



SOUTH AFRICA OCTOBER 2011

Oct 6, 2011 to Oct 29, 2011

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This was one of our best tours ever to South Africa, with a great selection of both birds and mammals, from both Black and White rhinos in Mkuzi, to Elephants, Cheetahs and Sable Antelope in Kruger. We saw Orange-breasted Rockjumper at 10,000 feet in the Sani Pass, Knysna Turacos in the forests, Red Lark and Karoo bustards in the arid lands, sugarbirds and sunbirds on the flowering proteas, and a fabulous selection of seabirds on our pelagic trip.

Although visiting many of the areas we have been to on previous trips, we ran this tour in the reverse direction, adding one new stop near our Taita Falcon site, and shortening our stay in Johannesburg by one night.

Beginning with a flight to Upington, we were soon driving west to our base in Pofadder and seeing our first arid country birds: Pale Chanting-Goshawk, Martial Eagle, Pygmy Falcon, Kori, Ludwig's, Karoo and White-quilled bustards, Namaqua Sandgrouse, Spotted Eagle-Owl, White-backed Mousebird, and a bunch of localised larks including Fawn-coloured, Red (Ferruginous), and Karoo Long-billed. We also made a detour to a reserve near Springbok and had just fantastic looks at Kopje Warbler and Yellow-rumped Eremomela, both shy and often difficult-to-see endemics.

We then headed south-west to the famous colony of Cape Gannets at Lambert's Bay. Cape and Crowned cormorants were present, as were plenty of Hartlaub's and Kelp (Cape) gulls. Inland we added Cape Clapper Lark, Southern Penduline-Tit, stunning Red Bishops, and the not so stunning but much-wanted Protea Canary.

Continuing south, we enjoyed Blue Crane and Black Harrier before passing through Cape Town and on to our three night stay at Boulders Beach. Here we had Jackass Penguins literally on our doorstep, and it was a perfect base for those of us who went on the pelagic trip, which was cancelled the first day due to bad weather. Luckily the winds dropped overnight and we were able to make the trip on our second attempt. White-capped Albatrosses were common and frequently right alongside our boat, and we also saw single Indian and Atlantic Yellow-nosed albatrosses, plus a Black-browed. It was especially interesting to see the differences between Northern and Southern giant-petrels, and to watch many White-chinned and Cape petrels, together with smaller numbers of Sooty Shearwaters and Black-bellied Storm-petrels.

Inland we birded the rocky mountain coastline, finding such localised or gorgeous birds as Cape Francolin, Southern Boubou, Rufous Rockjumper, Cape Bulbul, Victorin's Scrub-Warbler (normally a real super-skulker but positively extroverted this year), Cape Grassbird, Cape Sugarbird, Cape Rock-Thrush, Orange-breasted Sunbird, and Cape Siskin. A mother and baby Southern Right Whale put on a fabulous show just offshore.

We then flew to Durban and drove inland to Bulwer, the Sani Pass, and Oribi Gorge. Disturbed by some fast-changing weather, we had to be flexible in the amount of time we spent at any one spot. All in all though, we did great, with good looks at Cape Griffon, Crowned Hawk-Eagle (eating a young Bushbuck), Wattled Crane, Knysna Turaco, Narina Trogon, Ground Woodpecker, Orange-breasted Rockjumper (good close long looks), Fairy Flycatcher, African Scrub-Warbler, Drakensburg Prinia, Gurney's Sugarbird, Buff-streaked Chat, Bush Blackcap, Mountain Pipit (extremely localised), and Drakensberg Siskin.

We then returned to the coast and the lowland forests around Saint Lucia where our list of target species: Livingstone's Turaco, Woodward's Batis, Rudd's Apalis, and Brown Scrub-Robin were all easily found. Added bonuses were the Southern Brown-throated Weavers in a newly grown reed bed, and a close flock of African Pygmy-Geese.

We continued by heading north to the Mkuzi Game Reserve and our first chance to see a good variety of big game. We were not disappointed either, with super close views of both Black and White rhinos, Burchell's Zebra, Warthog, Common Giraffe, Nyala, Great Kudu, Blue Wildebeest, African Buffalo, and Impala. Birdlife was also great, with lots of opportunities for the photographers, just a few of the highlights being Crested Guineafowl, Black-bellied Bustard (right next to the vehicles), Purple-crested Turaco (only 10 feet away) Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill, White Helmetshrike, Four-colored Bushshrike (just gorgeous), White-throated Robin-Chat, Red-billed Oxpecker, and two very localised endemics:

Neergaard's Sunbird and Pink-throated Twinspot.

Turning west and further inland, we climbed into the high altitude grasslands around Wakkerstroom where we found a good selection of waterbirds, and grassland species including a displaying Stanley Bustard, Blue Bustard, Bald Ibis, Rudd's, Pink-billed and Botha's larks, Cloud Cisticola, Yellow-breasted Pipit, and the spectacular Long-tailed Widowbird.

A new addition to our reverse-order itinerary was a night on the way to Kruger in Lydenberg, which enabled us to get to the Taita Falcon site early the next morning, and it worked; we had our best-ever views of this rare little falcon!

Kruger was now another park with excellent game viewing opportunities, and again we were not disappointed. For most of us the highlight was two very close huge male Cheetahs, but numerous encounters with African Elephant, African Buffalo, Zebra, Hippos, Giraffe, Topi, and Impala were enjoyed too. We also saw a magnificent male Sable Antelope, and two Spotted Hyaenas.

From Kruger we began our journey west, and then south, as we headed back towards Johannesburg, first stopping along the way for close scope views of a roosting Bat Hawk, and then staying at Magoebaskloof, where we were rewarded with great looks at both forms of Brown-necked Parrot (split and known as Cape and Grey-headed parrots to most African authorities). Other good birds we saw here included Rameron Pigeon, African Emerald Cuckoo, Olive Woodpecker, Olive Bushshrike (after some hard work), Yellow-streaked Bulbul, and Chorister Robin-Chat.

Our final stay was in the acacia woodland near Pietersburg, and it was a great way to end the tour: a new habitat and many new birds. Just some of the additions we saw here were Coqui Francolin, Spotted Thick-knee, Pied and Black cuckoos, Southern White-faced Owl, Wahlberg's Honeyguide, Crimson-breasted Gonolek, Short-clawed Lark (an extremely localised endemic), Ashy Tit, Burnt-neck Eremomela, Mariqua Flycatcher, Kalahari Scrub-Robin, Great Sparrow, and the very beautiful Violet-eared Waxbill.

--Terry

We have more information about this itinerary and future departures on our web page for [South Africa](#).

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 (*Struthio camelus*) – Most common in the West Coast NP where we saw about 50, but we also had small numbers at Pofadder, Kruger, and Pietersburg.

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

WHITE-FACED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna viduata*) – Fifty at Muzi Pan and about 100 at Kruger.

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

SOUTH AFRICAN SHELDUCK (*Tadorna cana*) – First seen near Pofadder, and then near Lambert's Bay and near Cape Town; we saw a total of 7. **[E]**

SPUR-WINGED GOOSE (*Plectropterus gambensis*) – Common in grassy areas (including farm fields) and wetlands throughout the tour; we saw a total of about 140.

AFRICAN PYGMY-GOOSE (*Nettapus auritus*) – Fabulous looks at 12 of these attractive small ducks at Saint Lucia.

AFRICAN BLACK DUCK (*Anas sparsa*) – Seen by some of the group at Oribi Gorge, and then by a few others to the north of Mkuzi, finally everyone saw an adult and 2 juveniles near Wakkerstroom.

YELLOW-BILLED DUCK (*Anas undulata*) – Widespread at wetlands throughout the tour, in all we saw about 130.

CAPE SHOVELER (*Anas smithii*) – One near Lambert's Bay, 20 at Cape Town Sewage Works, and 6 at Wakkerstroom. **[E]**

RED-BILLED DUCK (*Anas erythrorhyncha*) – Small numbers at Cape Town Sewage Works and Mkuzi.

HOTTENTOT TEAL (*Anas hottentota*) – Four at Franklin Marsh, 2 at Mkuzi, and 6 at Wakkerstroom.

CAPE TEAL (*Anas capensis*) – Three near Lambert's Bay, and 200+ at Cape Town Sewage Works.

SOUTHERN POCHARD (*Netta erythrophthalma*) – About a dozen at Cape Town Sewage Works.

MACCOA DUCK (*Oxyura maccoa*) – We saw a single male at Cape Town Sewage Works.

Numididae (Guineafowl)

HELMETED GUINEAFOWL (*Numida meleagris*) – Common and widespread away from very arid country and forest; in all we saw about 400.

CRESTED GUINEAFOWL (*Guttera pucherani*) – About 20 at Saint Lucia, and 40 at Mkuzi.

Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)

COQUI FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus coqui*) – A pair exploded out from under our feet in the Pietersburg Game Reserve.

CRESTED FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus sephaena*) – Two at Mkuzi, and about 12 in Kruger.

RED-WINGED FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus levaillantii*) – Good looks at a pair near Lydenburg.

GRAY-WINGED FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus africanus*) – A pair with a juvenile were seen on a rocky hill near Wakkerstroom. [E]

CAPE FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus capensis*) – A total of about 30 were seen between Lambert's Bay and the Cape region. [E]

NATAL FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus natalensis*) – Common (and tame) at Kruger, and 10 in the Pietersburg area.

SWAINSON'S FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus swainsonii*) – Six at Wakkerstroom, and about 25 at Kruger.

Podicipedidae (Grebes)

LITTLE GREBE (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) – Very common at Cape Town Sewage Works (c.200), and smaller numbers (about 50) were widespread at a variety of scattered wetlands.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE (*Podiceps cristatus*) – Five near Clanwilliam, and 1 at Cape Town Sewage Works.

