


Laikipia, Samburu & Amboseli Safari

Destination: Central & Southern Kenya

Duration: 14 Days **Dates:** 10th Oct – 24th Oct 2024

-  Enjoying safaris in OI Pejeta as well as Nairobi, Sumburu & Amboseli National Park
-  Seeing Africa's famous Big Five over the course of the trip
-  Night views of **Zorilla, White-tailed Mongoose, East African Springhare** & more
-  Seeing a huge number of birds (175), including many East African endemics
-  Watching great interaction between **Lions** and **Spotted Hyenas** at kills at night
-  Walking with and getting hands on with the blind **Black Rhino** Baraka in OI Pejeta
-  63 mammal species including **Desert Warthog** and **Somali Dwarf Mongoose**
-  Watching a huge Martial Eagle feeding on a fresh killed Dik-dik up close in Samburu
-  Having great views of a **Striped Hyena** in the daytime in OI Pejeta
-  Watching so many **African Bush Elephants** in Amboseli interacting



Tour Leader / Guides

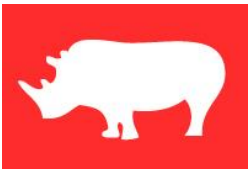
Martin Royle (Royle Safaris Tour Leader)
 John (Driver for Martin pre Tour)
 Nelson (Driver & Local Guide Throughout)
 Gilbert, Sammy, David & Julian (OI Pejeta Spotlighting Driver & Guide)
 Jeremy (Baraka Caretaker in OI Pejeta)
 Rose (Sweetwaters Chimp Sanctuary Guide)
 Jadana (Replacement Driver / Guide in Amboseli)

Participants

Mr. Joe Boyer
 Mrs. Rhoda Boyer

Overview

Day 1:	Nairobi
Day 2:	Nairobi NP
Days 3-5:	OI Pejeta
Days 6-8:	Samburu NP
Day 9:	Nairobi
Days 10-14:	Amboseli NP
Day 15:	Home



Day by Day Breakdown

Overview

It is hard to come up with something unique to say when describing the wildlife and safari experience of Kenya; so much has already been said about the undisputed king of safaris; but nothing you will read or see on documentaries will prepare you for the wildlife feast set before you when visiting here. Synonymous with the rolling open grasslands of the Masai Mara; dotted with lone umbrella shaped acacias and pock marked with grazing wildebeest, gazelles and zebra intermingled with herds of elephants, solitary rhinos, sleeping lions and lazy leopard hanging limp from branches; this is the Kenya that people imagine and it has become the safari standard. But not only is this idyllic view of the Kenyan savanna picturesque and almost dreamlike, it is not far off the truth and on a good day you can experience all of what has just been described before heading back for your breakfast!

This tour would visit a couple of places which are not the most well visited in Kenya, such as Laikipia (in particular the amazing and vast conservancy of Ol Pejeta) and then the dry scrub forests of Samburu National Park. These dry landscapes are home to a great range of wildlife, from the more common and typical East African savanna species and then some species which are better known from the even drier harsher habitats further north. So by visiting these locations we would have a chance to see plains zebra and Grevy's zebra, common warthog and desert warthog and southern ground hornbill and Abyssinian ground hornbill which is a great overview of East African wildlife.

After visiting these locations we would then visit Amboseli which is one of the most popular national parks in Africa where we would hopefully have some fantastic views of elephants in this iconic setting, in the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Kenya is currently going through an economic boom period and being the powerhouse of Eastern Africa it is increasingly being seen as the leader of the region. This has various positives and negatives, positives including a burgeoning environmentally friendly approach to living with their wilderness, a move away from traditions such as lion hunting for the morani of the Masai to becoming lion guardians and tour guides and of course increased education for children and better standards of living for many people. These things are obviously not universal and there are still plenty of people in Kenya who go without basic amenities and education, but things are drastically improving. Another positive of this is that neighbouring countries look towards Kenya for guidance and policies that lead to development of their own country.

All in all travelling to Kenya today means travelling to a country in between states of development, as it develops it is important to tourists as well as the Kenyans to remember that it is the wildlife and pristine habitats that are largely responsible for the success of Kenya and so it is imperative to protect and conserve these areas. Only by sustainably visiting national parks and reserves and contributing to the local communities and their many projects will the future of Kenya's wildlife be bright.

We at Royle Safaris hope you enjoy reading this trip report and that it takes you back to Kenta and the places we visited as well as the sightings log that will hopefully help you identify some of the animals you took pictures of. Please contact us if you have any questions or queries we are always happy to help.



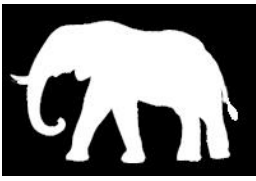
Day 0 **Nairobi / Mbweha**

Arrival & Wildlife Watching

Martin arrived a couple of days ahead of Joe and Rhoda and the official start of the trip and he went straight from Nairobi to the small conservancy of Mbweha for a night.

During the afternoon here the bird life was prolific which various species around the conservancy and the feeders around the lodge. Highlights included augur buzzard, grey-crowned crane, African green bee-eater, arrow-marked babbler, white-browed robin-chat and red-cheeked cordon-bleu. The ungulates around here included **plains zebra, eastern Thomson gazelle, Grant's gazelle, impala, ellipse waterbuck** and **common warthog**. But it was after dark that was more exciting, spotlighting we found **spotted hyena, white-tailed mongoose, black-backed jackals, East African savanna hare, bat-eared foxes** and **East African springhares**. The birding highlight at night was great views of a marsh owl on the road.

The following day Joe and Rhoda would be arriving into Nairobi airport in the morning and would be taken direct to Nairobi National Park, whilst Martin would meet them there for lunch and the trip would start proper.



Day 1 **Nairobi National Park**

Traveling & Wildlife Watching

Today started with Rhoda and Joe being collected by John in the vehicle that would be ours for the whole trip and being taken to our accommodation inside Nairobi National Park. Martin was still with Nelson in Mbweha and they left the conservancy and headed to Nairobi National Park after breakfast.

Nairobi National Park located within view of the city is a great way to start any safari of Kenya, despite the close proximity to the vast sprawl of Nairobi the park is home to a great range of wildlife including many high target species for people on an East African safari. Joe, Rhoda and John did a game drive this morning on the way to the camp and saw both **black** and **white rhinos** as well as many ungulate species and a nice male **lion** before arriving at the camp and meeting Martin at around 1:30pm for lunch. At lunch an **orche bush squirrel** was scurrying around the trees near the dining tent.

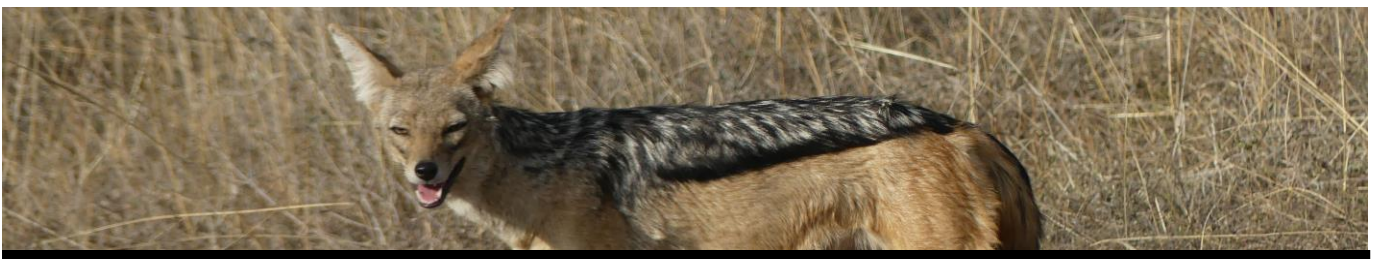
After lunch we went back out and had our first game drive as a complete group; the park is home to many **plains zebra** and **masai giraffes** which we saw many of close. We also had nice **vervet monkeys** next to the road, foraging and grooming and also close views of a large Ruppell's vulture in an acacia. Just driving around her we had a bachelor group of **common impala** close by and very large numbers of common ostriches. On some of the male **impalas** had red-billed oxpecker on them plucking ticks and other parasites from their glossy coats.

At a small waterhole we found various species of waterbird (including hadeda ibis, cattle egret, crowned lapwing, hamerkop and African jacana) as well as a small pod of **common hippos**, **ellipse waterbuck** as well as several smallish (2-2.5m long) Nile crocodiles and a serrated hinged terrapin basking on the shore. Another troop of **vervet monkeys** was feeding in the reeds next to the road with some nice babies playing around.

We then left the waterhole and thicker vegetation and headed more into the grasslands of the park and found a nice female **white rhino** and a young calf close by, these rhinos were with a small group of **masai giraffes** within view of the city in the background.

We started to see more and more **white rhinos** and smaller numbers of **black rhinos** dotted around, nearly all of these seemed to have a calf with them. Showing what great work Kenya is doing with rhino breeding and conservation to tackle the rampant poaching which has dogged the species for decades. Some of these **rhinos** were in groups of 3, which was a mother and her nearly adult sized calf and a younger calf who was still in need of their mother for protection from predators. Also in a trio were some grey-crowned cranes, these being a breeding pair and their chick from last year.

