

Kenya May 20-25 2023 Lake Baringo, Kakamega Forest Reserve

Once more crossing north of the equator we arrived at our hotel on Lake Baringo mid-afternoon. We soon went out with our local guides and amongst our finds were four species of owl.

My interesting mammal observation was from the balcony of our room overlooking the lake as the sun was low. I saw a small Nile Crocodile floating in the muddy wavelets a bit offshore. As I watched it ducked underwater, and I waited, expecting it to resurface at some point. I saw an agitation beginning on the surface and watched for the reappearance.



Instead of a crocodile the head of a **Common Hippopotamus** erupted from the water, spouting like some freshwater whale. It immediately went under again, and I watched as it and two others roiled the water, heads popping up to explosively blow as they moved from my right to my left, probably heading to their nighttime feeding grounds.



The next day was full of birds, lizards, and scorpions, but in the afternoon near high cliffs I looked up, then used my binoculars, and saw an **Eastern Rock Hyrax** far above.



We also came upon an active colony of them in a more visable section.





The next day we drove to Kakamega Forest Reserve, a remnant of the equatorial rainforest further east. And we had rain that night.

The next morning monkeys were active, with both **Stuhlmann's Blue Monkeys**



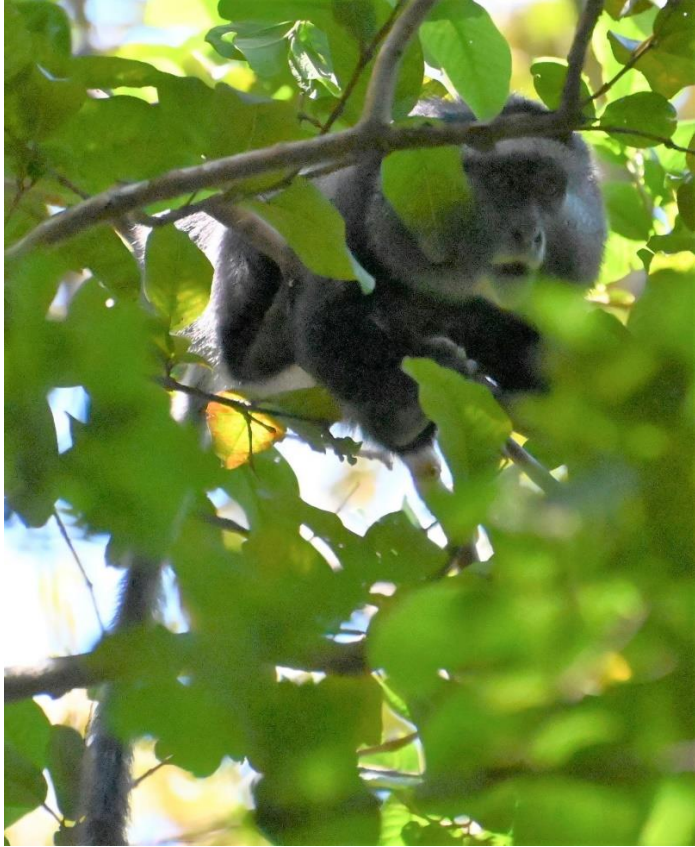
and **Mau Forest Guerezas**.



Joining them were **Red-Legged Sun Squirrels**.





