

# INDRI Tanzania Scheduled Safari 11 – 22 December 2011

# **Tour Itinerary Overview:**

Arusha National Park x 1 day Tarangire National Park x 2 days Ngorongoro Conservation Area – Ngorongoro Crater x 1 day Serengeti National Park 3 x days Ngorongoro Conservation Area – Ndutu x 2 days

#### Tour Accommodation Overview:

Ilboru Lodge x 2 nights Tarangire Sopa Lodge x 2 nights Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge x 2 nights Serengeti Seronera Wildlife Lodge x 3 nights Ndutu Lodge x 2 nights



Blue Wildebeest, Ngorongoro Crater.

# Trip Report

#### Compiled by Tour Leader Jon Morgan

#### Day 1 – Arusha National Park

After an early morning breakfast at Ilboru Lodge the team met Abdulli, our Tanzanian driver, and climbed aboard the long wheelbase Toyota Landcruiser for our first days' tour together. With excitement we headed out to Arusha National Park which was 45 minutes from the town of Arusha where we had all gathered and spent the previous night.

As we entered Arusha National Park at the Ngurdoto Gate we got our first glimpse of Mount Kilimanjaro jutting out of the clouds in the distance to the East. On our West dominating the reserve was Mount Meru's peak, providing an incredible setting to our day's adventure.

We started our game viewing at a massive open area which Abdulli called the Little Serengeti as it was a miniature of the incredible wide open spaces of the Serengeti. Here we saw our first large African mammals – Plains Zebra, Maasai Giraffe with Red-billed Oxpecker's, Warthogs, African Buffalo and Common Waterbuck.

Then we headed to a viewpoint overlooking the Ngurdoto Crater and on the way drove through some stunning Afromontane forest. In the forest we were treated to a spectacular sighting of Black-andwhite Colobus monkeys, Sykes's Monkeys and a troop of Olive Baboons. The youngsters were all chasing each other and gambling around. In the forest we also enjoyed great sightings of Silverycheeked Hornbill, White-eared Barbet, Brown-hooded Kingfisher, Montane White-eye, Brown-breasted Barbet and African Fish Eagle.

On route at the toilet stop and quaint little museum we spotted and had a brief glimpse of a Hartlaub's Turaco. The views of the crater were spectacular and on the crater floor we spotted more African Buffalo.

From here we headed across the reserve to the Small Momela Lake for lunch and along the way saw Kirk's Dik-dik, Harvey's Duiker, Bushbuck and Pagnani Longclaw. After a picnic lunch overlooking the lake we then drove around the edge of the lake and had a fantastic view of a journey of Maasai Giraffe walking across through the shallow waters from an island to the mainland. From here we headed to Big Momela Lake and saw flocks of Greater and Lesser Flamingo's creating a pink hue on the water in the distance.

Some of the other birds seen were Scaly Francolin, Helmeted Guineafowl, Black Stork, Martial Eagle, Grey Crowned Crane, Little Bee-eater, Spur-winged Goose, Egyptian Goose, Southern Pochard, Little Grebe, Hamerkop, Red-knobbed Coot, Black-winged Stilt, Pied Avocet, Black-headed Heron, White-browed Coucal, Red-faced Crombec, African Stonechat, Red-billed Firefinch and White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher.

After a magnificent first day we headed back to Ilboru Lodge in Arusha with another great view of Mount Kilimanjaro's peak in the far distance.



Mount Kilimanjaro Peak

#### **Day 2 – Tarangire National Park**

Today we headed to Tarangire National Park, home to large resident herds of African Elephant and the iconic Baobab tree in prolific numbers dotting the landscape.

At the entrance gate we had a superb birding stop and saw Yellowcollared Lovebirds, Lesser Striped Swallows, Woodland Kingfishers, Grey Woodpecker, Ashy Starling, Green-winged Pytilia, Specklefronted Weavers, African Hoopoe and Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu to name a few. One of the guests spotted a Yellow-winged Bat hanging from an Acacia tree looking very much like a dead leaf twisting in the wind. On entering the park we saw herds of Grants Gazelle, Impala, Waterbuck and Plains Zebra. As we drove through the reserve to the Tarangire Sopa Lodge we saw herds of elephants amongst the numerous Baobab trees.

On arrival at the lodge we were greeted with cool hand towels and a refreshing welcome drink to help revive tired bodies from the long drive. After a wonderful lunch served around the swimming pool with African Pied Wagtails, Red-headed Weavers, Yellow-spotted Hyrax and Red-headed Rock Agama we headed out for an afternoon drive along the Tarangire River seeing herds of Waterbuck, Maasai Giraffe and Dwarf Mongoose.

Today we started hearing the ever elusive Red-chested Cuckoo and heard this bird most days of our tour.

Some of the new birds seen were Cocqui Francolin, Crested Francolin, Yellow-necked Spurfowl, Red-necked Spurfowl, White stork, Marabou Stork, Cattle Egret, Grey Heron, White-backed Vulture, Bateleur, White-bellied Bustard, Black-bellied Bustard, Senegal Lapwing, Crowned Lapwing, Yellow-throated Sandgrouse, Speckled Pigeon, Bare-faced Go-away-bird, Lilac Breasted Roller, Green Wood Hoopoe, African Grey Hornbill, Red-Billed Hornbill, Von der Decken's Hornbill, Red-and-yellow Barbet, Fisher's Sparrow-Lark, Rattling Cisticola, Northern Pied Babbler, Superb Starling, Red-winged Starling and White-browed Scrub-Robin.



African Elephant and Baobab Tree

#### Day 3 – Tarangire National Park

It was an action packed day with a fantastic find of a small pride of lions by Abdulli. We were doing some morning birding close to the river and Abdulli heard the whoomp whoomp of Southern Ground Hornbills in the distance. On looking for the birds we discovered a female and 2 sub adult males doing what lions love to do best – sleeping! In the background we saw the family of Ground Hornbills on their morning forage.