As the sun was beginning to get lower in the sky we had a great **black-backed jackal** in great afternoon light and then we found a female **lion** walking along the road ahead of us. We started to follow, she was calling out and we hoped to find the rest of the pride before we had to return to the camp. Many other vehicles started to come from ahead of her, but she couldn't care less, walking in the middle of the road calling out as the jeeps had to pull over to the side of the road to allow her through. She eventually found the rest of the pride resting on the road nearby a a Coke's hartebeest carcass from the night before. We stayed with the **lions** for a while and had a mating couple on the road just before sunset and our departure back to the camp for dinner.



Day 3 **OI Pejeta Conservancy**

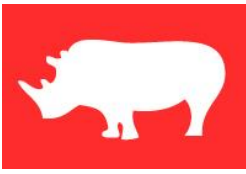
Travelling & Wildlife Watching

This morning we had a little later start with breakfast at 8am, in the early morning before waking up and having breakfast we had calls from eastern black-and-white colobus, lions and northern greater galago and at breakfast the resident **ochre bush squirrel** was there around scampering around the trees near the main camp.

We then departed Nairobi National Park and the city itself and headed towards the Liakipia area and in particular the amazing, huge and famous OI Pejeta Conservancy. We arrived here at 1pm and made our way to our camp at the Stables. Along the way we saw a few of the **rhinos** which make this place so famous, these were all **white rhinos** and they were all pretty distant this afternoon. In a small floodplain there was a large herd of **cape buffalo** and a lone **African bush elephant** grazing whilst stood in a muddy wallow.

We had lunch at the Stables and then went out afterwards, and had great views of lots of ungulates quickly. Herds of **defassa waterbuck**, **cape buffalo**, **common impala**, **Bright's gazelle** and **plains zebra** were all dotted around and seen without any effort. There were also large numbers of Egyptian geese and helmeted guineafowl around a marshy area. We had several greater blue-eared starlings around a family of **black-backed jackals** which consisted of the adult pair and four near adult pups.

Driving further around we saw several enormous **white rhinos** and a small number of **reticulated giraffes** in nice light for pictures. Around this time the cloud cover cleared to give us views out of Mount Kenya which was fantastic.



We then had a large troop of **olive baboons** feeding around a nice **white rhino** and all around were very large flocks of helmeted guineafowl.

We then continued around and found 6 **lionesses** on a fresh zebra kill and nearby some large male **buffalo** resting in the bushes chewing the cud. These lions and buffalo were all pretty close to the Stables and we returned here pretty quickly for dinner. Then after dinner Martin and Joe went out with Sammy and Julian for some spotlighting. We saw a **zorilla** running erratically in the short grass and several **white-tailed mongooses**. We then found a **lion** on a kill as a large male **lion** arrived to join and possibly help protect the kill as there were some **spotted hyenas** were around and closing in on the kill. The **hyenas** were all keeping their distance and a little further back again were a couple of **black-backed jackals**, showing the hierarchy of scavenging of the carcass.

In a more open grassland area we found a few **Cape hares** and a small group of **lelwel** with three young calves, the next sighting was a pair of **common warthogs** with **spotted hyenas** all around a den, seeing **warthogs** at night probably means that the **hyenas** have disturbed them from their sleep in the den.

Our final sightings of the night was another **zorilla** sighting, a female **steenbok** and a brief sighting of a **black rhino** in the dense scrub.

Day 4 **OI Pejeta Conservancy**

Wildlife Watching

This morning we were out at 6:30am, it was a cool morning with a nice African fish eagle calling from its perch over the marsh. The commonly seen ungulates (**impala, buffalo, waterbuck** etc) all were around and then as the sun started to warm the air we found a **bat-eared fox** just resting in the early morning sun before it headed into its termite mound den. We then had a **jackal** walking and sniffing the ground as many birds (including African red-eyed dove, grassland pipits, white-bellied bustards, klitlitz's plovers, flappet larks and huge numbers of helmeted guineafowl around.

We then went to visit the special rhino memorial which is a small cemetery of lost rhinos from OI Pejeta. The Memorial is located in the east of the Conservancy and honours the lives of all the OI Pejeta rhinos that have been killed in the poaching epidemic. A total of sixteen gravestones stand underneath the tree; a stark reminder of the devastation of the illegal wildlife trade, but also an inspiration to all who visit to continue supporting rhino conservation. Included here are the graves of the last two male northern white rhinos ever. These being Suni who died in 2014 and Sudan who died in 2018. From this sobering but very worthwhile place to visit we went to see the last two remaining **northern white rhinos** (both females) who are Najin and Fatu, these two rhinos live with a 'caretaker' southern white rhino. The whole story is very sad, but more recently there is perhaps hope through frozen sperm of Sudan and Suni and artificial insemination or surrogacy in the future.

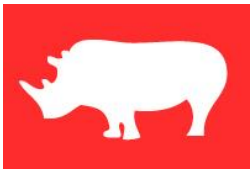
We then met Jerney who is a caretaker for an ambassador rhino for OI Pejeta, Baraka is an old blind black rhino who we went to visit, we were able to get up close for pictures next to this amazing and huge animal as well as feeding him some carrots.

Leaving these rhino headquarters in OI Pejeta we left to continue a game drive and head back to the Stables for lunch and a break during the middle of the day. On the way back we had nice views of more **white rhinos** as well as **common warthog, Thomson gazelle** and cows. One of the great things that OI Pejeta is doing is showing that wildlife and livestock can live together sustainably, when done respectfully and done well. It is a good initiative and something that can be mirrored in other conservancies and elsewhere. We made it back at around 9am and had breakfast followed by some rest around the Stables.

In the late afternoon we went out again, just as we were leaving the Stables we had fantastic views of a pair of white-bellied go-away bird feeding on flowers in the grounds of the Stables. We then had a good pair of tawny eagles and a family of four **bat-eared foxes** which were seen very nicely in a small plain. There were the usual ungulates around here also (**common warthogs, Bright's gazelles, Thomson gazelles, reticulated giraffes, common impala, plains zebra** and **cape buffalo**). In the plain were several white-bellied bustards and their larger cousin kori bustards before we found another pair of **bat-eared foxes** feeding on termites on the surface, using their ears pointed downwards listening to them in the ground.

A little further around we came upon a small group of feeding **reticulated giraffes** on low acacia trees. We stopped to watch a **black-backed jackal** calling out and then its mate came trotting over the rise to meet together. This completed a very nice typical 'African' vista of **giraffes, zebras, gazelles** and **impala** are feeding together. In the foreground we had some yellow-necked spurfowl with plenty of chicks, they were being quite nervous as there were some more **black-backed jackals** around. As we approached the Stables we found three **lions** on a fresh buffalo kill. It was getting quite dark and some **spotted hyena** were approaching and hanging back. We would come back after dark as there were not many **hyenas** around now, but we could hear more calling and suspected that soon there would be enough to challenge the **lions** and 'capture' the kill. This was highlighted more as we drove a little way and came across a very busy **hyena** den with lots of pups and adults, all of which would be at that buffalo kill very soon.

After dinner Joe and Martin went out again for some spotlighting with David and Julian and we went straight to the buffalo kill. As predicted the **hyenas** were everywhere and there were no lions on the carcass. But there were



around 20 **hyenas** all feeding and jostling for position on the kill. There was not much left on carcass by this stage but there was still enough for a very brave **black-backed jackal** darting in and out and grabbing whatever it could in between the snapping jaws of the **hyenas**.

We left the kill and carrying on driving around and found some resting ungulates (all of the same as usual around OI Pejeta) and then we found a small group of **elephants** with some feeding on the acacia and one sleeping whilst stood up, feeling protected by the presence of the rest of the ground around her. The elephants which are usually found in OI Pejeta had been elsewhere over the last few weeks as the area is going through a drought, so it was nice to see some of the females coming back. Leaving the elephants we had found foraging **bat-eared foxes** and **white-tailed mongooses** and a pair of **jackals**.

We then found some **Senegal galagoes** bouncing from tree to tree in a small stand of trees near the road and watched as they went into a small nest in the middle of a thorny tree, it was great to see them and see them so well as we would not be able to do night drives on the rest of the trip and so wouldn't have the chance to see galagoes on the rest of the trip. The final sighting of the night drive was a large male **elephant** feeding in a plain.



Day 5 OI Pejeta Conservancy

Wildlife Watching

We were up and out at 6:30am this morning we went back to the buffalo kill to see what the situation was like, there were some **hyenas** around with full bellies, the carcass was just bones, it had been completely picked clean. Some **defassa waterbucks** were around the area. We left the area and found a family of **black-backed jackals**, possibly the same family of two adults and 2 pups which we had seen a few days earlier.