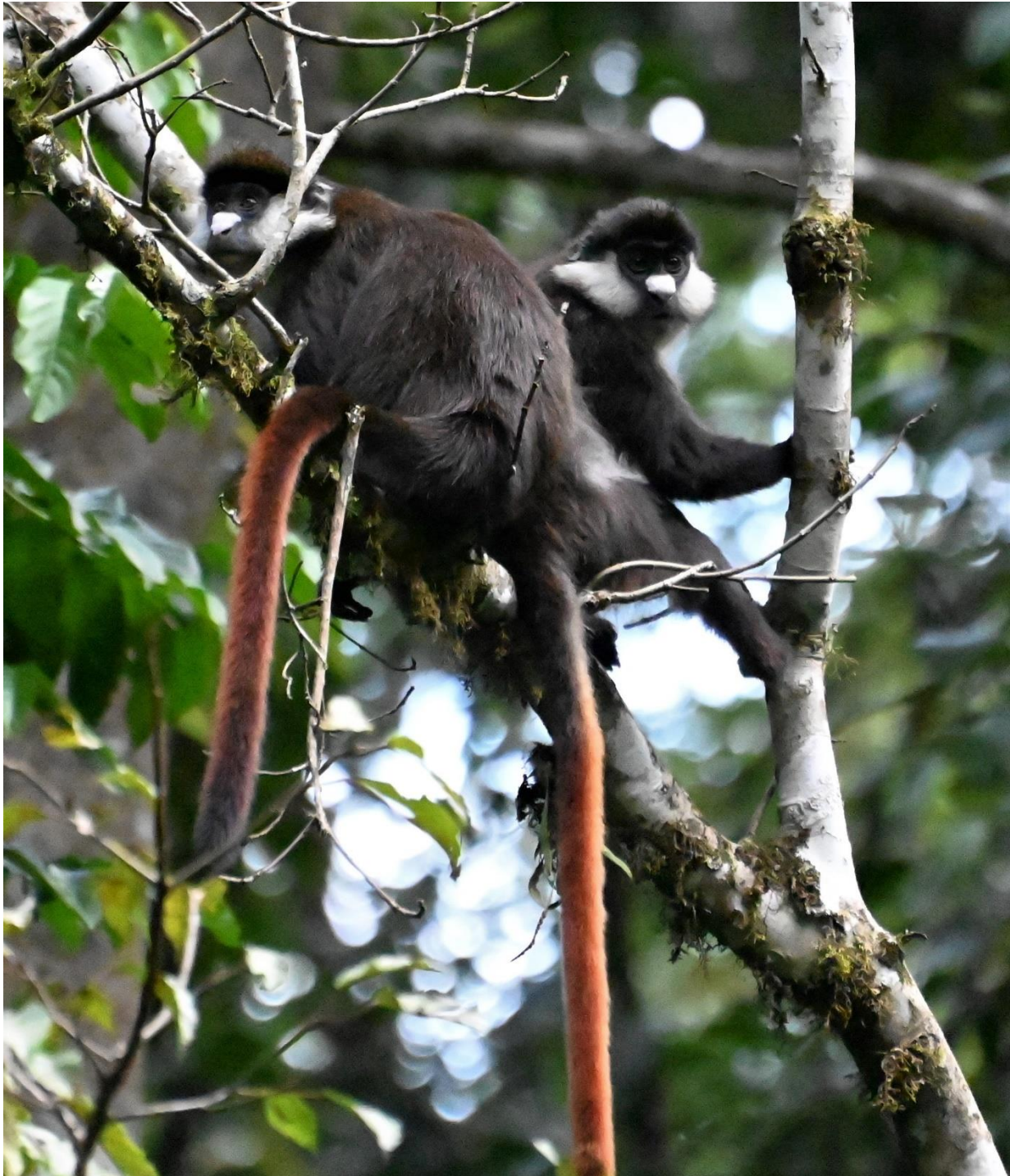


Stuhlmann's Blue Monkey

During a night walk around the grounds we found an **African Palm-Civet**.



Our final mammal finds the next day were **Schmidt's Red-tailed Monkeys**, both in the morning and afternoon, and **Forest Giant Squirrel**.



Next, Maasi Mara.

Mammal list for Lake Baringo

Common Hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*)

Eastern Rock Hyrax (*Procavia capensis johnstoni*)

Mammal list for Kakamega Forest Reserve

Stuhlmann's Blue Monkey (*Cercopithecus mitis stuhlmanni*)

Mau Forest Guereza (*Colobus guerza matschiei*)

Red-legged Sun Squirrel (*Heliosciurus rufobrachium*)

African Palm-Civet (*Nandinia binotata*)

Schmidt's Red-Tailed Monkey (*Cercopithecus ascanius schmidti*)

Forest Giant Squirrel (*Protoxerus stangeri*)