EARED GREBE (*Podiceps nigricollis*) – Twenty at Cape Town Sewage Works.

Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)

GREATER FLAMINGO (*Phoenicopterus roseus*) – About 200 at Valddrif.

LESSER FLAMINGO (*Phoenicopterus minor*) – Three hundred and fifty at Valddrif, and 6 at Chrissiemeer.

Spheniscidae (Penguins)

JACKASS PENGUIN (*Spheniscus demersus*) – Three at Lambert's Bay, and then excellent close looks at about 500 at Boulder's Beach and Stony Point; sadly a rapidly declining species. [E]

Diomedidae (Albatrosses)

YELLOW-NOSED ALBATROSS (ATLANTIC) (*Thalassarche chlororhynchos chlororhynchos*) – We saw one of this form (with a pale gray wash to the head) on our pelagic trip; usually split these days from the following form.

YELLOW-NOSED ALBATROSS (INDIAN) (*Thalassarche chlororhynchos bassi*) – Good looks at 1 of this white headed form on our pelagic trip; usually split these days from the previous form.

WHITE-CAPPED ALBATROSS (*Thalassarche cauta*) – Also known as Shy Albatross, this was the most numerous albatross on our pelagic trip; in all we saw about 200.

BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS (*Thalassarche melanophris*) – One on our pelagic trip.

Procellariidae (Shearwaters and Petrels)

SOUTHERN GIANT-PETREL (*Macronectes giganteus*) – Excellent close views of a bird sitting on the sea during our pelagic trip.

NORTHERN GIANT-PETREL (*Macronectes halli*) – One in flight during our pelagic trip.

CAPE PETREL (*Daption capense*) – About 50 of these striking seabirds on our pelagic trip.

WHITE-CHINNED PETREL (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*) – We saw about 500 on our pelagic trip.

GREAT SHEARWATER (*Puffinus gravis*) – One during our pelagic trip.

SOOTY SHEARWATER (*Puffinus griseus*) – Good looks at about 20 during our pelagic trip.

Hydrobatidae (Storm-Petrels)

WILSON'S STORM-PETREL (*Oceanites oceanicus*) – At least 100 were seen during our pelagic trip.

BLACK-BELLIED STORM-PETREL (*Fregetta tropica*) – Very difficult at first but eventually we all saw at least 1 or 2 (of about 6) on our pelagic trip.

Ciconiidae (Storks)

AFRICAN OPENBILL (*Anastomus lamelligerus*) – Twelve at Muzi Pan, and 1 at Kruger.

BLACK STORK (*Ciconia nigra*) – Two of the group saw 1 in flight at The Ranch Resort near Pietersburg.

WOOLLY-NECKED STORK (*Ciconia episcopus*) – Two at Saint Lucia, and 3 at Mkuzi.

MARABOU STORK (*Leptoptilos crumeniferus*) – About 60 at Kruger, and 20 at The Ranch Resort.

YELLOW-BILLED STORK (*Mycteria ibis*) – One at Saint Lucia, about 50 at Muzi Pan, and 1 at Kruger.

Sulidae (Boobies and Gannets)

CAPE GANNET (*Morus capensis*) – About 6000 at the Lambert's Bay colony, and 1000 on the pelagic trip off Cape Point.

Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)

GREAT CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) – About 100 in the Lambert's Bay to Cape region, and 10 at Wakkerstroom.

CAPE CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax capensis*) – Eight hundred at Lambert's Bay and 600 in the Cape area. [E]

BANK CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax neglectus*) – Good scope views of about 20 on their nests at Stony Point. [E]

LONG-TAILED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax africanus*) – Widespread in small numbers at wetlands throughout the tour.

CROWNED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax coronatus*) – Four at Lambert's Bay, and 5 at Stony Point. [E]

Anhingidae (Anhingas)

AFRICAN DARTER (*Anhinga rufa rufa*) – Five singles were seen at a variety of widespread wetlands.

Pelecanidae (Pelicans)

GREAT WHITE PELICAN (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) – Three hundred at Velddrif, and 20 at Muzi Pan.

PINK-BACKED PELICAN (*Pelecanus rufescens*) – Twelve at Saint Lucia, and 6 at Muzi Pan.

Scopidae (Hamerkop)

HAMERKOP (*Scopus umbretta*) – Three singles at scattered sites in the north, and 1 early in the tour east of Upington.

Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

LITTLE BITTERN (*Ixobrychus minutus*) – We saw a nice adult male at Franklin Marsh.

GRAY HERON (*Ardea cinerea*) – Widespread in small numbers especially near water.

BLACK-HEADED HERON (*Ardea melanocephala*) – Widespread in small numbers and often in open grassland.

GOLIATH HERON (*Ardea goliath*) – The world's largest heron, we saw singles 50 kms. north of Mkuzi, Chrissiemeer, and at Kruger.

PURPLE HERON (*Ardea purpurea*) – Two in flight at Franklin Marsh, and 1 at Saint Lucia.

GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*) – A total of about a dozen were seen between Saint Lucia, Mkuzi, Wakkerstroom and Pietersburg.

INTERMEDIATE EGRET (*Mesophoyx intermedia*) – Singles at Muzi Pan and Kruger.

LITTLE EGRET (*Egretta garzetta*) – Six at Muzi Pan, and 2 in Kruger.

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

SQUACCO HERON (*Ardeola ralloides*) – Six at Saint Lucia, and 3 more at Wakkerstroom and Kruger.

STRIATED HERON (*Butorides striata*) – Singles 50 kms. north of Mkuzi and in Kruger.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) – Five at a day roost at Wakkerstroom.

Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*) – Small numbers were widespread on a variety of scattered wetlands.

SACRED IBIS (*Threskiornis aethiopicus*) – Common and widespread throughout the tour.

BALD IBIS (*Geronticus calvus*) – Good looks at this strange looking endemic in the high altitude grasslands around Wakkerstroom. [E]

HADADA IBIS (*Bostrychia hagedash*) – Very common and widespread throughout the tour.

AFRICAN SPOONBILL (*Platalea alba*) – Sixty at Muzi Pan was by far the highest single concentration, but we also had 9

others at a variety of scattered wetlands.

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

AFRICAN CUCKOO-HAWK (*Aviceda cuculoides*) – One at Mkuzi.

BAT HAWK (*Macheiramphus alcinus*) – Great scope looks in a eucalyptus tree at Agatha Forestry Station.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE (*Elanus caeruleus*) – Widespread, but most common in the north where we saw about a dozen.

BLACK KITE (YELLOW-BILLED) (*Milvus migrans parasitus*) – One of the more common and widespread raptors; some authors split this form as Yellow-billed Kite.

AFRICAN FISH-EAGLE (*Haliaeetus vocifer*) – Singles at Velddrif, Franklin Marsh, and at Kruger.

HOODED VULTURE (*Necrosyrtes monachus*) – Three at Kruger.

WHITE-BACKED VULTURE (*Gyps africanus*) – About 20 at Mkuzi, and 40+ at Kruger.

CAPE GRIFFON (*Gyps coprotheres*) – Four at the Sani Pass, 1 at Abel Erasmus Pass, and about 6 in the Pietersburg area.

[E]

LAPPET-FACED VULTURE (*Torgos tracheliotus*) – Now considered a threatened species, we saw 1 at Kruger.

BLACK-BREASTED SNAKE-EAGLE (*Circaetus pectoralis*) – One near Pietersburg.

BROWN SNAKE-EAGLE (*Circaetus cinereus*) – Four singles at Kruger.

BATELEUR (*Terathopius ecaudatus*) – Five at Kruger.

AFRICAN MARSH-HARRIER (*Circus ranivorus*) – Two at Franklin Marsh, 1 at Mkuzi, and 6 at Wakkerstroom.

BLACK HARRIER (*Circus maurus*) – We had great looks at a flying adult in West Coast NP, where we also had more distant views of 3 immature birds. [E]

AFRICAN HARRIER-HAWK (*Polyboroides typus*) – Three singles in the Mkuzi area.

PALE CHANTING-GOSHAWK (*Melierax canorus*) – About 30 between Upington, Pofadder and the Springbok area. [E]

AFRICAN GOSHAWK (*Accipiter tachiro*) – We saw high flying calling birds at Saint Lucia and Magoebaskloof.

LITTLE SPARROWHAWK (*Accipiter minullus*) – Singles in flight at Kruger and Magoebaskloof.

COMMON BUZZARD (*Buteo buteo*) – Two near Bulwer, and 1 at Sani Pass.

JACKAL BUZZARD (*Buteo rufofuscus*) – Mainly in the high country (but also elsewhere), in all we saw about 25. [E]

TAWNY EAGLE (*Aquila rapax*) – One at Mkuzi, and 3 at Kruger.

STEPPE EAGLE (*Aquila nipalensis*) – Two at Kruger.

AFRICAN HAWK-EAGLE (*Aquila spilogaster*) – One at Mkuzi, 4 at Kruger, and 1 at The Ranch Resort.

WAHLBERG'S EAGLE (*Hieraetus wahlbergi*) – Pairs and singles were seen at Mkuzi, Kruger, and around Pietersburg.

BOOTED EAGLE (*Hieraetus pennatus*) – We saw two single white morph birds, first at Springbok and then near Pietersburg.

MARTIAL EAGLE (*Polemaetus bellicosus*) – Single adults were seen near Pofadder and Springbok.

LONG-CRESTED EAGLE (*Lophaetus occipitalis*) – Six in the Sani Pass, Bulwer and Oribi Gorge area, and then another single near Pietersburg.

CROWNED HAWK-EAGLE (*Stephanoaetus coronatus*) – We saw an adult (eating part of a Bushbuck) near a nest at Howick Falls, and then another adult at Oribi Gorge.