At first there was just one adult and then as we watched the partner showed up and there was nice interaction as they greeted each other playing around feeding on some meat which was probably brought back from the nearby buffalo kill. This was very nice behaviour to see in great morning light. Just as we were leaving a very heavily pregnant female **hyena** came along on her way back to her den.

Driving on we found a nice **black rhino** quickly before a female and calf **black rhino** which were nearby and seen very well.

This was a very bushy area of the conservancy and we saw more **black rhinos** in this area than we had before. Including another mother and calf which were a little more distant than the first pair, we also had very nice views of a martial eagle perched low and in the clear.

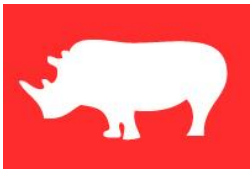
We then left the scrub and entered a small plain, this plain was full of **buffalo, zebra, warthogs, impala, Bright's & Thomson's gazelles** all feeding with some **giraffes** in the distance. This is a great African scene. Following from here we found three more **black rhinos** feeding together and alongside a small group of male **buffalo**. This morning we visited the Sweetwaters Chimp Sanctuary. This area of the conservancy has a population of chimps which have been rescued from zoos, circuses and pets from Africa and elsewhere. They live here in a large semi-wild enclosure and it would be interesting see and hear about how the staff here had successfully created a functional troop of chimps which had all grown up in adverse conditions.

Along the way to Sweetwaters we had a large troop of **olive baboons** cross the road, foraging on either side of the road and another large number of **buffalo** in the marsh area.

At Sweetwaters Chimp Sanctuary, we met Rose and went to see some of the chimps who had come to the fence to be fed, we were told about the 30 chimps here which had been rescued and had formed 2 troops (one of 12 and one of 18), they are rehabilitated for around 3-4 months to get into the groups and the experience of the older chimps is crucial. It is very interesting to see how chimps which have been abused and some which had never been outside a cage barely large enough for them to sit up straight, all took to being pretty wild again.

We left here and it was getting hotter and hotter this morning, it was a hotter morning than previously and there were not a many animals around as the other mornings. The only thing we found really were **waterbuck** until Nelson spotted a wonderful **striped hyena**. We followed the **hyena** as it walked through the scrub forest ahead of us, we got nice views of the **hyena** as he moved in between thick vegetation. We headed back towards the camp and found another **black rhino** crossing the road (certainly a lot of black rhinos around this morning) and then we went to the **spotted hyena** den and watched around 10 adults and several pups all playing and being very active around the den. It was a nice way to end a great morning safari.

Then in the afternoon we went back out and quickly found a near newborn **impala** in a small group as well as all of the normal ungulate species we had been seeing in large numbers as we drove around. The highlight of the afternoon was finding a lone **lioness** sat on the bushline. The light was fading, but she seemed interested in something, and we watched as she watched a nearby group of **zebra**, she got down in the stalking position and



started to approach the **zebra**. That is when we noticed another **lioness** around and realised they were hunting in a team, we stayed and watched and they went for the kill. But they were unsuccessful. So we left and went back to the Stables for dinner.

Martin then went out again after dinner spotlighting one last time, there were lots of **East African savanna hares** as well as **white-tailed mongooses**. We then found a pair of adult male **lions** sleeping next to each other. Whilst we were watching them we heard some distant roaring and immediately these **lions** got up and ran off towards the sound. We followed them to see what would happen, but eventually they just stopped and lay down again. Just as we were about to leave we heard another lion roaring and one of the **lions** ran off into the thicker vegetation. So we left and carried on found some **spotted hyena**, **white-tailed mongooses** and a lone male **elephant** followed by a single **white rhino**. The final sighting was a **hippo** seen walking along the road looking for grazing.



Day 6 Samburu National Park

Travelling & Wildlife Watching

This morning we had a later start than usual as we were leaving OI Pejeta this morning. Around the Stables this morning we had close **waterbuck**, **baboons** and **vervet monkeys** whilst we had breakfast.

At 8:45am we left and headed to the Equator landmark in the conservancy for pictures before leaving and heading further north towards Samburu National Park. Along the way we crossed over a very important migration tunnel which linked the wildlife from Mount Kenya and Samburu. As we continued towards Samburu the landscape and environment began to change, getting drier and the vegetation getting sparser and it was very dry around.

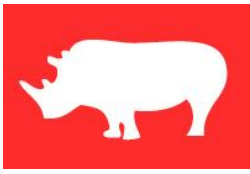
We arrived at the park at 1pm and had a packed lunch and went on a little game drive before going to the lodge. The first animals we found were **reticulated giraffe**, **Bright's gazelles**, **southern gerenuk** and then at the riverine forest (the river was completely dry) we found a small group of **elephants** all finding shade and resting. Other the river feeding in the green trees was a large group of 17 **giraffes** together. In the group we had a couple of males fighting with their necks swinging their heads at each other as they competed for mates. We continued around the dry river area with many **impala** and **giraffes** as well as some vulturine guineafowl before we headed to the lodge and getting there we were welcomed by a huge number of vitelline masked weavers at the small waterhole at the lodge.

Then after lunch we went from the lodge back down towards the river and to search for some wildlife in that region of the park. Sopa Lodge is located on a ridge and so the drive down to the river is long and bumpy but quite productive. We saw several flocks of vulturine guineafowl, all in the shade of different bushes, the most common mammal on these drives up and down to the lodge were **Kirk's dik-diks**, we would see many of them. Really we had never seen so many dik-diks. The arid conditions in Samburu and in particular this part of the reserve is great for eastern red-billed hornbills feeding on the ground and then near the bottom of the ridge and as we started to get into the riverine habitat we had a family of **Somali dwarf mongoose** ran across the road and into bushes and out of sight. We stopped and watched and the group would come out and move in between clumps of bushes as they ran on their regularly used pathways. We had nice views of emerald-spotted wood-doves and blue-naped mousebirds as we watched the **mongooses**. We drove down to the river and had views of a large male **elephant** feeding on the other side of the dry river.

We then had a rain shower which was quite intense but short and after this we had many yellow-necked spurfowl and crested francolins taking advantage of any insects which had come out in the rain. In general the birdlife was prolific after the rain and a large group of **giraffes** emerged out of the forest next to the river to feed. We then left the river and headed into one of the valleys which run perpendicular to the river and found a great male **cheetah**. It was walking parallel to the road and stopped occasionally and sat down, scanning and looking for any prey around. The rain was falling intermittently now and we carried on driving around. There was a couple of adult **elephants** feeding and a couple of younger ones nearby. They were very relaxed and feeding and socialising which was nice to watch. It was very interesting hearing the rumbling communication between the individual **elephants** we can see and many more that we cannot see, these rumbling calls and the even deeper vibrations being sent through the ground can travel very far and keep in touch all of the **elephants** in a vast area.

We then started to head back to the lodge and passed the riverine forest again and we found many more **elephants** including many young ones. The last sighting of note before we arrived back at the lodge for dinner was a pair of white-bellied go-away birds drying themselves out after the rain in the top of a tree.

As we had dinner we used the thermal to scan around the waterhole and found some **Kirk's dik-diks**, a very nice **large-spotted genet** and a **black-backed jackal**. All of which we managed to the light on after finding them with the thermal.



Day 7 Samburu National Park

Wildlife Watching

This morning we left at 6:30am and once again we had loads of **Kirk's dik-diks** around the lodge and on the way down the ridge. We had a perched booted eagle and 2 pairs of Von der Deckens' hornbills close by. There were lots of hornbills of various species around this morning, all in pairs flying from tree to tree or feeding in bushes or on the ground.

We went to a very dry area of the reserve now to try and find Gunther's dik-dik which is a specialist species of the more northern areas of Kenya. We found many **Kirk's dik-diks** and three very possible but not 100% confirmed **Gunter's dik-diks** as they were in thick bush and whilst we think we saw the distinguishing features we couldn't be sure. We also found a female **southern gerenuk** posing for us before very close black-bellied bustard and a female **desert warthog**.

We then went down to the riverine forest and found more **elephants** here, there is always some **elephants** in this part of the reserve as there is more food for them here than anywhere else. Leaving the riverine forest and heading a little back out into the savanna we came across a bachelor group of three **Grevy's zebra** feeding. This is one of the special mammal species here and is the rarest of the zebra species. As well as being the rarest they are the largest and in my opinion the best looking zebra and we had a great view of these three males. Whether it was because of the rain yesterday afternoon and evening or another reason, but nearly every large tree had some large bird on it, including some very nice lilac-breasted rollers, tawny eagles and augur buzzards.

Back along the dry riverbed but further along we found a herd of **giraffes**, they were stood in the dry riverbed with some drinking from small pools in the dry riverbed.

Carrying on around we had views of a pair of **desert warthogs**, many **common impala**, a small number of **galla oryx** and a large male **giraffe**. On the road we found a large leopard tortoise which we waited until it safely crossed the road and disappeared into the bush. Straight after leaving the tortoise we came to a very obliging **cheetah** sat just off the road, she was scanning for potential prey and nearby was the reason why, as we found her four 1 year old cubs. They were nearby and just resting under a bush watching as a small family of **Somali dwarf mongooses** ran in and out of their termite mound home. We stopped here and had our packed breakfast, watching the cubs as they played, groomed and waited for their mother to call with the hopeful sound of fresh food having been caught.

