

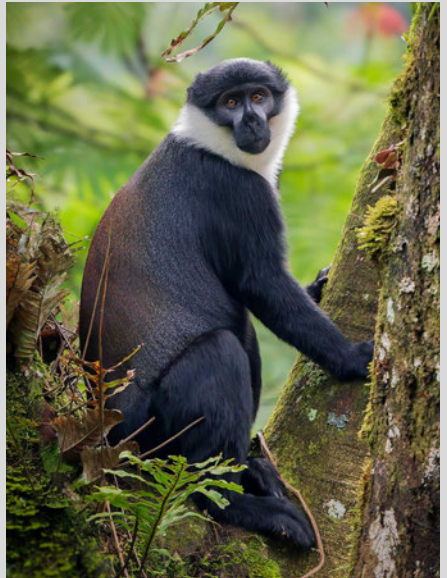
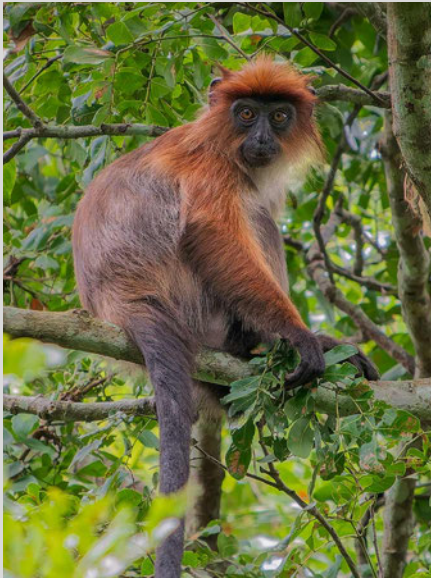
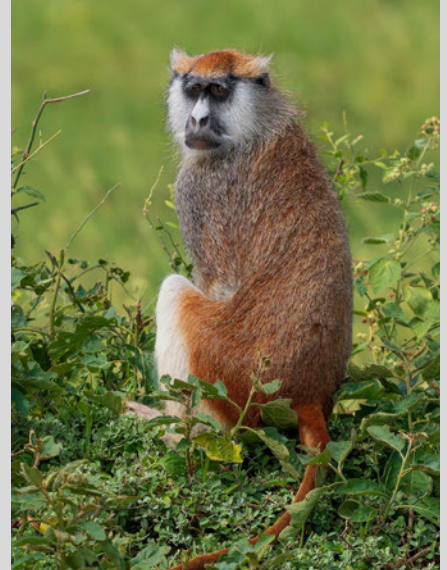


Ignacio Yúfera

FOTOGRAFÍA


UGANDA, SEPT-OCT 2024

A (mostly) primate photography trip organized and led by Harriet Kemigisha from Harrier Tours www.harriertours.com



Clockwise from top: Golden Monkey, Red-tailed Monkey, Patas Monkey, Angola Colobus, Semliki Red Colobus, L'Hoest's Monkey

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Background:

My first trip to Uganda was from Spain in 2004, on a birding tour organized by local company Access Uganda. In the next few years I visited the country several times, and together with the [Uganda Birdguides Club](#) we started the Uganda Birdguides Project, which for several years trained young birding and wildlife guides and provided them with books and binoculars, as well as an official diploma that certified them as legit guides (as birding became popular and started to attract big tourist numbers, many bogus “guides” took advantage of well-meaning visitors). One of the first graduates in the training program was **Harriet Kemigisha**, a young and exceptionally talented park ranger, then working in Kibale National Park.



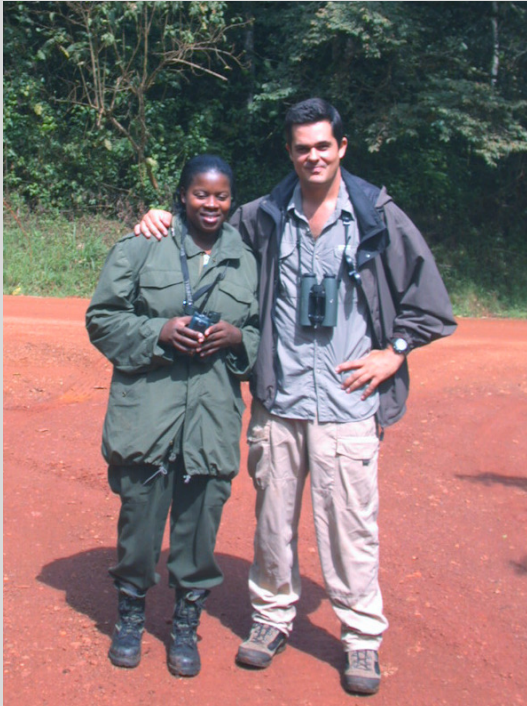
Left: with Uganda’s Minister of Tourism, 2009. Right: some of the first graduates of the Uganda Birdguides training program, 2007 (Harriet is the first from the left)

A few years later I moved to Canada, then to Panama where I now live, and the Neotropics became my main area of interest and travel.

In early 2024, **Jon Hall** from [Mammalwatching.com](#) contacted me and told me to listen to the latest Mammalwatching podcast: in it, Jon and **Charles Foley** interviewed Harriet Kemigisha, and she told in great detail how at the time of my first visit she had just re-discovered the presence of **Green-breasted Pitta**, one of Africa’s most elusive and sought-after birds, in Kibale National Park, after decades without records of the species. When I heard the news I changed my itinerary and went straight to Kibale, where Harriet took me and local guide Hassan Mutebi deep into the forest and, sure enough, we found not one but two Green-breasted Pittas. The sightings made big news, and overnight Kibale became a hotspot for world birders. She also spoke about the Uganda Bird Guides Project and her very successful career: in the following years she became the founder and owner of Harrier Tours and the Guereza Canopy Lodge, and a top reference in birding and wildlife watching in Uganda.

You can listen to the podcast [here](#) (S2, E15)

Listening to the podcast brought great memories from Uganda, and it had been way too long since my last visit, so I contacted Harriet to reconnect and catch up, and organize a 2-week trip. She managed to clear her busy schedule so she could lead the tour herself, and we set the dates at the end of October, when the rain season begins.



With Harriet as a young park ranger in Kibale in 2004, and as the proud owner of Harrier Tours in 2024.

My main interest was to get the best possible photographs of as many primate species as we could get from the Uganda list, as well as trying to re-create our Green-breasted Pitta experience, this time with photos (I was just taking digiscoped images back then), plus a few other key mammal, bird and reptile species. By choosing the early rain season I was hoping to get cloudy skies and overcast light, with the added benefits of green landscapes and fewer tourists. It worked, mostly: we found very few vehicles even in the most popular parks like Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth, and with a few exceptions the light was nice and soft during most of the day. Rain was never a serious impediment, although some walking trails became very muddy and even downright flooded. Temperatures were mild and very pleasant throughout, with the possible exception of chilly nights and early mornings in Bwindi.

The vehicle for the whole tour was one of Harrier Tours' open-top safari Toyota Land Cruisers, a very popular model across Uganda, expertly driven by Joel, a long-time associate of Harriet's. From the very start I was pleasantly surprised at the huge improvement in Uganda's road network, which made the trip much more smooth and comfortable than my past visits.



Little Bee-eater (Merops pusillus), Lake Mburo National Park

With my targets in mind, Harriet designed an itinerary from September 22 to October 9. Traveling at the end of the high tourist season meant that we were able to improvise and change the itinerary on the go, according to conditions of the different sites and the latest reports from Harriet's excellent network of local guides and park rangers.

