

# **NATURETREK**

## **Just Cats #1**

**\* South Africa \***

5<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2010

## **Trip Report**



Above: Male leopard (Tyson) on day 7.

## Tour Summary

### **Tour Participants:**

Rob and Pat Warner.  
Dave and Jan Harrison.  
Ian and Janet Ridley.  
Bill Furse.  
Bert Beattie.  
Keith Edwards.

**Specialist Tour Leaders:** Leon Marais and Jason Stewart

### **Ground Operators:**

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**Photo Acknowledgments:** Leon Marais

**Temperature Range:** 13 °C – 44 °C

**Total Number of Cat Sightings:** 21 cat sightings

**Total Number of Mammal Species Seen:** 33

**Trip Report Compiled By:** Leon Marais on behalf of Naturetrek

## Trip Breakdown

### **Day 1: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Blyde River Canyon**

***Route:*** Johannesburg to Blyde River Canyon via Dullstroom

***Weather:*** warm and clear

### **Day 2: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Skukuza, Kruger Park**

***Route:*** Blyde River Canyon to Skukuza via the Panorama Route

***Weather:*** clear at first, misting over and clearing PM

### **Day 3: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Satara, Kruger Park**

***Route:*** Drives in the Skukuza area.

***Weather:*** overnight rain, overcast but clearing PM

### **Day 4: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Satara, Kruger Park**

***Route:*** Skukuza to Satara

***Weather:*** hot and clear

### **Day 5: Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Satara, Kruger Park**

***Route:*** Drives in the Satara region

***Weather:*** cloudy to start, clearing in the afternoon

### **Day 6: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Elephant Plains, Sabi Sands**

***Route:*** Satara to Sabi Sands

***Weather:*** cloudy and cool to start, clearing in the afternoon to become very hot

**Day 7: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Elephant Plains, Sabi Sands**

***Route:*** drives in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve (SSGR)

***Weather:*** very hot, stormy PM but no rain

**Day 8: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Nkorho Bush Camp, Sabi Sands**

***Route:*** drives in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve (SSGR)

***Weather:*** cloudy and cool

**Day 9: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Nkorho Camp, Sabi Sands**

***Route:*** drives in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve (SSGR)

***Weather:*** cloudy and cool

**Day 10: Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2010 ~ Departure**

***Route:*** SSGR to Johannesburg

***Weather:*** cloudy and cool

**TRIP REPORT**

**Day 1: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2010– Blyde River Canyon.**

The group of seven arrived nice and early at O. R. Tambo International Airport and, after picking up Pat and Rob at a hotel near the airport, we were on our way eastwards by 08h30. The scenery wasn't very inspiring at first as we travelled through the flat maize, beef and coal mining country of western Mpumalanga, and the smoky conditions didn't help either. Things improved though as we turned off the main highway at Belfast and headed into the highlands of the Dullstroom region. The air cleared and the maize and coal mining gave way to extensive beef ranching, which has much less of a negative impact on the land. Passing through the little town of Dullstroom we made our way through Lydenberg and Pilgrim's Rest and arrived at our lunch stop in Graskop only a few minutes behind schedule. After lunch at The Silver Spoon in Graskop

we headed on to the Blyde River Canyon, our first night's stop. After arriving we had time to relax after the long journey and in the late afternoon headed up to the resort's view point, with a magnificent view of the Three Rondawels turning orange in the glow of the setting sun. We then headed back to the chalets and later met up for a good buffet



dinner and a chance to get acquainted with one another. Soon it was bed time and we retired in anticipation of some very active and memorable days yet to come.

