

NATURETREK

Just Cats # 2

*** South Africa ***

19th – 28th October 2010

Trip Report



The young male cub of Nyaleti; day 7.

Tour Summary

Tour Participants:

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Temperature Range: 14 – 40°C

Total Number of Cat Sightings: 27

Total Number of Mammal Species Seen: 35

Trip Report Compiled By: Leon Marais on behalf of Naturetrek

Trip Breakdown

Day 1: Tuesday 19th October 2010 ~ Blyde River Canyon

Route: Johannesburg to Blyde River Canyon via Dullstroom
Weather: clear and warm, rain PM

Day 2: Wednesday 20th October 2010 ~ Skukuza, Kruger Park

Route: Blyde River Canyon to Skukuza via the Panorama Route
Weather: clear and hot.

Day 3: Thursday 21st October 2010 ~ Skukuza, Kruger Park

Route: Drives in the Skukuza area.
Weather: clear and hot

Day 4: Friday 22nd October 2010 ~ Satara, Kruger Park

Route: Skukuza to Satara
Weather: clear and hot

Day 5: Saturday 23rd October 2010 ~ Satara, Kruger Park

Route: Drives in the Satara region
Weather: clear and hot

Day 6: Sunday 24th October 2010 ~ Nkorho Bush Camp, Sabi Sands

Route: Satara to Sabi Sands
Weather: clear and extremely hot

Day 7: Monday 25th October 2010 ~ Nkorho Bush Camp, Sabi Sands

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

Weather: hot and windy

Day 8: Tuesday 26th October 2010 ~ Elephant Plains, Sabi Sands

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

Weather: cloudy and cool

Day 9: Wednesday 27th October 2010 ~ Elephant Plains, Sabi Sands

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

Weather: cloudy and cool

Day 10: Thursday 28th October 2010 ~ Departure

Route: SSGR to Johannesburg

Weather: cloudy and cool

TRIP REPORT

Day 1: 19th October 2010 – Blyde River Canyon.

The flight from Heathrow was slightly delayed but we still made an early enough getaway and were soon heading out of the city and eastwards into the countryside under wonderfully sunny conditions. Our route took us through the coal mining, maize growing and stock farming regions of Western Mpumalanga, with the scenery not too remarkable at first but improving a couple of hours later as we turned off the highway at Belfast. Climbing up into the grassy highlands we passed through Dullstroom and Lydenberg before heading up and over Robber's Pass to our lunch stop in the small town of Graskop. From there it was a short drive on to our resort at the Blyde River Canyon, where we checked in and had some time to rest after the long journey. Later in the afternoon we met up again and embarked on a short walk up to the resort's view site, where we had great views of the Three Rondavels and the canyon itself. With the sun setting we headed back to our chalets for some time to freshen up before dinner.



Day 2: 20th October 2010 – Skukuza Rest Camp, KNP.

The weather was wonderful once again and we met up at the relatively late hour of 06h00 for a cup of coffee before heading out on a walk to the Tufa Cascades along the Kadisi Stream, where calcium carbonate deposits create a uniquely outward growing cascade. From there it was back up to breakfast and soon thereafter we departed for a few of the sites of the Panorama Route such as the Three Rondavels View Site and Lisbon Falls. We then made our way back through Graskop and down Kown's Pass to Hazyview, where we stocked up on snacks at the Belgian Baker before entering the vast Kruger National Park at Phanbeni Gate, where the game viewing began. We had 35 kilometres to get to Skukza, our first rest camp, with game viewing all the way. As usually happens we got news of cat sighting from other visitors and were soon off to find a leopard not far away. When we arrived however there were a couple of cars there but no leopard, with the driver of one of the vehicles saying that the cat had disappeared just before we arrived. A clue was to be had however by the bats flying around in broad daylight, and we guessed that the cat had entered a drainage pipe running underneath the road and sure enough the leopard soon popped out on the other side of the road, giving us pretty good views and our first cat of the tour. It was a young male leopard who seemed to be wandering about slowly as if bored, probably remaining in the immediate area while waiting for his food-providing mother to



return from a hunt. After he disappeared we headed on to the Sabie River and drove quite a way downstream to investigate a giraffe kill that we'd heard about. We eventually arrived at the scene and found a dead giraffe but no lions present, with the driver of another vehicle telling us they'd moved off shortly before we arrived. Well, you win some and you lose some and after a bit of searching we headed back to Skukuza, coming across another leopard draped over a large rock in the riverbed en-route, where we checked into our thatched rondavels. In the evening we met up for dinner prepared by the catering team, eating outdoors in a semi-circle while getting acquainted with each other.