In the afternoon we drove out to the Silale Marsh. On route we had a superb sighting of a Giant Eagle Owl perched on a branch overhanging the road above us and had a fantastic sighting of an Eastern Chanting Goshawk on the ground feeding on alates, winged termites commonly called flying ants. There was also a Eurasian Hobby flying around overhead catching the alates on the wing. The marsh was spectacular, a huge wide open grassland that becomes filled with water over the long rainy season.

On our way back to the lodge with the sun just setting we came across 3 Aardwolf which was a great surprise. They immediately ran from us and disappeared into a burrow. Abdulli had only ever seen them on 2 previous occasions in 17 years so we felt very lucky. We were also very lucky to see a Lesser Kudu in the bushes. New mammals seen were Spotted Hyena, Vervet Monkey, Ochre Bush Squirrel and Banded Mongoose.

Some of the new birds seen were Brown Snake Eagle, Wahlberg's Eagle, Long-crested Eagle, Wood Sandpiper, Black-faced Sandgrouse, Morning Collared Dove, Laughing Dove, African Green Pigeon, Meyer's Parrot, Square-tailed Nightjar, African Palm Swift, Little Swift, European Roller, Pied kingfisher, Nubian Woodpecker, Chinspot Batis, Black-backed Puffback, Fork-tailed Drongo, Rock Martin, Red-rumped Swallow, Yellow-billed Oxpecker, Northern Black Flycatcher, spotted Flycatcher, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, Rufous-tailed Weaver, Purple Grenadier and Straw-tailed Whydah.



Giant Eagle Owl

#### Day 4 – Ngorongoro Conservation Area

This was a fairly long day travelling between Tarangire NP and the Ngorongoro Crater. We left after an early breakfast and set off along the river. Abdulli made a decision to take a slightly longer route as the river was too full to cross at the normal crossing point and we were all happy with this decision after seeing another vehicle stuck in the middle of the river later on. Along the way we stopped at a viewpoint overlooking a bend in the Tarangire River and had a great view of a Grey-headed Kingfisher. We had a wonderful view of a Malachite Kingfisher perched on a reed crossing a pool of water as well as a Nile Monitor Lizard sunning itself. We had a brief birding stop at the gate and one highlight was a Diderick's Cuckoo perched high in the branches of an Acacia tree.

From here we drove through the bustling town of Lake Manyara and then up the steep side of the Rift Valley wall onto the plateau. We had superb views of Lake Manyara National Park and stopped for some curio shopping at African Galleria which had everything curio wise under one roof. Then it was onto the lovely Gibbs Farm for a lunch with organic veggies from the farm and some birding in the stunning grounds. Some of the birds seen were Paradise Flycatcher, Thick Billed Weaver, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Bronzy Sunbird, Augur Buzzard, Chin Spot Batis and Ashy Flycatcher.

After a relaxed time in the gardens at Gibbs farm we continued with our journey crossing through the entrance gate of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and up the steep slope of the Ngorongoro Crater. The road wound its way upwards through a stunning Afromontane forest and then all of a sudden we were at a viewpoint looking down into the Ngorongoro Crater. We all hopped out to peer down in awe at the immense wide flat expanse of the crater floor stretching out before us. From here we drove along the rim through a stunning forest finally reaching the Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge perched on the eastern edge of the crater rim in time for a hot shower and a stunning sunset.

New mammal seen was Slender Mongoose running across the road. New birds seen were African Openbill Stork, Sacred Ibis, African Hawk-Eagle, Crowned Eagle, White-bellied Go-away-bird, Malachite Kingfisher, Cinnamon-breasted Bee-eater, Mountain Greenbul, Greater Blue-eared Starling, Abyssinian (Olive) Thrush, Ashy Flycatcher, Jameson's Firefinch and Southern Citril.



The Team with view of Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Magadi in background.

#### Day 5 – Ngorongoro Conservation Area

With a quick early breakfast under the belt we excitedly set off on a whole day excursion into the Crater. The road down to the Crater floor wound through a beautiful Afromontane forest and we added the beautiful Dusky Turtle Dove to our list.

As we entered the rolling savanna of the crater floor we saw a large herd of African Buffalo and just a little further on a pride of sleeping lions. We had a long distance view of a male and a female and then another group of females on a ridge. Closer to the road was a lioness sleeping on the side of a gully and we suspect she had hidden her cubs. It was a great start to a fantastic day.

With wide open views on all sides we could scan out in any direction and see herds of Plains Zebra, African Buffalo, Thomson's and Grant's Gazelle with Kongoni and Blue Wildebeest scattered amongst them.

On the way to the Hippo Pool we came across a clan of hyenas with 2 tiny all black cubs about 2 months old. They stayed close to their mother and the hole in the ground that was their safe den site.

At the Hippo Pool we saw hippo out the water ponderously making its way back after a morning graze of grass. We had some great birding at the pool seeing Whiskered Tern, Long-toed Lapwing, Saddle-billed Stork, African Reed Warbler, Common Moorhen, Redbilled Teal and Grey Crowned Crane.

From the hippo pool we started to make our way to the designated picnic spot until Abdulli said he had a surprise. We changed course and after a while Abdulli stopped and we scanned off into the distance and saw our first Cheetah. We watched it interact with a big hyena that had spotted it and made its way over to check that there wasn't a fresh kill for it to steal.

We also had another surprise on the way to lunch when Abdulli stopped and pointed out 2 Black Rhinoceros in the distance. Lunch was spent eating in the vehicle at the Ngoitokitok Springs picnic site due to the ever present Yellow-billed Kites. There was a large pool of water created by the Ngoitokitok Springs with Great White Pelicans and hippos.

After lunch we drove along the Gorigor Swamp created by the spring and saw more lions. Then we drove through the Leria Forest created by massive Acacia Fever trees with some excellent birding, most notable was a Grey Capped Warbler. From the forest we drove around the Magadi Lake which had a subtle pink hue created by large flocks of Greater and Lesser Flamingo's and across the crater floor back to the road which climbed outs the crater to our lodge. On the way out we had the good fortune to see the mother lioness walking with 2 cubs following along. All in all it was a superb day with a stunning sunset to end it off over the crater from our lodge.