A little while later the mother came back to the cubs and we had great views of all 5 of the **cheetahs** together and nicely balanced on a dirt mound on the side of the road. Around here we also found a pair of **Gunther's dik-diks** under a distant bush, as we approached they ran off and there was also a pair of **unstriped ground squirrels** moving quickly in the scrub vegetation before we found yet another pair of animals, this time a pair of secretarybirds moving together looking for food.

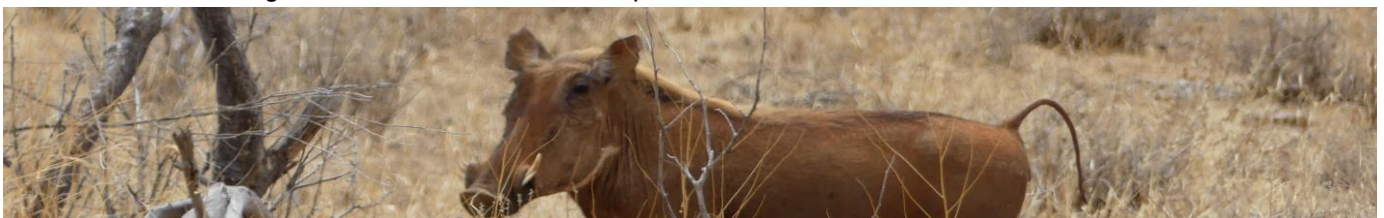
We continued our morning game drive and found a mixed sex group of 5 **southern gerenuk** including a couple feeding on their hide legs with their elegant elongated necks stretched fully out in their iconic feeding pose. Further sightings we had this morning including another **Grevy's zebra** and a few **desert warthogs** as well as some Somali ostriches, which had one male very aggressively chasing a female in a courtship display that was not impressing her very much. Nearer the climb back towards the lodge we saw a large troop of **olive baboons** and many more **Bright's gazelles** than we had seen up to now. It started to rain quite heavily around now and so we closed the roof and headed straight back to the lodge for a rest and lunch.

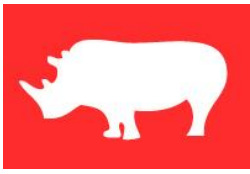
At the lodge during lunch there was a family of **desert warthogs** around including 4 adults and 12 very young piglets and we had a brief view of a **common slender mongoose**.

Then we were back out at around 3:30pm, we quickly found a nice rufous-beaked snake close to the road and then several **Kirk's dik-diks**, many birds (including once again large numbers of hornbills) and a couple of very close feeding **reticulated giraffes** and **southern gerenuks**. On the rocky outcrops of one ridge line we had very distant views of a couple of **golden klipspringers** high on the ridge resting.

We then had good views of **galla oryx** in good light with a beautiful Somali bee-eater sallying around close by and then more feeding **gerenuks**. We then went back towards the river and had a **lioness** run across the road quickly followed by a male **lion**, they were running fast, we tried to follow. But they were moving in and out of the dense riverine vegetation and we kept losing them in the thickest parts and so decided to leave them to it and so we headed back to the lodge, on the way we saw lots of **Bright's gazelles** around and then waiting in a place which is good for leopard and were rewarded with a female **leopard** walking across the road right in front of us, but like the lions it entered the thick vegetation and disappeared. However it was a nice way to end a good day on safari in Samburu.

That night at the restaurant we had a **common genet** on the buffet eating some fruit, before it was shooed away and slung back to the floodlit waterhole where it stayed for most of the night, probably waiting for the guests / staff to leave before continuing its feast in the kitchen or dump.





Day 8 Samburu National Park

Wildlife Watching

This morning we were back out on safari at 6:30am and once again were greeted by many **Kirk's dik-diks**, helmeted and vulturine guineafowls and various hornbill species. For the first time we found a large male **elephant** near the lodge before we descended the ridge to the river, it was just crossing the road and we watched for a while. We also had good views of some chestnut weavers posing nicely on a small acacia tree next to the road. There were also many **common impala** around before we reached the river.

After the rain yesterday (it must have rained a lot in the hills) as the river was flowing a little. Considering it was bone dry yesterday it was a remarkable change. We had amazing close views of several **Somali dwarf mongooses** who seemed to be very interested in our vehicle and were very inquisitive. There were also some Von der Decken's hornbills feeding on the ground around the **mongooses** and we also spotted a **rock hyrax** sleeping on a koppe nearby.

We drove through the riverine forest following the river bank and there was a very large group of **giraffes** around on both sides of the river, we had a very large and old male **giraffe** near the vehicle feeding which we stopped to have a good look at. It was interesting to note that today we saw several individual bull **elephants** around, whether this had anything to do with the rain and the river flowing today we didn't know, but it was a stark contrast to the lack of male **elephants** we had seen up to now.

The bird life was busier than previous days also, most likely due to the increase in insect activity after the rains but the most impressive bird we saw today was not feeding on insects. We found a wonderful martial eagle on a freshly killed dik-dik on the road. We must have missed the actual kill by seconds. We stopped and watched this very powerful alpha predator feeding on the kill. Mantling it to protect (shield) the view of the kill from some soaring yellow-billed kites nearby. The eagle fended off these much smaller pests and continued to feed. To see one of Africa's top predators feeding at such close quarters was a great highlight of the trip and we stayed here for a good while watching the majesty of the eagle.

Further birds we found around the river included lesser masked weavers, laughing doves, grey social weavers, white-browed sparrow-weavers, red-billed oxpeckers, olive thrush, Namaqua doves, yellow-necked spurfowl, slate-coloured boubou, red-and-yellow barbet and African red-eyed doves among many more species.

We then headed away from the river and found the female **cheetah** and her four cubs again. She was still looking for prey to hunt, scanning intently; whilst the cubs played and wrestled with each other. She got up and walked off and we followed and had amazing close and prolonged views once again of this incredible mother and her large litter.

In one of the open plains dotted with various larger trees we found a large mixed flock of vultures (there must have been a kill around here), they were in the trees and on the ground, some spread out ungainly as they were drying their wings and bodies from the rain in the morning sun. There were five different species of vultures here: lappet-faced vultures, African white-backed vultures, hooded vultures, white-headed vultures and Ruppel's vultures. It was great to see so many and a good diversity. We then headed back to the river to have our breakfast in the shade and had more nice birds here. White-throated bee-eaters, little bee-eaters, fork-tailed drongos, superb starlings, red-billed hornbills, white-browed sparrow-weavers were all around as well as several **elephants** and **Bright's gazelles**. The number of **elephants** around the river was several times higher than yesterday, most in small groups but there were also several lone bulls in between.

Following the river around we found two male **Grevy's zebras** coming back from the river after having a drink and then more **elephants**, **gerenuks** and many **giraffes**. One of the **giraffes** had quite a lot of scars on its flanks and legs and half of its tail was missing. This lucky **giraffe** had survived quite a brutal attack from several lions some time ago. We went back to the lodge for lunch and a break during the heat of the day.

We came back out in the late afternoon, the wind had been picking up all day and it probably meant more rain later today or tonight. We saw the common species again such as **Kirk's dik-diks**, **giraffes** (including young baby), several female ostriches and also a solitary **bush hyrax** sitting in a tree near a white-bellied go-away-bird and a small group of **impala**.

We skirted a ridge today as we wanted to get better views of Gunther's dik-dik and we found several beautiful golden-bellied starlings and a nice lesser spotted eagle perched nicely on top of a tree. We did find the same **cheetah** family again still looking for food. Seeing the mother activity looking for food for this long is a reminder of how hard life is for many species out in the African bush, particularly cheetahs.

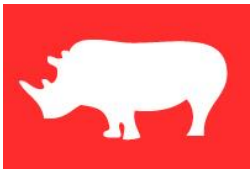
On the distant rocks was a family of **baboons** and we also found male **lion** lying on the side of the road close to a group of chestnut-bellied sandgrouse foraging.

We started to head back to the lodge and stopped to see if the feeding martial eagle was still there and it was, still feeding on the dik-dik, but it had made some good progress in opening up the carcass to get to the highly prized internal organs. We watched as the martial successful fought off attention from a juvenile eagle of some species before we headed back to the lodge for our final night in Samburu.

Day 9 Samburu / Nairobi

Wildlife Watching & Travelling

This morning we had a slightly later morning and breakfast at the lodge before leaving and heading back to Nairobi. We would overnight in the city to break up the long journey from here to Amboseli.



On the way back we had views of many **giraffes**, kori bustard, vulturine guineafowl and of course **Kirk's dik-diks**. We also met up with a park ranger who would take us to the last place they had seen Gunther's dik-dik recently before we left the park.

As we searched for better views of this dik-dik we had more sightings of **elephants** (solitary males and some groups), three **desert warthogs**, **giraffe**, **Grevy's zebra** and finally three **Gunther's dik-diks**. But they didn't allow for any real photos as they were still quite distant but still a nice way of ending our time in this unique Samburu Reserve.

