



**BIRDING TOUR SOUTH AFRICA:  
BEST OF CAPE TOWN AND BEYOND TRIP REPORT**

**07 - 14 OCTOBER 2024**

**By Joshua Olszewski**



*Cape Rockjumpers are always a major highlight of our Cape birding tours.*

## Overview

This short Cape birding tour was designed to take in some of the Cape's best birding (targeting just about all of the Cape's endemics) and included a couple of days in the semi-desert plains of the Tankwa Karoo, while we also enjoyed some fantastic scenery. The tour started with some time in Cape Town where we undertook day trips, before making our way up the west coast to Langebaan and inland through the Cederberg Mountains into the Tankwa Karoo, where we searched for many South African dry country specials. We ended the tour back in beautiful Cape Town where we targeted a few missing species. The trip also included a pelagic trip out of Cape Town, where we got to grips with an array of seabird species, including some rare specials.

Over our week and a bit of Cape birding, we managed an impressive 241 bird species which included many of the Cape's endemics and specials. Some of our highlights were **Grey-winged Francolin, Karoo and Southern Black Korhaans, Namaqua Sandgrouse, African Penguin, Bank, Cape and Crowned Cormorants, Black Harrier, Ground Woodpecker, Cape Rockjumper, Fairy Flycatcher, Grey Tit, Cape Penduline Tit**, nine lark species (including many **Black-eared Sparrow-Larks**), **Fairy Flycatcher, Rufous-eared, Cinnamon-breasted and Layard's Warblers, Cape Sugarbird, Orange-breasted and Dusky Sunbirds and Protea, Forest and Black-headed Canaries.**



*We had many sightings of nomadic **Black-eared Sparrow-Larks** in the Tankwa Karoo.*

### Detailed Report

#### Day 1, 07<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Arrival in Cape Town and Kirstenbosch birding

After meeting up with the group at our Cape Town accommodation in the early afternoon, we took a short drive across to Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. We first had lunch, trying not to get distracted by the tame **Ring-necked Doves**, **Cape Robin-Chats**, **Cape White-eyes**, **Cape Bulbuls** and **Southern Double-collared Sunbirds** that were foraging around the tables. After lunch, we took a long but leisurely stroll around the gardens, picking up **Cape Sugarbird**, **Malachite** and **Amethyst Sunbirds**, **Cape Batis**, **Southern Boubou**, **Sombre Greenbul**, **African Olive Pigeon**, **Helmeted Guineafowl**, **Hadada Ibis**, **African Paradise Flycatcher**, **Common Buzzard**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, **Black Saw-wing**, **African Dusky Flycatcher**, **Speckled Mousebird**, **Karoo Prinia**, **Red-winged Starling**, **Olive Thrush**, **Cape and Forest Canary** and the noisy **Cape Spurfowl**. A displaying **Brown-backed Honeybird** was a definite, albeit drab, highlight. Non-avian highlights included a sunbathing **Black Girdled Lizard**, a highly localized species only found on the Cape Peninsula. We then finished up with point blank views of the resident pair of **Spotted Eagle-Owls** on a nest, before heading off to dinner. Our final stop for the day was in the suburban greenbelts south of our accommodation, where we were treated to gorgeous views of a vocal **African Wood Owl**. We also heard a **Buff-spotted Flufftail** hooting from a nearby thicket, but true to form, it remained invisible to us.



*Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens is always a reliable spot for **Forest Canary**.*



**Day 2, 08<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Rooi-els and Betty's Bay**

We made an early start this morning and headed towards the eastern side of False Bay. En route, we stopped at a roadside gas station which hosted a large breeding colony of bright **Southern Red Bishops** in the adjacent reedbed. These were accompanied by smaller numbers of both **Cape** and **Southern Masked Weavers**, and **Glossy Ibis**, **Blacksmith Lapwing**, **Laughing** and **Red-eyed Doves**, **Speckled Pigeons**, and **Cape Wagtails** were also in evidence. We then pushed on, heading south along the beautiful Clarence Drive which meanders along False Bay's east coast. We eventually reached our first stop, a boggy mountain stream north of Pringle Bay, by 8am. Here, we hoped to connect with the elusive Striped Flufftail. Sadly, like the Buff-spotted Flufftail from the previous night, it was not meant to be. However, a welcome consolation find was a vocal **Burchell's Coucal** bubbling away alongside the creek.