- Day 1: Arrival, overnight in Entebbe
- Day 2: Mabamba Swamp, Entebbe Botanical Gardens
- Day 3: Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, Murchison Falls National Park
- Day 4: Murchison Falls NP
- Day 5: Drive to Kibale National Park
- Day 6: Kibale NP, Bigodi
- Day 7: Kibale NP
- Day 8: Semliki National Park
- Day 9: Semliki NP
- Day 10: Drive to Queen Elizabeth National Park
- Day 11: Queen Elizabeth NP
- Day 12: Drive to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest
- Day 13: Bwindi Impenetrable Forest
- Day 14: Mgahinga National Park
- Day 15: Back to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest (Rushaga)
- Day 16: Drive to Lake Mburo National Park
- Day 17: Lake Mburo NP
- Day 18: Drive to Nabugabo Forest, back to Entebbe

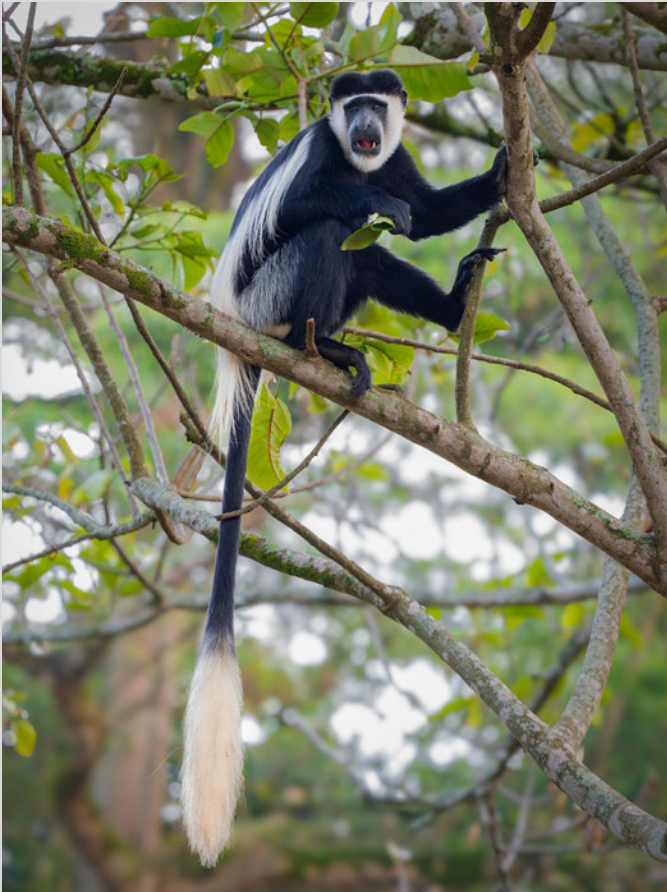
Most of the places I visited have been described in great detail on trip reports available at the [Uganda section](#) of Mammalwatching.com. Rather than a trip diary, what follows is a catalogue of some of the images I took on the trip, with comments on key species and places.



Shoebill (Balaeniceps rex), Mabamba Swamp



Mabamba Swamp is the almost mandatory start to any birding/wildlife tour to Uganda, due to its proximity to Entebbe. An extensive papyrus wetland on the northern shore of Lake Victoria, it's well known as the most reliable place in Africa to see Shoebill, one of the continent's most iconic birds. I was pleasantly surprised to see that Shoebills seemed to have become quite used to canoes and people, and were much more approachable than in my last visit, when sightings were usually distant or of flushed flying birds. I was treated to very close and open views of an adult bird who totally ignored our canoe, and even made an (unsuccessful) attempt at catching prey.



*Guereza Colobus (Colobus guereza),
Entebbe Botanical Gardens*



Entebbe Botanical Gardens is a large and popular park very close to the town of Entebbe (site of Uganda's international airport), made of open woodland with a few dense forest patches, with very nice views over Lake Victoria. Despite its name the place is barely landscaped or manicured, except for a few lawns and flowerbeds near the entrance. Like I remembered, it offers excellent birding and has a sizable population of quite habituated and approachable **Guereza Colobus**. Photographing arboreal monkeys in a forest is challenging even in the best light conditions, and things are made much easier when they aren't afraid of people.

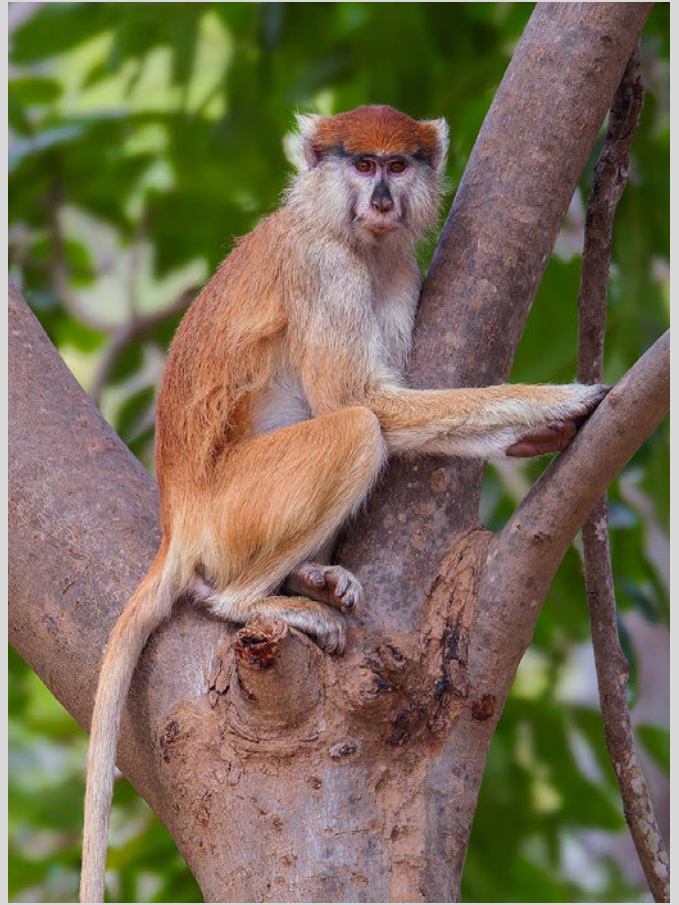


Top: *White Rhinoceros* (*Ceratotherium simum*); bottom: *Nile Bushbuck* (*Tragelaphus bor*), Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary



On the way to the Murchison Falls we made a stop for lunch at **Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary**, where a herd of over 40 **White Rhinoceros** are kept, awaiting their release in the wild: both white and black rhinos were hunted to extinction in Uganda, and a big effort is being made to reintroduce them. We took a guided walk inside the reserve, and found and spent some time with a small herd of White Rhino taking a mud bath under the midday sun.

The open woodland at the reserve's entrance had an unusually large number of **Nile Bushbuck**, one of my favorite African antelopes. They seemed so common that I thought I'd find more later on, and didn't bother much about photographing them. Needless to say, I did not see another male for the remainder of the trip.



Patas Monkey. Left: eastern race (Erythrocebus patas pyrrhonotus), Murchison Falls; right & bottom: western race (E. p. patas), Toubacouta, Senegal



Murchison Falls National Park is Uganda's largest and most popular park, with a huge variety and quantity of game and bird life that can compare the super famous reserves of Kenya and Tanzania. My main target was the very attractive eastern race of **Patas Monkey**, which I was really looking forward to photograph and compare to the West African race that I'm familiar with from Senegal and Togo.



Patas Monkey (Erythrocebus patas phyrronotus): adult male standing guard over the troupe's young, Murchison Falls

We found a large troop of **Patas Monkey** scattered over a large area of savanna, with an adult male keeping an eye on the surroundings using termite mounds as vantage points, while the rest foraged and played in the fresh green grass.

