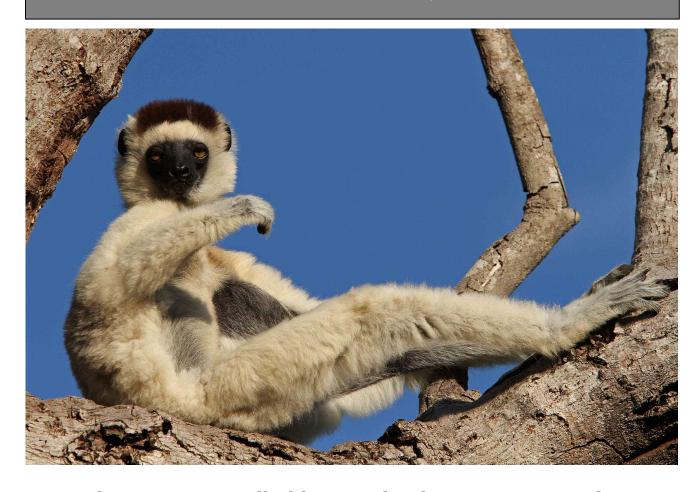


Trip Report

Madagascar Mammals of a Magical Island 4th to 23rd November 2012 (20 days incl. extension)



Trip Report compiled by tour leader Lawrence Weitz

Mammals of a Magical Island	
Day 1, 4 November	Arrive in Antananarivo
Day 2, 5 November	Antananarivo to Ampijoroa
Day 3, 6 November	Ankarafantsika National Park
Day 4, 7 November	Ankarafantsika National Park
Day 5, 8 November	Ampijoroa to Antananarivo
Day 6, 9 November	Antananarivo to Berenty
Day 7, 10 November	Berenty
Day 8, 11 November	Berenty to Antananarivo
Day 9, 12 November	Antananarivo to Kirindy
Day 10, 13 November	Kirindy Forest
Day 11, 14 November	Kirindy Forest
Day 12, 15 November	Kirindy to Morondava
Day 13, 16 November	Morondava to Perinet
Day 14, 17 November	Perinet/Mantadia National Parks
Day 15, 18 November	Perinet/Mantadia National Parks
Day 16, 19 November	Perinet to Antananarivo
Day 17, 20 November	Antananarivo to Ranomafana
Day 18, 21 November	Ranomafana National Park
Day 19, 22 November	Ranomafana National Park
Day 20, 23 November	Ranomafana to Antananarivo

Tour Summary

Madagascar is home to some of the most wonderful wildlife this planet has to offer. With almost all of the diverse flora and fauna being endemic to this island, it certainly provides all visitors with a unique and charming experience. Some bizarre species not only capture your attention but leave you with a magical sensation.

Amongst the captivating natural wonders of the country, Madagascar's cultural heritage and history is intriguing to say the least. Madagascar holds records which are rivalled by no other country and if you are looking for a special wildlife experience, then Indri's tour of this magical island is not to be overlooked!

Our tour began in the capital city Antananarivo. We had a short flight to the port city Mahajanga and then a 2hr drive to Ankarafantsika National Park. The park lies in the West of the country and is a hot region with little rainfall. The deciduous forest is home to a variety of species. Here we were to have our first close up views of some of Madagascar's wildlife. On arrival we did a short walk on the shore of Lac Ravelobe and had great views of Nile crocodile, Madagascar fish eagle, Cuckoo roller, jacana and other specials which are endemic to this region.

After lunch we immediately set off on our first hike. The walk took us around Lac Ravelobe and lasted three hours.

A visit to the park's sacred Baobab tree (*A. madagascarensis boensis*) marked the beginning of a great walk. Jacana, Humblot's heron and Malagasy pond heron were amongst the birds seen on the lake shores. We did see our first Oustalet's chameleon on the walk and the group got enjoy fresh tamarind fruits from the forest floor.