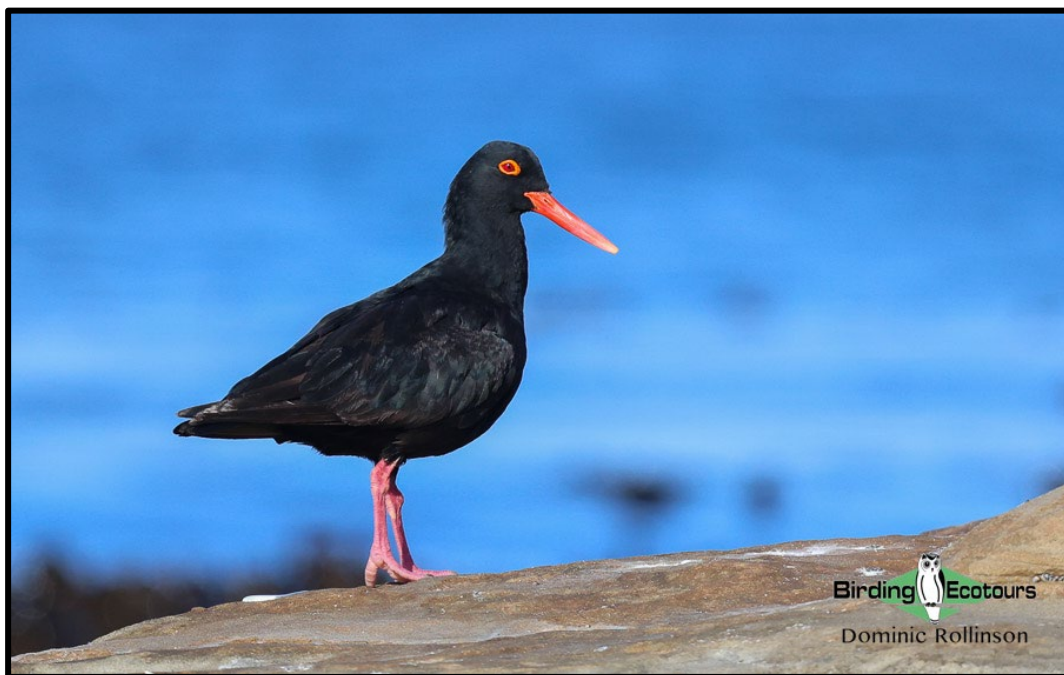
We then backtracked slightly to the neighboring town of Rooi-els, spending a good amount of time birding the scenic Porter Drive. This short gravel road provides brilliant vistas over both False Bay and the surrounding mountains. We soon connected with our main target, the iconic **Cape Rockjumper**; seeing two males at point blank range was quite a memorable sight. We were also treated to the full suite of mountain fynbos species including **Orange-breasted Sunbird**, **Cape Siskin**, **Cape Bunting**, **Grey-backed Cisticola**, **Cape Sugarbird**, **Yellow Bishop**, **Karoo Prinia**, **Cape Rock-Thrush**, **Familiar Chat** and **Cape Grassbird** (including an incredibly curious fledgling). Flybys from **White-necked Ravens** and a **Rock Kestrel** were also welcomed, as were the **Afro-Australasian Fur Seals** lounging on the nearby promontory.