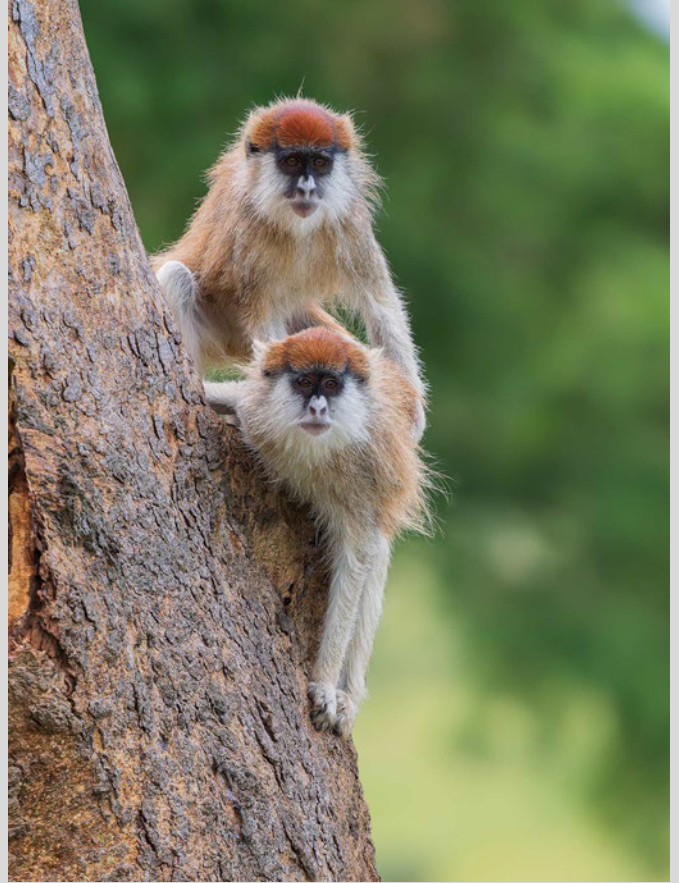
The next morning we found a different troop in a more densely wooded area, where they had probably spent the night. Patas Monkeys are largely terrestrial and rarely climb trees except to sleep or escape from danger. They mostly rely on speed (they're the fastest running primates) to escape predators, which in Murchison Falls are mainly **Leopard**, **Martial Eagle** and **Side-striped Jackal**, all of which we saw on our game drives.



Young Patas Monkeys playing and mock-fighting under the watchful eye of an adult male.



Patas Monkey (Erythrocebus patas phyrronotus), vigilant adult male. Patas Monkeys spend most of their time in open flat ground, and often stand up to scan their surroundings over the tall grass.



Patas Monkey (Erythrocebus patas pyrrhonotus). Top left: notice the very short toes, adapted to a terrestrial life. Bottom: an adult male has an almost greyhound-like build





*Murchison Falls is not known as a particularly good place for **Leopard**, but I was lucky and enjoyed a great and unexpected encounter with a beautiful female.*



Uganda Kob (Kobus kob thomasi), female with newborn calf and adult males



It was calving season in Murchison Falls, and we witnessed the first steps of several newborn **Uganda Kob**. This very handsome antelope was the most common herbivore in the park, together with **Sudan Oribo**, **Defassa Waterbuck**, **Lelwe Hartebeest**, **Common Warthog**, and a very healthy population of **Rothschild's Giraffe**.

Game drives also produced a **Side-striped Jackal**, a young male **Lion** and a distant **Lioness**. On both nights I spent in the park I saw a **Bunyoro Rabbit** from my tent's deck.



Top: Rothschild's Giraffe (Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi), male & female. Bottom, left: Side-striped Jackal (Lupulella adusta). Right: Martial Eagle (Polemaetus bellicosus), immature





Top: Lelwel Hartebeest (*Alcephalus lelwel*). Bottom: Sudan Oribi (*Ourebia montana*) male & female





Top: *Silverbird* (*Empidonax semipartitus*);
bottom: *Pousargue's Mongoose* (*Dologale dybowskii*)

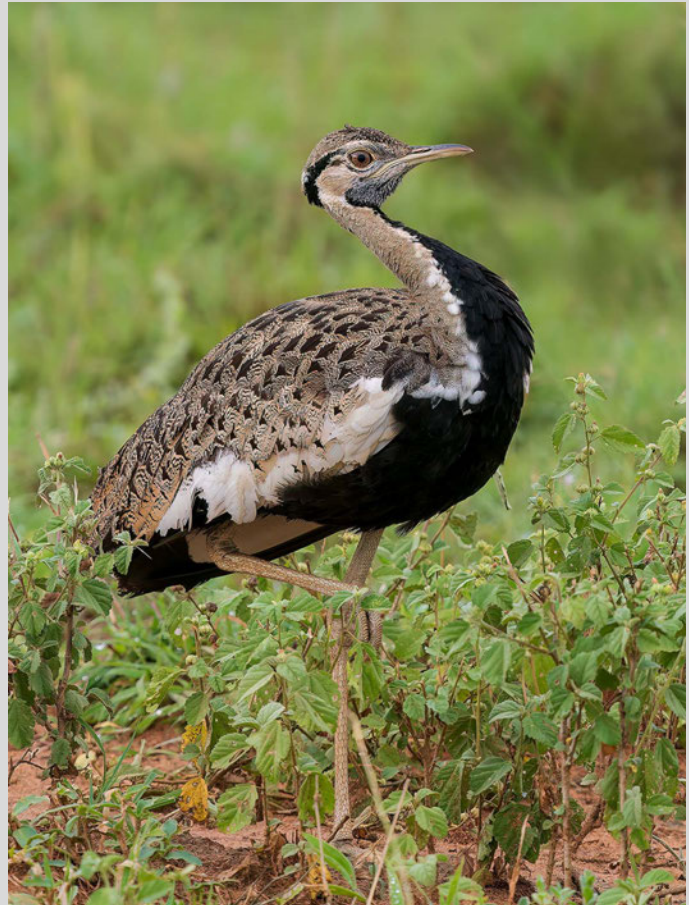


My two main avian targets for Murchison Falls were **Northern Carmine Bee-eater** and **Silverbird**, a beautiful and very distinctive Old World flycatcher that I remembered being quite common in the open woodland and bush around the hotel where I was staying on my only previous visit. Unfortunately, the bee-eaters were very few and perched only high up in trees, offering very poor photo opportunities as silhouettes against the bright white sky. We did see several Silverbirds, and although they kept refusing to sit still on decent perches I managed to get a couple of images.

While driving in search of birds, we came upon two sizeable groups of very shy **Pousargue's Mongoose** crossing the trail at full speed. They never gave us a chance of getting close, and only one individual stayed in the middle of the trail for a few seconds. Initially I took them for Banded Mongoose, but Harriet told me about this poorly-known species that had been first noticed in the park by Jon Hall.



Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill (Bucorvus abyssinicus), female (top) and male.



Black-bellied Bustard (Eupodotis melanogaster)



Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill stood out among the varied and numerous birdlife in Murchison Falls. Pairs and family groups patrolling the savannawere a frequent sight during game drives.



Robust Chimpanzee (Pan troglodytes), Kibale Forest (photo taken in 2007)



Ashy-red Colobus (Ptilocolobus pethrosceles), Kibale Forest

Kibale National Park is known mainly for its large population of habituated **Robust Chimpanzees**, which provide one of the most popular wildlife activities in Uganda: the park's headquarters was the only place where we encountered large numbers of cars and visitors during the trip, as they gathered to be briefed for the Chimp-tracking experience, which I skipped this time. My main targets in Kibale were the "lesser" species of primate that share the forest with the Chimpanzees, (and are frequently consumed by them), as well as the coveted **Green-breasted Pitta**.



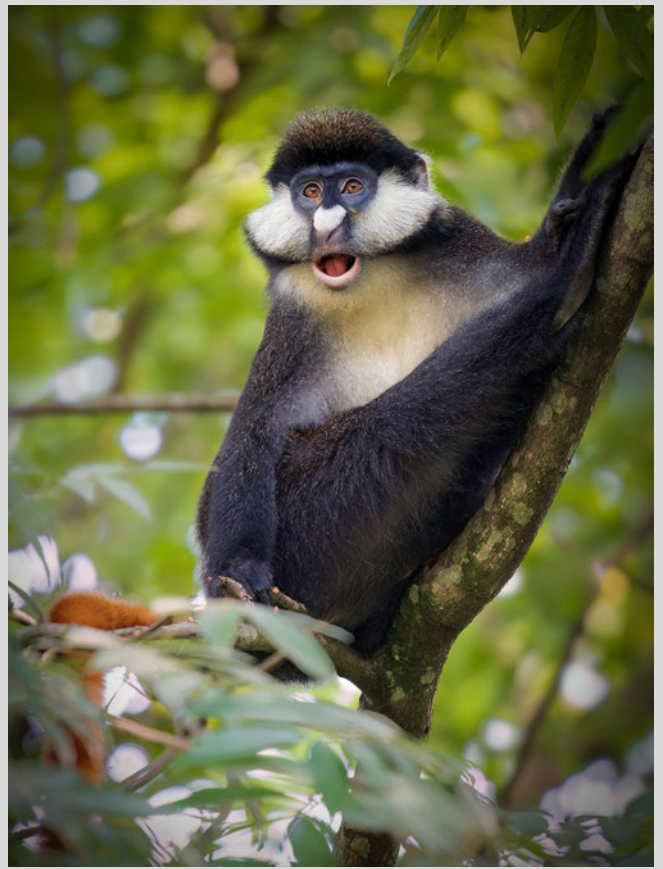
The Green-breasted Pitta team

Harriet had carefully arranged the Green-breasted Pitta search: escorted by two armed park rangers we took a long hike deep inside the forest, to an area where one of Harriet's birding guide trainees had heard the bird call a couple days before. During our hike we had a brief encounter with a **Forest Elephant**, and had to wait until he crossed the trail.