We then hit the highway and made it back to Nairobi around 3pm, checked into the hotel and rested for the rest of the day.



Day 10 **Nairobi / Amboseli National Park** *Travelling & Wildlife Watching*

This morning we had a more relaxed start to the day and left the hotel after breakfast at around 8am and headed south towards Amboseli. The first couple of hours was getting out of the city and going through towns and villages, but as the people and buildings started to thin out we started to see some wildlife. The first mammals on the drive towards the park were **plains zebra** and **Grant's gazelles** and we then arrived at around 1pm.

We settled into the accommodation which was the Kimana Camp, this is a great little eco camp which is set up by friends of Joe and Rhoda who they met many years ago and have helped and supported over the years. When we were last here in 2016 we visiting Micheal and this site and the camp was just being finished so it was great to see the place finished and hosting people.

So after settling in and having lunch we left for a first afternoon safari into the park. Amboseli is one of the most popular parks in Kenya, the iconic view of Mount Kilimanjaro overlooking the savanna here is wonderful and the park is probably best known for its huge elephant population. They would certainly be a major focus for us over the next few days when exploring the park.

The sky was very clear and we had great views of Kilimanjaro as we drove into the park and immediately started to see various species such as **zebra**, **common warthogs**, **Grant's gazelle**, **impala** and many large troops of **yellow baboons**. We had nice close views of a large group of **baboons** interacting with **Grant's gazelles** and **impala** next to the road.

We would not be able to get very far into the park today as we were arriving quite late but we did still manage to find a small group of **elephants** as well as a pair of male common ostrich next to each other. A nice view of the world's largest land mammal and the world's largest bird together.

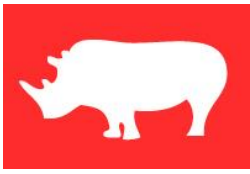
We then went to the large wetland in the middle of the park and the numbers of **Thomson's gazelles** and in particular **elephants** was astonishing, large groups dotted the dark green wetland vegetation close and far. We could see 60-70 in any one view we had when scanning the surrounding areas. Also around here were many species of birds with black-smith lapwings being the most vocal and obvious.

Also around here were some **wildebeest** and **zebra** and we drove around taking in the views, there must have been 100+ **elephants** feeding in the marshes here. Some out of the water, some up to their ears in the water and all feeding on the abundant aquatic vegetation. The make up of the elephant groups was typically small family groups of 7-12 adult females and their offspring of various ages and then large bull elephants were on their own in between these family groups.

Other bird species we saw around the wetlands were crowned lapwings, squacco herons, grassland pipits, intermediate egrets, great egrets, cattle egrets, African jacanas, glossy ibis, African sacred ibis, Klittlitz's ploves, long-toed lapwings, black-headed herons and red-billed teals.

Other mammals around the wetland included several **buffalo** also feeding on the aquatic vegetation and lots of **common hippos**. Most being largely hidden and underwater, but several were out in the open and grazing. Unusual to see **hippos** in the open in the day on land feeding.

We then went to the central lake and here there were some more **hippos** as well as a large flock of greater flamingos and various small wading birds on the shoreline. Walking around the lake and probably looking for a place to drink were lines of **zebra**, **Thomson's gazelles** and **wildebeests** and dotted around the edges of the lake (mostly lying down) were small numbers of **Bohor reedbucks**. The lake was very productive with such a good density and diversity of mammals and birds around. Amboseli is not disappointing in the wildlife spectacle so far.



We then turned around and headed back out of the park, with once again great views of Kilimanjaro, but without much rain recently the road was incredibly dry and dusty, so we shut up the roof and windows and headed to our accommodation shielded a little from the dusty storm of all of the vehicles leaving at the same time.

Day 11 **Amboseli National Park**

Wildlife Watching

This morning we were back in the park under the sunshine and blue skies of another glorious day. It does seem like Amboseli was the only part of Kenya which has not experienced some heavy rains recently as the ground was still very dusty and dry.

Before setting off Martin had some **banded mongooses** and **vervet monkeys** around the lodge and we had the news that Nelson needed to visit a local doctor as his back was giving him some serious problems. So we had the morning off and just hung around the lodge. And for the afternoon Nelson called a friend of his Jadana to take his place for the next couple of days. In the park we had all of the usual common species again, large numbers of **elephants, zebra, impala, Thomson's gazelles, Grant's gazelles, Masai giraffes, common warthogs and wildebeests**. We did find a large male tusker, he was feeding in dense bushes but we did see him lift his 2m plus long tusks up on occasion as he pulled leaves and branches from the vegetation to eat.

Once again in the distance we saw many **elephants** in the marshes feeding on the vegetation, these lucky **elephants** live in their own salad bowl and seemed to be in heaven.

This afternoon there were large numbers of ostriches around as well as lines of **wildebeest** and **zebras** as they seemed to be constantly on the move, grazing as they move around the grasslands. These species have a daily 'migration' where they spend the evenings in the higher ground towards Kilimanjaro and the day times feeding in the marshes. This is because to spend the evenings / nights in the very open marshes and grasslands would leave them more vulnerable to lion attack. So these animals were on their way back away from the marshes to their night time areas.

We once again had some very nice birds around including grey-crowned cranes and so many waterfowl around as well as **hippos** which were starting to come out of the water to feed as the sun was getting lower and the temperature cooling. We had nice views of a goliath heron near the road as well as African fish eagles, spur-winged geese and red-billed teals in the water. We also watched some displaying ostriches in a group before we saw our first carnivore in Amboseli. A **spotted hyena** came trotting towards us and to a carcass which it started to have gnaw on. On the way out we had more **hippos, elephants** nice and close and many **Masai giraffes** as the dust started to envelope the cars on the way out.



Day 12 **Amboseli National Park**

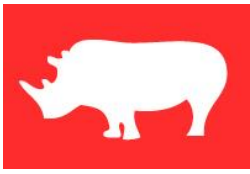
Wildlife Watching

This morning we were once again out in the park and the usual ungulate species were around as well as a couple of secretary birds and we then a male and female martial eagle in the same tree. The closest mammals we had on the entry road to Amboseli this morning and what we spent a good amount of time with was a large troop of **yellow baboons** foraging close to the road with some in the bushes and trees looking for anything edible. Watching the older individuals quietly and methodically picking seeds and insects and other edible items from the ground whilst the younger ones were running around, playing, jumping on each other and just in general being mischievous is always good fun.

We were not far into the park when we had a great sighting of a female **cheetah** walking towards us, calling out to her cubs. We didn't find where the cubs were as she stopped calling and lay down so we left and went to see what else we could find.

Once again there were many **elephants** in the marshes, with smaller numbers of **buffalo, zebra and wildebeest**. Then around the lake we enjoyed some good birding with some of the more common and 'showier' bird species such as Egyptian geese and flamingos as well as a group of **elephants** drinking on the shore. This group had all ages represented including a very young calf. Continuing around the lake we saw nice African green bee-eaters, several other groups of thirsty **elephants** a large troop of **vervet monkeys** around a lodge on the edge of the lake with several playful babies.

There was a great abundance of water birds the highlight being a pair of saddle-billed storks and a large group of ostriches. There were also several African fish eagles on the ground around the lake and marshes, it was interesting to see these birds (usually seen soaring or perched on a tree overlooking a body of water) on the ground. We then



had a nice sighting of a **hippo** out of the water grazing on the shore of the lake, once again seeing **hippos** out of the water feeding in the day light is great and unusual.

We then rounded the lake and began our journey out and we had nice sightings on the way out including some grey crowned cranes, a very close view of a small group of **elephants** next to the road feeding on aquatic vegetation and then five **spotted hyenas** moving swiftly from one place to another in the grassland. Perhaps coming back from a carcass they had been feeding on last night and heading to their den as the temperature started to increase as we headed back to the accommodation. The final sightings of note this morning were some **hippos** sleeping on the lake shore and some resting **elephants** including a young baby lying down sleeping. Protected by the adults in the group standing close by.

It was good to see some rain falling over Kilimanjaro on the way out, we hoped that some would come this way, if only to dampen the dust on the roads. It did rain heavily during the middle of the day but it was all dry and back to being quite dusty by the time we went back in during the afternoon.

The first great sight we had was the large male tusker **elephant** near the road and feeding again just inside the park entrance. In general it was quieter on the plains this afternoon, whether many of the animals had headed to more sheltered areas during the heavy rain and had not come back out to the open grasslands we didn't know, but it was noticeable how much quieter it was this afternoon. It was a while of driving before we started to find numbers of **elephants** and **zebras** that we were used to. We also had a pair of two-banded coursers cross the road in front of us and yet another pair of secretary birds moving together through the grass.

In a area of higher and thicker vegetation we found a pair of sleeping **lionesses** a third lioness arrived and greeted both these resting ones with nose and cheek rubbing before moving on and into the thicker vegetation. We were not sure if there were more in the thick vegetation but the amount of vehicles arriving here made us decide to leave and see what other species we could find.