Sagittariidae (Secretary-bird)

SECRETARY-BIRD (*Sagittarius serpentarius*) – We saw a total of 7 this tour; at sites varying from arid country near Pofadder, to high altitude grasslands near Ingeli and Wakkerstroom.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

PYGMY FALCON (*Polihierax semitorquatus*) – Three along the electricity poles near Pofadder.

EURASIAN KESTREL (ROCK) (*Falco tinnunculus rupicolus*) – This distinctive form is often split as Rock Kestrel; we saw 4 near Pofadder, and singles at Betty's Bay and Sani Pass.

GREATER KESTREL (*Falco rupicoloides*) – Good looks at about 6 in the Pofadder area.

LANNER FALCON (*Falco biarmicus*) – We scoped a bird at Howick Falls, and then saw 2 in flight at Ingeli.

TAITA FALCON (*Falco fasciinucha*) – Fabulous scope views of this rare falcon at Abel Erasmus Pass.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

BUFF-SPOTTED FLUFFTAIL (*Sarothrura elegans*) – Some of the group saw a single bird on a track in the Bulwer

Forest, another was heard at Saint Lucia.

RED-CHESTED FLUFFTAIL (*Sarothrura rufa*) – Heard at Franklin Marsh.

AFRICAN RAIL (*Rallus caerulescens*) – Heard by everyone, and seen by 2 of the group at Wakkerstroom.

BLACK CRAKE (*Amaurornis flavirostra*) – Six at Kruger, and 1 at The Ranch Resort.

PURPLE SWAMPHEN (*Porphyrio porphyrio*) – One at Mkuzi, and 2 at Kruger.

COMMON MOORHEN (*Gallinula chloropus*) – Widespread in small numbers.

RED-KNOBBED COOT (*Fulica cristata*) – Very common on a variety of scattered wetlands; in all we saw about 450.

Otididae (Bustards)

KORI BUSTARD (*Ardeotis kori*) – One near Pofadder, and 2 at Kruger.

LUDWIG'S BUSTARD (*Neotis ludwigii*) – Two to the south of Pofadder. [E]

STANLEY BUSTARD (*Neotis denhami*) – We saw the amazing fluffed out display of a male bird near Wakkerstroom.

WHITE-BELLIED BUSTARD (*Eupodotis senegalensis barrowii*) – Often split as Barrow's Bustard we had great looks at a pair east of Wakkerstroom. [E]

BLUE BUSTARD (*Eupodotis caerulescens*) – Another endemic bustard of the Wakkerstroom area, we saw a total of 6. [E]

KAROO BUSTARD (*Eupodotis vigorsii*) – Nice looks at 3 near Pofadder. [E]

RED-CRESTED BUSTARD (*Eupodotis ruficrista*) – Three near Pofadder.

BLACK BUSTARD (*Eupodotis afra*) – Two in the West Coast NP. [E]

WHITE-QUILLED BUSTARD (*Eupodotis afraoides*) – Three near Pofadder, and 1 heard at Pietersburg. [E]

BLACK-BELLIED BUSTARD (*Lissotis melanogaster*) – Three at Mkuzi.

Gruidae (Cranes)

GRAY CROWNED-CRANE (*Balearica regulorum*) – Small numbers in a variety of highland marshes and grasslands; in all we saw about 30.

BLUE CRANE (*Anthropoides paradiseus*) – We saw these beautiful cranes near Piketberg (5) and Wakkerstroom (4). [E]

WATTLED CRANE (*Bugeranus carunculatus*) – Four in the farm fields at Franklin Marsh.

Burhinidae (Thick-knees)

WATER THICK-KNEE (*Burhinus vermiculatus*) – Eight at Saint Lucia, and about 40 at Kruger.

SPOTTED THICK-KNEE (*Burhinus capensis*) – One at Pietersburg.

Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

BLACKSMITH PLOVER (*Vanellus armatus*) – Common and widespread near water.

CROWNED LAPWING (*Vanellus coronatus*) – Small numbers were widespread in open country.

WATTLED LAPWING (*Vanellus senegallus*) – One at Mkuzi, and about 10 in the Wakkerstroom area.

KITTLITZ'S PLOVER (*Charadrius pecuarius*) – Six at Velddrif, and 2 at Muzi Pan.

COMMON RINGED PLOVER (*Charadrius hiaticula*) – Two at Velddrif, and 6 at Saint Lucia.

THREE-BANDED PLOVER (*Charadrius tricollaris*) – Singles at Lambert's Bay, Saint Lucia, and Kruger.

WHITE-FRONTED PLOVER (*Charadrius marginatus*) – Ten at Velddrif, 4 at Saint Lucia, and 2 at Kruger.

Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)

AFRICAN OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus moquini*) – Great looks at 1 at Lambert's Bay, and then 2 to the east of Cape Town. [E]

Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)

BLACK-WINGED STILT (*Himantopus himantopus*) – Widespread in small numbers.

PIED AVOCET (*Recurvirostra avocetta*) – Good looks at 4 on a small pool to the south of Pofadder.

Jacanidae (Jacanas)

AFRICAN JACANA (*Actophilornis africanus*) – Most common at Kruger, but we also had others at a variety of wetlands with floating vegetation; in all we saw about 60.

Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)

COMMON SANDPIPER (*Actitis hypoleucos*) – One at Saint Lucia.

COMMON GREENSHANK (*Tringa nebularia*) – One at Wakkerstroom, and 3 at Kruger.

MARSH SANDPIPER (*Tringa stagnatilis*) – Three at Muzi Pan, and 1 in Kruger.

WOOD SANDPIPER (*Tringa glareola*) – Singles at Saint Lucia, Muzi Pan, and Kruger.

WHIMBREL (EUROPEAN) (*Numenius phaeopus phaeopus*) – The nominate race is now often split as Eurasian Whimbrel; we saw 1 at Saint Lucia.

RUDDY TURNSTONE (*Arenaria interpres*) – One at Saint Lucia.

LITTLE STINT (*Calidris minuta*) – About 150 at Velddrif, 2 at Saint Lucia, and 1 at Kruger.

CURLEW SANDPIPER (*Calidris ferruginea*) – Four hundred at Velddrif, and 4 at Saint Lucia.

RUFF (*Philomachus pugnax*) – Six at Chrissiemeer, and 4 at Kruger.

AFRICAN SNIPE (*Gallinago nigripennis*) – Four at Wakkerstrom, and 6 at Chrissiemeer.

Rostratulidae (Painted-Snipes)

GREATER PAINTED-SNIPE (*Rostratula benghalensis*) – Two males at Kruger.

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

SABINE'S GULL (*Xema sabini*) – At least 20 were seen during our pelagic trip; the highest number we've ever seen.

GRAY-HOODED GULL (*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*) – Several around the hotel and airport in Johannesburg.

HARTLAUB'S GULL (*Chroicocephalus hartlaubii*) – Several hundred between Lambert's Bay and the Cape Town area.

[E]

KELP GULL (CAPE) (*Larus dominicanus vetula*) – Sometimes split as Cape Gull we saw at least 650 in the Lambert's Bay and Cape areas. [E]

WHISKERED TERN (*Chlidonias hybrida*) – Six (including some in breeding plumage) at Muzi Pan.

COMMON TERN (*Sterna hirundo*) – One at Lambert's Bay, and about 100 during our pelagic trip.

Stercorariidae (Skuas and Jaegers)

BROWN SKUA (SUBANTARCTIC) (*Stercorarius antarcticus lonnbergi*) – Birds in South African waters were previously considered to be the nominate form, but all specimens are of the race lonnbergi and this is now the only race accepted for South Africa; we saw 3 on our pelagic trip.

PARASITIC JAEGER (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) – One during our pelagic trip.

Pteroclididae (Sandgrouse)

NAMAQUA SANDGROUSE (*Pterocles namaqua*) – Good looks at about 60 as they came to drink at a sheep trough south of Pofadder.

DOUBLE-BANDED SANDGROUSE (*Pterocles bicinctus*) – Two at Kruger.

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*) – Very common and widespread.

SPECKLED PIGEON (*Columba guinea*) – Common and widespread.

RAMERON PIGEON (*Columba arquatrix*) – Small numbers at Bulwer, Saint Lucia, and Magoebaskloof.

LEMON DOVE (*Columba larvata*) – Heard at Oribi Gorge.

AFRICAN MOURNING DOVE (*Streptopelia decipiens*) – About 10 at Kruger.

RED-EYED DOVE (*Streptopelia semitorquata*) – Widespread in small numbers away from arid country.

RING-NECKED DOVE (*Streptopelia capicola*) – Common and widespread.

LAUGHING DOVE (*Streptopelia senegalensis*) – Common and widespread.

EMERALD-SPOTTED WOOD-DOVE (*Turtur chalcospilos*) – Common at Mkuzi and Kruger.

TAMBOURINE DOVE (*Turtur tympanistria*) – Two singles at Saint Lucia.

NAMAQUA DOVE (*Oena capensis*) – About 20 in the Pofadder to Lambert's Bay area, and another 20 at Kruger.

AFRICAN GREEN-PIGEON (*Treron calvus*) – Four at Saint Lucia, and 6 at Kruger.

Psittacidae (Parrots)

BROWN-NECKED PARROT (*Poicephalus robustus*) – This species is usually known as Cape Parrot and differs from the following species by having a yellowish-brown head; we had great scope views of a pair at Magoebaskloof.

BROWN-NECKED PARROT (*Poicephalus robustus fuscicollis*) – This species, with the distinct cold gray head is usually split as Grey-headed parrot *P. fuscicollis*; we had great scope looks at 2 at Magoebaskloof.

BROWN-HEADED PARROT (*Poicephalus cryptoxanthus*) – Six at Kruger.