Green-breasted Pitta (Pitta reichenowi), Kibale Forest

It took several attempts and long waits at different spots, but finally a stunning **Green-breasted Pitta** male showed up. He couldn't have chosen a better perch, showing beautifully for several minutes in an open branch in a forest clearing, and even performed his peculiar hopping display.



Red-tailed Monkey (Cercopithecus ascanius schmidtii), Kibale Forest



The great-looking white-nosed subspecies of **Red-tailed Monkey** ranges from DR Congo to Uganda and W Kenya. In Kibale they're the most common and conspicuous monkey.

On a previous trip to Uganda I was surprised to see them very relaxed around Chimpanzees, even foraging close to them, despite the latter's well-known monkey-hunting tendencies. Harriet told me that Chimps rarely bother trying to chase the small and hyperactive Red-tails, preferring the big, slower-moving **Ashy-red Colobus**; also, the Colobus tend to stay together and try to defend each other when attacked, which makes them easier to round up and catch.



Red-tailed Monkeys are extremely active and fast-moving, and rarely stay put for more than a few seconds, especially in exposed branches which they seem to instinctively avoid. Getting clear, well exposed images in the ever changing light conditions of the forest can be quite a challenge. Photographing them requires spending as much time with them as they will allow, something a little easier in Kibale where they're relatively habituated to people.

Harriet is the most knowledgeable guide in Uganda (and probably the whole of Africa) for **African Golden Cat**, and trying to find it in Kibale was included in the initial itinerary. However, reported guerrilla activity across the border with DR Congo made that sector of the park off-limits during my visit.



Left: the sixth sense that tells all animals the exact second when you're pressing the shutter button seems particularly well-developed in monkeys.

Right: Red-tailed Monkey (Cercopithecus ascanius schmidtii), mother and suckling infant. Like in most African guenons, this species shows exclusive maternal care.



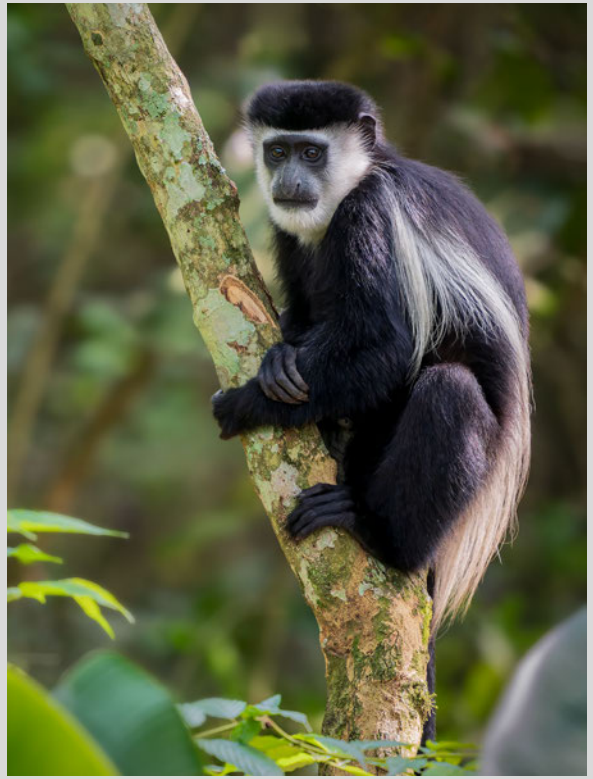
Above: big dominant male Ashy-red Colobus (*Piliocolobus tephrosceles*), with almost Chimp-like facial features. Kibale National Park. Below: female



Colobus monkeys feed mainly on leaves, a low-energy food that makes them relatively slow-moving. They do show a much more relaxed attitude than the fruit-eating **Red-tailed** and **Vervet monkeys** that also live in Kibale. The three species, plus **Guereza Colobus**, share the same habitat and frequently forage together.

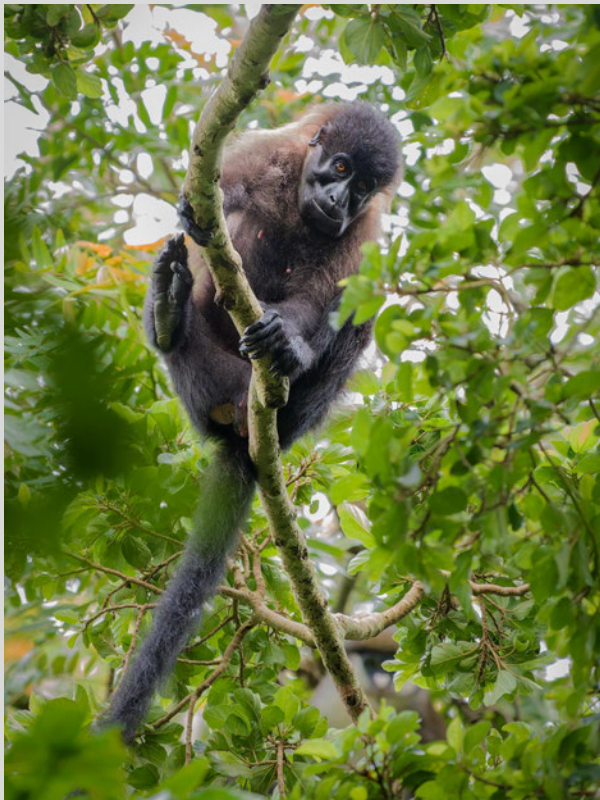
Ashy-Red Colobus are the preferred prey of hunting Chimpanzees, to the point that a study from Yale University ([Teelen, 2007](#)) shows a marked decline in the Ashy-Red Colobus population of the Ngogo sector of Kibale, caused by the highly effective hunting raids by Chimps, which kill 6-12% of the local Colobus population annually (!)

The Ngogo Chimps have been extensively studied for years, and are the subject of the excellent Netflix documentary [Chimp Empire](#).