*Many exquisitely colored **Orange-breasted Sunbirds** were seen well in mountain fynbos areas.*

A brief coffee stop was made in Rooi-els (where we were entertained by a cheeky **Chacma Baboon**) before heading over to the Stony Point Penguin Colony in Betty's Bay. Here we got to witness large numbers of **African Penguins**, of various ages, resting on the rocks around the coast. These spectacular birds are listed as Endangered by the IUCN, so seeing large numbers of them at the colony is always a treat. The very tip of the promontory plays host to a large cormorant colony, made up mostly of **Cape Cormorants** in their hundreds. There were also smaller numbers of **Crowned**, **White-breasted** and the endangered **Bank Cormorant**. Other interesting birds seen around the point included **Greater Crested**, **Sandwich** and **Common Terns**, **African Oystercatcher**, **Alpine Swift**, a near-shore **Northern Giant Petrel** and a single **Grey-headed Gull** loafing with the more common **Hartlaub's** and **Kelp Gulls**. Apart from the birds, the rocks around the promontory were also home to family groups of the peculiar **Rock Hyrax**, as well as two colorful lizard species: **Cape Girdled Lizard** and **Southern Rock Agama**.

Our last stop of the day was the picturesque Harold Porter Botanical Gardens on the east side of Betty's Bay. Like Kirstenbosch, this reserve consists of manicured floral gardens set at the foothills of dramatic, fynbos-covered mountains. A slow walk around the gardens gave us improved looks at many species we'd seen earlier on, as well as new additions such as **Brimstone Canary**, **Streaky-headed Seedeater**, **Greater Striped Swallow**, **Yellow-billed Duck**, **Neddicky**, **Sweet Waxbill** and two high-flying raptors: **Jackal Buzzard** and **Verreaux's Eagle** (the latter being incessantly mobbed by **White-necked Ravens**). We concluded our time at the gardens with multiple male **African Paradise Flycatchers** showing off their long, orange tails, before making our way back to Cape Town.



*The handsome African Oystercatcher was seen well at Stony Point.*

**Day 3, 09<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Pelagic birding off Cape Town**

We left our accommodation early, armed with breakfast packs, and met our pelagic guide, Dom, as well as our skipper, Anees, who briefed us on the boat trip ahead and what to expect. As we left Simon's Town harbor, we saw common coastal species such as **Crowned** and **Cape Cormorants**, **Greater Crested**, **Sandwich** and **Common Terns** and **Cape Gannet**. Thankfully the seas were not too heavy today, and the boat ride was not too uncomfortable (as it often can be). As we rounded Cape Point (enjoying obligatory shots of this scenic spot) the seas became a little choppier and it's here that we found our first few 'true pelagic' species such as **Sooty Shearwater**, **White-chinned Petrel** and **Shy Albatross**.

The word soon came through that a trawler was within reach and so we kept heading southwest towards the trawling grounds where the birds awaited us. From a distance we could see the large numbers of birds swelling behind the trawler and we quickly started picking out further new species such as **Sabine's Gull**, **Pintado Petrel** and **Black-browed Albatross**. As this trawler was the only fishing vessel within reach today, we decided to stay behind the vessel and simply work through the huge numbers of mostly **White-chinned Petrels** and various albatrosses.



*The large "white-back" albatrosses, such as this **Northern Royal Albatross**, are always a highlight.*

We stuck with the trawler for a good couple of hours and during this time we further added **Brown Skua**, **Parasitic Jaeger** (brief views), **Atlantic** and **Indian Yellow-nosed Albatrosses**, **Wilson's Storm Petrel**, **Northern Giant Petrel** and **Great Shearwater**. The two stars of the day, however,

arrived just before heading back to land and included **Southern Fulmar** and **Northern Royal Albatross** which both showed incredibly well for a prolonged period. It was then the long haul back towards Simon's Town.

Once back in False Bay we stopped to enjoy the nesting group of **Bank Cormorants** and also had good looks at foraging **African Penguins** before we returned to the harbor after a highly successful day out at sea.