Musophagidae (Turacos)

LIVINGSTONE'S TURACO (*Tauraco livingstonii*) – Six in the forest at Saint Lucia.

KNYSNA TURACO (*Tauraco corythaix*) – Great looks at Bulwer, Oriibi Gorge, and Magoebaskloof. [E]

PURPLE-CRESTED TURACO (*Tauraco porphyreolophus*) – Two at Saint Lucia, and then fabulous close looks from the hide at Mkuzi.

GRAY GO-AWAY-BIRD (*Corythaixoides concolor*) – About a dozen at Kruger, and 6 around Pietersburg.

Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

PIED CUCKOO (*Clamator jacobinus*) – One in the Pietersburg Game Reserve.

LEVAILLANT'S CUCKOO (*Clamator levaillantii*) – One at Kruger.

RED-CHESTED CUCKOO (*Cuculus solitarius*) – Heard many times, but only seen well at Oriibi Gorge.

BLACK CUCKOO (*Cuculus clamosus*) – One in the Pietersburg Game Reserve.

KLAAS'S CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx klaas*) – Some of the group saw 1 at Kruger, and then everyone saw 1 at The Ranch Resort.

AFRICAN EMERALD CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx cupreus*) – Good scope views of a male at Magoebaskloof.

DIDERIC CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx caprius*) – Small numbers at Mkuzi, Kruger, and near Pietersburg.

YELLOWBILL (*Ceuthmochares aereus*) – Heard by everyone and seen in flight by just a few at Saint Lucia.

WHITE-BROWED COUCAL (BURCHELL'S) (*Centropus superciliosus burchellii*) – Often split as Burchell's Coucal, we saw 2 singles at Saint Lucia.

Strigidae (Owls)

AFRICAN SCOPS-OWL (*Otus senegalensis*) – Great looks at a day roosting bird at Letaba Rest Camp in Kruger.

SOUTHERN WHITE-FACED OWL (*Ptilopsis granti*) – Thanks to some local help we had fabulous views of this owl near Pietersburg.

SPOTTED EAGLE-OWL (*Bubo africanus*) – One at Pofadder.

VERREAUX'S EAGLE-OWL (*Bubo lacteus*) – We saw an adult and a juvenile on a nest in Kruger.

PEARL-SPOTTED OWLET (*Glaucidium perlatum*) – Two at Kruger.

Apodidae (Swifts)

ALPINE SWIFT (*Apus melba*) – Small numbers at Sani Pass, Abel Erasmus Pass, and near Pietersburg.

AFRICAN SWIFT (*Apus barbatus*) – Small numbers at Betty's Bay, Bulwer, and Abel Erasmus Pass.

LITTLE SWIFT (*Apus affinis*) – Very common and widespread.

WHITE-RUMPED SWIFT (*Apus caffer*) – Small numbers at Oriibi Gorge, Saint Lucia, Wakkerstroom, and at Kruger.

AFRICAN PALM-SWIFT (*Cypsiurus parvus*) – Small numbers were widespread in areas with palm trees.

Coliidae (Mousebirds)

SPECKLED MOUSEBIRD (*Colius striatus*) – Common in the east and north; in all we saw about 80.

WHITE-BACKED MOUSEBIRD (*Colius colius*) – Fairly common in the west and Cape region. [E]

RED-FACED MOUSEBIRD (*Urocolius indicus*) – Small numbers at Mkuzi, Kruger, and around Pietersburg.

Trogonidae (Trogons)

NARINA TROGON (*Apaloderma narina*) – Fantastic looks at a male at Oriibi Gorge, and then a second bird at Magoebaskloof.

Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)

MALACHITE KINGFISHER (*Corythornis cristatus*) – Two near Wakkerstroom.

AFRICAN PYGMY-KINGFISHER (*Ispidina picta*) – For 1 of the group at Oriibi Gorge, and then an exceptionally tame bird for every one at The Ranch Resort.

BROWN-HOODED KINGFISHER (*Halcyon albiventris*) – Singles at Oriibi Gorge, Kruger, and Pietersburg.

STRIPED KINGFISHER (*Halcyon chelicuti*) – Singles at Mkuzi and Kruger.

GIANT KINGFISHER (*Megaceryle maximus*) – Two at Oriibi Gorge, 2 at Saint Lucia, and 1 at Kruger.

PIED KINGFISHER (*Ceryle rudis*) – One at Velddrif, 1 at Saint Lucia, 3 at Wakkerstroom, and 4 at Kruger.

Meropidae (Bee-eaters)

WHITE-FRONTED BEE-EATER (*Merops bullockoides*) – Two at Mopane Rest Camp in Kruger.

LITTLE BEE-EATER (*Merops pusillus*) – Four at Mkuzi.

SWALLOW-TAILED BEE-EATER (*Merops hirundineus*) – One at Upington airport.

EUROPEAN BEE-EATER (*Merops apiaster*) – We saw three of the resident population at Lambert's Bay, and then about 60 migrants from Eurasia at Kruger and Pietersburg.

Coraciidae (Rollers)

LILAC-BREASTED ROLLER (*Coracias caudatus*) – One at Mkuzi, 30+ at Kruger, and 1 near Pietersburg.

RUFOUS-CROWNED ROLLER (*Coracias naevius*) – Three at Kruger.

Upupidae (Hoopoes)

EURASIAN HOOPOE (AFRICAN) (*Upupa epops africana*) – Widespread in small numbers; in all we saw about 12.

Phoeniculidae (Woodhoopoes and Scimitar-bills)

GREEN WOODHOOPOE (*Phoeniculus purpureus*) – Four at Oribi Gorge, and 4 at Kruger.

COMMON SCIMITAR-BILL (*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*) – Three at Mkuzi, and 1 at The Ranch Resort.

Bucerotidae (Hornbills)

RED-BILLED HORNBILL (*Tockus erythrorhynchus*) – About 20 at Kruger.

SOUTHERN YELLOW-BILLED HORNBILL (*Tockus leucomelas*) – Three at Mkuzi, about 40 at Kruger, and 6 in the Pietersburg area. [E]

CROWNED HORNBILL (*Tockus alboterminatus*) – One at Oribi Gorge, and 6 at Mkuzi.

AFRICAN GRAY HORNBILL (*Tockus nasutus*) – Six at Kruger.

TRUMPETER HORNBILL (*Ceratogymna bucinator*) – About a dozen at Oribi Gorge, and 6 at Saint Lucia.

SOUTHERN GROUND-HORNBILL (*Bucorvus leadbeateri*) – Three in a river bed at Kruger.

Lybiidae (African Barbets)

CRESTED BARBET (*Trachyphonus vaillantii*) – Two at Augrabies were unusual, and we also saw about 6 at Kruger, and 1 at The Ranch Resort.

WHITE-EARED BARBET (*Stactolaema leucotis*) – Eight at Saint Lucia.

YELLOW-RUMPED TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus bilineatus*) – Three at Saint Lucia.

RED-FRONTED TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus pusillus*) – Singles at Saint Lucia and Mkuzi.

PIED BARBET (*Tricholaema leucomelas*) – Two at Augrabies, and 1 at The Ranch Resort.

BLACK-COLLARED BARBET (*Lybius torquatus*) – Small numbers at Oribi Gorge, Mkuzi, Wakkerstroom and in the Pietersburg area; in all we saw about 30.

Indicatoridae (Honeyguides)

WAHLBERG'S HONEYGUIDE (*Prodotiscus regulus*) – Great looks at this rather localised bird at The Ranch Resort.

LESSER HONEYGUIDE (*Indicator minor*) – One at Mkuzi.

SCALY-THROATED HONEYGUIDE (*Indicator variegatus*) – One at Magoebaskloof.

Picidae (Woodpeckers)

RUFOUS-NECKED WRYNECK (*Jynx ruficollis*) – Good looks at 1 at Bulwer, and then a second bird for some of the group at Wakkerstroom.

BENNETT'S WOODPECKER (*Campethera bennettii*) – Good looks at a pair at Kruger.

GOLDEN-TAILED WOODPECKER (*Campethera abingoni*) – Singles at Saint Lucia, Mkuzi, and at Kruger.

KNYSNA WOODPECKER (*Campethera notata*) – Repeatedly heard and seen briefly in flight by a couple of the group at Oribi Gorge. [E]

GROUND WOODPECKER (*Geocolaptes olivaceus*) – Really good looks this year at Sani Pass (6), and Wakkerstroom (2). [E]

CARDINAL WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos fuscescens*) – Singles and pairs at Bulwer, Sani Pass, and Mkuzi.

OLIVE WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos griseocephalus*) – One at Bulwer in the rain, and then much better views of up to 4 at Magoebaskloof.

Platysteiridae (Wattle-eyes and Batises)

CAPE BATIS (*Batis capensis*) – We saw singles of these striking batises at Boulder's Beach and Sani Pass, and then a pair at Oribi Gorge, and 4 at Magoebaskloof. [E]

WOODWARD'S BATIS (*Batis fratrum*) – We saw a pair of these extremely localised batises at Saint Lucia.

CHINSPOT BATIS (*Batis molitor*) – Four at Mkuzi, and 4 at Kruger.

Prionopidae (Helmetshrikes and Allies)

WHITE HELMETSHRIKE (*Prionops plumatus*) – We saw a flock of 5 at Mkuzi.

Malaconotidae (Bushshrikes and Allies)

BRUBRU (*Nilaus afer*) – Two at Kruger and 2 in the Pietersburg Game Reserve.

BLACK-CROWNED TCHAGRA (*Tchagra senegalus*) – Two singles at Kruger.

BROWN-CROWNED TCHAGRA (*Tchagra australis*) – Two at Mkuzi, and 1 at Kruger.