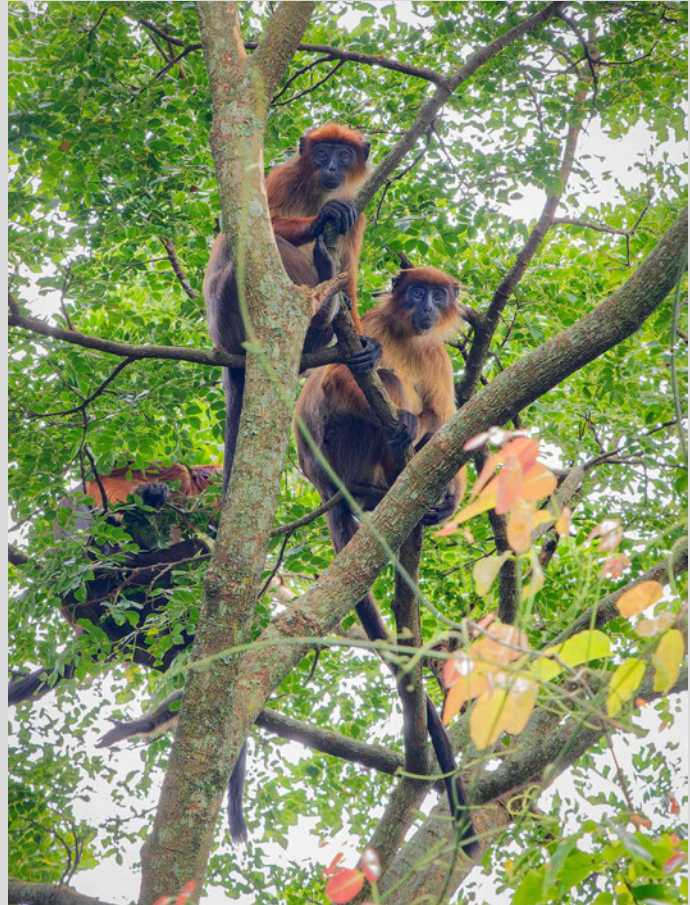
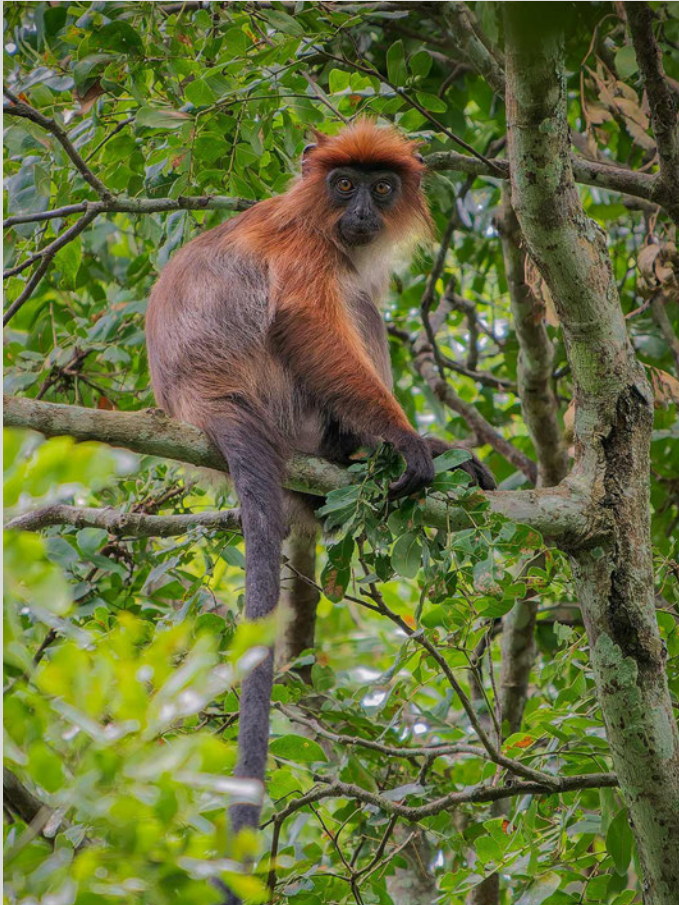
The four species of primate frequently seen together in Kibale: from top, clockwise: Red-tailed Monkey (Cercopithecus ascanius), Guereza Colobus (Colobus guereza), Vervet Monkey (Chlorocebus pygerythrus), Ashy-red Colobus (Piliocolobus tephrosceles)





Uganda Grey-cheeked Mangabeys (*Lophocephus ugandae*) kept to themselves and we never saw them sharing space with other monkeys. We found a family group resting on the forest edge, and were treated to a great scene where a female tried to keep up with 3-4 boisterous youngsters that used her as their playground.

We did see **De Brazza's Monkeys** in Semliki, but they honored their reputation for being very shy and it was impossible to get within workable distance for photos. Apparently they sometimes relax a little around trees in fruit, but never to the extent of other species.



Semliki Red Colobus (*Piliocolobus semlikiensis*), *Semliki Forest*



Another primate with a contested taxonomy, the rare and vulnerable **Semliki Red Colobus** is found mostly in DR Congo, with a small population reaching into Uganda.

A team of local park rangers had located a troop in an area deep inside Semliki forest, which required a long hike following muddy and in some stretches totally flooded trails. As we crossed a relatively open area of the forest, a **Crowned Eagle** (*Stephanoaetus coronatus*) captured a young **Guereza Colobus** on a tree top, right in front of us.



Red-chested Sunbird (Cinnyris erythrocerca)



White-throated Bee-eater (Merops albicollis), immature

While in Kibale-Semliki I stayed at the very nice and comfortable **Guereza Canopy Lodge**, owned and operated by Harriet's company. Located within very convenient distance from the main sites, its gardens are full of birds and other wildlife. Apparently, **Forest Elephants** can be seen in the forest bordering the property. I'd love to visit again with more time to explore the trails and photograph garden birds.



Blue-headed Tree Agama (Acanthocercus ugandaensis)



View from the deck at Guereza Canopy Lodge



Top: Troop of Banded Mongoose (Mungos mungo) with a radio-collared member, part of a research project in Queen Elizabeth National Park.



Giant Forest Hog (Hylochoerus meinertzhageni), Queen Elizabeth NP

Queen Elizabeth National Park is known as a reliable place to find **Giant Forest Hog**, which we did on two occasions during game drives. There were reports of **Red River Hog** coming to scavenge behind the kitchen at the Bush Lodge where we were staying (Harriet chose it for that reason). The lodge staff kept an eye for them, but sadly no hogs showed up during my stay.

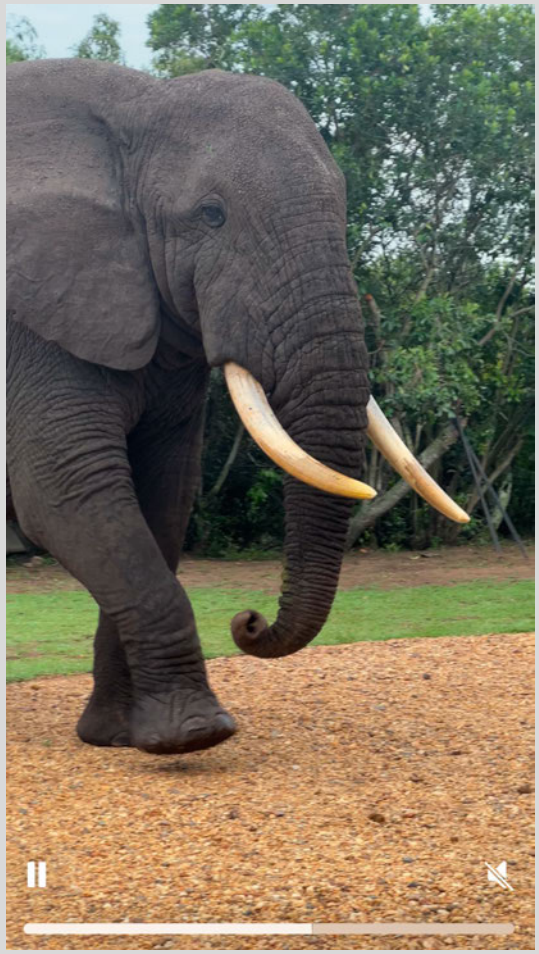
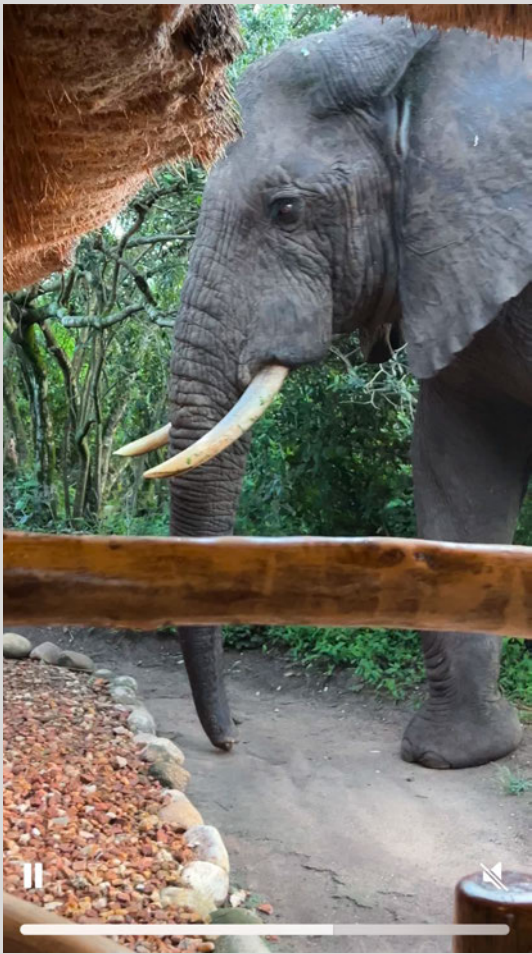


As usual with safari lodges, the tented Bush Lodge in Queen Elizabeth NP was very good for birds. The **Snow-headed Robin-Chat** that had his territory next to my tent had one of the most beautiful and varied bird songs I've heard anywhere, and treated me to a lovely serenade every morning and evening.