Driving around we had more **Thomson's gazelles**, **zebras** and **wildebeests** as well as the odd **Bohor reedbuck** lying on the ground around the marshes. Also here were large numbers of Egyptian geese and another daytime feeding **hippo** feeding alongside **zebras**, **gazelles** and even a couple of **spotted hyenas**.

These **hyenas** got too close to a group of **zebra** and it was cool to watch the stallion of the group chased the **hyena** away before the rest of the group joined in the **hyenas** were sent well on their way.

We were spending some time around the nearly filled pools of water on the edges of the marshes looking at the amazing diversity and density of lapwings and waterfowl when we came across an **African civet** curled up in the grass. We watched to see if the **civet** was sleeping or dead and we thought we saw it breathing, but a short time later (when we came back) it has moved and so it was clearly just sleeping. But it is still very unusual to see an **African civet** in the day.

Just before we returned to the lodge we watched a marabou stork trying to catch and eat a black-smith lapwing and then after failing it turned its attention to a pair of spoonbills which it chased around. We then had the resident large troop of **yellow baboons** feeding on either side of the road on the drive back out of the park and to our lodge for dinner.

Day 13 **Amboseli National Park**

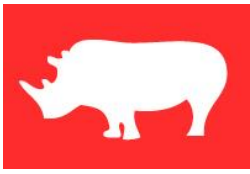
Wildlife Watching

This morning Rhoda and Joe were invited to Morgan's (their friend from Kimana village) mother birthday celebration and so we had the morning off. They had a great time at the party, meeting the extended family and enjoying local food and celebrations. There were people there that Joe and Rhoda first met many years ago on their first trip to Kenya.

Then in the afternoon we re-entered the park, it was once again a very hot and dry day and we hoped to see some interesting things. Our first nice sighting was a pair of eastern pale-chanting goshawk and we started to see more and more including **wildebeest**, **giraffe**, **Grant's gazelles** a large herd of **zebra** in the grassland with great views of Kilimanjaro overlooking the plains. In the distance we had views of many **elephants** moving around the marshes. The rain yesterday has brought in many more crowned cranes, there was dozens of them around in the grassland today. The line of **elephants** we had seen in the distance was marching on towards the marshes and the lush vegetation. We stopped and watched these **elephants** as they moved around, interacting with different groups. As this large number of **elephants** approached the water several of the **hippos** which had been feeding out of the water were now heading back into the water, to get out of the way of the **elephants**.

We then smelt a carcass but couldn't find where it was, but we came across some **hyenas** who could definitely smell and find the carcass.

Once again the birdlife was great, many geese and white-faced whistling ducks were surrounding the water and in the water was a mother and calf **elephant**, the calf being up to its ears in the water, eating as it moved through the water. The numbers of **elephants** was enormous today, it seemed like many more groups of **elephants** were around here today compared to previous days. We watched as some of these **elephants** starting to roll around in the wet mud, playing and slipping and sliding around, covering themselves in mud and spraying water all over them. A very young calf appeared (having been hidden by some of the adults) and started to suckle which was nice to see. The sun was low by now and the yellow / golden colour of the grass was making for some very nice pictures, a couple more **hyenas** were moving around and we had good views of **hippos** and **elephants** feeding together. This group also had a young **elephant** as part of their group, this youngster spent some time chasing and 'playing' with



jacanas and egrets. The last sightings of note before we left this evening was a pair of malachite kingfishers as a wonderful and typical African sunset was showing in the distance. Then we made a swift detour to see a pride of **lions** lying in the grass, they were distance (100m away or so) and we counted 10 including 1 large male. But they were far and the light was fading, so we left and went back to the lodges.



Day 14 **Amboseli National Park**

Wildlife Watching

Today we would spend longer in Amboseli and take a packed lunch. We would explore different areas of the park. Once we entered we had the common species along the side of the road, in fact this morning we had **giraffe, zebra** and **elephants** outside of the park and then entering we had the usual large groups of **Grant's gazelles, zebras, warthogs** all feeding together.

On the plains we had some male ostriches, flushed pink in display mode and trying to impress the many females around. Driving around we passed more **Grant's gazelles** than previous days and also had the many groups of **elephants** all dotted across the plains and marshes. We went to one group that had some very young calves to watch these little **elephants** interacting with each other as the adults fed around them. We stayed around here for a while as the large numbers of **elephants** were moving into the marshes where they would spend the day in the cool water and feeding on the endless fresh green vegetation. There were several pairs of grey crowned cranes around the marshes again, they are great birds to see and watch.

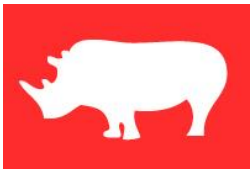
Moving around to the shallower areas of the marshes the number of birds was large again, with Egyptian geese, spur-winged geese, glossy ibis, grey herons, common sandpipers, marsh sandpipers, African spoonbills, white-faced whistling ducks, little stints, black-smith lapwings, common avocets, greater flamingos and many more. A little further along we then found a pair of **spotted hyena** on the road and they came and sat next to the vehicle. Their den was in a drainage pipe under the road and we watched as some more younger **hyenas** came out. We watched as one **hyena** came over and stuck its head into the pipe and we heard a lot of growling and laughing and a couple more popped out and chased the new comer away. We watched the clan for a while, watching and enjoying the communication (vocally and with body language), behaviours and interactions. We left and followed one of the **hyenas** for a while, the one we had chosen to follow was the one who arrived at the culvert and was chased off. We followed until it found another culvert which wasn't occupied and it went inside and found some peace and quiet.

We then visited the airstrip in the middle of the park and here there are a few buildings and inside one of these was a pair of **slit-faced bats** (which had been identified as **hairy slit-faced bats** in the past here). Moving on from the airstrip we found a **lioness** on a carcass which looked like a young elephant or buffalo (based on the bone size), but we couldn't see much as the grass was longer here. Carrying on we found mixed herds of **Thomson's** and **Grant's gazelles** grazing along with several **zebras** having a dust bath. It was nice to sit and watch this collection of African mammals for a while. With these other species were also some **buffalo, wildebeest** and ostriches.

Today we were seeing many ostriches and **elephants** around the drier grasslands of this part of the park and we then came to the shores of a lake and found a lone **lioness** walking along the shoreline. She came to a couple of **warthogs** and started to stalk them. It seemed quite opportunistic but she was taking her time with the stalking. Whilst she was stalking she spooked a couple of **hyenas** which were sleeping on the edge of the water. The **hyenas** got up and ran off, which spooked the **warthogs** a little but the **hyenas** running away from the **lioness** made the **warthogs** move towards the **lion**. Which forced the **lioness** to pounce, but it was unsuccessful and in truth it seemed like a half-hearted hunt.

We moved on to a view point where we would have some lunch, on the way we found a pair of African fish eagles posing on a large acacia tree.

Just after lunch we rested for a while and drove around some parts of the park we hadn't seen before, but it was quiet in the heat of the day with not much going on wildlife wise. We saw many of the common species after lunch with **zebras, hippos, Thomson's gazelles, wildebeest** and **reedbuck**, bird wise we had a few goliath herons and kori bustards in the grasslands. We then came across a large troop of **baboons** marching from one patch of forest to another and around here we found a mixed group of **waterbuck, wildebeest, Thomson's gazelles** and **baboons**. On the way back out of the park we saw many more **elephants, giraffes** feeding nearby each other in thicker vegetation and then our last mammal of the day and the trip was a new one as we had a small group of **common dwarf mongoose** around the garden of the lodge.



Day 15 Nairobi***Travelling & Departure***

This morning we had a relaxed breakfast and left at around 10am and drove back to Nairobi and the airport for Rhoda and Joe to catch their return flight home.