*The silvery-white **Southern Fulmar** was another standout pelagic species.*

#### **Day 4, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Cape Peninsula birding & transfer to Langebaan**

After an early checkout from our Cape Town accommodation, we decided to bird some local spots along the Cape Peninsula before heading north along the west coast. Our first port of call was to the nearby Newlands Forest, right next to Kirstenbosch and also set against the moist, forested, eastern slope of Table Mountain. Three notable additions to the trip list here were **Lemon Dove**, **Olive Woodpecker** and a soaring **Forest Buzzard** (the latter is rare and unreliable around Cape Town). We also spotted a displaying **African Goshawk** flying high overhead and connected with the local introduced population of **Eurasian Chaffinch**. After Newlands, we popped in at the Rondebosch Common: a public park surrounded by bustling main roads. However, this park has hosted a breeding pair of **Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawks** for many years now, and we took no time in connecting with the showy male. We also got great views of **Zitting Cisticola** and our first **Southern Fiscal** of the trip. Traveling south, we had split-second views of a **Peregrine Falcon** shooting over the road before arriving at the Tokai pine forest, yet another public park. This one



hosted a breeding pair of **Black Sparrowhawks**, and the adult female and one of her newly fledged offspring were quite obliging and showed very well. A singing **Lesser Honeyguide** was also a great find here.



*The showy pair of **Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawks** gave us excellent looks near Cape Town.*

After a quick park-side breakfast, we started journeying north towards the west coast, making quite a few birding stops as we went. We first paid a visit to some roadside wetlands just north of Cape Town. Between a number of these, we connected with an array of waterbirds including **Great Crested** and **Black-necked Grebe**, **Maccoa Duck**, **White-backed Duck**, **Cape Shoveler**, **Red-billed Teal**, **Cape Teal**, **Southern Pochard**, **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingo**, **Little Egret**, **Reed Cormorant**, **Whiskered** and **Caspian Tern**, **Red-knobbed Coot**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **Grey Heron**, **Common Greenshank** and **African Jacana** (a local rarity). Other new birds seen around these wetlands included **White-backed Mousebird**, **Levaillant's Cisticola**, **Lesser Swamp Warbler**, **White-throated Swallow**, **Brown-throated Martin**, and **Common Waxbill**. We then continued northwards, stopping at a nearby eucalyptus plantation that delivered a male **Greater Honeyguide**. We then connected with our first **Blue Crane** strutting through a roadside farm field. This field also gave us our first views of **Red-capped Lark** and **African Pipit** for the trip.

Once we made it into the rolling, scrubby dunes of the west coast strandveld, we started looking for a host of new species that had become available to us. A number of roadside stops in this habitat produced **Pearl-breasted Swallow**, **Bokmakierie**, **Bar-throated Apalis**, **Karoo Scrub Robin**, **Chestnut-vented Warbler**, **Cape Sparrow**, **African Hoopoe**, **Capped Wheatear**, **Cloud Cisticola** (which showed unusually well), a stunning male **Southern Black Korhaan** and a number of raptor species: **Black-winged Kite**, **Rock Kestrel**, **Jackal Buzzard**, **Booted Eagle**,



**African Marsh Harrier** and a striking **Black Harrier**! After checking in and having a great dinner in the coastal town of Langebaan, we made a brief stop outside of town where we found a male **Fiery-necked Nightjar** singing away (and flying within inches of our faces!).

### Day 5: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Birding the west coast and transfer to the Tankwa Karoo

Our first birding stop of the morning was the Langebaan Country Estate, which, in spite of its lavish housing complex, contains some well-preserved strandveld which delivered a number of our target species. **Cape Clapper Larks** displayed all over the grassy hillside, and a **Cape Long-billed Lark** treated us to its nose-dive display, before perching proudly for us to enjoy. A pair of **Grey-winged Francolins** with a tiny chick were also a great find, as were a number of **Banded Martins** flying around with the more common **Greater Striped Swallows** and **Large Rock Martins**. Our first looks at **Yellow** and **White-throated Canary**, **Karoo Scrub Robin**, **African Stonechat**, **Large-billed Lark** and **African Black Swift** were also had at the estate. We also had more **Southern Black Korhaans** for some extra eye-candy.