Cat Count: 2 Leopard sightings, 2 individuals (1 male, 1 unknown).

Day 3: 21st October 2010 – Skukuza Rest Camp, KNP.

For the morning we met up at 05h15 for coffee and left camp as the gates opened at 05h30, heading away from the river to check out some waterholes that often attract game and predators. Stopping off at Delaport's Windmill, one such waterhole, we came across a leopard in a tree feeding on an impala kill – our third leopard of the tour! He was partly obscured by foliage but we had reasonable views nevertheless, and completed the drive with exciting encounters with three White rhino, an elephant herd with a days-old calf and other general game species. We arrived back at camp and had breakfast, followed by a rest and then another excursion down the river to check out the giraffe kill on the Nwatimhirri Road. Again there were no lions present but it was exciting to see large number of vultures devouring the kill, with both Cape and White-backed Vultures present. With the temperatures rising significantly we took a detour to the other side of the Sabi River and arrived back in the mid-afternoon, allowing time for a rest before the sunset drive with a national park vehicle and guide (only official vehicles are allowed out of camp after the gates close). This drive produced a single lioness at the giraffe kill, as well as Small-spotted genet, Spotted hyena, Scrub hare and Verreaux's Eagle Owl.

Cat Count: 1 Leopard sighting, 1 individual (male); 1 lion sighting, 1 individual (female).

Day 4: 22nd October 2010: Satara Rest Camp, KNP.

Leaving camp early once again we took the causeway over the Sabie and Sand Rivers and the Marula Loop dirt road, where we waited for a while for a large herd of Cape buffalo to cross the road in front of us on their way to the river, and then circled back around via the high water bridge over the Sabie and the Sabie River road. Cats were proving to be elusive but right near the end of the river road we came across another vehicle, the driver of which informed us that there was a leopard sighting not too far away, which turned out to be the young male at the same place we'd seen him on the first day. As predicted his mother had returned (we only got a brief glimpse of her) and secured him a



nice tasty impala, which he was consuming up in a tree right next to the road, affording us pretty good views. After he came down from the tree and crossed the road we headed back to camp for breakfast and then got underway for Satara Rest Camp, some 92 kilometres to the north. On a short dirt road detour we came across a young female leopard up in a tree right next to the road, giving us our best views yet and leopard sighting number 5. We spent a while watching her, but with the heat of the day she was obviously not planning on moving any time soon, and we continued with the journey, seeing a pair of ostriches with a clutch of chicks as a last highlight of the journey. We arrived in the early afternoon and had time to relax before an afternoon drive, which produced two adult male lions on the Nwanetsi Road. They were lying in the shade of a tree about 50 metres off the road, giving us reasonable views at one stage when they both sat up for a while before flopping back down. Not a bad day for cats, with two good leopard sightings (three in total if you count the tail dangling out of a tree at one of the waterholes) and a sighting of male lions, one of the must-sees of any safari experience.

Cat Count: 2 Leopard sightings, 2 individuals (1 male, 1 female); 1 lion sighting, 2 individuals (male).

Day 5: 23rd October 2010: Satara Rest Camp, KNP.