SOUTHERN BOUBOU (*Laniarius ferrugineus*) – We saw these often rather shy boubous at six different widespread locations. [E]

CRIMSON-BREASTED GONOLEK (*Laniarius atrococcineus*) – We saw 8 of these striking bushshrikes in the Pietersburg area. [E]

BOKMAKIERIE (*Telophorus zeylonus*) – Singles at Pofadder and Lambert's Bay, and 2 at Sani Pass. [E]

SULPHUR-BREASTED BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus sulfureopectus*) – Great looks at 1 at Mkuzi.

OLIVE BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus olivaceus*) – Very difficult this year, but we eventually all had great looks at an adult and an immature in the garden of our hotel at Magoebaskloof.

BLACK-FRONTED BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus nigrifrons*) – Heard in the forest at Magoebaskloof.

FOUR-COLORED BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus viridis quadricolor*) – Fabulous looks at this stunning bird at Banghoek Lodge near Mkuzi.

GRAY-HEADED BUSHSHRIKE (*Malaconotus blanchoti*) – Three at Kruger included one eating a huge dragonfly.

Campephagidae (Cuckoo-shrikes)

GRAY CUCKOO-SHRIKE (*Coracina caesia*) – Singles at Buler, Oribi Gorge, and Magoebaskloof.

BLACK CUCKOO-SHRIKE (*Campephaga flava*) – We saw the yellow-shouldered morph at Mkuzi, and the all black morph at Pietersburg.

Laniidae (Shrikes)

COMMON FISCAL (*Lanius collaris*) – Very common and widespread.

COMMON FISCAL (*Lanius collaris subcoronatus*) – We saw 2 of this form (with the white supercilium) at Upington; some authors split this as Latakoo Fiscal. [E]

MAGPIE SHRIKE (*Corvinella melanoleuca*) – About 20 at Kruger.

Oriolidae (Old World Orioles)

AFRICAN BLACK-HEADED ORIOLE (*Oriolus larvatus*) – Singles at Bulwer, Wakkerstroom, and Kruger.

Dicruridae (Drongos)

SQUARE-TAILED DRONGO (*Dicrurus ludwigii*) – Four at Saint Lucia, and 4 at Magoebaskloof.

FORK-TAILED DRONGO (*Dicrurus adsimilis*) – Fairly common at many locations in the east and the north.

Monarchidae (Monarch Flycatchers)

AFRICAN PARADISE-FLYCATCHER (*Terpsiphone viridis*) – One at Wakkerstroom, 6 at Kruger, and 4 at Pietersburg.

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

HOUSE CROW (*Corvus splendens*) – About 8 were in the Cape Town airport area.

CAPE CROW (*Corvus capensis*) – Most common around Pofadder and Wakkerstroom (35), and a few others at a variety of scattered sites.

PIED CROW (*Corvus albus*) – Common and widespread.

WHITE-NECKED RAVEN (*Corvus albicollis*) – Four for some of the group at Kirstenbosch, and then 2 at Sani Pass, and 1 at Oribi Gorge.

Chaetopidae (Rockjumpers)

RUFOUS ROCKJUMPER (*Chaetops frenatus*) – Distant scope views of 1 along the bottom of the rocky mountains at

Rooiels. [E]

ORANGE-BREASTED ROCKJUMPER (*Chaetops aurantius*) – Fantastic close views of 1 feeding amongst the tussock grass at the top of Sani Pass. [E]

Nicatoridae (Nicators)

EASTERN NICATOR (*Nicator gularis*) – Heard by everyone and seen by one of the group at Saint Lucia.

Alaudidae (Larks)

RUFOUS-NAPED LARK (*Mirafra africana*) – Two at Kruger, and 1 at Pietersburg.

CAPE CLAPPER LARK (*Mirafra apiata apiata*) – Good views of about 10 displaying birds on the Lambert's Bay airfield. [E]

RUDD'S LARK (*Heteromirafra ruddi*) – We saw this extremely localised endemic in a high display flight near Wakkerstroom. [E]

SABOTA LARK (*Calendulauda sabota*) – About 10 at Kruger, 1 at Mkuzi, and 4 at Pietersburg; these were all the eastern small-billed form.

SABOTA LARK (*Calendulauda sabota naevia*) – We saw this large-billed form (sometimes split as Bradfield's Lark) at Pofadder in the west. [E]

FAWN-COLORED LARK (*Calendulauda africanoides*) – Good looks at 4 in the Pofadder area. [E]

FERRUGINOUS LARK (*Calendulauda burra*) – More commonly known as Red Lark we had great looks at 2 to the west of Pofadder; another extremely localised endemic lark. [E]

KAROO LARK (*Calendulauda albescens*) – Singles at Springbok and Lambert's Bay. [E]

SPIKE-HEELED LARK (*Chersomanes albofasciata*) – Twenty in the Pofadder area, and 2 at Wakkerstroom. [E]

KAROO LONG-BILLED LARK (*Certhilauda subcoronata*) – Two near Pofadder. [E]

SHORT-CLAWED LARK (*Certhilauda chuana*) – Yet another extremely range restricted lark; we saw 2 in the Pietersburg Game Reserve. [E]

CHESTNUT-BACKED SPARROW-LARK (*Eremopterix leucotis*) – About 10 at Kruger.

GRAY-BACKED SPARROW-LARK (*Eremopterix verticalis*) – Common in the Pofadder area.

RED-CAPPED LARK (*Calandrella cinerea*) – Two at Springbok, 1 at Lambert's Bay, and about 30 around Wakkerstroom.

PINK-BILLED LARK (*Spizocorys conirostris*) – Two to the north of Wakkerstroom. [E]

BOTHA'S LARK (*Spizocorys fringillaris*) – Good looks at about 10 in the Wakkerstroom area. [E]

LARGE-BILLED LARK (*Galerida magnirostris*) – Two at Springbok, and 2 at Stony Point. [E]

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

PLAIN MARTIN (*Riparia paludicola*) – Small numbers at Franklin Marsh, Wakkerstroom, and Chrissiemeer.

BANDED MARTIN (*Riparia cincta*) – Four at Velddrif, and 1 at Wakkerstroom.

ROCK MARTIN (*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*) – Fairly common in the west and south, and 4 at Pietersburg.

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*) – Common and seen daily during the later half of the tour.

WHITE-THROATED SWALLOW (*Hirundo albigularis*) – We saw small numbers (about 30) at Lambert's Bay, Wakkerstroom, and at Kruger.

WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW (*Hirundo smithii*) – Three at Kruger.

PEARL-BREASTED SWALLOW (*Hirundo dimidiata*) – Two at Lambert's Bay, and 5 at The Ranch Resort.

BLUE SWALLOW (*Hirundo atrocaerulea*) – Four over the high altitude grasslands near Ingeli.

GREATER STRIPED-SWALLOW (*Cecropis cucullata*) – Widespread in small numbers; in all we saw about 65.

LESSER STRIPED-SWALLOW (*Cecropis abyssinica*) – Common in the east and north.

RUFOUS-CHESTED SWALLOW (*Cecropis semirufa*) – Eight in the Pietersburg area.

MOSQUE SWALLOW (*Cecropis senegalensis*) – Good views of 1 at Kruger.

SOUTH AFRICAN SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon spilodera*) – About 40 near Wakkerstroom.

COMMON HOUSE-MARTIN (*Delichon urbicum*) – About 50 at Kruger.

BLACK SAWWING (*Psalidoprocne pristoptera*) – Four at Betty's Bay, and about 20 at Oribi Gorge.

Stenostiridae (Fairy Flycatchers)

FAIRY FLYCATCHER (*Stenostira scita*) – Recently placed in a new family Stenostiridae, we saw 1 in the undergrowth at the bottom of Sani Pass. [E]

Paridae (Chickadees and Tits)

SOUTHERN BLACK-TIT (*Melaniparus niger*) – One at Oribi Gorge, and then about a dozen at both Mkuzi and Kruger.

ASHY TIT (*Melaniparus cinerascens*) – Good looks at 2 in the Pietersburg Game Reserve. [E]

GRAY TIT (*Melaniparus afer*) – Two clinging to bushes in a strong wind on top of the Sani Pass. [E]

Remizidae (Penduline-Tits)

AFRICAN PENDULINE-TIT (*Anthoscopus caroli*) – One at Mkuzi.

SOUTHERN PENDULINE-TIT (*Anthoscopus minutus*) – More commonly known as Cape Penduline-tit we saw 2 at Lambert's Bay, and 1 at Pietersburg. [E]

Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)

COMMON BULBUL (*Pycnonotus barbatus tricolor*) – Common and widespread away from the west.

BLACK-FRONTED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus nigricans*) – More commonly known as Red-eyed Bulbul, this is the common bulbul in the dry north-west. [E]

CAPE BULBUL (*Pycnonotus capensis*) – First seen at Springbok and then commonly down through the Cape region. [E]

SOMBRE GREENBUL (*Andropadus importunus*) – Fairly common and widespread in wooded areas; in all we saw about 30.

YELLOW-BELLIED GREENBUL (*Chlorocichla flaviventris*) – About 10 in the forest at Saint Lucia, and 1 at Mkuzi.

TERRESTRIAL BROWNBUL (*Phyllastrephus terrestris*) – Two at Oribi Gorge, and 2 at Saint Lucia.

YELLOW-STREAKED BULBUL (*Phyllastrephus flavostriatus*) – Good looks at about 8 at Magoebaskloof.

Phylloscopidae (Leaf-Warblers)

YELLOW-THROATED WOOD-WARBLER (*Phylloscopus ruficapilla*) – Singles at Bulwer and Oribi Gorge, and 4 at Magoebaskloof.

WILLOW WARBLER (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) – One in the Pietersburg Game Reserve.

Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)

AFRICAN YELLOW WARBLER (*Chloropeta natalensis*) – We had a responsive bird at the bottom of Sani Pass.