Venturing from the estate into the renowned West Coast National Park, we first stopped at the Seeberg bird hide near the northern entrance gate. The high tide at the time allowed for great views and photographic opportunities of the coastal birds that were roosting and feeding along the beach here. These included large numbers of **Kelp** and **Hartlaub's Gulls**, **White-breasted**, **Crowned** and **Cape Cormorants**, **African Oystercatchers**, **Sanderlings**, **Eurasian Whimbrels**, **Bar-tailed Godwits**, **Common** and **Sandwich Terns** and **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos**. From these, we picked out smaller numbers of **Grey**, **White-fronted**, **Common Ringed** and **Kittlitz's Plovers**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Little Stint**, **Greater Crested** and **Caspian Tern**, **Common Greenshank** and singletons of **Eurasian Curlew** and **Little Tern**. The scrub surrounding the hide was also quite productive and gave us **Grey Tit**, **Cape Penduline-Tit**, **Red-faced Mousebird**, **Malachite Sunbird**, **Cape Bunting**, **Chestnut-vented Warbler**, **European Bee-eater**, **Cape Grassbird** and **Pearl-breasted Swallow**.

From Seeberg we drove south through the park, spotting **Common Ostrich** and multiple **African Marsh Harriers** as we went (including one having an altercation with a **Black Harrier**). We then arrived at the Geelbek manor house at the southern tip of the Langebaan lagoon. The trees around the house produced **Pied Starling**, **Southern Grey-headed Sparrows**, a confiding **Rock Kestrel** and the diminutive **Cardinal Woodpecker**, while the saltmarsh surrounding the lagoon delivered a lot of the afore-mentioned waterbirds, with the addition of **Marsh Sandpiper**. The nearby Abramskraal waterhole was also very enjoyable for us. Here we enjoyed large numbers of **Cape Weavers** and **Namaqua Doves**, a showy **African Spoonbill**, skulking **Lesser Swamp Warblers** and a brief **Black Crake**. After exiting the park, we made one last stop at the Langebaan Quarry to enjoy the local pair of **Verreaux's Eagles** that breed here, while also connecting with our first **Three-banded Plovers**.

After enjoying the birding on the west coast, we made our way east, crossing vast tracks of farmland and scenic mountain passes before entering into the Karoo around dusk. We then turned in early and awaited the next full day of birding this dry desert region of western South Africa.

### Day 6, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Tankwa Karoo birding

We had the full day to explore the dry gorges and plains of the Tankwa Karoo today and had a long list of target birds to aim for. We started the day by birding around our guest farm and the nearby Skitterykloof which added many of our dry country targets, the first of which included **Karoo Lark, Rufous-eared Warbler, Mountain Wheatear, Layard's Warbler, Pirit Batis, Fairy Flycatcher, Karoo Chat, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Lark-like Bunting, Dusky Sunbird, and White-throated, Yellow and Black-headed Canary**. Some interesting extras seen around here included **Common Reed Warbler, Long-billed Crombec, Common Waxbill** and another pair of **Grey-winged Francolins** with chicks.



*The tiny **Fairy Flycatcher** is commonly found in the Tankwa Karoo.*

We then headed back towards the main Tankwa-Ceres road, crossing a narrow riverbed that, surprisingly, was holding water! As a result, we were treated to small numbers of **Namaqua Sangrouse** coming down to drink, and also had great looks at **White-throated Canary, Lark-like Bunting, Familiar Chat, Chestnut-vented Warbler** and a soaring **Booted Eagle**. Heading north along the main road, we managed to pick up **Tractrac Chats** and a **Lanner Falcon** on roadside fenceposts, as well as **Namaqua Warbler** in the riverbed north of the Tankwa Padstal. We then returned to our lodge to relax and kill the heat of the day.