New mammals seen were Black-backed Jackal, Golden Jackal, herds of Thomson's Gazelle, Kongoni (Coke's Hartebeest) and Blue Wildebeest.

New birds seen were Shelly's Francolin, Hildebrandt's Francolin, Yellow-billed Duck, Northern Shoveller, Yellow-billed Stork, Abdim's Stork, African Spoonbill, Black-winged Kite, Lappet-faced Vulture, Western Marsh Harrier, Pallid Harrier, Tawny Eagle, Kori Bustard, Common Moorhen, Gull-billed Tern, Klaas's Cuckoo, Common Fiscal, White-necked Raven, Rufous-naped Lark, Red-capped Lark, Zitting Cisticola, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Hildebrandt's Starling, Cape-Robin Chat, Capped Wheatear, Isabelline Wheatear, Anteater Chat and Fan-tailed Widowbird.



Thomson's Gazelle sparring

#### **Day 6 – Serengeti National Park**

We left the lodge after an early breakfast and took a slow drive along the Crater Rim birding in the beautiful forest which blankets the Eastern side of the Rim. We had some wonderful views of the Eastern Double-collared Sunbird and one final look out over the Crater at the viewpoint. We also found Red-collared Widow Bird in the open grassy areas on the Crater Rim on exiting the forest. Leaving the Crater behind we made our way down the south western wall of the rim to the flat rolling plains of the Serengeti.

We stopped for lunch at Olduvai Gorge for a little cultural heritage. Also known as "the Cradle of Mankind" it revolutionized thinking on hominid evolution with remains of Australopithecine hominid found by the Leakey family. We spent a little time at the museum at the site and admired replicas of the hominid fossils that used to inhabit the region. The birding was great and we had superb views of Redand-yellow Barbet and Southern Red Bishop being added to the list.

From here we drove along the long dirt road leading from the Ngorongoro conservation Area into the heart of the open savanna plains of the Serengeti National Park. On the way we crossed through the vast herds of Blue Wildebeest and Plains Zebra making their way south down to the short grass plains of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. We had some great sightings of raptors along the way and with the sun setting we made it to the Seronera Wildlife Lodge perched around a jumble of huge granite rocks.

New birds seen were Secretary Bird, Greater Kestrel, Spotted Thickknee, Collared Pratincole, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Slatecoloured Boubou, Cape Crow, Black Saw-wing, Black-lored Babbler, Pale Flycatcher, African Dusky Flycatcher, Black-faced Waxbill and Yellow-crowned Canary.

#### Day 7 – Serengeti National Park

In the morning we did a fantastic early birding drive and got a whole lot of new birds before breakfast and then went out again after breakfast till lunch. On the way back for lunch we managed to see a few heads of sleeping lions and the odd paw sticking up out the grass.

In the afternoon Abdulli said there was a surprise he wanted to show us and we took off with no stopping for birds. We finally arrived at small woodland that followed a river course and we spotted the unmistakable outline of a leopards tail and paws dangling from a tree. And then on another branch higher in the tree another leopard was also relaxing in the heat of the afternoon. It was 2 sub-adult male brothers. We spent the remainder of the afternoon viewing these superb creatures relaxing.

The Topi (Tsessebe) was a new antelope to our list with herds of African Buffalo, Impala and Grant's Gazelle seen regularly. Interspersed was Kongoni, Defassa Waterbuck, Blue Wildebeest, Hippo and Maasai Giraffe.

New birds seen were Grey-breasted Spurfowl, Lesser Kestrel, Black Crake, Spur-winged Lapwing, Common Sandpiper, Fisher's Lovebird, Purple Roller, Abyssinian Scimitarbill, Red-fronted Barbet, Brubru, Grey-backed Fiscal, Ruppell's Starling, Grey-capped Social Weaver, Blue-capped Cordon-bleu and Pin-tailed Whydah.

#### Day 8 – Serengeti National Park

In the early morning some of the team decided to take to the air in a hot air balloon ride to get a different perspective on the Serengeti. The rest of us had a great birding morning and waved at our team floating through the sky as the sun rose.

After breakfast we all went out again and had a great sighting of 2 male Cheetah's. In the afternoon we drove out along a river and on the way one of the guests in the back of the vehicle called out "leopard". On stopping we all saw a young female leopard lying across a branch in a tree. The leopard didn't stick around and we watched her spotted form disappear into the long grass.

New birds seen were White-faced Whistling Duck, Black-necked Grebe, Striated Heron, Gabar Goshawk, Water Thick-knee, Doublebanded Courser, Three-banded Courser, Bearded Woodpecker, Isabelline Shrike, Mosque Swallow, White-browed Robin-Chat, Chestnut Sparrow, Cardinal Quelea, Red-billed Quelea, Black Bishop, Grey-headed Silverbird and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting.



Ballooning over the Serengeti National Park.

#### Day 9 – Ngorongoro Conservation Area

We decided to spend one last full morning in the Serengeti before heading across to the Ndutu Region of the Ngorongoro Conservation area. Abdulli took us to a hippo pool in a river which was filled with hippo. We also spotted a Nile crocodile and a stunning Grey-headed Kingfisher. On leaving the hippo pool we came across a family of 5 Bat-eared Foxes. Whilst watching them forage across an open clearing a Black-backed Jackal made an appearance. With a flurry of movement and hackles raised high the parent Bat-eared Foxes chased off the intruder. With their attention diverted a second Black-backed Jackal circled round and approached the 3 young pups. What followed was a blur of movement as the parents were hard pressed to repel coordinated attacks by both jackal. Fortunately no pups were killed and we left the sighting.

After lunch we then started to drive to the Ndutu region with a slight detour for another of Abdulli's surprises. This one was a superb sighting of 7 lioness's sleeping about 5 meters off the ground in the massive branches of a tree. It was unreal to see these huge beasts festooning the tree. Further down the road were 2 huge male lions resting under a tree with the remains of a buffalo carcass nearby.

We then had a spectacular drive through the waving grassland of the Serengeti before entering the huge herds of wildebeest and zebra stretching out from horizon to horizon in the Ndutu region of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. Whilst driving through a woodland before the lodge we spotted a Oribi antelope resting in the open close to some thick bushes.