AFRICAN REED-WARBLER (*Acrocephalus baeticatus*) – Three at Augrabies, 6 at Franklin Marsh, and about 10 at Wakkerstroom.

LESSER SWAMP-WARBLER (*Acrocephalus gracilirostris*) – About a dozen at Wakkerstroom.

Megaluridae (Grassbirds and Allies)

AFRICAN BUSH-WARBLER (*Bradypterus baboecala*) – More commonly known as Little Rush Warbler, we had good looks at this shy species near Lambert's Bay.

AFRICAN SCRUB-WARBLER (*Bradypterus barratti*) – One at the bottom of Sani Pass.

VICTORIN'S SCRUB-WARBLER (*Bradypterus victorini*) – Normally a super-skulker but we had fantastic views of an extrovert bird at Rooiels. [E]

Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)

BAR-THROATED APALIS (*Apalis thoracica*) – Small numbers at Bulwer, Oribi Gorge, and Magoebaskloof.

YELLOW-BREASTED APALIS (*Apalis flavida*) – Two at Saint Lucia, about 10 at Mkuzi, and 2 at Kruger.

RUDD'S APALIS (*Apalis ruddi*) – We saw 2 of these localised endemic apalises at Saint Lucia. [E]

GREEN-BACKED CAMAROPTERA (*Camaroptera brachyura*) – A total of 6 were seen between Oribi Gorge, Saint Lucia and Mkuzi.

KOPJE WARBLER (*Euryptila subcinnamomea*) – Normally very difficult, but we had fantastic looks this year on a rocky hill near Springbok. [E]

RUFOUS-EARED WARBLER (*Malcorus pectoralis*) – Three in the arid country south of Pofadder. [E]

RATTLING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola chiniana*) – Common in acacia country in the east and north.

RED-HEADED CISTICOLA (*Cisticola subruficapilla*) – More commonly known as Gray-backed Cisticola, they were fairly common (about 30) in the far west. [E]

WAILING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola lais*) – Two at Sani Pass.

TINKLING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola tinniens*) – Two at Franklin Marsh, and 4 at Wakkerstroom also known as Levillant's Cisticola.

- CROAKING CISTICOLA** (*Cisticola natalensis*) – One in the grasslands near Saint Lucia.
- ZITTING CISTICOLA** (*Cisticola juncidis*) – Some of the group saw 1 at Chrissiemeer.
- DESERT CISTICOLA** (*Cisticola aridulus*) – One in the Pietersberg Game Reserve.
- CLOUD CISTICOLA** (*Cisticola textrix*) – One in the high altitude grasslands near Wakkerstroom. [E]
- PALE-CROWNED CISTICOLA** (*Cisticola cinnamomeus*) – Good looks at 1 near Saint Lucia.
- TAWNY-FLANKED PRINIA** (*Prinia subflava*) – One at Bulwer, 2 at Mkuzi, and about 10 at Kruger.
- BLACK-CHESTED PRINIA** (*Prinia flavicans*) – Two of the group saw 1 in the Pietersberg Game Reserve.
- KAROO PRINIA** (*Prinia maculosa*) – Four near Lambert's Bay, and 10 in the Cape region. [E]
- DRAKENSBERG PRINIA** (*Prinia hypoxantha*) – One at the bottom of Sani Pass. [E]
- BURNT-NECK EREMOMELA** (*Eremomela usticollis*) – Eight in the Pietersberg Game Reserve.
- Sylviidae (Old World Warblers)*
- LAYARD'S WARBLER** (*Parisoma layardi*) – Two on top of a very windy Sani Pass. [E]
- RUFOUS-VENTED WARBLER** (*Parisoma subcaeruleum*) – Four in the Pietersberg Game Reserve.
- CAPE GRASSBIRD** (*Sphenoeacus afer*) – Often shy but we had fabulous looks at 1 in the Harold Porter Botanical Garden, and then 3 more at Sani Pass. [E]
- CAPE CROMBEC** (*Sylvietta rufescens*) – Four at Mkuzi, and 6 at Kruger.
- Promeropidae (Sugarbirds)*
- GURNEY'S SUGARBIRD** (*Promerops gurneyi*) – Great looks at 4 feeding on insects within the protea trees on the Sani Pass. [E]
- CAPE SUGARBIRD** (*Promerops cafer*) – About a dozen in the Harold Porter and Betty's Bay area. [E]
- Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)*
- PALE FLYCATCHER** (*Bradornis pallidus*) – One at Mkuzi.
- CHAT FLYCATCHER** (*Bradornis infuscatus*) – About 20 in the Pofadder area. [E]
- MARIQUA FLYCATCHER** (*Bradornis mariquensis*) – Ten in the acacia country around Pietersburg.
- SOUTHERN BLACK-FLYCATCHER** (*Melaenornis pammelaina*) – Small numbers were widespread in the east and north.
- FISCAL FLYCATCHER** (*Sigelus silens*) – Two at Upington, 1 at Pofadder, and 2 at The Ranch Resort. [E]
- AFRICAN DUSKY FLYCATCHER** (*Muscicapa adusta*) – Singles were seen in a variety of widespread forested areas; in all we saw about 8.
- GRAY TIT-FLYCATCHER** (*Myioparus plumbeus*) – Two at Mkuzi.
- CAPE ROBIN-CHAT** (*Cossypha caffra*) – Widespread throughout the tour; in all we saw about 35.
- WHITE-THROATED ROBIN-CHAT** (*Cossypha humeralis*) – One at Mkuzi, and 1 at The Ranch Resort. [E]
- WHITE-BROWED ROBIN-CHAT** (*Cossypha heuglini*) – Two at Banghoek Lodge, and 4 at Kruger.
- RED-CAPPED ROBIN-CHAT** (*Cossypha natalensis*) – We saw 2 of these rather shy robin-chats in the forest at Saint Lucia.
- CHORISTER ROBIN-CHAT** (*Cossypha dichroa*) – We heard this very shy robin-chat at Oribi Gorge, and then most of us saw up to 4 at Magoebaskloof. [E]
- BEARDED SCRUB-ROBIN** (*Cercotrichas quadrivirgata*) – Nice looks at 2 at Mkuzi.
- BROWN SCRUB-ROBIN** (*Cercotrichas signata*) – One at Oribi Gorge, and 2 at Saint Lucia; can be very shy but we all saw them well this tour. [E]
- RED-BACKED SCRUB-ROBIN** (*Cercotrichas leucophrys*) – Small numbers at Mkuzi, Kruger, and Pietersburg.
- KALAHARI SCRUB-ROBIN** (*Cercotrichas paena*) – Three in the Pietersberg Game Reserve. [E]
- KAROO SCRUB-ROBIN** (*Cercotrichas coryphaeus*) – One at Augrabies, and about a dozen in the Lambert's Bay area. [E]
- MOUNTAIN WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe monticola*) – Two at Johannesburg, about 12 in the Pofadder to Springbok area, and 2 at Wakkerstroom. [E]
- CAPPED WHEATEAR** (*Oenanthe pileata*) – Five at Springbok.
- STONECHAT** (*Saxicola torquatus*) – Small numbers were widespread (mainly in the highlands); in all we saw about 50.
- BUFF-STREAKED BUSHCHAT** (*Saxicola bifasciatus*) – We saw a pair at Sani Pass, and 2 males near Wakkerstroom. [E]

SICKLEWING CHAT (*Cercomela sinuata*) – Six on top of the Sani Pass. [E]

KAROO CHAT (*Cercomela schlegelii*) – About 10 in the Pofadder to Springbok area. [E]

TRACTRAC CHAT (*Cercomela tractrac*) – Two near Pofadder. [E]

FAMILIAR CHAT (*Cercomela familiaris*) – Three at Augrabies, 4 in the Cape area, and 1 at Pietersberg.

SOUTHERN ANTEATER-CHAT (*Myrmecocichla formicivora*) – Common around Pofadder and Wakkerstroom, and 2 near Lambert's Bay.

MOCKING CLIFF-CHAT (*Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris*) – A pair were breeding at the Oribi Gorge Hotel.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

CAPE ROCK-THRUSH (*Monticola rupestris*) – Two at Rooiels, and 3 at the Sani Pass. [E]

SENTINEL ROCK-THRUSH (*Monticola explorator*) – Good looks at 4 on top of the Sani Pass, and 1 near Wakkerstroom. [E]

ORANGE GROUND-THRUSH (*Zoothera gurneyi*) – This often very shy bird was really exceptionally shy this year, and despite hearing them at Bulwer and Magoebaskloof we never did locate one.

GROUNDSCRAPER THRUSH (*Psophocichla litsipsirupa*) – Four at Kruger, and 3 on our way back to Johannesburg at the end of the tour.

OLIVE THRUSH (*Turdus olivaceus*) – Eight near Betty's Bay, 2 at Oribi Gorge, and 6 at Magoebaskloof.

OLIVE THRUSH (*Turdus olivaceus smithi*) – Many African authorities now split this as Karoo Thrush; we saw singles at Johannesburg and Augrabies, and about 8 at The Ranch Resort. [E]

KURRICHANE THRUSH (*Turdus libonyanus*) – About 6 at Kruger.

Timaliidae (Babblers)

ARROW-MARKED BABBLER (*Turdoides jardineii*) – Twenty at Kruger, and 6 in the Pietersberg area.