**Day 2: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Skukuza Rest Camp, KNP.**

The day started off clear but with a tablecloth cloud pouring over the edge of the canyon, indicating strong winds blowing from the south-east. As the warm air from the lower altitudes blew up against the cliffs of the escarpment and was forced to rise it hit dew point temperature and formed cloud, but after reaching the top was still heavier and colder than the surrounding air and thus descended over the other side and evaporated as it warmed, resulting in the phenomenon we observed. Taking advantage of the still clear morning we headed out on an early birding walk, ending up at the spectacular Tufa Cascade below the Lower Viewpoint, where calcium carbonate deposits have created a most unusual, outward growing cascade on the Kadisi Stream. We then headed up to the restaurant for breakfast and afterwards departed, having to skip the planned stops due to the thick cloud that had by now covered the escarpment. We did have a stop at Lisbon Falls and then made our way down to Hazyview, where we stocked up on snacks at the Belgian Baker and entered the Kruger National Park at Phabeni Gate. We did some game viewing en-route to Skukuza Rest Camp, our stop for the night, and then checked in during the mid-afternoon. We had time for a short break and then headed out along the Sabie

River to see if we could locate our first big cats. These we found in the form of two lionesses late in the afternoon, resting in the thick grass just off Alpha Loop, close to the Sabie River. It wasn't exactly a memorable sighting, with only the heads visible, but did at least relieve the initial pressure in locating the first felines (much like a batsman getting off the mark with a run or two to steady himself in anticipation of a big innings). With the sun setting we headed back to camp and later had a wonderful outdoor meal prepared by our chefs Don and Mavourneen.



**Cat Count:** 1 lion sighting, 2 individuals (females)

### **Day 3: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Satara Rest Camp, KNP.**

For the morning we left camp at 05h30 and headed out along the Sabie River once again, which often produces some great cat sightings. On this morning however it was rather quiet, with good general game sightings however and an encounter with a large herd of Cape buffalo. Leaving the buffalo we reached a junction and turned left back towards camp, but were then informed by the driver of another vehicle that there were some lions resting at a water hole a few kilometres away. We went to investigate and found a pride of two lionesses, two young cubs and a male lion resting on the earth wall of a nearly dry dam. They were a little way off but we had clear views of the lionesses and cubs, with the male typically uninterested in the goings on, especially in light of his severely distended belly. With a second lion sighting on the books we headed back to camp for breakfast and then had a little time to pack before beginning the 92 kilometre journey north to Satara Rest Camp. En route we heard some news about a leopard in a tree and eventually found the place, seeing what appeared to be a young female leopard resting off the ground on a large bough of a Jackal Berry tree. We had fairly good views, particularly when she got up and rearranged herself for comfort's sake, and though the keen photographers in the group were not exactly satisfied those whose dream it was to see a leopard in the wild were very happy indeed at this point, unaware of course of the many sighting yet to come. Moving on we arrived at Satara in the afternoon and again had time for a short break before heading out on an afternoon drive, which didn't produce any further cat sightings, though we did encounter a trio of White rhinos as a highlight for the afternoon. We then headed back to camp and later met up for another fine outdoor meal.



**Cat Count:** 1 lion sighting, 5 individuals (2 females, 2 cubs and a male), 1 leopard sighting, 1 individual (female).

### **Day 4: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009 – Satara Rest Camp, KNP.**

Satara is well known as being the centre of lion country. With the fine, dark basalt soils resulting in good grass growth in the wet months, the region has a high carrying capacity for bulk grazers such as Cape buffalo, Blue Wildebeest, Burchell's zebra and Common waterbuck. These large mammals support big predators such as lion and Spotted hyena, and our morning drive produced no fewer than four separate lion sightings. Heading north from camp as the gates opened at 05h30 we first spotted several lions lying off to our right, near a small river course. We could only see three properly, but judging by the various body parts scattered around I estimated the number in the pride to be around ten individuals. Heading on we took a left turn



towards the Timbavati Picnic Site and then a right towards the Ratelpan Bird Hide, where the driver of another vehicle told us of some lions resting near the hide. Only two were visible, and



as it wasn't a great view we turned back to the picnic site, where we could stretch our legs a bit. And while we were stretching them a lioness suddenly came into view not far from us in the dry riverbed, with a brief view before she disappeared into a stand of reeds. While waiting for her to come out two young male lions appeared on the opposite bank and we had quite good views of them from the picnic site before they too disappeared from view. It was then time to head back to camp, with a final sighting of three adult male lions near Nsemani

waterhole, with the view of one of them our best cat sighting so far. Next up was a hearty breakfast and some time to catch up on rest or to photograph dragonflies at the water feature in the camp grounds, which proved to be very worthwhile. After the break we headed out along the S100, the drive producing nice general game such as waterbuck, giraffe, kudu, impala, elephants (left) and a Secretarybird, among others. In the late afternoon the group embarked on a sunset drive with a national park guide, which was unfortunately rather disappointing, but such is the nature of the game, and at least the dinner afterwards was anything but disappointing.