Our morning drive took us out along the Nwanetsi Road, which at the time of our stay seemed to be the region producing the most lion sightings, but only managed to score half a point with one



vehicle getting a brief but clear view of a serval in the long grass. Back at camp we had breakfast and then took advantage of the cloud cover to head out again on an extended drive, this time intending to head north to the Timbavati Picnic Site but changing plans when we heard about some cat sightings in other locations (information is a great help in finding cats). The drive produced another leopard-in-a-tree sighting (again right next to the road) and six lionesses about 30 metres off the road on the Girivana Loop, as well

as a large herd of elephants mud bathing at Nsemani Dam, which was crowded with general game species, making for a worthwhile excursion indeed. Again we had time back in camp for an afternoon rest before the second sunset drive with the national park guide, this one producing a male and female lion pair and another serval to make up for the one that was missed by some on the morning drive.

Cat Count: 2 Serval sightings, 2 individuals; 1 leopard sighting, 1 individual (female); 2 lion sightings, 8 individuals, (7 female, 1 male).

Day 6: 24th October 2010: Nkorho Bush Camp, SSGR.

Our final Kruger National Park morning drive took us north to the Timbavati Picnic Site and Ratelpan and back via the tar road. Unfortunately no cats were seen, though we did see six white rhino (including a small calf) and other general game species, as well as Spotted hyena. Back at camp we had breakfast and then packed and headed out of the park, with our luck continuing with a sighting of 5 lions (3 young males and 2 females) and a cheetah before exiting at Orpen Gate. We arrived at Nkorho Bush Lodge at around 13h30 and had lunch before getting ready for the afternoon safari, which departed at 16h00 and returned at 19h00. Our cat sighting for the evening came just after dusk, where we arrived at a territorial fight between a young male leopard and a large, dominant male leopard (we also had brief views of a female leopard while on the way to this sighting). Unfortunately we missed the action by seconds, hearing the fight but arriving just after the big male had fallen about twelve feet out of a tree in which the young male was seeking refuge. The big male seemed unhurt but probably a bit dazed and he left the scene, giving the youngster a lucky break as he could easily have been killed. The youngster stayed up in the tree until he was sure that the dominant male had moved far off and jumped down right next to us to slink off into the bush to recover from his ordeal. We then headed back for a wonderful dinner around a log fire in the open air dining area before heading to bed in anticipation of an exciting day to come.

Cat Count: 1 lion sighting; 5 individuals (3 male, 2 female); 1 cheetah sighting, 1 individual (female); 2 Leopard sightings, 3 individuals (2 males, 1 female).

Day 7: 25th October 2010 – Nkorho Bush Camp, SSGR.

After a rainless thunder storm passed through during the night we awoke to warm and clear conditions heralding a hot day to come. Our drive took us to the boundary between our traversing area and the neighbouring sector to the south, where two young leopards, a male and a female, were resting up in the branches of a large Sausage Tree. These two youngsters were the cubs of a female known as Nyaleti, who has been seen on previous cat tours. They weren't

up to much, but we did get some good views of the female before moving on for a morning coffee stop and return to the lodge for breakfast under steadily warming conditions. After a quick breakfast the group headed out with a guide on a bush walk, which was enjoyable despite the heat, and we all met up for lunch at 14h00 before another afternoon safari. The afternoon produced a stunning encounter with the male cub we'd seen on the morning drive, with the cat lying on a small ridge of earth next to a water hole, being bugged by flies in the hot, lazy afternoon air, with a large hippo bull performing barrel rolls and other manoeuvres in the waterhole close by. A truly stunning sighting it was and with the sun setting we headed off for our sundowner and leg-stretch stop, during which a sudden breeze sprung up out of nowhere, signalling the arrival of the cold front from the south-east. We made our way back to camp and then met up for our last dinner at Nkorho and our third last night of the tour.



Cat Count: 2 Leopard sightings; 2 individuals (male and female).

Day 8: 26th October 2010 – Elephant Plains Game Lodge, SSGR.

The morning dawned cool and cloudy under the cold front conditions, though rain looked unlikely. After a cup of coffee we headed out into the reserve at 05h30, not sure what was in store for us. Our cat sighting for the morning included an awesome encounter with a very old female leopard named Safari.