Clockwise from top: *Crowned Hornbill* (*Tockus alboterminatus*), *Grey-headed Kingfisher* (*Halcyon leucocephala*), *Snow-headed Robin-Chat* (*Cossypha niveicapilla*), *Black-headed Gonolek* (*Laniarius erythrogaster*).

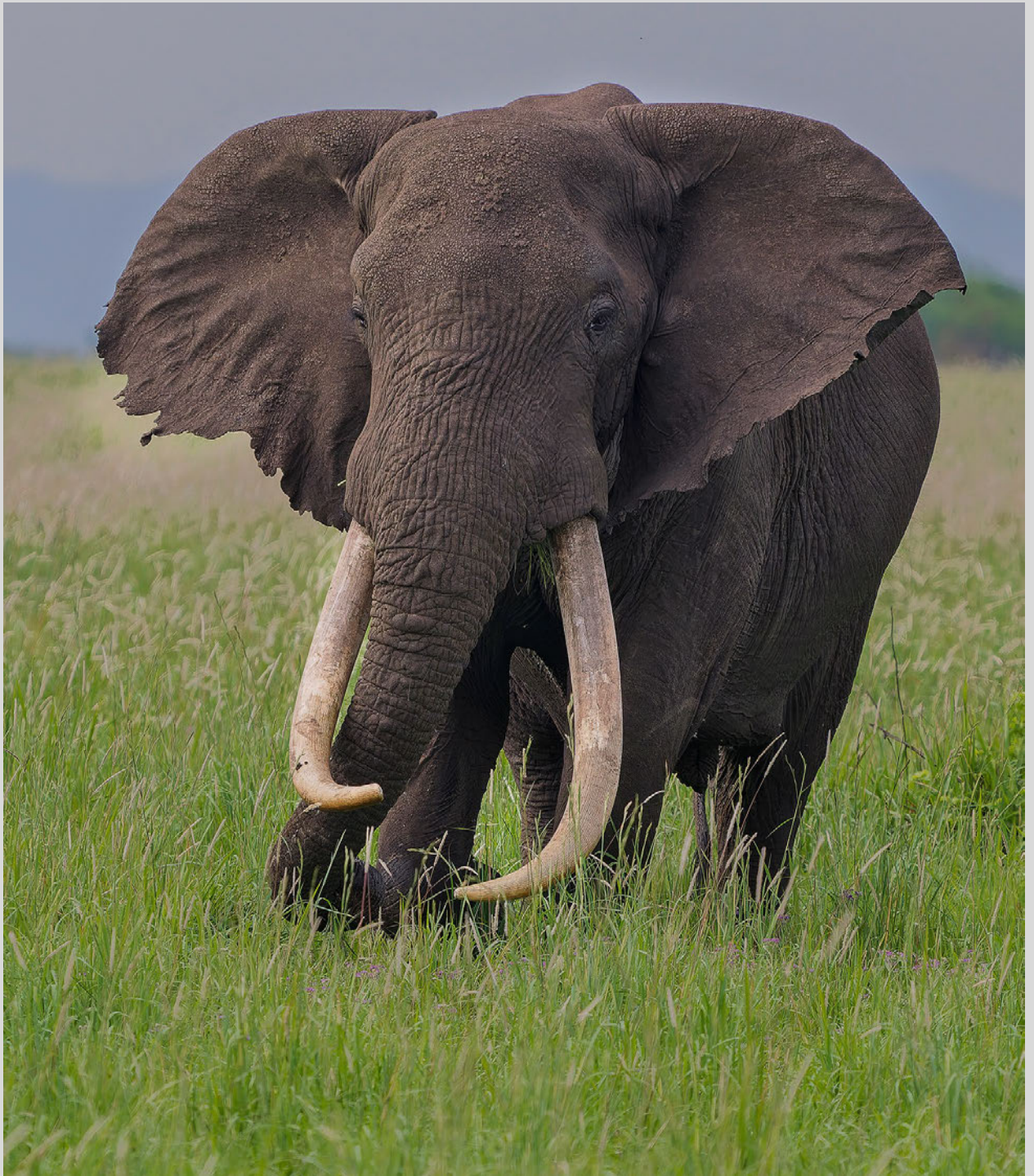




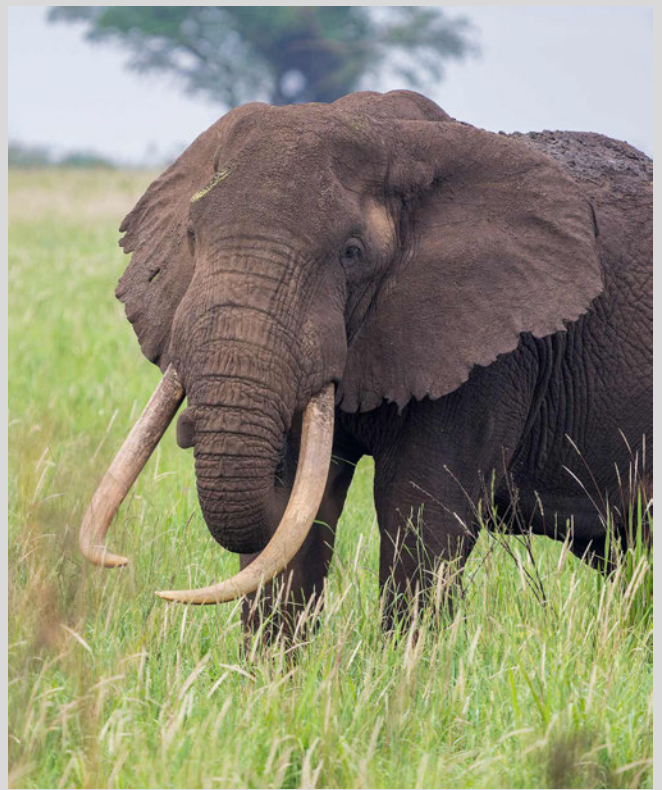
Video captures from a few casual encounters with bull **elephants** at the Bush Lodge in Queen Elizabeth National Park, from my tent's deck and on the dining-breakfast area. Hippos were also frequently heard at night, which prevented walking around the very promising lodge grounds.



The only nocturnal wildlife I could safely enjoy was a **Four-lined Banana Frog** (*Afrixalus quadrivittatus*) that I found right by my tent.