**Cat Count:** 4 lion sightings, approximately 18 individuals though not all were seen well; 1 African Wild Cat sighting, 1 individual.

#### **Day 5: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Satara Rest Camp, KNP.**

After a cup of coffee and rusks we headed out from camp along the Orpen Gate Road, taking a big loop back via the Sweni Road. Not far out of camp the lead vehicle occupants saw a leopard up in a Marula tree, but it didn't stay there for long and by the time the second vehicle arrived it had climbed down as disappeared into the thick grass. The rest of the morning was rather quiet, though of course any drive always includes plenty of general game, buffalo, elephant and even rhino now and then. The weather had turned a little cool, with cloud cover creeping in, and after



breakfast we elected to go out and try our luck once again, and a good move it proved to be. Near Gudzani Windmill we came across a fairly recent buffalo kill, with the evidence pointing to an epic battle between a large herd of buffalo and a pride of lions. Nearing the windmill we saw a dead lion, the state of the rigor mortis indicating that it died very recently, and we surmised that the buffalo herd had taken one lion for the their one bull lost in the fight. The actual kill was just around the corner, with the four lionesses resting under a tree to the right of

the road and the buffalo carcass to the left, with the herd still milling about close by. Soon the vultures began to arrive, (White-backed and Hooded) and began tearing at the carcass, at which point the lions got up and ran right past us to secure their kill, as they know very well that even a buffalo can be stripped in no time at all if enough vultures arrive on the scene. They seemed to take it in turns, with a lioness chasing the vultures off for a while before heading back to the shade and being replaced by the next lioness. We had about an hour at the scene, which was truly something to behold. We headed back to camp for a break and then some members of the group went on a second sunset drive, this time enjoying it immensely, having two African wild cat sightings among other things. They revisited the buffalo kill to find that the buffalo had chased the lions off and the vultures were in the process of cleaning up every last bit of flesh

and sinew. And the excitement for the evening wasn't over yet, as we were visited by a Honey badger and an African wild cat while having dinner.

**Cat Count:** 1 leopard sighting, 1 individuals (sex unknown); 1 lion sighting, 4 individuals (females); 2 African Wild Cat sightings, 2 individuals.

### **Day 6: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Elephant Plains, SSGR.**

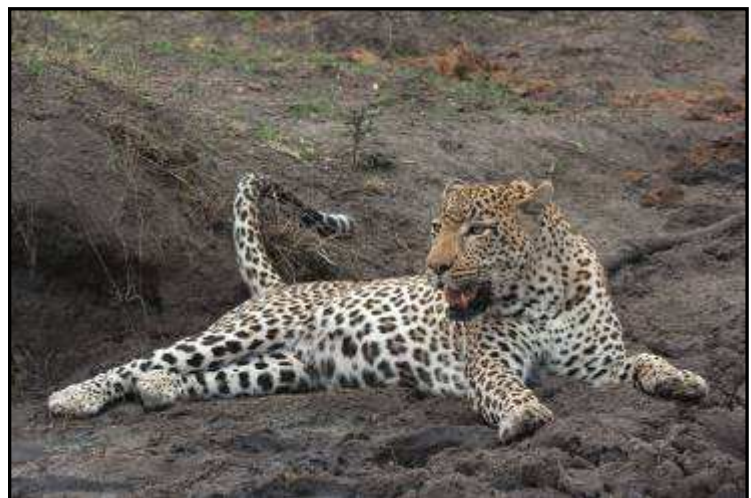
Our morning route took us on the long loop via the Nwanetsi Picnic Site, with some great views of White Rhino, Elephants and other game, but unfortunately no cats. Once again the weather had started off fine and clear but soon turned cool and windy, which is not ideal for game viewing. Back at camp we had a last Kruger Park breakfast and then departed for the Sabi Sand Game Reserve. En route to Orpen Gate we came across a vehicle parked off to the side of the road, the driver of which informed us that he had just seen a leopard moving off away from the road. The obvious place to look for it was near a large termite mound further away from the road, and after getting into position with a clear view of the mound we spotted the leopard straight away, resting briefly on top of the mound. It then began moving parallel with the road towards a well-vegetated drainage line, and we had excellent views for ten minutes or more before it finally disappeared from view. All in all a great sighting and a good end to our Kruger cat viewing. We exited the park and then drove on to Elephant Plains Game Lodge in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve, a 65 000 hectare privately-owned reserve that borders and is open to the vast Kruger National Park. We arrived in time for the 14h00 lunch, and afterwards got ready for our first open-vehicle safari with our guide Richard and tracker Clement. Unfortunately it wasn't the start that we'd hoped for, with only the remains of a leopard kill found, with two Spotted Hyenas crunching on the bones and no leopard to be seen. Other interesting mammals seen were African civet and Small-spotted genet and we returned to the camp after dark and had a good dinner in the open dining area around a fire.