At dinner that night we were treated to a spectacular sighting of a Blotted (Large-spotted) Genet at the Ndutu Lodge. These beautiful animals have made a home in the roof of the main lodge and every night can be found in the rafters of the dinning area grooming themselves.

New birds seen were Montagu's Harrier, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Yellow-fronted Canary and Golden-breasted Bunting.



Black-backed Jackal chasing young Bat-eared Fox pup.

#### Day 10 - Ngorongoro Conservation Area

In the morning we headed out after breakfast and had a wonderful drive through a woodland to the Big Marsh area. Here we found a pride of lions sleeping in the open next to the water and in the distance a cheetah walking away from the potential danger of the lions.

Skirting the marsh we had some great birding before heading back to the lodge for lunch. On arrival at the lodge we were asked to have an early lunch as the President of Tanzania was on his way for lunch. Whilst eating our lunch he arrived and was super friendly and chatted to the guests and we had a photo taken with him. We all wanted to ask if he had seen any Cut-throat Finch as we hadn't.

In the afternoon we set off and almost immediately the heavens opened up with a massive torrential downpour. Abdulli did well to not get stuck and after the rains we took a slow drive around Lake Ndutu seeing more flamingos and huge flocks of White-winged Terns. We also spotted a leopard resting in a tree before heading back to the lodge for a lovely sunset.

New birds seen were Little Egret, Wattled Lapwing, Common Ringed Plover, Crowned Lapwing, Common Greenshank, Red-chested Cuckoo (finally after hearing it almost every day) and Red-throated Tit.

#### Day 11 - Kilimanjaro Airport and Arusha

Today we woke early and set off for Kilimanjaro International Airport.



Serengeti Sunset

# **Annotated List of Mammal Species seen**

Taxonomy and nomenclature follows 'The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals" by Jonathan Kingdon, Academic Press, 1997.

# Large-winged Bats Megadermatidae

#### Yellow-winged Bat Lavia frons This beautiful bat was first spotted hanging like a dead leaf in an Acacia tree at the entrance gate to Tarangire National Park.

# Colobid Monkeys Colobidae

**Guereza (Black-and-white) Colobus** Colobus guereza This primate was seen at Arusha National Park in the forest.

# **Cheek-Pouch Monkeys** Cercopithecidae

**Olive Baboon** Papio [hamadryas] anubis Large troops of this shaggy-haired creature were recorded throughout the tour.

#### Sykes's Monkey

Cercopithe cunictitans

mitis

Seen in Arusha National Park

#### Vervet Monkey

Cercopithecus aethiops

This widespread African monkey was observed at most woodland/savanna sites during the tour.

# <u>Hares Leporidae</u>

Cape HareLepus capensisThis species was recorded in the Serengeti National Park

# Squirrels Sciuridae

# **Unstriped Ground Squirrel**

Seen in Arusha National Park. Orchre Bush Squirrel Seen in Tarangire National Park.

Xerus rutilus

Paraxerus ochraceous

# Rats and Mice Muridea

**African Grass Rat** 

Arvicanthis niloticus

# Dogs & Allies Canidae

Bat-eared FoxOtocyn megalotisAwesome sighting in the Serengeti chasing Black-backed JackalGolden JackalGolden JackalCanis aureusBlack-backed JackalCanis mesomelasBoth seen in the Ngorongoro Crater and Ndutu.

# Mongooses Herpestidae

#### Slender Mongoose

Herpestes sanguinea

Seen only once in the Ngorongoro Crater.

#### **Dwarf Mongoose**

Helogale parvula

We recorded these splendid little animals in Tarangire and the Serenaeti.

#### Banded Mongoose

Mungos mungo

This gregarious species was seen well in Tarangire and Ndutu region.

# Hyaenas Hyaenidae

# Spotted Hyaena

Crocuta crocuta We had really good numbers at all the paces we visited.

# **Aardwolf Protelinae**

Aardwolf

# Proteles cristatus

# Genets & Civets Viverridae

Blotched (Large-spotted) Genet Genetta maculata

We had superb views of this beautifully patterned genet at Ndutu Lodge.

# Cats Felidae

Panthera leo Our efforts exploring Tarangire, the Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti and Ndutu we were rewarded with fantastic sightings of lion.

# Leopard

Panthera pardus We were extremely fortunate to see this fantastic predator on a number of occasions in the Serengeti and Ndutu.

#### Cheetah

Acinonyx jubatus

We were extremely fortunate to see this fantastic predator on a number of occasions in the Serengeti and Ndutu.

# Hyraxes Procavidae

Yellow-spotted Hyrax

Heterohyrax brucei Good numbers of these hyraxes were seen in Tarangire and the Serengeti.

# **Elephants Elephantidae**

African Elephant Loxodonta africana We had great elephant sightings in Tarangire and Ndutu.

# Horses Equidae

Common (Burchell's / Plain's) Zebra Equus burchelli

Lion

We had great sightings throughout the trip, fantastic numbers in the Ndutu Region.

# **Rhinoceroses** Rhinocerotidae

#### **Black Rhinoceros**

Diceros bicornis

We were fortunate to see a few of these endangered species in the Crater.

# Hippopotamuses Hippopotamidae

**Hippopotamus** Arusha National Park, Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti yielded views of this enormous animal.

# Pigs Suidae

Common WarthogPhacochoerus africanusThis species was seen on every day of the trip in the<br/>grassland/savanna habitats.

# **Giraffes Giraffidae**

#### Maasai Giraffe

Giraffa camelopardalis

tippelskirchi

Seen well in Arusha, Tarangire, Serengeti and Ndutu.