The research station at Ampijoroa delivered the first views of the gorgeous Coquerel's sifaka late that afternoon. Although the light was fading fast, we did have a lovely first encounter with some lemurs.



A small family was moving toward their roosting site and allowed us to see the grace with which these primates move through the trees. We spent ten minutes with the group and then made our way to our accommodation on the border of the National Park to freshen up for a night-walk and dinner.

The night-walks in Madagascar are not to be missed! Every minute of each walk provided some excitement in the form of reptiles, nocturnal mammals and some birds. They are conducted outside of National Parks, often in community areas. This night we saw Grey Mouse lemur, Fat-tailed Dwarf lemur, Nose Horned chameleon and the world's biggest chameleon, Oustelet's chameleon.



After dinner we retired to a needful rest in order to prepare for our first morning hike. The early hours of the morning are great for wildlife viewing in the western region of the island as temperatures can be high during midday.

This morning in the forest delivered great views of Coquerel's sifaka, delicately bounding through the trees. We also had great views of the hard to find Mongoose lemurs, Common Brown

lemurs, Western Woolly lemur and on the reptilian front, saw lovely Madagascar Day geckos, Plain Big headed geckos and a variety of snakes including the Lesser Hog-nosed snake.

The Milne-Edwards Sportive lemur was a favourite amongst many of the participants.

On our last day here, we also visited a local primary school.

We spent two full days at Ankarafantsika National Park and many of the first encounters with animals here were amongst the most memorable of the trip.



From here headed we via Antananarivo to Berenty. This private reserve protects some of the last standing spiny forest in the south of Madagascar. It is also home to the world famous dancing Verreaux's sifaka. We arrived late in afternoon and decided to head off on another night-walk as soon possible. The walk took us through some of the spiny forest, an amazing vegetation type containing some very

specialised species which is home to some unique fauna, such as the White-Footed Sportive lemur and Torotoroka scops owl. Apart from the wildlife in the forest, the sensation that the forest itself gives you is surreal. Eerie shadows from alien like xerophytes are cast in the moonlight, giving a sci fi like background for any visible nocturnes. We walked this forest on both nights that we were in Berenty.



After another lovely dinner and successful day we had a good night rest. The following morning we headed out in search of Ringtailed lemurs and Verreaux's sifakas. We had not left the breakfast table when we were greeted by a family of habituated Ring-tailed lemurs. These catlike lemurs, which spend a lot of time on the ground are incredibly photogenic and it is possible to spend quality time with them as they are viewed by thousands of visitors each year and have become very confident around humans.

The Verreaux's sifakas are not always "dancing". It takes some patience and timing to be in the correct location to get to see this peculiar locomotion that these lemurs have when moving over open ground to reach the safety of trees. They have aerial predators and are very vulnerable when in the open. It is mostly in the afternoon when they are seen

skipping over open ground. It is a wonderful sight indeed!

We were fortunate to see this spectacle twice and what a welcome sight is was!

The mothers carry their young on their backs, leading the way for the family group.

Apart from the star lemurs, other mammal species included Madagascar's flying fox, the largest bat species island. This huge endemic bat, with a wingspan of over three feet is mostly seen at their roosting sight from a distance away, so as not too alarm this threatened giant. They can be heard from over a hundred meters away, as they jostle for position.

The Ring-tailed lemurs have been the focus of so many television crews and visitors, that they are very relaxed and sometimes in and amongst your feet when viewing around the camp. We had many highlights at Berenty, amongst them were a Tree boa, Radiated tortoise, Spider tortoise, Giant coua and the Flying fox. No need to mention the lemurs.

From Berenty we drove back to Fort Dauphin to catch our flight back to Antananarivo. The following morning we had an early departure to Morondava, the stunning coastal town en route to Kirindy Forest. Morondava is known for it's sugar cane plantations and is also the most southern point Madagascar's resort circuit on the west coast. The drive





from Morondava takes you through the renowned Avenue of Baobabs. Over three hundred baobabs (*A.grandidieri*) declared a national monument in 2008, and the road to Kirindy takes you through some of the tallest and oldest individuals of this species. This is another highlight of the tour and we spent good time here, walking down the road and absorbing the wonder together with a taste of culture in the form of craft markets and children swimming in a small rain filled pool.