Once the temperature had started to lower, we ventured out for a late afternoon drive, spotting another **Black Harrier** as we left the lodge premises. Once again heading north, we pushed on passed the padstal and scanned the barren plains along the roadside. This turned out to be quite productive, and over the next few hours we managed to connect with small numbers of **Large-**

**billed, Red-capped and Spike-heeled Larks**, as well as the nomadic **Black-eared Sparrow-Lark**. The males of these small larks are quite noticeable in flight with their jet-black plumage and were a real highlight of the day. Another was a small group of **Karoo Eremomelas** at one of the arbitrary picnic tables along this road. We were also fortunate enough to bump into not just one, but two groups of **Karoo Korhaans**, the later group being particularly close to us, and with a young chick in tow! A final pop-in at Skitterykloof before dinnertime gave us **Pale-winged Starlings**, improved views of **Black-headed Canary** and an **Ant-eating Chat** outside our accommodation. A final surprise for the day was a **Frecked Nightjar** that flushed from next to one of the client's chalets, as well as a **Cape Genet** perched on the rocks above said chalet.



*Karoo Korhaans gave us lovely looks in the Tankwa Karoo.*

### **Day 7, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Tankwa karoo birding and transfer to Cape Town**

This morning saw us make a final attempt at Skitterykloof for one of our major Karoo targets that had been evading us. Eventually, they gave themselves us: a pair of **Cinnamon-breasted Warblers** mutually preening each other low down on the roadside slope! We also had our best views of **Black Harrier** here, with one providing prolonged soaring views low overhead. The other individual, presumably the male, entertained us with his noisy fluttering display flight nearby. With all the main targets secured, we decided to venture further west along the Skitterykloof road. As the pass winds on towards the mountains, the vegetation rapidly changes from normal Karoo scrub to transitional Karroid Fynbos. This was reflected by the sudden appearance of **Southern Black Korhaans** and **Cape Clapper Larks** displaying along the road, as well as protea bushes. These bushes delivered **Cape Sugarbirds** and, soon after, an obliging **Protea Canary**, another fynbos endemic and a major target for this tour!





*The often-tricky **Protea Canary** played along for us this time round.*

After the success with the canary, we made our way east again, down the Skitterykloof pass and south along the main Tankwa road towards Ceres. We did some light Karoo birding in the plains along the road, stopping briefly to scan the immense dam just south of Eierkop. Here we once again found massive numbers of waterbirds, which included thousands of **Greater Flamingos**, **Red-knobbed Coots** and **Black-necked Grebes**. Small groups of **Glossy Ibis**, **White-faced Whistling Ducks** and the handsome **South African Shelduck** were welcome new trip additions, as were an obliging pair of **Sickle-winged Chats**. The adorable **Brants' Whistling Rat** was also great to see (and not just hear, for a change!). Seeing flocks of **Whiskered Terns** flying around in the middle of a desert was also quite strange!

One **Booted Eagle** and another **Black Harrier** later, we were back in Ceres, where we fueled up and started on the long drive back towards Cape Town. We made a few stops as we went, which got us some new species like **African Black Duck**, **Spotted Thick-knee**, **African Darter**, **Acacia Pied Barbet** and **Pin-tailed Whydah**. A distant **Cape Rockjumper** near Paarl and a family of **Blue Cranes** with chicks were welcome surprises. Venturing towards False Bay, we managed to find a group of **European Bee-eaters** that provided excellent photographic opportunities right next to the road. After which, we arrived at the famous Standfontein Sewage Works. This, one of the most popular birding sites in the Western Cape, is a mecca for waterbirds, and we took the time to enjoy the hundreds of gulls, ducks, flamingos, coots, ibis and herons that live here. Species-wise, we added **Little Rush Warbler** and **Black-crowned Night Heron**, as well as the vagrant **Franklin's Gull** that had been hanging around this spot for the previous week. A small group of **Marsh Sandpipers** was another notable find here. We then returned to Fernwood Manor and



enjoyed a hearty dinner in town, reflecting on the incredible week of birding we had just completed.