# Bovids & Horned Ungulates Bovidae

Thomson's Gazelle	Gazella the	omsonii	
The Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti and Ndutu produced this species.			
Grant's Gazelle Gazella granti			
The Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti and Ndutu produced this species.			
Kirk's Dik-dik Madoqua kirkii			
This tiny antelope was seen in Lake Manyara and in the Serengeti.			
African Buffalo Syncerus caffer			
These bovids were seen on most days of the tour.			
Lesser Kudu		Tragelaphus	
imberbis			
We were extremely fortunate to find a beautiful female on the side			
of the road on an afternoon drive in Tarangire NP.			
Bushbuck	Tragelaphus scriptus		
Seen in Arusha NP.			
Eland	Taurotragus oryx		
The Ngorongoro Crater.			
Bohor Reedbuck	Redunca redunca		
This species was found in the Serengeti.			
Common Waterbuck	Kobus	ellipsiprymnus	
ellipsiprymnus			
Arusha NP, Tarangire and Ngorongoro i sightings.	s where we	had numerous	
[Defassa Waterbuck]	Kobus	ellipsiprymnus	
	Rebus	empolprymmao	

#### defassa

Seen well in the Serengeti.

Coke's Hartebeest (Kongoni) cokei

Alcelaphus buselaphus

We recorded this large antelope on a daily basis in the Serengeti and Ndutu.

#### **Blue Wildebeest**

Connochaetes taurinus

What a privilege to see the migration in all its magnitude in the Ndutu region.

Topi (Tsessebe) Damaliscus lunatus One of the fastest antelope over long distance, we found a few in the Serengeti.

# Impala

Aepyceros melampus Tarangire and the Serengeti yielded this species.

Harvev's Duiker Caphalophus harveyi Seen once in Arusha NP running across the road.

# Annotated List of Bird Species seen

Taxonomy used is based on: Gill, F. and M.Wright. 2006. Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press, Notes indicate differences with the Clements Taxonomy.

# **Ostriches Struthionidae**

[Common] Ostrich

Struthio camelus

# **Guineafowl Numididae**

Helmeted Guineafowl

Numida meleagris

# Francolins & Ouails Phasianidae

NOTE: Clements places all francolins and spurfowls into the genus Francolinus and does not use the common name Spurfowl for the larger francolins. **Coqui Francolin** 

Shelley's francolin **Crested Francolin** Scaly Francolin Hildebrandt's Francolin Yellow-necked Spurfowl (Francolin) Pternistis leucoscepus Grey-breasted Spurfowl (Francolin) **Red-necked Spurfowl** 

Peliperdix coaui Scleroptila shelleyi Dendroperdix sephaena Pternistis squamatus Pternistis hildebrandti Pternistis rufopictus Pternistis afer

# Ducks & Geese Anatidae

White-faced Whistling Duck **Spur-winged Goose** 

Dendrocygna viduata Plectropterus gambensis Egyptian GooseAlopochen aegyptiacaCape TealAnas capensisYellow-billed DuckAnas undulataRed-billed Teal (Duck)Anas erythrorhynchaNOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Red-billed Duck.Hottentot TealAnas hottentotaSothern PochardNetta erythrophthalmaNorthern ShovellerAnas clypeata

#### **Grebes** Podicipedidae

Little Grebe Black-necked Grebe Tachybaptus ruficollis Podiceps nigricollis

#### Flamingos Phoenicopteridae

Greater Flamingo Lesser Flamingo Phoenicopterus ruber Phoenicopterus minor

#### Storks Ciconiidae

Yellow-billed Stork African Openbill Black Stork Abdim's Stork White Stork Saddle-billed Stork senegalensis Marabou Stork *Mycteria ibis Anastomus lamelligerus Ciconia nigra Ciconia abdimii Ciconia ciconia Ephippiorhynchus* 

Leptoptilos crumeniferus

#### **Ibises & Spoonbills** Threskiornithidae

[African] Sacred Ibis Hadada (Hadeda) Ibis African Spoonbill Threskiornis aethiopicus Bostrychia hagedash Platalea alba

#### Herons, Egrets & Bitterns Ardeidae

Striated (Green-backed) Heron [Western] Cattle Egret Butorides striatus Bubulcus ibis of the Cattle Earst comple

Note: Clements does not yet recognise the split of the Cattle Egret complex as yet.

Grey Heron Black-headed Heron Little Egret Ardea cinerea Ardea melanocephala Egretta garzetta

#### Hamerkop Scopidae

Hamerkop

Scopus umbretta

#### Pelicans Pelecanidae

**Great White Pelican** 

Pelecanus onocrotalus

#### Cormorants & Shags Phalacrocoracidae

**Great (White-breasted) Cormorant** Phalacrocorax lucidus Note: Clements still regards this species as part of the Great Cormorant (Phalacrocorax carbo).

# Secretarybird Sagittariidae

#### Secretarybird

Sagittarius serpentarius

# Hawks, Eagles & Kites Accipitridae

Black-winged (-shouldered) KiteElanus caeruleusNOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Black-shouldered Kite.Some authorities lump this species with Australian Kite E. axillaris and theAmerican E. leucurus White-tailed Kite.Black (Yellow-billed) KiteMote: Some authorities split this complex into Black Kite M migraps and Yellow-

Note: Some authorities split this complex into Black Kite M. migrans and Yellowbilled Kite M. aegyptius. We observed the yellow-billed form on this tour. The IOC does not yet recognise this split.

does not yet recognise this split.			
African Fish Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer		
Hooded Vulture	Necrosyrtes monachus		
(African) White-backed Vulture	Gyps africanus		
Rüppell's Vulture (Griffon)	Gyps rueppellii		
Note: The Clements common name for this species is Rueppell's Griffon.			
White-headed Vulture	Trigonoceps occipitalis		
Lappet-faced Vulture	Torgos tracheliotus		
Brown Snake Eagle	Circaetus cinereus		
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus		
Western (European) Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus		
Pallid Harrier	Circus macrourus		
Montagu's Harrier	Circus pygarus		
African Harrier Hawk	Polyboroides typus		
Dark Chanting Goshawk	Melierax metabates		
Eastern Chanting Goshawk	Melierax poliopterus		
Gabar Goshawk	Micronisus gabar		
Augur Buzzard	Buteo augur		
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax		
Wahlberg's Eagle	Aquila wahlbergi		
African Hawk-Eagle	Aquila spilogaster		
Martial Eagle	Polemaetus bellicosus		
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis		
Crowned (Hawk-) Eagle	Stephanoaetus coronatus		
NOTE: The Clements common name for this spec	cies is Crowned Hawk-Eagle.		
Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo		
Lesser Spotted Eagle	Aquila pomarina		
Steppe Eagle	Aquila nipalensis		

# Falcons & Kestrels Falconidae

Lesser Kestrel Pygmy Falcon Greater Kestrel Eurasian Hobby Falco naumanni Polihierax semitorquatus Falco rupicoloides Falco subbuteo

# **Bustards** Otididae

Ardeotis kori

White-bellied BustardEupodotis senegalensisNOTE: This species represents the northern form of White-bellied Bustard.Clements lumps the northern form of White-bellied Bustard E. senegalensis with<br/>the Southern African endemic Barrow's or Southern White-bellied Bustard E.<br/>barrowi.

