S STARLING (*Lamprotornis purpuroptera*) – Widespread in acacia woodland throughout the tour.

ASHY STARLING (*Lamprotornis unicolor*) – Endemic to Tanzania; at least 100 were seen at Tarangire. [E]

SUPERB STARLING (*Lamprotornis superbus*) – Very common and widespread.

GREATER BLUE-EARED STARLING (*Lamprotornis chalybaeus*) – Twenty in the Serengeti, and 40+ at Nakuru.

Buphagidae (Oxpeckers)

RED-BILLED OXPECKER (*Buphagus erythrorhynchus*) – Common and widespread in areas with big game.

YELLOW-BILLED OXPECKER (*Buphagus africanus*) – Four in Ngorongoro Crater, and 3 at Tarangire.

Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)

KENYA VIOLET-BACKED SUNBIRD (*Anthreptes orientalis*) – About 6 at Baringo.

COLLARED SUNBIRD (*Hedydipna collaris*) – Fairly common in forests at Gibb's Farm, Nakuru, and Kakamega.

GREEN-HEADED SUNBIRD (*Cyanomitra verticalis*) – Four at Kakamega.

AMETHYST SUNBIRD (*Chalcomitra amethystina*) – We saw a single male at Nairobi NP.

SCARLET-CHESTED SUNBIRD (*Chalcomitra senegalensis*) – This gorgeous and striking sunbird was fairly common throughout the tour; in all we saw about 45.

BRONZE SUNBIRD (*Nectarinia kilimensis*) – Small numbers were common in the highlands.

MALACHITE SUNBIRD (*Nectarinia famosa*) – Two males along the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

NORTHERN DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris reichenowi*) – Two at Kakamega.

EASTERN DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris mediocris*) – One at Ngorongoro (for one of our group), and then for everyone at Limuru and Mountain Lodge. [E]

BEAUTIFUL SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris pulchellus*) – Indeed, what a beautiful sunbird! We saw several males in fabulous plumage at Lake Baringo.

MARIQUA SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris mariquensis*) – Singles at Ndutu, Tarangire, and Baringo.

VARIABLE SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris venustus*) – About a dozen in the Nairobi area, and 4 at Gibb's Farm.

Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)

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

AFRICAN PIED WAGTAIL (*Motacilla aguimp*) – Common and widespread.

LONG-BILLED PIPIT (*Anthus similis*) – One at the top of Ngorongoro Crater.

PLAIN-BACKED PIPIT (*Anthus leucophrys*) – Two in the Ngorongoro grasslands.

YELLOW-THROATED LONGCLAW (*Macronyx croceus*) – One in the Serengeti as we drove to Ndutu.

ROSY-THROATED LONGCLAW (*Macronyx ameliae*) – We saw a single bird in non-breeding plumage in Nairobi NP.

Fringillidae (Finches, Euphonias, and Allies)

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

SOUTHERN CITRIL (*Serinus hypostictus*) – Four at Ngorongoro Crater.

REICHENOW'S SEEDEATER (*Serinus reichenowi*) – One at the Ole Sereni Hotel, and 8 in the Serengeti.

WHITE-BELLIED CANARY (*Serinus dorsostriatus*) – About 40 in the dry areas of the Serengeti.

SOUTHERN GROSBEAK-CANARY (*Serinus buchanani*) – Good looks at a singing bird on the way to Olduvai Gorge.

STREAKY SEEDEATER (*Serinus striolatus*) – Small numbers in the highlands.

THICK-BILLED SEEDEATER (*Serinus burtoni*) – One at Ngorongoro.

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*) – About 20 on the way to Tarangire.

KENYA RUFOUS SPARROW (*Passer rufocinctus*) – Fairly common in dry acacia country; in all we saw about 160. [E]

NORTHERN GRAY-HEADED SPARROW (*Passer griseus*) – Four at Kakamega.

PARROT-BILLED SPARROW (*Passer gongonensis*) – Four at Lake Baringo.