Kirindy Forest is another amazing example of Madagascar's natural heritage. It is also a dry deciduous forest and is possibly the best location for night walks. We spent two full days in the forest in search of it's inhabitants.

It was hot when we arrived, and the sunset brought a welcome relief. We set off on our first night walk that evening. The forest really comes

alive as soon as the sun drops over the horizon. It is therefore necessary to be in position at that time to hear the vocalisation of many of the nocturnal lemurs. During an hour walk that evening we got great close up views of Pale Forkmarked lemur, Red-tailed Sportive lemur, Grey Mouse lemur and a Warty chameleon.

The research station at Kirindy has it's own local wildlife in the form of Red Fronted Brown lemurs, nocturnal Giant Jumping rats (seen only by a few participants) and a resident but shy Fossa. We were constantly on the lookout for the Fossa, which had been seen close to the camp a few days before.

We had fantastic morning walks, before the heat of the day set in. A highlight was a Giant Hog-nosed snake looking for a mate. We spent an hour with this beauty moving very close to us.





A Red Tailed Sportive lemur made for a special moment, allowing us great views in the early morning light.

We spent two full days in the Kirindy Forest with two walks per day and a night-walk each night that we were there.

On the second day the mystical Fossa suddenly showed himself at the camp, casually strolling through as though he was a shareholder! Not all of the group

got good views this time around. He did however return later on and made for great photographic opportunities. This elite predator is a threat to almost all terrestrial mammals in Madagascar, with lemurs and birds included in his diet. They are incredible climbers and one of the only climbers that has reversible ankles on its hind legs allowing it to descend head first at a very controlled rate. They are very agile in the tree canopies and a threat to both nocturnal and diurnal fauna.



As with most wildlife in Madagascar there is a limited fear of humans and if undertaken correctly, most animals can be approached unbelievable close range. This certainly was the case on the second morning in Kirindy. We were passing through a bamboo thicket when we spotted some Red-Fronted Brown lemurs high up in a tree canopy. After ten minutes viewing, one individual made a slight advance towards us. A short

while later he came down further. We all sat down on the ground in anticipation. It was not long after, when the entire group of lemurs descended from the canopy and through the bamboo thicket onto the ground around us. One by one they moved between us, coming in close for views of cameras and humans. An amazing experience which lasted over thirty minutes!



We had a very welcome rain storm that afternoon, which cooled the forest down a lot. Some Narrow-Striped mongoose were seen this afternoon too. The evening was cooler and provided us with good views of the world's smallest primate, Madame Berthe's Mouse lemur! This 30 gram lemur was seen well by all of the group and it too was welcomed after having missed it on the first evening.

Another highlight that evening was the Painted Big Headed gecko. A stunning nocturnal gecko which we stumbled upon during our night walk.

Kirindy's challenging environment was extremely rewarding, and the following day we made our way to the picturesque sea-side town of Morondava for our overnight at a stunning location overlooking the Indian Ocean with an

unforgettable sunset and sundowners included, followed by a fantastic dinner with fresh seafood and other delicious options.



Sunset photo by Tanna Nonnecke.

The following morning we had a short flight back to Antananarivo, in order to make our way to Perinet and Mantadia National Parks. Analamazotra, as it's

known locally is home habituated to some Indri families. The largest of the lemurs and one of the most vocal amongst them, the Indri is a very handsome arboreal mammal. We set off on our first morning to look for this special species. It was not before long we encountered male low down in the forest canopy. He gave us all



an inquisitive look and then leaped off into another position. A few minutes later he began calling, with the rest of the family group falling into unison with their loud and eerie territorial vocal display. This sound can be heard from kilometres away, and if you are fortunate enough to hear it, chances are that you will never forget it.