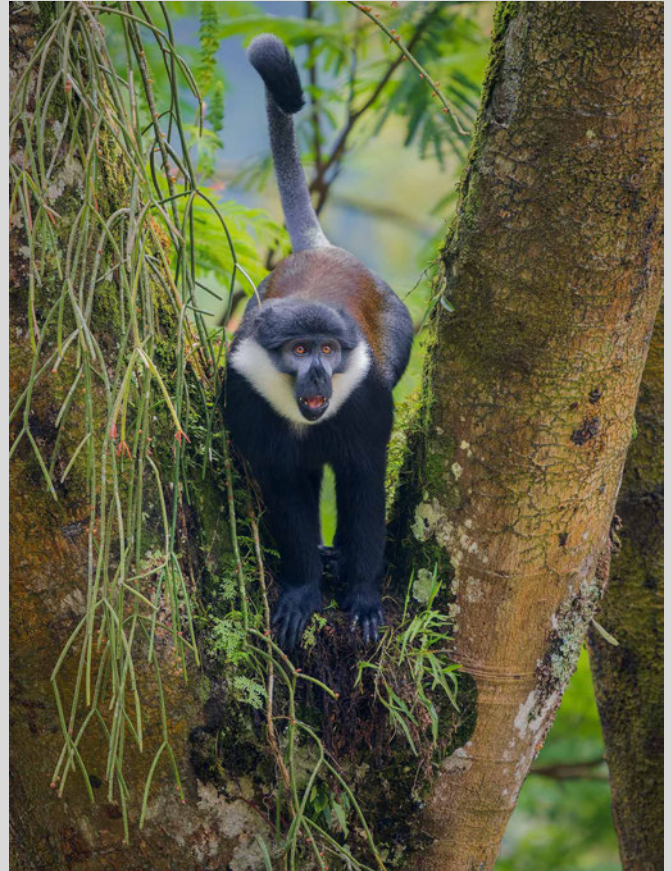
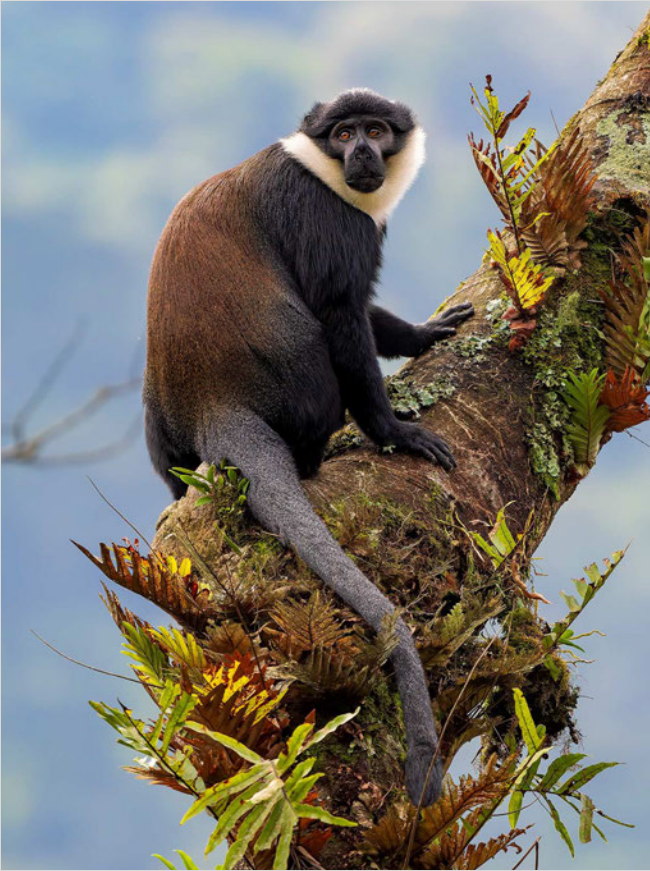


Bush Elephants were among my main targets for Queen Elizabeth. I wanted to find and photograph some of the great tuskers that I knew live inside the park, far less known than the over-photographed, iconic big ones from Amboseli in Kenya. Our game drives were fully dedicated to finding them, and we scouted all the areas known to be frequented by elephants; we saw many, including some sizable younger males, but the really big ones tend to stay away from the herds and were nowhere to be seen. Finally, on our last morning as we were leaving the park we came upon two huge male tuskers grazing together in an open grassland. Perhaps not as enormous as the ones from Kenya, but truly spectacular and the largest I've ever seen so far in Africa.



Bush Elephant (Laxodonta africana): two male tuskers from Queen Elizabeth National Park, the second one with a distinctive abscess on his trunk.





Top: L'Hoest's Monkey (Allochrocebus lhoesti). Bottom: Blue Monkey (Cercopithecus mitis).



Bwindi Impenetrable Forest is the other primate hotspot in Uganda, known primarily as the main place to see Eastern Gorillas. It's also among the few accessible places in Africa to find such interesting species as **L'Hoest's Monkey** and **Blue Monkey**. Both are usually common around the areas frequented by visitors in Bwindi, but there had been some heavy rain right before our arrival and apparently the monkeys had retreated inside the forest. Finding them took an unusually long time, but once again Harriet spread the word among her many local contacts and we were directed to a few individuals.



L'Hoest's Monkey (Allochrocebus lhoesti), Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. Lone males, like this one near a rangers post in the Ruhija sector, are often seen foraging apart from the troops.

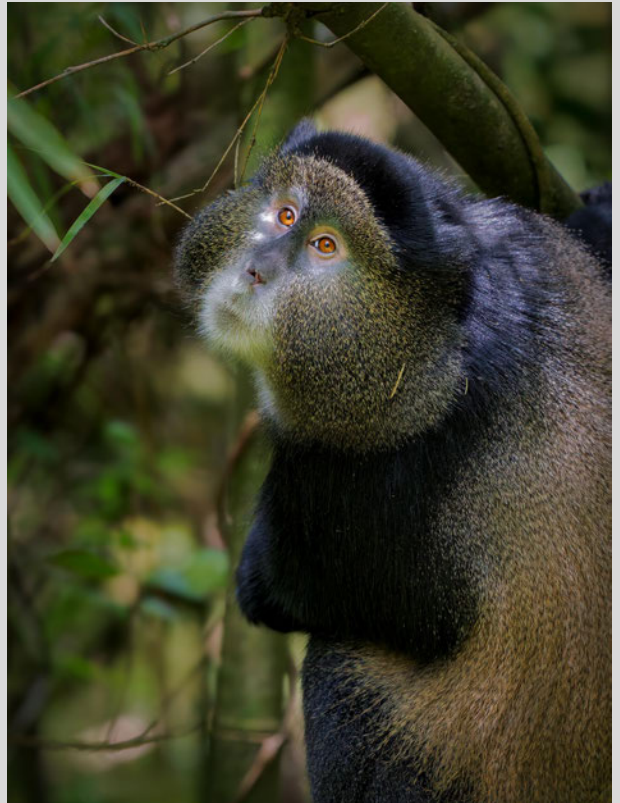


Mgahinga National Park is on the Ugandan side of the Ruwenzori Mountains, and it's the other Gorilla tracking site in the country apart from Bwindi. The other popular activity in the park is a long hike up into the bamboo forest, to spend time with a habituated population of **Golden Monkey**. As with so many African primates, their taxonomy is disputed and depending on which authority you follow, this is either a full species (*Cercopithecus kandti*) or a subspecies of the widespread **Blue Monkey** (*Cercopithecus mitis*).

On my last trip to Mgahinga in 2007, the habituation project was in its very early stages. I made the long trek up the mountain and we did find the monkeys, but they were still very shy and I all got were a few glimpses through the bamboo. So I was really looking forward to repeat the experience in better conditions, and I wasn't disappointed: since 2007 the monkeys have become totally habituated to humans and completely ignore people.



The hike to the bamboo forest where the monkeys were feeding and playing took over two hours, and it was high noon and very sunny by the time I got there. The light inside the forest was a nightmare, but the experience of being surrounded by dozens of these beautiful monkeys was just awesome.





On a previous trip to the Mgahinga/ Ruwenzori area I failed to find a **Johnston's Chameleon** (*Trioceros johnstoni*), one of Africa's coolest reptiles, and hoped to remedy that this time. By the time of my return from the Golden Monkey hike, Harriet had located a beautiful male with the help of local rangers, close to the entrance of the park.

This species is restricted to the mountain and foothill forests of the Albertine Rift, and is often confused with the larger Jackson's Chameleon from Kenya and Tanzania.



Eastern Gorilla (Gorilla beringei), Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. Left and bottom: adult females; right: silverback male, named Kaharata.



In my previous trips I had seen the world-famous **Eastern Gorillas** at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest several times, and this time I wanted to cross to Rwanda for a different experience. Gorillas in Rwanda's Volcanoes National Park look quite different from those in Bwindi (it's been suggested that they may be a different subspecies), and apparently the terrain is usually more open and makes for better photographic opportunities (Bwindi is called Impenetrable for a reason). Unfortunately, starting mid-October there was a serious outbreak of the very nasty Marburg virus in Rwanda, with the epicenter in the capital Kigali, which advised against traveling to the country. So instead of Rwanda, Harriet made last-minute arrangements and signed me up for the 4-hour "Gorilla habituation experience" in the Rushaga sector of Bwindi, that allows for a longer time spent with the gorillas and turned out to be an excellent choice.



Silverback Kaharata, leader of the Bikingi family, reached the position after killing the previous title holder. That fight must have been something to behold.