**Black-bellied Bustard** We had good views of this attractive bustard in the Ngorongoro Crater.

# Rails, Gallinules & Coots Rallidae

Black Crake Common Moorhen Red-knobbed Coot

Kori Bustard

Amaurornis flavirostra Gallinula chloropus Fulica cristala

# Cranes Gruidae

**Grey Crowned Crane** Balearica regulorum NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Gray Crowned-Crane.

# Thick-knees Burhinidae

Water Thick-knee (Dikkop) Spotted Thick-Knee (Dikkop) Burhinus vermiculatus Burhinus capensis

# Stilts & Avocets Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt Pied Avocet

Himantopus himantopus

# Plovers & Lapwings Charadriidae

Long-toed Lapwing Vanellus crassirostris **Blacksmith Lapwing (Plover)** Vanellus armatus NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Blacksmith Plover. Spur-winged Lapwing (Plover) Vanellus spinosus NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Spur-winged Plover. Senegal lapwing Vanellus lugubris **Crowned Lapwing** Vanellus coronatus Wattled Lapwing Vanellus senegallus **Common Ringed Lapwing** Charadrius hiaticula **Kittlitz's Plover** Charadrius pecuarius Three-banded Plover Charadrius tricollaris

# Jacanas Jacanidae

African Jacana

Actophilornis africanus

Sandpipers & Allies Scolopacidae

**Marsh Sandpiper Common Greenshank** Wood Sandpiper **Common Sandpiper** Little Stint Ruff

Tringa stagnatilis Tringa nebularia Tringa glareola Actitis hypoleucos Calidris minuta Philomachus puqnax

# Coursers & Pratincoles Glareolidae

#### **Double-banded Courser**

Rhinoptilus africanus Note: Clements places this species in a different genus to the IOC nomenclature, namely Smutsornis.

Three-banded Courser **Collared Pratincole** 

Rhinoptilus cinctus Glareola praticola

# Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae

**Gull-billed Tern** Whiskered Tern White-winged Tern Gelochelidon nilotica Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias leucopterus

# Sandgrouse Pteroclidae

**Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** Yellow-throated Sandgrouse **Black-faced Sandgrouse** 

Pterocles exustus Pterocles gutteralis Pterocles decoratus

# **Doves & Pigeons** Columbidae

Common (Feral) Pigeon (Rock Dove) Columba livia Speckled (Rock) Pigeon Columba quinea **Dusky Turtle Dove** Streptopelia lugens Mourning Collared (African Mourning) Dove Streptopelia decipiens NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is African Mourning Dove. **Red-eved Dove** Streptopelia semitorquata Ring-necked (Cape Turtle) Dove Streptopelia capicola Laughing (Palm) Dove Streptopelia senegalensis Turtur Emerald-spotted (Green-spotted) Wood Dove chalcospilos Namagua Dove

**African Green Pigeon** 

Oena capensis Treron calva

#### Parrots & Allies Psittacidae

**Fischer's Lovebird** Yellow-collared Lovebird Meyer's (Brown) Parrot

Agapornis fischeri Agapornis personatus Poicephalus meyeri

# **Turacos Musophagidae**

Hartlaub's Turaco

Tauraco hartlaubi

Bare-faced Go-away-bird White-bellied Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides personatus Corythaixoides eucogaster* 

#### **Cuckoos Cuculidae**

White-browed Coucal Jacobin (Pied) Cuckoo Dideric Cuckoo Klaas's Cuckoo Red-chested Cuckoo *Centropus superciliosus Clamator jacobinus Chrysococcyx caprius Chrysococcyx klass Cuculus solitarius* 

#### **Owls Strigidae**

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl

Bubo lacteus

#### Nightjars Caprimulgidae

**Square-tailed Nightjar** 

Caprimulgus fossi

#### Swifts Apodidae

African Palm Swift Little Swift White-rumped Swift *Cypsiurus parvus Apus affinis Apus Caffer* 

#### Mousebirds Coliidae

**Speckled Mousebird** 

Colius striatus

# **Rollers** Coraciidae

Purple Roller Lilac-breasted Roller European Roller Coracias naevius Coracias caudata Coracias garrulous

# Kingfishers Alcedinidae

Grey-headed Kingfisher Brown-hooded Kingfisher Woodland Kingfisher Malachite Kingfisher Pied Kingfisher Halcyon leucocephala Halcyon albiventris Halcyon senegalensis Alcedo cristata Ceryle rudis

# **Bee-eaters** Meropidae

Little Bee-eater Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater *Merops pusillus Merops oreobates* 

# Hoopoes Upupidae

African Hoopoe

Upupa africana

#### Wood Hoopoes Phoeniculidae

**Green Wood Hoopoe** 

Phoeniculus purpureus

#### Abyssinian Scimitarbill

Rhinopomastus minor

# Hornbills Bucerotidae

African Grev Hornbill Northern Red-billed Hornbill Von der Decken's Hornbill

Silvery-cheeked Hornbill

Tockus nasutus Tockus erythrorhynchus Tockus deckeni Bycanistes brevis

Note: Clements places this species in a different genus to the IOC nomenclature, namely Ceratogymna.

#### Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae

Southern Ground Hornbill

Bucorvus leadbeateri

# African Barbets Lybiidae

White-eared Barbet **Red-fronted Barbet (Pied Barbet)** Note: The Clements common name for this species is Pied Barbet. **Brown-breasted Barbet Red-and-yellow Barbet** 

Tricholaema diademata Lybius melanopterus Trachyphonus

Stactolaema leucotis

erythrocephalus

**D'Arnaud's Barbet** 

Trachyphonus darnaudii

NOTE: The drabber sub-species, Usambiro Barbet (T. d. usambiro), that we recorded in the Serengeti is sometimes treated as a full species. This is due to larger size, greyer bill, and greenish tone to the head and a darker breast band. IOC does not recognize this split, but Clement's does.

# Woodpeckers & Allies Picidae

Nubian Woodpecker **Bearded Woodpecker** [African] Grey Woodpecker Campethera nubica Dendropicos namaguus Dendropicos goertae

NOTE: This species is lumped by IOC with Gray-headed Woodpecker (D. spodocephalus).

# Wattle-eyes, Batises & Allies Platysteiridae

**Chinspot Batis** 

Batis molitor

# **Bushshrikes Malaconotidae**

**Brown-crowned (Three-streaked) Tchagra** Tchagra australis **Black-backed Puffback** Dryoscopus cubla Slate-colored Boubou Laniarius funebris **Tropical Boubou** Laniarius aethiopicus Brubru Nilaus afer

# Shrikes Laniidae

Magpie (Long-tailed) Shrike melanoleucus

Urolestes

(Corvinella)

NOTE: Clements places this species in a different genus to the IOC nomenclature, namely Corvinella.

Northern White-crowned Shrike Eurocephalus rueppelli NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is White-rumped Shrike. Isabelline Shrike Lanius isabellinus **Grey-backed Fiscal** Lanius excubitoroides

Long-tailed Fiscal **Common Fiscal** 

Lanius cabanisi Lanius collaris

#### **Drongos** Dicruridae

**Fork-tailed Drongo** 

Dicrurus adsimilis

# Monarchs Monarchidae

African Paradise Flycatcher Terpsiphone viridis

#### Crows, Jays & Magpies Corvidae

Cape (Black) Crow **Pied Crow** White-necked Raven

Corvus capensis Corvus albus Corvus albicollis

#### Tits Paridae

**Red-throated Tit** 

Parus fringillinus

# Larks Alaudidae

**Rufous-naped Lark** Flappet Lark **Red-capped Lark Fischer's Sparrow-Lark** 

Mirafra africana Mirafra rufocinnamomea Calandrella cinerea Eremopterix leucopareia

# **Bulbuls Pycnonotidae**

[Dark-capped] (Common) Bulbul Pycnonotus tricolor (Eastern) Mountain Greenbul Andropadus nigriceps

NOTE: IOC splits the Mountain Greenbul complex into several species: including the nominate Mountain Greenbul (A. nigriceps) endemic to the highland forests of S Kenya & N Tanzania, Yellow-throated Greenbul (A. chlorigula) endemic to S Tanzania and Black-browed Greenbul (A. fusciceps) endemic to Malawi, N Mozambique & extreme S Tanzania.

# Martins & Swallows Hirundinidae

#### **Black Saw-wing**

Psalidoprocne pristoptera

NOTE: The Black Sawwing (P. pristoptera complex) was split into 8 full species, which caused extreme confusion with regard to their distributions and field identification, however, all authorities including IOC have now accepted one species.

#### **Barn Swallow** Wire-tailed Swallow

Hirundo rustica Hirundo smithii **Rock Martin Lesser Striped Swallow Mosque Swallow Red-rumped Swallow** 

Ptyonoprogne fuliqula Cecropis abyssinica Cecropis senegalensis Cecropis daurica

#### **Reed Warblers & Allies** Acrocephalidae

African Reed Warbler

Acrocephalus baeticatus

#### Crombecs Macroshpenidae

**Red-faced Crombec** 

#### Sylvietta whytii

#### Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae

**Rattling Cisticola** Winding Cisticola Cisticola chiniana Cisticola marginatus

NOTE: The IOC nomenclature has split this widespread African group into five species. Winding Cisticola (C. galactotes) that we observed, is now C. marginatus and occurs in East, Central and West Africa. The other four species are Coastal Cisticola (C. haematocephalus) that occurs in coastal East Africa, Luapula Cisticola (C. luapula) occurring largely in Zambia, Rufous-winged Cisticola (C. galactotes) of coastal Southern Africa and Ethiopian Cisticola (C. lugubris) endemic to Ethiopia. Clements does not as yet recognise these splits.

#### Zitting Cisticola

**Tawny-flanked Prinia Grey-capped Warbler** Grey-(Green) backed Camaroptera

brevicaudata

Cisticola iuncidis Prinia subflava Eminia lepida Camaroptera

#### **Babblers Timalidae**

**Black-lored Babbler** Northern Pied Babbler Turdoides sharpei Turdoides hypoleuca

# White-eyes Zosteropidae

**Broad-ringed (Montane) White-eye** Zosterops poliogastrus NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Broad-ringed White-eye.

# Starlings Sturnidae

Creatophora cinerea

Greater Blue-eared (Glossy-) Starling Lamprotornis chalybaeus NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling.

### Rüppell's (Glossy-) Starling

Lamprotornis

purpuroptera NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Rueppell's Glossy-Starling. Superb Starling Hildebrandt's Starling Fischer's Starling

Ashy Starling

Wattled Starling

Lamprotornis superbus Lamprotornis hildebrandti Lamprotornis fischeri Lamprotornis unicolor

**Red-winged Starling** 

Onychognathus morio

# **Oxpeckers** Buphagidae

Yellow-billed Oxpecker

**Red-billed Oxpecker** 

Buphagus africanus Buphagus

Turdus

erythrorhynchus

# Thrushes & Allies Turdidae

# [Abyssinian] (Olive) Thrush

olivaceus

abyssinicus

NOTE: The Olive Thrush complex may be split into a range of up to 10 full species. The form which we recorded is Abyssinian Thrush (T. o. abyssinicus) would be recognised as distinct within this confusing complex. Clements does not as yet recognise these splits.