31	African savanna hare	<i>Lepus victoriae</i>
32	Southern gerenuk	<i>Litocranius walleri</i>
33	African bush elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>
34	Black-backed jackal	<i>Lupulella mesomelas</i>
35	Gunther's dik-dik	<i>Madoqua guentheri</i>
36	Hinde's dik-dik	<i>Madoqua hindei</i>
37	Kirk's dik-dik	<i>Madoqua kirkii</i>
38	Little free-tailed bat	<i>Mops pumilus</i>
39	Banded mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>
40	Grant's gazelle	<i>Nanger granti</i>
41	Bright's gazelle	<i>Nanger notata</i>
42	Hairy slit-faced bat	<i>Nycteris hispida</i>
43	Golden klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus aureus</i>
44	Galla oryx	<i>Oryx gallarum</i>
45	Bat-eared fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>
46	Northern greater galago	<i>Otolemur garnettii</i>
47	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>
48	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
49	Olive baboon	<i>Papio anubis</i>
50	Yellow baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>
51	Ochre bush squirrel	<i>Paraxerus ochraceus</i>
52	East African springhare	<i>Pedetes surdaster</i>
53	Desert warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>
54	Common warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>
55	Bush pig	<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>
56	Rock hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>
57	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>
58	Bohor reedbuck	<i>Redunca redunca</i>
59	White-bellied lesser house bat	<i>Scotoecus albigula</i>
60	Cape buffalo	<i>Synceros caffer</i>
61	Common eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>
62	Northern greater kudu	<i>Tragelaphus chora</i>
63	Unstriped ground squirrel	<i>Xerus rutilus</i>

~20															
					1	14	24								
		1	5	1	33	4	19	24	~159	~113	~217	~149	~172		
4	1	10	19	8	2			2			1		1		
						3		3							
															3
					43	81	28	11							
	~20	~10	~10												
										~40					
3	2								~222	~171	~123	49	~216	12	
		~51	~69	~133	13	~53									
														2	
						2									
						4		2							
8			11												
	*														
	7	9	3	4		2	1				3	10	2		
						1									
		~160		~25	~99	~55	2								
									~540	5	~159	5	~140		
	1	1													
8															
						22		3							
7	11	14	27	46	2				21	~36	20	4	18		
				1											
					1		1								
		1													
									3	6	8	7	8		
			~5												
	16	~760	~350	~167	~75				~40	~50	~152	~112	~30		
	8	7	3												
											2				
					1	8	5	1							

76	Booted eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
77	Black-winged stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
78	Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
79	Wire-tailed swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
80	African fish eagle	<i>Icthyophaga vocifer</i>
81	White-throated robin	<i>Irania gutturalis</i>
82	Greater blue-eared starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>
83	Fischer's starling	<i>Lamprotornis fischeri</i>
84	Hildebrandt's starling	<i>Lamprotornis hildebrandti</i>
85	Ruppell's long-tailed starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuroptera</i>
86	Golden-bellied starling	<i>Lamprotornis regius</i>
87	Superb starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i>
88	Slate-coloured boubou	<i>Laniarius funebris</i>
89	Long-tailed fiscal	<i>Lanius cabanisi</i>
90	Northern fiscal	<i>Lanius humeralis</i>
91	Marabou stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>
92	Black-bellied bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>
93	Buff-crested bustard	<i>Lophotis gindiana</i>
94	Northern grey tit	<i>Melaniparus thruppi</i>
95	Eastern chanting goshawk	<i>Melierax poliopterus</i>
96	White-throated bee-eater	<i>Merops albicollis</i>
97	Little bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>
98	African green bee-eater	<i>Merops viridissimus</i>
99	Reed cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>
100	Lesser jacana	<i>Microparra capensis</i>
101	Yellow-billed kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
102	Rufous-naped lark	<i>Mirafra africana</i>
103	Flappet lark	<i>Mirafra rufocinnamomea</i>
104	African pied wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
105	Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
106	Northern ant-eater chat	<i>Myrmecocichla aethiops</i>
107	Hooded vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>
108	Helmeted guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
109	Namaqua dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>
110	Northern wheater	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>
111	Capped wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>
112	Crested francolin	<i>Ortygornis sephaena</i>
113	Parrot-billed sparrow	<i>Passer gongonensis</i>
114	Northern grey-headed sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>
115	Kenyan rufous sparrow	<i>Passer rufocinctus</i>

						1								
	~10									3	8	2		
~15				5					6	~35	~20	~20	13	2
~10	~10	2	13	~10	3		1		3		5	2		
			1	1					1	1	8	1	5	
					1									
		2	12	2		~23								
		6			2	1				~30				
										13	~35	~25	~30	
			1											
							5	3						
18	~38	~53	~91	~85	~25	42	~55	~15	~45	~60	3	~20	~70	~40
							2							
	2													
					1	1	1							
4	5	3			2				2	7	3	1		4
					1	6				1				
				1										
				1		1								
							1					1		
					2		1							
	2					1	1				1			1
2														
	3													
												2		
5							2							2
14														
~10		1	6	7										
1	2			1						4			2	
										2		1		
		5		3		1								
							1							
2	~54	~177	~165	~395		8	8		6	8	1			
					~39	~63	~46	5						
				2		2							2	
				3										
					5	3	10	15						
					8	2	4		2					
3				~50	~35							~15	~15	~15
	~10	~10		4				2						

116	Great white pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
117	White-breasted cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>
118	Lesser flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>
119	Greater flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>
120	African spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>
121	Yellow-billed stork	<i>Platalea flavipes</i>
122	Spur-winged goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>
123	Glossy ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
124	White-browed sparrow-weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>
125	Baglafaecht weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafaecht</i>
126	Lesser masked weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>
127	Chestnut weaver	<i>Ploceus rubiginosus</i>
128	Speke's weaver	<i>Ploceus spekei</i>
129	Vitalline masked weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>
130	White-starred robin	<i>Pogonocichla stellata</i>
131	Martial eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
132	Grey-capped social weaver	<i>Pseudonigrita arnaudi</i>
133	Black-capped social-weaver	<i>Pseudonigrita cabanisi</i>
134	Yellow-necked spurfowl	<i>Pternistis leucoscepus</i>
135	Chestnut-bellied sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>
136	African common bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
137	Red-billed quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>
138	Common avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
139	Two-banded courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>
140	Rosy-patched woodshrike	<i>Rhodophoneus cruentus</i>
141	Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>
142	African stone chat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>
143	Hammerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
144	Hottentot teal	<i>Spatula hottentota</i>
145	Laughing dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>
146	Ring-necked dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
147	Red-eyed dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
148	Common ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
149	Somali ostrich	<i>Struthio molybdophanes</i>
150	Northern crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>
151	Little grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
152	Mottled swift	<i>Tachymarptis aequatorialis</i>
153	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>
154	African sacred ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
155	Von der Decken's hornbill	<i>Tockus deckeni</i>

										18	19		~27	
	~15	3												
											~60			
									~50	~40	~260	12	~40	
	3									7	10	3	7	
	1	1			2									
										7				
										~55	~56		11	
			~40		~24	~10	17	3		~35		~40	~15	
			6											
7	~30				~1,000	~30	~3,000							
						~80	8							
	~15													
					~1,000		~15	100's						
	1	1												
				1			1				2			
			45	~20		~15	~50							
						2	2	3						
	4		5	11	6	36	17	13	7		2		8	
							4							
3	5		2				5							
						~450	~200		~120					~200
										1	3	2	2	
											2		1	
							1							
						2					5			
			1											
	3	2											3	2
												4		
2	5					~29	~29	12	3					~5
2	4	2	5	11	34	~55	~90	8	~40	~20	~34	~30	3	
	8		3				3		2					
	~41		4						2	12	45	1	~51	
						8	1	6						
			2	1										
											~10			
							5							
					1								1	
	3								8	9	23	15	~25	
						4	15							

Amphibians (* = heard or signs only / CT = camera trap only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Subdesert toad	<i>Sclerophrys xeros</i>

October														
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
										1				

Fishes (* = heard or signs only / CT = camera trap only)

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Sabaki Tilapia	<i>Oreochromis spilurus</i>

October														
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
												~70		