We spent three quarters of an hour with this small group of Indri. The experience was another highlight, with family members caressing one another and being extremely tactile. The occasional enhanced the calling moment.

Once we were satisfied with our Indri, we moved on in search of another special lemur species, the Diademed Sifaka. On the way we

had great views of a Blue coua, a stunning forest bird up in the tree canopy. The group also had good views of Common Brown lemurs, and brief views Eastern Grey Bamboo lemurs feeding up high in the stands of bamboo. We did manage to

see this species really well the following day.



The cool air of the montane forest allowed for comfortable trekking in the mountainous terrain and we were out for most of the day. Only late in the afternoon were we able to bet our first sighting of the stunning Diademed sifaka. They were becoming active



after their midday rest and feeding on fresh growth in the forest canopy. After a while we had them moving past us at eye level. An amazing sight, these colourful lemurs moved gracefully past us as though they knew they had to perform for their visitors.



That evening we went for a night walk in the community reserve on the edge of Analamazotra Park. We had brilliant views of a Malagasy Scops owl feeding a young bird a cricket. The group had good views of a Side-striped chameleon too. The following morning we drove up to Mantadia for our morning trek. The beautiful yet rugged terrain delivered a rare and close up view of a family of Diademed sifakas. They were feeding on a vine very close to us and we spent the better part of an hour with them 8 meters from us, before they took off downhill with their sport-like leaps from tree to tree. We had a picnic style lunch in the forest before heading back to the lovely hotel on the forested edge of the National Park. Some of the group went out for an extended walk in Analamazotra and were very fortunate to see the shy

Ring-tailed mongoose and have incredible views of eastern Grey Bamboo lemur almost on the ground in the open.

It was on this evening on the way to the night walk destination, that we surprised a Lowland Streaked tenrec on the road in front of our bus. What a delightful sight, this rarely seen mammal was a big highlight for all!

That evening, the night-walk delivered Goodman's Mouse lemur (discovered 2005). We also saw Nose-horned, Parson's and Short-horned chameleons. After two full days in these parks we headed back to Antananarivo, to continue with the extension tour at Ranomafana National Park the following day. The full day's drive took us through stunning scenery and quaint villages where people





We arrived in Ranomafana in the early evening and after another great meal turned in for an early night. The following morning were met with more surprises in the montane forests of the park. The first was a family a Golden Bamboo lemurs, feeding in a stand of giant bamboo. The discovery of this species led to the creation of Ranomafana National Park. The rest of the morning brought good views of Red-Bellied lemurs, Red-Fronted Brown lemurs, Greater Bamboo lemurs and the incredible Fantastic Leaf-tailed gecko. This little reptile caught the group's attention and made for a memorable photographic moment!



On the first afternoon we went up into the Vohiparara region in search of the exquisite Milne-Edwards sifaka, which we did not see in the morning. Once again as with most of the sightings on the tour, luck struck us with an unreal view of a family of this species almost on the footpath in front of us. We followed the group as they leapt from tree to tree, moving through the forest. Occasionally, an individual would slide down the tree trunk to

have a closer look at us. It was another special Madagascar moment. The incredible Painted Mantella frog was also seen on this day.





We spent two magical days at Ranomafana National Park, doing some extensive trekking which served us well. One of our group even had a second view of a Fossa in this forest, an incredibly rare encounter! The Fossa was moving beneath a group of Milne-Edwards sifakas and they were alarming from their posts high up in the trees. It was great seeing this interaction! The wildlife, as well as the views of the Namorona River provided all with lasting memories. The following morning we departed back to Antananarivo for our final evening, to head off home the following day. Thank you Madagascar!



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List of Mammals recorded

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows the publication: Mammals of Madagascar - A Complete Guide (2007) by Nick Garbutt.