**Cat Count:** 1 leopard sighting (female).

### **Day 7: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Elephant Plains, SSGR.**

We met up at 05h15 for a cup of coffee before heading out on our morning drive, with the pressure starting to build after the no-cat drive the afternoon before. The weather conditions weren't ideal either, with a very hot day beginning to make itself felt as early as 07h00. Even in the Sabi Sand Game Reserve the cats aren't guaranteed, and after most of the drive seeing general game and elephants we finally got word that Salayxe (sal-a-ye-she), a female leopard, had been found close to the camp. She was heading down towards a dry riverbed and we drove

down to the opposite bank to intercept her. Unfortunately she seemed to have other ideas and as we arrived on the scene she cut left into a dense thicket, and that was the last that was seen of her. We drove up and down the riverbed in the hopes that she might emerge, but with the steadily building heat it was more likely that she would rest up in the thicket for a while. Leaving the area with a feeling of disappointment palpable among the group we headed back to the lodge for breakfast, which was had overlooking a small water



hole where elephants and impala were congregating for a chance to drink and, in the case of the elephants, cool down with a bit of mud splashing. The day was too hot for a bush walk and the wise move was to retire to the coolness of the rooms. The thatched gazebo next to the swimming pool also provided respite from the heat as well as views of many bird species drinking in the little bird baths and even an Epauletted fruit bat dipping in the pool. The most

unexpected poolside visitor however was a large male leopard, who waltzed past not fifteen feet from those who happened to be sitting under the gazebo at the time, though only Ian and Rob actually saw him. After lunch and some further rest we headed out on our afternoon safari at 16h00, with some cloud build up cooling things down slightly in the late afternoon. Our plan was to go and search for the female leopard we had missed in the morning, and not far out of camp we came across a couple of very muddy elephants. We spent some time with them and then headed on, only to be called back by when one of the other vehicles from the lodge had a big male leopard walk out of the bush at the exact spot we'd been while watching the elephants. We circled around again and found him resting on the cool mud at the edge of the waterhole, clearly struggling as much as us in the heat. We spent around three-quarters of an hour with him, getting great photographs and experiencing one of the highlights of the tour. Later on, after dark, the sky came alive with huge lightning storms at several points on the compass around us, with some of the ground strikes igniting raging bush fires. We wisely headed back to the lodge a little early, not wanting to be caught on the high ground in with such intense electrical activity in the air, and later met up in the bar for a drink and another great meal.

**Cat Count:** 2 leopard sightings, 2 individuals (both male, 1 was seen only by Ian and Rob at the pool).

### **Day 8: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Nkorho Bush Camp, SSGR.**

Under a cool grey overcast sky we headed out on our final safari from Elephant Plains, with the cool wind a sharp contrast from the furnace-like blast of the previous day's Berg Wind (a hot wind that blows from the high inland plateau towards the coast, heating up as it descends the escarpment).