BUSH BLACKCAP (*Lioptilus nigricapillus*) – We saw this attractive endemic in the thick undergrowth at Bulwer Forest. [E]

Zosteropidae (White-eyes)

CAPE WHITE-EYE (CAPE) (*Zosterops pallidus capensis*) – Common and widespread away from the far west. African authorities now use the scientific name *Z. virens* for this species. [E]

CAPE WHITE-EYE (ORANGE RIVER) (*Zosterops pallidus pallidus*) – African authorities now split this as Orange River White-eye and use the scientific name *Z. pallidus*. [E]

Sturnidae (Starlings)

COMMON MYNA (*Acridotheres tristis*) – Common and widespread. [I]

EUROPEAN STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*) – About 100 in the Lambert's Bay to Cape Town area, and 12 at Oribi Gorge. [I]

WATTLED STARLING (*Creatophora cinerea*) – A dozen at Mkuzi, 10 at Kruger, and 1 at The Ranch Resort.

CAPE GLOSSY-STARLING (*Lamprotornis nitens*) – Common and widespread away from the west and south; in all we saw about 300. [E]

GREATER BLUE-EARED GLOSSY-STARLING (*Lamprotornis chalybaeus*) – About a dozen at Kruger.

BLACK-BELLIED GLOSSY-STARLING (*Lamprotornis corruscus*) – Twenty at Oribi Gorge, and 10 at Saint Lucia.

VIOLET-BACKED STARLING (*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*) – We saw these gorgeous starlings at Oribi Gorge, Mkuzi, Kruger, and near Pietersberg.

AFRICAN PIED STARLING (*Spreo bicolor*) – Most common around Wakkerstroom (100+) but we also saw small numbers at several other widely scattered sites. [E]

RED-WINGED STARLING (*Onychognathus morio*) – Very common and widespread; in all we saw about 140.

PALE-WINGED STARLING (*Onychognathus nabouroup*) – About 50 in the Augrabies to Pofadder and Springbok area. [E]

Buphagidae (Oxpeckers)

RED-BILLED OXPECKER (*Buphagus erythrorhynchus*) – Thirty at Mkuzi, 60 at Kruger, and 2 near Pietersberg.

YELLOW-BILLED OXPECKER (*Buphagus africanus*) – About 40 (mainly feeding on buffalo) at Kruger.

Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)

COLLARED SUNBIRD (*Hedydipna collaris*) – Four at Saint Lucia.

- ORANGE-BREASTED SUNBIRD** (*Anthobaphes violacea*) – We saw about 6 of these attractive sunbirds around Betty's Bay. [E]
- EASTERN OLIVE SUNBIRD** (*Cyanomitra olivacea*) – One was nesting within a bird hide at Mkuzi.
- MOUSE-COLORED SUNBIRD** (*Cyanomitra veroxii*) – One at Saint Lucia.
- AMETHYST SUNBIRD** (*Chalcomitra amethystina*) – First seen at Howick, and then at Oribi Gorge, and at Wakkerstroom.
- SCARLET-CHESTED SUNBIRD** (*Chalcomitra senegalensis*) – We saw single males at Saint Lucia and Mkuzi.
- MALACHITE SUNBIRD** (*Nectarinia famosa*) – We saw these absolutely brilliant green sunbirds at Springbok, Paleisheuwelkloof, Betty's Bay, the Sani Pass, and Wakkerstroom - just wonderful - especially on flowering aloes.
- SOUTHERN DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD** (*Cinnyris chalybeus*) – Fairly common in the Cape area (especially at Harold Porter Botanical Garden), and around Magoebaskloof; in all we saw about 45. [E]
- NEERGAARD'S SUNBIRD** (*Cinnyris neergaardi*) – Can be difficult but we had excellent looks at a male and 2 females at Mkuzi; a very localised endemic. [E]
- GREATER DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD** (*Cinnyris afer*) – Two at Bulwer Forest. [E]
- MARIQUA SUNBIRD** (*Cinnyris mariquensis*) – Eight at Kruger, and about 12 around Pietersberg.
- PURPLE-BANDED SUNBIRD** (*Cinnyris bifasciatus*) – We saw a single male at Mkuzi.
- WHITE-BREASTED SUNBIRD** (*Cinnyris talatala*) – About 20 at Kruger, and 6 around Pietersberg.
- DUSKY SUNBIRD** (*Cinnyris fuscus*) – Six at Augrabies. [E]

Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)

- CAPE WAGTAIL** (*Motacilla capensis*) – Common and widespread away from the east and north-east.
- MOUNTAIN WAGTAIL** (*Motacilla clara*) – One at Oribi Gorge, and 2 at Magoebaskloof.
- AFRICAN PIED WAGTAIL** (*Motacilla aguimp*) – Six at Saint Lucia, 4 at Muzi, and 2 at Kruger.
- AFRICAN PIPIT** (*Anthus cinnamomeus*) – One at Lambert's Bay, and about 150 in the Wakkerstroom area.
- MOUNTAIN PIPIT** (*Anthus hoeschi*) – We saw 3 of these very localised endemic pipits on top of the Sani Pass. [E]
- LONG-BILLED PIPIT** (*Anthus similis*) – One near Wakkerstroom.
- STRIPED PIPIT** (*Anthus lineiventris*) – Heard at the Abel Erasmus Pass.
- YELLOW-BREASTED PIPIT** (*Hemimacronyx chloris*) – After some effort we eventually all saw a good looking male near Wakkerstroom. [E]
- ORANGE-THROATED LONGCLAW** (*Macronyx capensis*) – Two at Franklin Marsh, about 12 around Wakkerstroom, and 10 in the Lydenberg area. [E]
- YELLOW-THROATED LONGCLAW** (*Macronyx croceus*) – Four in the grasslands near Saint Lucia.

Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)

- LARK-LIKE BUNTING** (*Emberiza impetواني*) – Very common all around Pofadder. [E]
- CINNAMON-BREASTED BUNTING** (*Emberiza tahapisi*) – Two at Kruger.
- CAPE BUNTING** (*Emberiza capensis*) – Small numbers at Springbok, Betty's Bay, and the Sani Pass; in all we saw about 25. [E]
- GOLDEN-BREASTED BUNTING** (*Emberiza flaviventris*) – One at Oribi Gorge, 1 at Kruger, and 6 in the Pietersberg area.

Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)

- CAPE SISKIN** (*Pseudochloroptila totta*) – We saw this localised endemic at the Harold Porter Botanical Garden near Betty's Bay. [E]
- DRAKENSBERG SISKIN** (*Pseudochloroptila symonsi*) – At least 20 were feeding in the alpine grasslands on top of the Sani Pass. [E]
- BLACK-HEADED CANARY** (*Alario alario*) – One of the group saw a male and most of us saw a female drinking at a sheep trough to the south of Pofadder. [E]
- CAPE CANARY** (*Serinus canicollis*) – Widespread in a variety of open and wooded country; in all we saw about 100. [E]
- YELLOW-FRONTED CANARY** (*Serinus mozambicus*) – Small numbers at Oribi Gorge, Wakkerstroom, Kruger, and Pietersberg.
- FOREST CANARY** (*Serinus scotops*) – One at Kirstenbosch for some of the group, and then 3 for everyone at Bulwer Forest. [E]

BRIMSTONE CANARY (*Serinus sulphuratus*) – One at Sani Pass.

YELLOW CANARY (*Serinus flaviventris*) – About 12 in the Pofadder area, and 6 near Lambert's Bay. [E]

WHITE-THROATED CANARY (*Serinus albogularis*) – Two at Augrabies, and 4 at Springbok. [E]

PROTEA CANARY (*Serinus leucopterus*) – Fantastic looks this year at this extremely localised endemic - close scope views at Paleisheuwelkloof. [E]

STREAKY-HEADED SEEDEATER (*Serinus gularis*) – One at Bulwer, and 3 at the Pietersberg Game Reserve.

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*) – Common and widespread.

GREAT RUFOUS SPARROW (*Passer motitensis*) – We saw a single male at the Pietersberg Game Reserve.

CAPE SPARROW (*Passer melanurus*) – Common and widespread away from the east. [E]

SOUTHERN GRAY-HEADED SPARROW (*Passer diffusus*) – Widespread in small numbers; in all we saw about 80.

YELLOW-THROATED PETRONIA (*Petronia superciliaris*) – Six at Mkuzi, and 8 at Kruger.

Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)

RED-BILLED BUFFALO-WEAVER (*Bubalornis niger*) – About 30 at Kruger.

SCALY WEAVER (*Sporopipes squamifrons*) – One near Pofadder, and 6 at the Pietersberg Game Reserve.

WHITE-BROWED SPARROW-WEAVER (*Plocepasser mahali*) – About 30 at the Pietersberg Game Reserve.

SOCIAL WEAVER (*Philetairus socius*) – About 250 (and many of their wonderful huge nests) in the Pofadder area.

RED-HEADED WEAVER (*Anaplectes rubriceps*) – We saw 6 of these striking and very different looking weavers at Kruger.

SPECTACLED WEAVER (*Ploceus ocularis*) – One at Bulwer, and 5 at Kruger.

CAPE WEAVER (*Ploceus capensis*) – Common at Springbok and Lambert's Bay in the west, Bulwer and Oriibi Gorge in the east, and Wakkerstroom in the north. [E]

AFRICAN GOLDEN-WEAVER (*Ploceus subaureus*) – About 30 along the river at Oriibi Gorge.

SOUTHERN BROWN-THROATED WEAVER (*Ploceus xanthopterus*) – Great looks at males in breeding plumage in the reeds at Saint Lucia.

LESSER MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus intermedius*) – About 30 at Mkuzi, and 40 at Kruger.

SOUTHERN MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus velatus*) – Ten at Augrabies, 40 around Wakkerstroom, 12 at Kruger, and 100+ in the Pietersberg area.

VILLAGE WEAVER (*Ploceus cucullatus*) – Common in the east, and around Wakkerstroom in the north.

FOREST WEAVER (*Ploceus bicolor*) – Singles at Bulwer and Oriibi Gorge, and about 20 at Mkuzi.