Total species recorded: 34

Old World Fruit Bats Pteropodidae

Madagascar Flying Fox Pteropus rufus

Mauritian Tomb Bat Taphozous mauritianus

Tenrecs Tenrecidae

Lowland Streaked Tenrec Hemicentetes semispinosus

Old World Rats and Mice Muridae

Eastern Red Forest RatNesomys rufus

Giant Jumping Rat *Hypogeomys antimena*

Civets & Allies Viverridae

Fossa Cryptoprocta ferox

Mongooses Herpestidae

Ring-tailed Mongoose Viverricula elegans

Narrow-striped Mongoose *Mungotictus decemlineata*

Mouse and Dwarf Lemurs Cheirogaleidae

Grey Mouse Lemur Brown Mouse Lemur *Microcebus murinus Microcebus rufus*

Golden-brown Mouse Lemur
Goodman's Mouse Lemur
Furry-eared Dwarf Lemur
Fat-tailed Dwarf Lemur

Microcebus ravelobensis
Microcebus lehilahytsara
Cheirogaleus crossleyi
Cheirogaleus medius

Coquerel's Giant Dwarf Lemur Mirza coquereli Pale Fork-marked LemurPhaner pallescens

Sportive Lemurs Lepilemuridae

Red-tailed Sportive LemurLepilemur ruficaudatusMilne-Edwards Sportive LemurLepilemur edwardsiWhite-footed Sportive LemurLepilemur leucopus

True Lemurs Lemuridae

Eastern Grey Bamboo LemurHapalemur griseusGolden Bamboo LemurHapalemur aureusGreater Bamboo LemurHapalemur simusRing-tailed LemurLemur catta

Red-bellied LemurEulemur rubriventerCommon Brown LemurEulemur fulvusRed-fronted Brown LemurEulemur rufusMongoose LemurEulemur mongoz

Avahis, Sifakas and the Indri Indridae

Eastern Avahi (Woolly Lemur)
Western Avahi (Wooly Lemur)
Diademed Sifaka
Milne-Edward's Sifaka
Verreaux's Sifaka
Coquerel's Sifaka

Propithecus verreauxi
Propithecus coquereli

Indri Indri indri

List of Amphibians & Reptiles recorded

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows the publication: A Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Madagascar by Frank Glaw and Miguel Vences – Third edition (2007).

Total species recorded: 51

Reed Frogs Hyperoliidae

Heterixalus alboguttatus

'True' Frogs Ranidae

Boophis madagascariensis
Boophis viridus
Boophis albilabris
Guibemantis pulcher
Guibemantis tornieri
Mantidactylus liber
Mantidactylus brevipalmatus
Mantella madagascariensis
Anodontyla boulengeri
Dyscophus insularis
Aglyptodactylus laticeps

Aglyptodactylus securifer Aglyptodactylus madagascarensis

Chameleons Testudinidae

Spider Tortoise Radiated Tortoise Pvxis arachnoides Geochelone radiata

Crocodiles Crocodylidae

Nile Crocodile

Crocodylus niloticus

Chameleons Chamelaeleonidae

Greater Stump-tailed Chameleon Brookesia superciliaris **Short-horned Chameleon** Calumma brevicornis **Blue-legged Chameleon** Calumma crypticum O'Shaughnessy's Chameleon Calumma oshaughnessyi **Nose-horned Chameleon** Calumma nasutum Flap-necked Chameleon Calumma glawi **Band-bellied Chameleon**

Calumma gastrotaenia Parson's Chameleon Calumma parsonii **Warty Chameleon** Furcifer verrucosus Furcifer lateralis Side-striped Chameleon **Oustalet's Chameleon** Furcifer oustaleti

Iguanids Iguanidae

Three-eyed Lizard Cuvier's Iguanid

Chalarodon madagascariensis Oplurus cuvieri

Geckos Gekkonidae

Paroedura pictus Painted Big-headed Gecko Plain Big-headed Gecko Paroedura ankarafantsika **Fantastic Leaf-tailed Gecko** Uroplatus phantasticus Moreau's House Gecko Hemidactylus mabouia **Mercator House Gecko** Hemidactylus mercatorius **Southern Bark Gecko** Lygodactylus tuberosus