Once again it paid to be traveling in the low season, and there were only two other participants in my group. We followed a team of trackers that were working with a family of nine Gorillas, named the **Bikingi** group, and very soon found them foraging in a steep and very slippery forested hillside, bordering agricultural land. Judging from their behavior, they were already quite habituated to people.



The Bikingi family group spent the last part of the morning resting and grooming in a small forest of introduced pine trees.

The only infant in the group was held by an old female, who apparently couldn't produce enough quality milk. Sadly, the baby was clearly undernourished, much too small for its age, and wasn't expected to survive.



*Top: the famous Ankole cattle breed is typical of the Lake Mbuho region.
Bottom left: Harriet is a celebrity. Right: Common Dwarf Mongoose (Helogale parvula)*



Lake Mbuho National Park wasn't in the first draft of the itinerary, but we included two nights there after having to eliminate the Rwanda portion of the trip. I'm glad we did: although I didn't expect to find any of my main targets there, the park was beautifully green after the first rains, and it was full of animals that included one of the best surprises of the trip.



Top: *Rothschild's Giraffe* (*Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi*), young calves. Bottom, left: *Olive Baboon* (*Papio anubis*); right: *Common Warthog piglets* (*Phacochoerus africanus*)



The very nice Kigambira Safari Lodge in Lake Mburo was almost empty of guests at the time, and the fresh grass covering the extensive property was grazed by families of **Common Warthogs** and **Olive Baboons**. The **Rothschild's Giraffe** population in Lake Mburo looked particularly healthy, with many young calves following their mothers.



African Wood-Owl (Strix woodfordii)



Verreaux's Eagle Owl (Ketupa lactea)

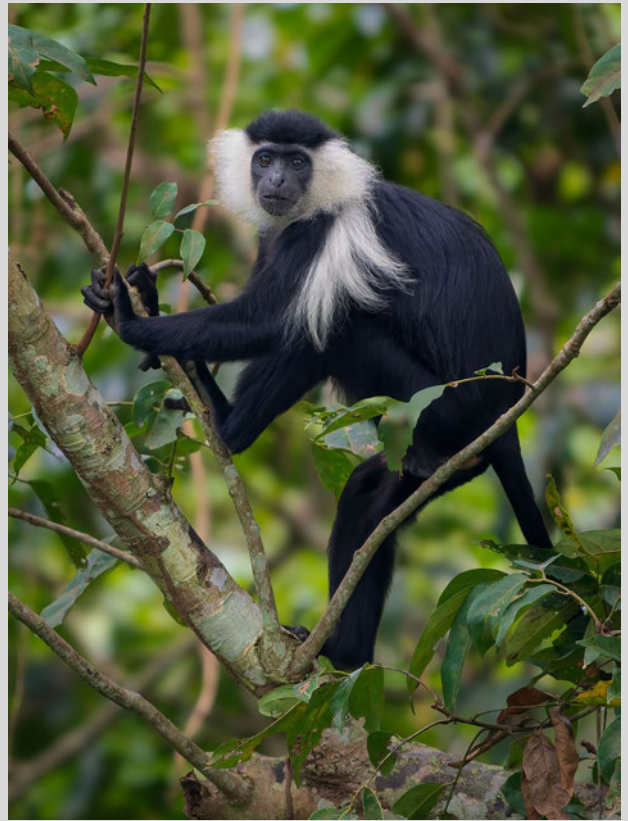
A night drive at Lake Mbuo produced several **Greater Galago** (including a melanistic individual), **Bushpig**, **Rusty-spotted Genet**, **Verreaux's Eagle Owl**, **African Wood Owl**, many **Black-shouldered Nightjars** and, best of all, the unexpected sighting of an **Aardvark**.



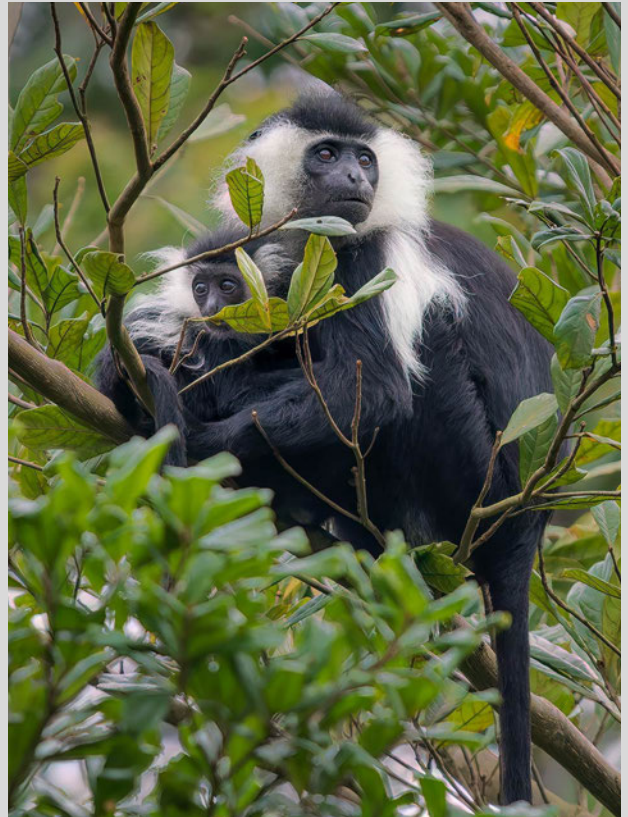
Aardvark (Orycteropus afer), Lake Mbuo National Park

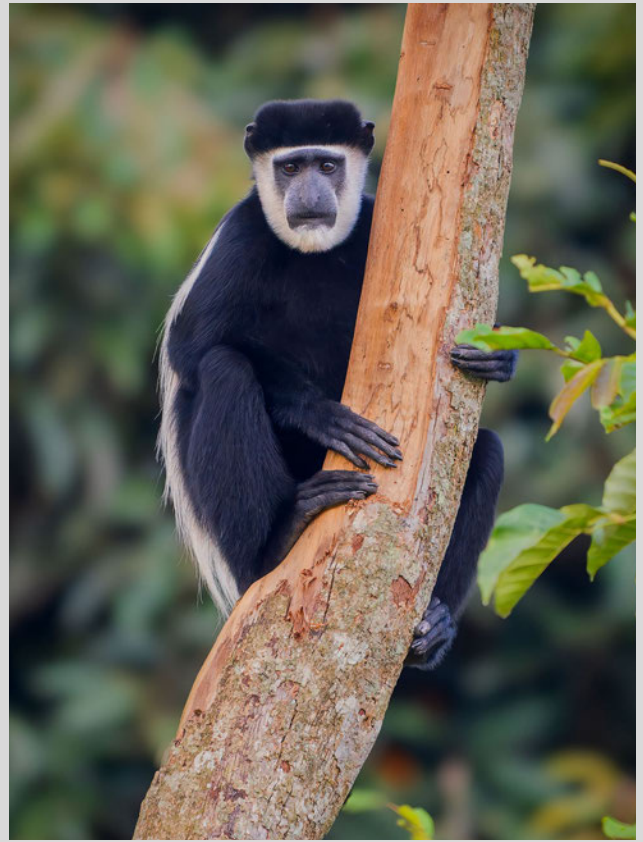


The last stop on the way back to Entebbe was **Nabugabo Forest**, a patch of rainforest on the shore of the lake of the same name, surrounded by agricultural land and home to a small population of **Angola Colobus**. Nabugabo is listed as part of the range of the subspecies *Colobus angolensis ruwenzorii*, although these particular monkeys looked quite different from any images I've seen before of that subspecies, with very distinctive frizzy white facial tufts.



Angola Colobus (Colobus angolensis), Nabugabo Forest. Like Guerezas, Angola Colobus are born pure white and change into pied color at about 3 months of age.





Top: the Angola Colobus (left) looks like a reprobate ghetto cousin of the clean-cut Guereza Colobus (right).



The **Angola Colobus** population at Nabugabo is monitored by a local research project led by young field biologists, one of whom was our guide during our visit, and supported by Harriet. The remaining forest is isolated and unprotected, and efforts are being made to include it in the reserve network of UWA (Uganda Wildlife Authority); the species is listed as Vulnerable by IUCN, and much of its range is fragmented and encroached.

They need all the support they can get: I was glad to contribute with my images to raise awareness about the project.