Photos from Martin Royle



Lion



Cheetah



Leopard



Black-backed Jackal



Bat-eared Fox



Spotted Hyena



Striped Hyena



White-tailed Mongoose



Somali Dwarf Mongoose



Common Dwarf Mongoose



Common Slender Mongoose



Banded Mongoose



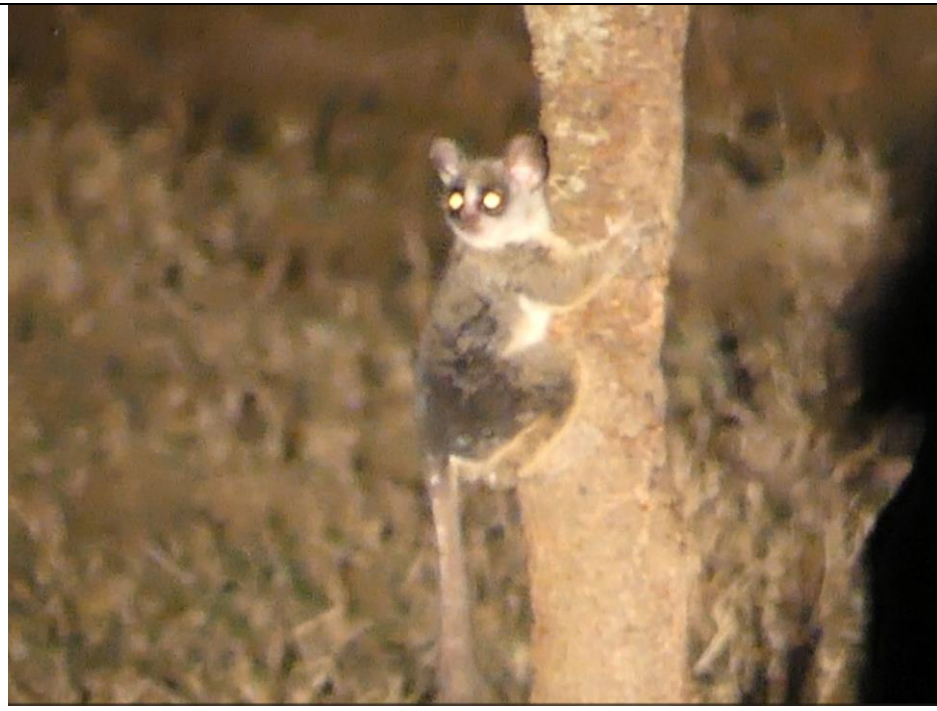
African Civet



Vervet Monkey



Yellow Baboon



Northern Lesser Galago



Common Impala



Grant's Gazelle



Bright's Gazelle



Northern Greater Kudu



Coke's Hartebeest



Lelwel



Defassa Waterbuck



Elippsen Waterbuck



Common Eland



Bohor Reedbuck



Steenbok



Eastern White-bearded Wildebeest



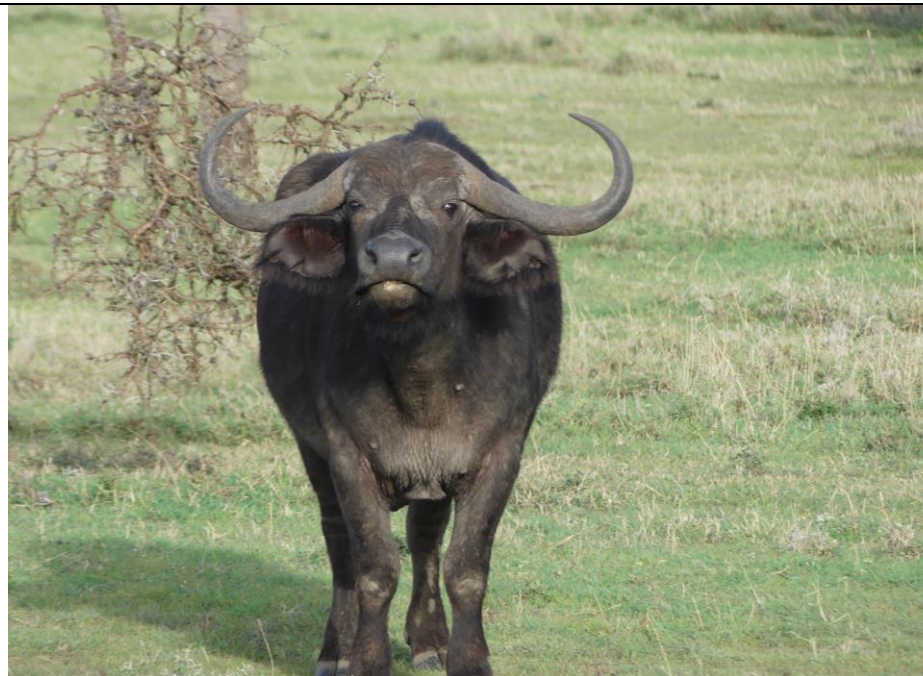
Galla Oryx



Southern Gerenuk



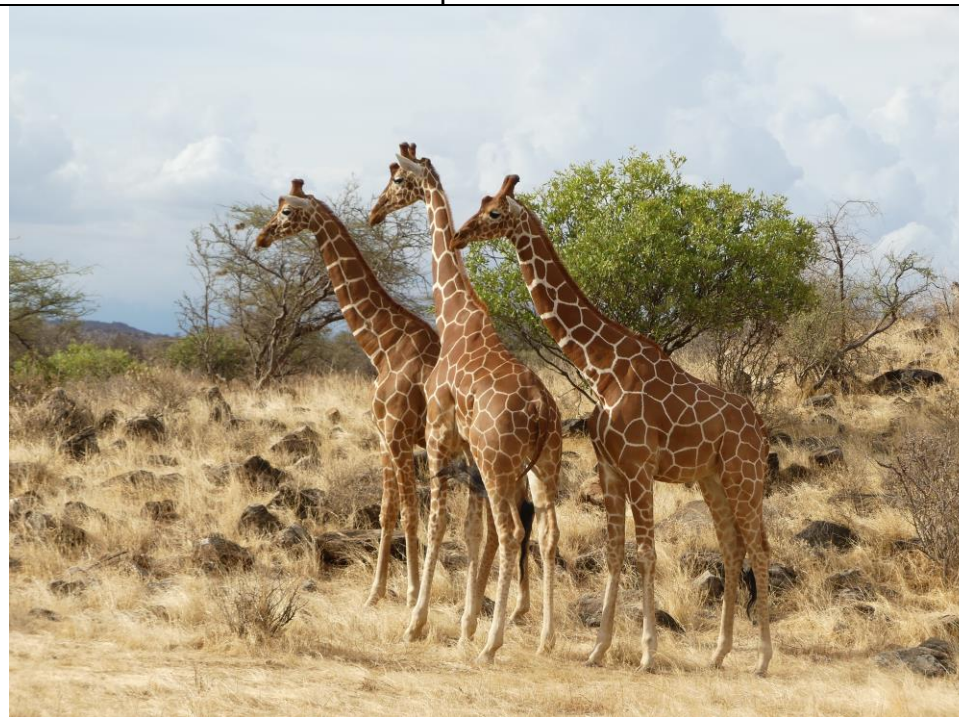
Kirk's Dik-dik



Cape Buffalo



Masai Giraffe



Reticulated Giraffe



Desert Warthog



Common Warthog



White Rhino



Northern White Rhino



Black Rhino



African Savanna Elephant



Common Hippo



Plain's Zebra



Grevy's Zebra



Unstriped Ground Squirrel



East African Springhare



Hairy Slit-faced Bat



Martial Eagle



Augur Buzzard



African Fish Eagle



Bataleur



Tawny Eagle



Wahlberg's Eagle



Pale Chanting Goshawk



Secretarybird



Lappet-faced Vulture



African White-backed Vulture



Ruppell's Griffon



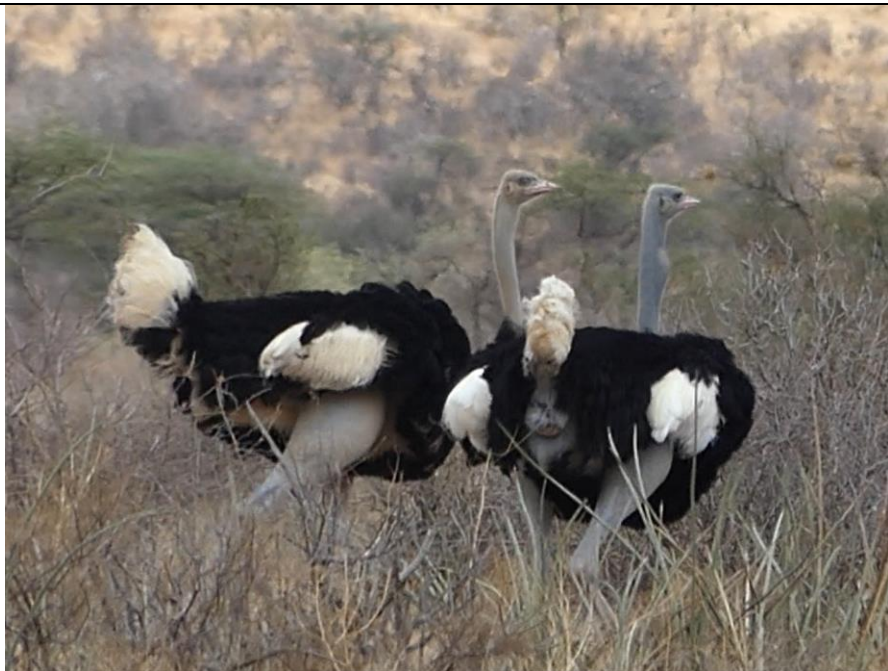
Hooded Vulture



Marsh Owl



Common Ostrich



Somali Ostrich



Northern Red-billed Hornbill



Von der Decken's Hornbill



Buff-crested Bustard



White-bellied Bustard



Vulturine Guineafowl



Marabou Stork



Grey Heron



Black-headed Heron



Common Squacco Heron



Goliath Heron



Great Egret



Little Egret



Grey-crowned Crane



Intermediate Egret



Hottentot Teal



Red-billed Teal



Hadedda Ibis



White-faced Whistling Duck



African Sacred Ibis



Glossy Ibis



Hammerkop



African Spoonbill



Avocet



Lesser Yellowlegs



Egyptian Goose



Great White Pelican



Knob-billed Coot



Spur-winged Goose



African Jacana



Common Ringed Plover



Crowned Lapwing



Long-toed Lapwing



Blacksmith Lapwing



Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse



African Malachite Kingfisher



Red-and-yellow Barbet



Little Bee-eater



Northern Crombec



White-bellied Go-away-bird



Northern Ant-eater Chat



Namaqua Dove



White-browed Sparrow-weaver



Chestnut Weaver



Hildebrandt's Starling



Golden-bellied Starling



African Five-lined Skink



Leopard Tortoise



Kenya Rock Agama



African Line Skink



Rufous-beaked Snake



Desert Toad