Lineated Day Gecko Phelsuma lineata

Four-spotted Day Gecko Phelsuma quadriocellata Madagascar Day Gecko

Phelsuma madagascariensis

Plated Lizards Gerrhosauridae

Tracheloptychus madagascariensis Zonosaurus laticaudatus

Skinks Scincidae

Elegant Skink

Trachylepis elegans

Boas Boidae

Madagascar Tree Boa

Sanzinia madagascariensis

Typical Snakes Colubridae

Leioheterodon madagascariensis Leioheterodon modestus Leioheterodon geayi Dromicodryas bernieri Madagascarophis colubrinus Typhlops decorsei Liophidium torqatum Geodipsus infralineata

List of Birds recorded

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows the IOC List of Please cite: Gill, F. and M. Wright. 2006. Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.

Total species recorded: 113

Guineafowl Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl

Numida meleagris

Ducks and Geese Anatidae

Meller's Duck

Anas melleri

White-faced Whistling Duck

Dendrocygna viduata

Knob-billed Duck

Sarkidiornis melanotos

Grebes Podicipedidae

Madagascar Grebe

Tachybaptus pelzelnii

Ibises & Spoonbills Threskiornithidae

Glossy Ibis

Plegadis falcinellus

Bitterns and Herons Ardeidae

Black-crowned Night Heron
Striated Heron
Squacco Heron
Malagasy Pond Heron
Western Cattle Egret
Grey Heron
Mycticorax nycticorax
Butorides striata
Ardeola ralloides
Ardeola idae
Bubulcus ibis
Ardea cinerea
Ardea bymbleti

Grey Heron

Humblot's Heron

Purple Heron

Great Foret

Ardea cinerea

Ardea humbloti

Ardea purpurea

Great Egret Ardea alba

Black Heron Dimorphic EgretEgretta ardesiaca

Egretta dimorpha

Anhingas Anhingidae

Darter Anhinga rufa

Hamerkop Scopidae

Hamerkop Scopus umbretta

Falcons Falconidae

Malagasy KestrelFalco newtoniEleonora's FalconFalco eleonoraeSooty FalconFalco concolor

Kites, Hawks and Eagles Accipitridae

Madagascar Fish EagleHaliiaetus vociferoidesMalagasy HarrierCircus macroscelesMadagascar Harrier-HawkPolyboroides radiatusFrances's SparrowhawkAccipter francesiaeYellow-billed KiteMilvus aegyptiusMadagascar BuzzardButeo brachypterus

Mesites Mesitornithidae

White-breasted Mesite *Mesitornis variegatus*

Rails, Crakes and Coots Rallidae

Madagascar Wood Rail

Canirallus kioloides

Buttonguail Turnicidae

Madagascar Buttonquail

Turnix nigricollis

Plovers Charadriidae

Three-banded Plover

Charadius tricollaris

Snipes and Sandpipers Scolopacidae

Common GreenshankTringa nebulariaWhimbrelNumenius phaeopusCommon SandpiperTringa nebulariaLittle StintCalidris minutaCurlew SandpiperCalidris ferrugineaMarsh SandpiperTringa stagnatilis

Sandgrouse Pteroclididae

Madagascar Sandgrouse

Pterocles personatus

Pigeons and Doves Columbidae

Common Pigeon Columba livia

Malagasy Turtle Dove Streptopelia picturata

Namaqua DoveOena capensisMadagascar Green PigeonTreron australis

Madagascar Blue Pigeon Alectroenas madagascariensis

Parrots Psittacidae

Grey-headed LovebirdAgapornis canusVasa ParrotCoracopsis vasaLesser Vasa ParrotCoracopsis nigra