Somewhere in the region of 17 years old, she's long been a leopard encountered regularly in the reserve and most guides are very fond of her despite her handicap of being blind in one eye as a result of an aggressive encounter with a male leopard quite a few years back. We arrived at the sighting to find her just moving off from her point of vantage on a large termite mound. Somewhat disappointed that we missed her sitting on top of the mound, which usually

gives fantastic photographic opportunities, we proceeded to follow her through the bush for a while, just managing to keep within twenty or thirty meters of her. Soon she headed straight for the next large termite mound and ascended in a swift, fluid movement, keeping low to the ground in a tactical move that helps to prevent her being silhouetted as she crests the top of the mound. Seeing that there was no prey in the immediate area of the mound she visibly relaxed and allowed us to approach to within a few meters without any concern at all (well, she's been exposed to safari vehicles for 17 years, so it's not surprising actually). Termite mounds provide a good vantage point and after scanning the area for a while she perked up suddenly and quickly darted off the mound after something we couldn't see. Moving around we kept track of her when suddenly a steenbuck burst out of the grass and in a flash it was all over, with the antelope caught firmly in Safari's jaws. When she was sure that the steenbuck was dead she dragged it over to the base of a large Marula Tree and began to feed, and we observed her for about 45 minutes before heading off for a welcome cup of coffee out in the bush before heading back for breakfast and departure. Our next lodge and last stop on the tour was Elephant Plains and we arrived in the late morning and had time to relax before lunch and another safari, which proved to be a great one indeed. Not far out of camp we came across a young female leopard resting up in a Marula Tree, affording us superb close up views. This one was known as Nisela, one of the newly independent cubs of another female known as Salayexe, who was seen on the 2009 tours with young cubs, so no doubt this was one of those. After the leopard we came across a large herd of buffalo drinking at a waterhole, with resident hippo bull seemingly perturbed at having

his pond invaded by the boisterous bovids, and soon after we left the herd we came across two lionesses feeding on the remains of a recently killed impala. Talk about luck, and the last sighting before sunset was a memorable visit to a Spotted hyena den, with the youngsters showing incredible curiosity in coming right up to the vehicle to sniff the tyres and running board! After the den we headed off for sundowners and after dark had two great sightings of Lesser bushbaby as well as African civet and White-tailed mongoose. Not a bad day at all!

Cat Count: 2 leopard sightings, 2 individuals (female); 1 lion sighting, 2 individuals (female).

Day 9: 27th October 2010 – Elephant Plains Game Lodge, SSGR.

With the sky still grey we headed out after coffee to check up on the two lionesses seen on the previous evening's drive and found them camped out at the waterhole occupied by the hippo



bull, with obviously distended stomachs indicating that they had no real reason to move far during the night. They were lying right out in the open, giving good views even though they weren't doing much besides sleeping. While we were watching them Anne-Marie spotted a leopard lying on a branch in a tree close by, and though it was clear that the leopard (the female cub of Nyaleti) was well aware of the lions it wasn't clear if the lions were aware of her. Either way the leopard was wise to keep a low profile and stay high up out of harm's way. After viewing the three cats for a while we headed on and not long afterwards were watching some zebra when our tracker Clement spotted a leopard just ahead of us. This turned out to be a young male leopard of about 2 years of age, newly independent and having to provide for himself. He was obviously interested in the zebra, as there was a young foal among them, but even this foal would have been a bit ambitious given his lack of experience and the ability of the adult mares and stallion to fight back when one of their own

came under attack. It appeared though that the leopard was more playful than anything and seemed to be practising his stalking on the striped horses. After the zebras had moved on the leopard disappeared off into the bush and we continued with our drive, which didn't produce any more cat sightings, though we weren't complaining with two good leopard sighting and a good lion sighting for the morning. We returned to the lodge for breakfast and then the group headed out on a bush walk, which was more pleasant than the first one given the far cooler weather. We then had time to relax in camp before lunch and a final afternoon safari, which gave us a brief view of the old leopard (Safari) disappearing into the grounds of one of the other lodges in the area, with the barks of baboons and bushbuck ringing out as she slunk through the camp. Not sure when she would come out of the camp we headed off for sundowners and then paid the two lionesses a visit, who were still at the dam and still sleeping! Back at the lodge we had a wonderful final dinner around the open log fire and toasted a great trip with all expectations surpassed.