SWAHILI SPARROW (*Passer suahelicus*) – About 40 in the Serengeti.

CHESTNUT SPARROW (*Passer emini*) – We saw a single male in breeding plumage in the Serengeti.

YELLOW-SPOTTED PETRONIA (*Petronia pyrgita*) – Two along the cliffs at Lake Baringo.

Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)

WHITE-BILLED BUFFALO-WEAVER (*Bubalornis albirostris*) – Four at Baringo.

RED-BILLED BUFFALO-WEAVER (*Bubalornis niger*) – Small numbers in the Serengeti and at Tarangire.

WHITE-HEADED BUFFALO-WEAVER (*Dinemellia dinemelli*) – We saw a total of about 140 in the Serengeti, Tarangire and at Baringo.

SPECKLE-FRONTED WEAVER (*Sporopipes frontalis*) – First seen at Naabi Hill, and then elsewhere in the Serengeti, and at Tarangire and Baringo.

WHITE-BROWED SPARROW-WEAVER (*Plocepasser mahali*) – Widespread in acacia woodland.

RUFOUS-TAILED WEAVER (*Histurgops ruficauda*) – This Tanzanian endemic was common from Ngorongoro Crater to the Serengeti, and at Tarangire. [E]

GRAY-HEADED SOCIAL-WEAVER (*Pseudonigrita arnaudi*) – About 50 at the Seronera Park HQ.

RED-HEADED MALIMBE (*Malimbus rubricollis*) – Often difficult, but we were lucky this tour and saw at least 5 in Kakamega Forest.

RED-HEADED WEAVER (*Anaplectes rubriceps*) – Nice looks at a male by our lodge in Tarangire NP.

BAGLAFECHE WEAVER (*Ploceus baglafecht*) – One of the more common weavers in the highlands.

LITTLE WEAVER (*Ploceus luteolus*) – One in the Serengeti.

BLACK-NECKED WEAVER (*Ploceus nigricollis*) – One at Tarangire, and 6 at Kakamega.

SPECTACLED WEAVER (*Ploceus ocularis*) – Five at Gibb's Farm, and 2 Mountain Lodge.

BLACK-BILLED WEAVER (*Ploceus melanogaster*) – Two at Kakamega.

HOLUB'S GOLDEN-WEAVER (*Ploceus xanthops*) – One in Nairobi NP.

NORTHERN MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus taeniopterus*) – We saw about 4 of these extremely localized weavers at Lake Baringo.

VITELLINE MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus vitellinus*) – One in the Serengeti, and 3 at Lake Baringo.

SPEKE'S WEAVER (*Ploceus spekei*) – About 30 at the Ole Sereni Hotel, 50 in Ngorongoro Crater, and 2 near Mountain Lodge.

VIEILLOT'S WEAVER (*Ploceus nigerrimus*) – We saw a single female and then a male at Kakamega.

VILLAGE WEAVER (*Ploceus cucullatus*) – Six at Nakuru, and then about 20 at Baringo.

BLACK-HEADED WEAVER (*Ploceus melanocephalus*) – Ten in the marsh near Kapsabet.

GOLDEN-BACKED WEAVER (*Ploceus jacksoni*) – Nice looks at these attractive weavers on the feeder at Baringo.

FOREST WEAVER (*Ploceus bicolor*) – About 15 at Kakamega.

CARDINAL QUELEA (*Quelea cardinalis*) – Good looks at a male in breeding plumage near Bogoria.

RED-BILLED QUELEA (*Quelea quelea*) – About 100 near Bogoria.

NORTHERN RED BISHOP (*Euplectes franciscanus*) – We saw about 20 of these striking birds in the maize fields near Bogoria.

WHITE-WINGED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes albonotatus*) – About 20 at Nairobi NP.

FAN-TAILED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes axillaris*) – Six in Ngorongoro Crater, and 4 at Kapsabet.

LONG-TAILED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes progne*) – Great looks at a displaying male in the Nakuru grasslands.

Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)

WHITE-BREASTED NIGRITA (*Nigrita fusconotus*) – Two at Kakamega.
CRIMSON-RUMPED WAXBILL (*Estrilda rhodopyga*) – Five at Lake Nakuru Lodge.
COMMON WAXBILL (*Estrilda astrild*) – We saw small flocks at Nairobi, Nakuru, and Kakamega.
BLACK-FACED WAXBILL (*Estrilda erythronotos*) – About a dozen in the Serengeti.
RED-HEADED BLUEBILL (*Spermophaga ruficapilla*) – Two singles at Kakamega.
RED-CHEEKED CORDONBLEU (*Uraeginthus bengalus*) – Widespread in small numbers.
BLUE-CAPPED CORDONBLEU (*Uraeginthus cyanocephalus*) – About 10 in the Ngorongoro-Serengeti area.
PURPLE GRENADIER (*Granatina ianthinogaster*) – We saw 5 of these beautiful waxbills in the Serengeti.
GREEN-WINGED PYTILIA (*Pytilia melba*) – Another gorgeous waxbill - we saw 3 along the cliffs at Baringo.
RED-BILLED FIREFINCH (*Lagonosticta senegala*) – Widespread in small numbers.
GRAY-HEADED SILVERBILL (*Odontospiza griseicapilla*) – Two at the Seronera-Serengeti Park HQ.
BRONZE MANNIKIN (*Spermestes cucullata*) – About a dozen in Nairobi NP, 4 at Kapsabet, and 5 at Mountain Lodge.

Viduidae (Indigobirds)

PIN-TAILED WHYDAH (*Vidua macroura*) – Good looks at a male in breeding plumage near Kabarnet.