Our cat sightings included an interlude with one of the stalwarts of the area – a 17-year old leopardess known to the guides as Safari. Not only is she advanced in years, but she's been blind in one eye for the last ten years or so, with the obvious handicap not seeming to interfere with her hunting ability at all, as evidenced by the remains of a Grey duiker hanging high in a big Marula tree nearby. With her injured eye she's not the most photogenic of

leopards, but still holds a spot in the hearts of the guides and trackers who admire her for her ability to survive and prosper in the face of extreme adversity. Another highlight of the morning was a herd of 750 – 1000 Cape buffalo streaming down almost without end to drink at a waterhole, definitely the largest herd I've ever seen. After heading back to the lodge we had breakfast and then packed and departed for Nkorho Bush Lodge in the extreme east of the reserve, the last port-of-call on this wonderful tour. We arrived by open Land-Rover in the late morning and had time to settle in before lunch and our afternoon safari, the highlight of which was an encounter with a female leopard known as Ntima. We first saw her resting up on a large termite mound and then followed her through the bush for a while once she got moving, eventually leaving her as she entered the thick vegetation of a river bed. We then headed back to the lodge for a glass of sherry before time to freshen up and a wonderful dinner.

**Cat Count:** 2 leopard sightings, 2 individuals (both females).

### **Day 9: 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Nkorho Bush Camp, SSGR.**

Our last full day of the tour. Once again it was cool and cloudy, with most people having pulled their jumpers and jackets out from the bottom of their bags, only a few days earlier having considered it to be a waste to have brought them. The morning didn't produce any cats, though we did have a close-up encounter with a huge White rhino bull, who came right up to us to add to the vast pile of dung that he uses as one of his territorial boundary markers, as well as a close up encounter with two big elephant bulls, one of whom approached to within feet of our tracker



on the front of the vehicle. All in all it was a great drive despite the lack of cats and we headed back to camp for some hot coffee and breakfast, with the main topic of discussion the incredible change in temperature since the scorcher that was Monday. After breakfast two of the group went on a bush walk while the rest of us took time to relax and enjoy the quiet surrounds of the camp. Soon after heading out on the afternoon drive our guide Cedric and tracker Norman came across fresh lion tracks, and a big male at that, one of the must-sees of any safari. It seemed that he was following a herd of buffalo and they decided to track him on foot with the help of another guide / tracker team. After about 25 minutes they returned and informed us that they had found him, though he was lying up far off the road in the middle of a thick patch of bush. Undaunted we drove in with the vehicles, which in itself was quite an experience, only to find that he was no longer there. Being an infrequent visitor the area he was not as used to vehicles as some of the other lions and had headed further into the bush. After some intense searching we were about to give up when Norman spotted him lying up on the side of a large termite mound. Unfortunately he was still a bit nervous and we couldn't get very close before he ran off, but it was still a great experience to be involved in tracking him down. With darkness settling we headed off for our drinks and leg-stretch break and then returned to the area, hoping to locate the lion with a spotlight, but without success. Back at the lodge we had another great dinner and retired in anticipation of a grand finale drive in the morning.

**Cat Count:** 1 lion sighting, 1 individual (male).

### **Day 10: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – Departure.**

Not wanting to have a 'blank' final drive we headed out from the lodge with high hopes, despite the light drizzle and cold wind. Our tracker found two sets of lion tracks and after following them



deduced that they had crossed a boundary to the south where we could not follow, so we turned westwards with hopes of a last leopard for the tour. Luck was on our side and we came across an adult female leopard walking along the main road, giving us brief but close and clear views before she turned off to the north where we couldn't follow (the reserve has many different land owners, several of which will set up mutual traversing agreements, meaning that there are properties that the guides from a given lodge can drive around on and properties that they can't).

Heading on, our next sighting was a young sub-adult leopard (the female cub of a leopardess names Nyaleti) resting up in the branches of a tree, not doing much at all but providing us with great views. With two good leopard sightings for the morning we thought that we'd done well and drove back to the lodge for breakfast and departure. There was one more surprise in store for us however, as on the way out of the reserve we came across a large male leopard draped over a termite mound not far off the reserve, making for an excellent photographic opportunity (but for the fact that I'd already packed my camera away!) and giving us a hat trick for the morning and our 10<sup>th</sup> leopard sighting for the tour. The rest of the day was taken up with the drive back to Johannesburg, where the tour came to an official end.