Cuckoos and allies Cuculidae

Malagasy Coucal Centropus toulou Coua ruficeps **Green-capped Coua Crested Coua** Coua cristata **Blue Coua** Coua caerulea **Red-fronted Coua** Coua reynaudii Coquerel's Coua Coua coquereli **Running Coua** Coua cursor **Giant Coua** Coua gigas

Madagascar Cuckoo

Cuculus rochii

Owls Strigidae

Torotoroka Scops Owl Malagasy Scops Owl White-browed Owl Otus madagascariensis Otus rutilis Ninox superciliaris

Nightjars Caprimulgidae

Madagascar Nightjar Collared Nightjar Caprimulgus madagascariensis Caprimulgus enarratus

Swifts Apopidae

African Palm Swift Malagasy Black Swift Cypsiurus parvus Apus balstoni

Rollers Coraciidae

Broad-billed Roller

Eurystomus glaucurus

Ground Rollers Brachypteraciidae

Pitta-like Ground Roller

Atelornis pittoides

Cuckoo Roller Leptosomatidae

Cuckoo Roller

Leptosomus discolour

Kingfishers Alcedinidae

Malagasy Kingfisher Pygmy Kingfisher Alcedo vintsioides Ispidina madagascariensis

Bee-eaters Meropidae

Olive (Madagascar) Bee-eater

Merops superciliosus

Hoopoes Upupidae

Madagascar Hoopoe

Upupa marginata

Asities Philepittidae

Velvet Asity

Philepitta castanea

Vangas Vangidae

Red-tailed VangaCalicalicus madagascariensis

Hook-billed Vanga

Pollen's Vanga

Sickle-billed Vanga

White-headed Vanga

Chabert's Vanga

Vanga curvirostris

Xenopirostris polleni

Falculea palliata

Artamella viridis

Leptopterus chabert

Blue Vanga Cyanolanius madagascarinus

Rufous VangaSchetba rufa **Tylas Vanga**Tylas eduardi

Common Newtonia Newtonia brunneicauda

Ward's Flycatcher Pseudobias wardi

Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae

Madagascar Cuckooshrike Coracina cinerea

Drongos Dicruridae

Crested Drongo Dicrurus forficatus

Monarchs Monarchidae

Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher Tersiphone mutate

Crows Corvidae

Pied Crow Corvus albus

Martins and Swallows Hirundinidae

Mascarene MartinPhedina borbonicaBrown-throated MartinRiparia paludicola

<u>Larks Aluadidae</u>

Madagascar Lark Mirafra hova

Cisticolas Cisticolidae

Madagascar Cisticola Cisticola cherina

Family Uncertain

Common Jery Green Jery Stripe-throated Jery Neomixis tenella Neomixis viridis Neomixis striatigula

Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

Malagasy Bulbul

Hypsipetes madagascariensis

Old World Warblers Sylviidae

Malagasy Brush Warbler Madagascar Swamp Warbler Long-billed Bernieria Spectacled Tetraka Rands Warbler Nesillas typica Acrocephalus newtoni Bernieria madagascariensis Xanthomixis zosterops Randia pseudozosterops

White-eyes Zosteropidae

Madagascar White-eye

Zosterops maderaspatanus

Starlings Sturnidae

Madagascar Starling Common Myna Saroglossa aurata Acridotheres tristis

Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae

Madagascar Magpie-Robin Madagascar Stonechat

Copsychus albospecularis Saxicola madagascariensis

Sunbirds Nectariniidae

Souimanga Sunbird Malagasy Green Sunbird Cinnyris souimanga Cinnyris notatus

Weavers Ploceidae

Nelicourvi Weaver Sakalava Weaver Red Fody Forest Fody Ploceus nelicourvi Ploceus sakalava Foudia madagascariensis Foudia omissa

Waxbills, Munias & allies Estrildidae Madagascar Mannikin (Munia) Lemuresthes nana

Lemuresthes nana

Wagtails Motacillidae

Madagascar Wagtail

Motacilla flaviventris

Report and images by Lawrence Weitz.