RED-BILLED QUELEA (*Quelea quelea*) – One hundred at Mkuzi, 2 at Wakkerstroom, and 6 at Pietersberg.

RED BISHOP (*Euplectes orix*) – We saw a total of about 100 glowing red and black males (plus many females) first near Lambert's Bay and then at Wakkerstroom.

YELLOW-CROWNED BISHOP (*Euplectes afer*) – One female at Wakkerstroom.

YELLOW BISHOP (*Euplectes capensis*) – Like giant bumble-bees we saw these bishops at Paleisheuwelkloof, Betty's Bay, and at Sani Pass.

WHITE-WINGED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes albonotatus*) – Eight at Mkuzi, and 1 at Kruger.

RED-COLLARED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes ardens*) – We saw a male in breeding plumage about 50 kms. north of Mkuzi.

FAN-TAILED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes axillaris*) – Two near Bulwer, and about 20 in the Saint Lucia area.

LONG-TAILED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes progne*) – We saw about 50 of these spectacular birds at Franklin Marsh, and then about 200 in the Wakkerstroom area.

GROSBK WEAVER (*Amblyospiza albifrons*) – Three at Oriibi Gorge, and 8 at Saint Lucia.

Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)

SWEET WAXBILL (*Coccyzygia melanotis*) – We saw a single male at the Harold Porter Botanical Garden, and then another male at Magoebaskloof. [E]

COMMON WAXBILL (*Estrilda astrild*) – Small flocks at Augrabies, Velddrif, Oriibi Gorge, and near Wakkerstroom.

BLACK-CHEEKED WAXBILL (*Estrilda erythronotos*) – One at the Pietersberg Game Reserve.

BLUE-BREASTED CORDONBLEU (*Uraeginthus angolensis*) – About 20 at Mkuzi, 40 at Kruger, and 10 around

Pietersberg.

- VIOLET-EARED WAXBILL** (*Granatina granatina*) – We saw a pair on a track in the Pietersberg Game Reserve.
- PINK-THROATED TWINSPOOT** (*Hypargos margaritatus*) – Just fantastic this year, with great long looks at 4 birds at Mkuzi - a beautiful and very localised endemic. [E]
- GREEN-WINGED PYTILIA** (*Pytilia melba*) – Good looks at a male at Kruger.
- RED-BILLED FIREFINCH** (*Lagonosticta senegala*) – About 10 at Kruger.
- AFRICAN FIREFINCH** (*Lagonosticta rubricata*) – We saw a pair near the river in Oribi Gorge.
- JAMESON'S FIREFINCH** (*Lagonosticta rhodopareia*) – A single male at Banghoek Lodge.
- CUT-THROAT** (*Amadina fasciata*) – About 8 at Kruger.
- BRONZE MANNIKIN** (*Spermestes cucullatus*) – Three on the way to Wakkerstroom, and 2 at Pietersberg.

Viduidae (Indigobirds)

- PIN-TAILED WHYDAH** (*Vidua macroura*) – Singles (including 2 nice males) at Oribi Gorge, Wakkerstroom, and The Ranch Resort.
- EASTERN PARADISE-WHYDAH** (*Vidua paradisaea*) – About 40 (mostly in non-breeding plumage) at Mkuzi.
- VILLAGE INDIGOBIRD** (*Vidua chalybeata*) – Two males in breeding plumage at Kruger.

MAMMALS

- SYKES MONKEY** (*Cercopithecus albogularis*) – Known as Samango Monkey in southern Africa, some authorities lump this with central African Blue Monkey, but recent authorities include it with Sykes's Monkey; we saw 2 at Magoebaskloof.
- VERVET** (*Cercopithecus pygerythrus*) – We called this Black-faced Vervet Monkey (which has now been split as 4 species). This form was common in the east and the north.
- CHACMA BABOON** (*Papio ursinus*) – Common and widespread; in all we saw about 180.
- SCRUB HARE** (*Lepus saxatilis*) – Almost identical to the following species, a hare we flushed in the rock scrub near Springbok was presumed to be this species.
- CAPE HARE** (*Lepus capensis*) – Almost identical to the previous species, a hare we flushed in the open grasslands near Wakkerstroom was this species.
- CAPE GROUND SQUIRREL** (*Xerus inaurius*) – Three at Augrabies.
- RED BUSH SQUIRREL** (*Paraxerus palliatus*) – Three in the forest near Saint Lucia.
- TREE SQUIRREL** (*Paraxerus cepapi*) – About 60 at Kruger.
- SLOGGETT'S ICE RAT** (*Otomys sloggetti*) – Nice looks at a couple at the Lesotho border post.
- DUSKY DOLPHIN** (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) – Just amazing - during our pelagic trip we spent almost thirty minutes amongst a feeding shoal of about 400.
- HUMPBACK WHALE** (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) – Two with the Dusky Dolphins off Cape Point.
- SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE** (*Eubalaena australis*) – We all enjoyed watching a female and youngster near Simonstown, and then another 2 adults on our pelagic trip.
- BAT-EARED FOX** (*Otocyon megalotis*) – Some of the group saw 1 to the south of Pofadder.
- CAPE GRAY MONGOOSE** (*Herpestes pulverulentus*) – Singles were seen near Pofadder and Boulder's Beach.
- SLENDER MONGOOSE** (*Herpestes sanguineus*) – We saw a total of 8 at Mkuzi, Wakkerstroom, and Kruger.
- YELLOW MONGOOSE** (*Cynictis penicillata*) – Four near Pofadder, and 5 near Wakkerstroom.
- SLENDER-TAILED MEERKAT** (*Suricata suricatta*) – We saw a group of 12 in the high altitude grasslands near Wakkerstroom.
- SPOTTED HYAENA** (*Crocuta crocuta*) – Two at Kruger.
- CHEETAH** (*Acinonyx jubatus*) – Fantastic looks at two large males at Kruger: firstly resting in the shade, and then walking right next to our vehicles!
- CAPE (AUSTRALIAN) FUR SEAL** (*Arctocephalus pusillus*) – About 150 at Lambert's Bay, 20 at Stony Point, and another 20 on the pelagic trip.
- AFRICAN ELEPHANT** (*Loxodonta africana*) – Several 'close encounters' in Kruger, and a total of about 150 there.
- ROCK HYRAX** (*Procavia capensis*) – About 30 at Augrabies, 4 at Stony Point, 1 near Wakkerstroom.
- BURCHELL'S ZEBRA** (*Equus burchelli*) – About 200 at Mkuzi, 100 at Kruger, and 20 at Pietersberg.

BLACK RHINOCEROS (*Diceros bicornis*) – Great and incredibly close looks at a running individual at Mkuzi.

WHITE RHINOCEROS (*Ceratotherium simum*) – Long looks as one drank and then lay in the waterhole only 15 mtrs. away from us at Mkuzi.

WARTHOG (*Phacochoerus aethiopicus*) – About 100 at Mkuzi, 40 at Kruger, and 12 at Pietersberg.

HIPPOPOTAMUS (*Hippopotamus amphibius*) – Six in the lagoon at Saint Lucia, 10 at Mkuzi, and about 40 at Kruger.

COMMON GIRAFFE (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) – Thirty at Mkuzi, 20 at Kruger, and 12 at Pietersberg Game Reserve - a great favorite for many of the group.

NYALA (*Tragelaphus angasi*) – We saw about 100 of these fabulous antelopes at Mkuzi.

BUSHBUCK (*Tragelaphus scriptus*) – Two at Kruger.

GREATER KUDU (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*) – We saw about 18 of these huge antelopes at Mkuzi, Kruger, and in the Pietersberg Game Reserve.

AFRICAN BUFFALO (*Syncerus caffer*) – Five at the waterhole in Mkuzi, and about 1500 at Kruger.

RED DUIKER (*Cephalophus natalensis*) – Two at Saint Lucia, and 1 at Mkuzi.

BUSH (GRAY) DUIKER (*Sylvicapra grimmia*) – Singles at Mkuzi, Wakkerstroom, and Kruger.

COMMON WATERBUCK (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*) – About 30 at Kruger.

REEDBUCK (*Redunca arundinum*) – Also known as Southern Reedbuck, we saw 3 near Franklin Marsh.

SABLE ANTELOPE (*Hippotragus niger*) – We saw a magnificent male at Kruger, and then about 15 at the Pietersberg Game Reserve.

GEMSBOK (*Oryx gazella*) – Fifteen in the Goegap Reserve near Springbok.

TOPI (*Damaliscus lunatus*) – About 20 at Kruger, and 1 at Pietersberg.

BLUE WILDEBEEST (*Connochaetes taurinus*) – Fifty at Mkuzi, 10 at Kruger, and 1 at Pietersberg.

KLIPSPRINGER (*Oreotragus oreotragus*) – One to the west of Pofadder.

ORIBI (*Ourebia ourebi*) – One near Wakkerstroom.

STEENBOK (*Raphicerus campestris*) – Two near Pofadder, 1 at Mkuzi, and 6 at Kruger.

GRYSBOK (*Raphicerus melanotis*) – One in the West Coast National Park.

IMPALA (*Aepyceros malampus*) – About 500 at Mkuzi, 400 at Kruger, and 30 at Pietersberg.

SPRINGBOK (*Antidorcas marsupialis*) – About 40 in the Pofadder to Springbok area.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

We saw the following reptiles on the tour:

Spotted Skaarpstecker: this was the local name for the small snake we saw in the Sani Pass.

Legless Lizard sp.: 1 in the Sani Pass.

Nile Crocodile: 3 at Mkuzi, and about 40 at Kruger.

Savanna Monitor: 1 at Kruger.

Water Monitor: 1 at Kruger.

Leopard Tortoise: 2 at Kruger.

Totals for the tour: 481 bird taxa and 46 mammal taxa