**Cat Count:** 3 leopard sightings, 3 individuals (female).

***Total cat stats: 21 sightings, 3 species, approximately 40 individuals.***



## Mammal List

	Common name	Scientific name	Trip	October										
				5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
1	Baboon, Chacma	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	4		X	X		X	X					
2	Badger, Honey	<i>Mellivora capensis</i>	1				X							
3	Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	7		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	
4	Bushbaby, Lesser	<i>Galago moholi</i>	1			X								
5	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	3			X	X	X						
6	Cat, African Wild	<i>Felis lybica</i>	2				X	X						
7	Duiker, Common	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	7			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
8	Elephant, African	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	7		X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
9	Genet, Small-spotted	<i>Genetta genetta</i>	1						X					
10	Giraffe, Southern	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
11	Hare, Scrub	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	3				X		X		X			
12	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	7			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
13	Hyaena, Spotted	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	5			X	X		X	X	X			
14	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
15	Jackal, Black-backed	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>	2			X	X							
16	Jackal, Side-striped	<i>Canis adustus</i>	1								X			
17	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	2	X	X									
18	Kudu, Greater	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
19	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	6			X		X	X	X	X			X
20	Lion	<i>Pathera leo</i>	5		X	X	X	X					X	
21	Mongoose, Banded	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	3				X	X		X				
22	Mongoose, Dwarf	<i>Helogale parvula</i>	2			X		X						
23	Mongoose, Slender	<i>Galerella sanguinea</i>	4		X	X	X			X				
24	Monkey, Vervet	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	5		X	X	X	X	X					
25	Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>	1				X							
26	Reedbuck, Common	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	1			X								
27	Rhinoceros, White	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>	4			X		X	X				X	
28	Squirrel, Tree	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	8		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
29	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	7			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
30	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>	8		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
31	Waterbuck, Common	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	7			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
32	Wildebeest, Blue	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
33	Zebra, Burchell's	<i>Equus burchelli</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

## Bird list

Common name	Scientific name
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
Reed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Southern Bald Ibis (E)	<i>Geronticus calvus</i>
Hadedda Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>
African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>
Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>
Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>
White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
Reed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotus</i>
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>
Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>
Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>
Crested Francolin	<i>Francolinus sephaena</i>
Shelley's Francolin	<i>Francolinus shelleyi</i>
Swainson's Spurfowl (NE)	<i>Francolinus swainsonii</i>
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>
Red-crested Korhaan (NE)	<i>Eupodotis ruficrista</i>
Black-bellied Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis melanogaster</i>
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
African Mourning Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>
Cape Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Laughing (Palm) Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>
Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>
Grey Go-away Bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>
Burchell's Coucal (E)	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>
African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>
Verreaux's Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle maxima</i>
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudata</i>
Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevia</i>
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>
Green Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>
Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>
Trumpeter Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes bucinator</i>
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>
Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>
Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>
Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
Reed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>
Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>
Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Thripias namaquus</i>
Greater Striped Swallow (NE)	<i>Hirundo cucullata</i>
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
Eastern Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>
Southern Black Tit	<i>Parus niger</i>
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>
Cape Rock Thrush (E)	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>
Mocking Cliff-Chat	<i>Thamnota cinnamomeiventris</i>
White-throated Robin-Chat (E)	<i>Cossypha humeralis</i>
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>
Lazy Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aberrans</i>
Ashy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
Magpie Shrike	<i>Corvinella melanoleuca</i>
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>
Sthn White-crowned Shrike (NE)	<i>Eurocephalus anguitimens</i>
Burchell's Starling (NE)	<i>Lamprotornis australis</i>
Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>
Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>
Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>
Grtr Double-collared Sunbird (E)	<i>Nectarinia afra</i>
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia talatala</i>
Cape White-eye (E)	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Thick-billed Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>
Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>
Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>
White-winged Widow	<i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>
Streaky-headed Seed-eater	<i>Serinus gularis</i>
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>

Below: Ntima, day 8.