MAMMALS

YELLOW-WINGED BAT (*Lavia frons*) – One at Ndutu.
BROWN GREATER GALAGO (*Otolemur crassicaudatus*) – One of our group saw 1 at Gibb's Farm.
BLUE MONKEY (*Cercopithecus mitis*) – We saw about 100 in the Kakamega Forest.
SYKES MONKEY (*Cercopithecus albogularis*) – Fifteen at Nairobi NP, and 1 at Mt. Kenya.
BLACK-CHEEKED WHITE-NOSED MONKEY (*Cercopithecus ascanius*) – More commonly known at Copper-tailed Monkey, we saw 1 at Kakamega.
BLACK-FACED VERVET MONKEY (*Cercopithecus aethiops*) – Common and widespread.
OLIVE BABOON (*Papio anubis*) – Common and widespread; with a total of about 650.
MANTLED GUEREZA (*Colobus guereza*) – More commonly known as Black-and-White Colobus; we saw about 100 at Kakamega Forest.
UNSTRIPED GROUND SQUIRREL (*Xerus rutilus*) – One in the Bogoria-Baringo area.
OCHRE BUSH SQUIRREL (*Paraxerus ochraceus*) – Small numbers were widespread in a variety of well wooded and forested areas.
RED-LEGGED SUN SQUIRREL (*Heliosciurus rufobrachium*) – Five at Kakamega.
BLACK-BACKED JACKAL (*Canis mesomelas*) – Eight in the Serengeti, and 1 at Tarangire.
COMMON JACKAL (*Canis aureus*) – We saw a strange looking jackal in Ngorongoro Crater that had the characteristics of both this species and Black-backed Jackal - perhaps a hybrid?
COMMON (SMALL-SPOTTED) GENET (*Genetta genetta*) – Three at Ndutu Lodge.
LARGE-SPOTTED GENET (*Genetta tigrina*) – One at Mountain Lodge.
BANDED MONGOOSE (*Mungos mungo*) – We saw a total of about 80 in the Serengeti and Tarangire.
EASTERN DWARF MONGOOSE (*Helogale hirtula*) – We saw a total of about 100 in the Serengeti and at Tarangire.
SPOTTED HYAENA (*Crocuta crocuta*) – A dozen in Ngorongoro Crater, and 6 in the Serengeti.
LEOPARD (*Panthera pardus*) – One was found resting in a tree in the Seronera area of the Serengeti.
LION (*Panthera leo*) – Fabulous this tour with at least 55 in Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti; included big males, a mating pair, and family prides too!
CHEETAH (*Acinonyx jubatus*) – Super looks at 1 right next to our vehicle in the Serengeti.
AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*) – Fabulous, with many close encounters of numerous family groups in the Ngorongoro to Serengeti area, and at Tarangire.
ROCK HYRAX (*Procavia capensis*) – About 20 in the Serengeti, 30 at Nakuru, and 6 at Baringo.
BUSH (YELLOW-SPOTTED) HYRAX (*Heterohyrax brucei*) – We saw a total of about 100 between the Serengeti and Tarangire.
TREE HYRAX (*Dendrohyrax arboreus*) – Heard at Mountain Lodge.
BURCHELL'S ZEBRA (*Equus burchelli*) – Very common at Nairobi NP, Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, Tarangire, and Nakuru; in all we saw about 7000.
BLACK RHINOCEROS (*Diceros bicornis*) – Scope views of 2 at Nairobi NP.
WHITE RHINOCEROS (*Ceratotherium simum*) – We saw 5 of these introduced rhinos at Lake Nakuru. [I]
WARTHOG (*Phacochoerus aethiopicus*) – Common in areas of open bush country and savanna.
HIPPOPOTAMUS (*Hippopotamus amphibius*) – About 250 were in the river near Serengeti Serena Lodge, but we also saw at least 150 more in a variety of widespread wetlands.
COMMON GIRAFFE (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) – Common in grasslands like Nairobi NP, the Serengeti, and Tarangire; in all we saw about 200.
ROTHSCHILD'S GIRAFFE (*Giraffa rothschildi*) – Ten at Lake Nakuru.
BUSHBUCK (*Tragelaphus scriptus*) – Singles at Nairobi NP and Ngorongoro, and then about 30 at Mountain Lodge.
COMMON ELAND (*Taurotragus oryx*) – Eight in the Serengeti, and 20 at Nakuru.
AFRICAN BUFFALO (*Syncerus caffer*) – Common in the open grassland areas of many national parks.
COMMON WATERBUCK (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*) – Three at Tarangire.
DEFASSA WATERBUCK (*Kobus defassa*) – One at Ngorongoro, and then about 20 at Nakuru, and 2 at Mountain Lodge.
BOHOR REEDBUCK (*Redunca redunca*) – Two at Nairobi NP.
TOPI (*Damaliscus lunatus*) – About 80 in the Serengeti.
HARTEBEEST (KONGONI) (*Alcelaphus buselaphus*) – We saw at least 100 in Nairobi NP, and 25 in the Serengeti.

BLUE WILDEBEEST (*Connochaetes taurinus*) – Very common from Ngorongoro through the Serengeti, and at Tarangire; in all we saw about 3000.
SUNI (*Neotragus moschatus*) – Two at Mountain Lodge.
KIRK'S DIK-DIK (*Madoqua kirkii*) – Small numbers from the Serengeti to Tarangire.
IMPALA (*Aepyceros malampus*) – Common in open woodland areas.
THOMSON'S GAZELLE (*Gazella thomsoni*) – Several thousand at Ngorongoro, the Serengeti, and Nakuru.
GRANT'S GAZELLE (*Gazella granti*) – Very common from Ngorongoro Crater to Tarangire and at Nakuru; in total we saw about 1400.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Reptiles we saw on the tour included;

Green Mamba; eye level looks at 1 in a tree in Ngorongoro Crater.

Black Forest Cobra; some of the group saw 1 on the road as we drove towards Ndutu.

Mwanza Rock Agama; we saw about a dozen of these beautiful lizards in the Serengeti area.

Green-headed Tree Agama; 1 in the Serengeti.

Red-headed Rock Agama; several in the Bogoria-Baringo area.

Striped Skink; seen several times in the Serengeti.

Totals for the tour: 414 bird taxa and 46 mammal taxa