# Chats, Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae

Cape Robin-ChatCossypha caffraWhite-browed Robin-ChatCossypha heugliniWhite-browed (Red-backed) Scrub RobinErythropygia

(Cercotrichas) leucophrys

NOTE: This widespread African complex is being reviewed for a 3-way split, the Southern African C. I. leucophrys group would become White-browed Scrub Robin, the Central African C. I. zambesiana would remain as Red-backed Scrub Robin and the Northern African C. I. leucoptera would become White-winged Scrub Robin. IOC does not as yet recognise these splits.

#### **African Stonechat**

Saxicola torquatus

*NOTE:* Clement's does not recognise this as a full species and lumps it with Eurasian Stonechat.

# Capped Wheatear

fischeri

Isabelline Wheatear Northern Wheatear (Northern) Anteater Chat White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher *Oenanthe pileata Oenanthe isabellina Oenanthe oenanthe Myrmecocichla aethiops Dioptrornis (Melaenornis)* 

*NOTE: Clements places this species in a different genus to the IOC nomenclature, namely* Melaenornis.

Northern Black Flycatcher Pale Flycatcher African Grey Flycatcher Silverbird Spotted Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher African Dusky Flycatcher

Melaenornis edolioides Bradornis pallidus Bradornis microrhynchus Empidornis semipartitus Muscicapa striata Muscicapa caerulescens Muscicapa adusta

# Sunbirds Nectarinidae

Scarlet-chested Sunbird Bronzy (Bronze) Sunbird Eastern Double-collared Sunbird Variable Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis Nectarinia kilimensis Cinnyris mediocris Cinnyris venusta* 

# Old World Sparrows Passeridae

**Rufous-tailed Weaver** 

Histurgops ruficauda

Grey-capped (headed) Social Weaver Pseudonigrita arnaudi NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Gray-headed Social-Weaver.

House Sparrow [Northern] Grey-headed Sparrow Passer domesticus Passer griseus

NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Gray-headed Sparrow.

#### Swahili Sparrow

**Chestnut Sparrow** 

Passer suahelicus Passer eminibey

#### Weavers & Allies Ploceidae

#### **Red-billed Buffalo Weaver**

Bubalornis niger

NOTE: This species complex might be split into two, the nominate group would become Southern Red-billed Buffalo Weaver and the form in Ethiopia would become Northern Red-billed Buffalo Weaver (B. intermedius). IOC does not as yet recognize this split.

White-headed Buffalo Weaver
Speckle-fronted Weaver
Thick-billed (Grosbeak) Weaver

Dinemellia dinemelli Sporopipes frontalis Amblyospiza albifrons

NOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Grosbeak Weaver.

**Baglafecht Weaver Spectacled Weaver** Lesser Masked Weaver Vitelline Masked Weaver **Speke's Weaver Red-headed Weaver** 

Ploceus baglafecht Ploceus ocularis Ploceaus intermedius Ploceus vitellinus Ploceus spekei Anaplectes melanotis

# (rubriceps)

NOTE: This species complex might be split into two, the southern nominate group would remain Red-headed Weaver and the northern black-faced form which we recorded in Tanzania would become Red-winged Weaver (A. leuconotos). IOC does not as yet recognize this split.

#### Cardinal Quelea

**Red-billed Quelea** Black Bishop [Southern] Red Bishop Fan-tailed (Red-shouldered) Widowbird **Red-collared Widowbird** 

Quelea cardinalis Quelea quelea Euplectes gierowii Euplectes orix Euplectes axillaris Euplectes ardens

#### Waxbills & Allies Estrildidae

**Green-winged Pytilia** Pytilia melba Our only views of this gorgeous species were in the Serengeti. **Red-billed Firefinch** Jameson's Firefinch **Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu Blue-capped Cordon-bleu** cyanocephalus

Lagonosticta senegala Lagonosticta rhodopareia Uraeginthus bengalus Uraeginthus

#### **Purple Grenadier**

ianthinogaster

*NOTE:* Clements places this species in a different genus to IOC, namely: Granatina.

Black-faced (-cheeked) WaxbillEstrilda erythronotosNOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Black-cheeked Waxbill.Grey-headed SilverbillLonchura griseicapillaNOTE: Clements places this species in a different genus to IOC nomenclature,<br/>namely Odontospiza.

# Indigobirds Viduidae

Pin-tailed WhydahVidua macrouraStraw-tailed WhydahVidua fischeriLong-tailed (Eastern) Paradise WhydahVidua paradisaeaNOTE: The Clements common name for this species is Eastern Paradise-Whydah.

#### Wagtails & Pipits Motacillidae

African Pied Wagtail Yellow Wagtail Yellow-throated Longclaw Pangani Longclaw African Pipit *Motacilla aguimp Motacilla flava Macronyx croceus Macronyx aurantiigula Anthus cinnamomeus* 

NOTE: African pipit taxonomy is in rather disarray and much further research is required in the phylogeny of this grouping. Several forms which are considered subspecies are likely to become full species in their own rights and several new forms are surely still to be described. The identification of two new species of pipits from an urban hockey field in Kimberley, South Africa, provides an excellent illustration regarding how little is know about African pipits and how little attention has been paid to them.

# Finches Fringillidae

Yellow-crowned Cape Canary Yellow-fronted Canary Southern Citril Serinus flavivertex Serinus mozambicus crithagra hyposticta

#### **Buntings** Emberizidae

Cinnamon-breasted Bunting Golden-breasted Bunting Emberiza tahapisi Emberiza flaviventris

#### **Reptiles and Amphibians**

Helmeted Terrapin Leopard Tortoise Red-headed Rock Agama Tropical House Gecko Nile Monitor Nile Crocodile Pelomedusa subrufa Geochelone pardalis Agama agama Hemidactylus mabouia Varanus niloticus Crocodylus niloticus

#### Uraeginthus (Granatina)

Heard but not seen: Senegal Kassina Red-Banded Rubber Frog

*Kassina senegalensis Phrynomantis bifasciatus* 

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