Cat Count: 3 leopard sightings, 3 individuals (2 female, 1 male); 2 lion sightings, 2 individuals (female).

Day 10: 28th October 2010 – departure.

Our final safari produced a wonderful sighting of the two lionesses, who were still at the water hole grooming each other in a wonderful display of mutual grooming and bond strengthening. No leopard were seen and with a steadily darkening sky we headed back to the lodge a little early to allow time to pack for the 09h45 departure for Johannesburg and the airport.

Cat Count: 1 lion sighting, 2 individuals (female).

Total cat stats: 27 sightings; 4 species; approximately 31 individual animals.

Mammal List

	Common name	Scientific name	Trip	October									
				19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	Baboon, Chacma	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	7	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	
2	Badger, Honey	<i>Mellivora capensis</i>	2				X	X					
3	Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	8		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
4	Bushbaby, Lesser	<i>Galago moholi</i>	2						X		X		
5	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	7		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
6	Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	1						X				
7	Civet, African	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>	1							X			
8	Duiker, Common	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	6			X			X	X	X	X	X
9	Elephant, African	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	8		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
10	Genet, Small-spotted	<i>Genetta genetta</i>	1					X					
11	Giraffe, Southern	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
12	Hare, Scrub	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	6			X		X	X		X	X	
13	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
14	Hyaena, Spotted	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	3			X		X			X		
15	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
16	Jackal, Side-striped	<i>Canis adustus</i>	1						X				
17	Kudu, Greater	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
18	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	8		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
19	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	7			X	X	X	X		X	X	X
20	Mongoose, Banded	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	1							X			
21	Mongoose, Dwarf	<i>Helogale parvula</i>	6			X		X	X	X	X	X	
22	Mongoose, Slender	<i>Galerella sanguinea</i>	4			X			X	X	X		
23	Mongoose, White-tailed	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>	3					X	X		X		
24	Mongoose, Yellow	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>	1	X									
25	Monkey, Vervet	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	5		X	X	X	X		X			
26	Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>	4			X	X				X	X	
27	Reedbuck, Common	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	1					X					
28	Rhinoceros, White	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>	6			X	X		X	X	X		X
29	Serval	<i>Felis serval</i>	1					X					
30	Squirrel, Tree	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	8			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
31	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	9		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
32	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>	8			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
33	Waterbuck, Common	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	8		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
34	Wildebeest, Blue	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	8			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
35	Zebra, Burchell's	<i>Equus burchelli</i>	9		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>
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>
Great (White) Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
Southern Bald Ibis (E)	<i>Geronticus calvus</i>
Hadedda Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>
Cape Vulture (E)	<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>
White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotus</i>
White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>
African Hawk Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus fasciatus</i>
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
Jackal Buzzard (E)	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>
Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>
African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene)	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>
Crested Francolin	<i>Francolinus sephaena</i>
Natal Francolin (NE)	<i>Francolinus natalensis</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>
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>
White-crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
Double-banded Sandgrouse (NE)	<i>Pterocles bicinctus</i>
African Mourning Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>
Cape Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Laughing (Palm) Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>
Grey Go-away Bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>
Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>
Burchell's Coucal (E)	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>
African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>
Verreaux's (Giant) Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle maxima</i>
African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>
Green Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</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>
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>
Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>
Rock Martin	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>
Cape Rock Thrush (E)	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>
Familiar Chat	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>
Red-capped Robin-Chat (Natal Robin)	<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>
Bearded Scrub-Robin	<i>Erythropygia quadrivirgata</i>
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>
Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</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>
Greater Double-collared Sunbird (E)	<i>Nectarinia afra</i>
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia talatala</i>
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia senegalensis</i>
Cape White-eye (E)	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Village (Spotted-backed) Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>

Clockwise from top left: Spotted Hyena pup; lioness pair, male lion pair; sundowners in the bush.