### Day 8, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Cape Town birding and departure

Today was simply a travel day, as most of the clients were flying out in the evening or the following day.

This ended a highly successful and thoroughly enjoyable week's birding in the Cape. Thanks everybody for making it such a fun trip.

### Bird List - Following IOC (September 2024)

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, birds seen by the guide only are marked with a (G) after the common name, all other species were seen both by clients and guide.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following BirdLife International. EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near-Threatened.

Common Name	Scientific Name
<b>Ostriches (Struthionidae)</b>	
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
<b>Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae)</b>	
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>
Cape Shoveler	<i>Spatula smithii</i>
African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>
Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>
Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>
Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>
Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>
Maccoa Duck - EN	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>
<b>Guineafowl (Numididae)</b>	
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
<b>Pheasants &amp; Allies (Phasianidae)</b>	
Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila afra</i>
Common Quail (H)	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>
Cape Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis capensis</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
<b>Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)</b>	
Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>
Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>
<b>Swifts (Apodidae)</b>	
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>
African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>
<b>Bustards (Otididae)</b>	
Karoo Korhaan	<i>Heterotetrax vigorsii</i>
Southern Black Korhaan - VU	<i>Afrotis afra</i>
<b>Cuckoos (Cuculidae)</b>	
Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>
<b>Sandgrouse (Pteroclididae)</b>	
Namaqua Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>
<b>Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)</b>	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>
Lemon Dove	<i>Columba larvata</i>
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>
<b>Flufftails &amp; Forest Rails (Scolothruridae)</b>	
Buff-spotted Flufftail (H)	<i>Scolothrura elegans</i>
Red-chested Flufftail (H)	<i>Scolothrura rufa</i>
<b>Rails, Crakes &amp; Coots (Rallidae)</b>	
African Rail (H)	<i>Rallus caerulescens</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>
African Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>
Black Crake	<i>Zapornia flavirostra</i>
<b>Cranes (Gruidae)</b>	

Common Name	Scientific Name
Blue Crane - VU	<i>Grus paradisea</i>
<b>Grebes (Podicipedidae)</b>	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>
<b>Flamingos (Phoenicopteridae)</b>	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>
<b>Stone-curlews, Thick-knees (Burhinidae)</b>	
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>
Water Thick-knee (H)	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
<b>Oystercatchers (Haematopodidae)</b>	
African Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>
<b>Stilts, Avocets (Recurvirostridae)</b>	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
<b>Plovers (Charadriidae)</b>	
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>
<b>Jacanas (Jacanidae)</b>	
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
<b>Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae)</b>	
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Eurassian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
<b>Gulls, Terns, Skimmers (Laridae)</b>	
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>
Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>
Franklin's Gull	<i>Leucophaeus pipixcan</i>
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>
<b>Skuas (Stercorariidae)</b>	
Parasitic Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>
Brown Skua	<i>Stercorarius antarcticus</i>
<b>Penguins (Spheniscidae)</b>	
African Penguin - EN	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>
<b>Austral Storm Petrels (Oceanitidae)</b>	
Wilson's Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>
<b>Albatrosses (Diomedidae)</b>	
Northern Royal Albatross - EN	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>
Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross - EN	<i>Thalassarche chlororhynchos</i>
Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross - EN	<i>Thalassarche carteri</i>
Shy Albatross	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>
Black-browed Albatross - EN	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>
<b>Petrels, Shearwaters, Diving Petrels (Procellariidae)</b>	
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>
White-chinned Petrel - VU	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialisoides</i>
Cape Petrel	<i>Daption capense</i>
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>
Great Shearwater	<i>Ardenna gravis</i>
<b>Gannets, Boobies (Sulidae)</b>	
Cape Gannet - EN	<i>Morus capensis</i>
<b>Anhingas, Darters (Anhingidae)</b>	
African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>



Common Name	Scientific Name
<b>Cormorants, Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)</b>	
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>
Crowned Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo coronatus</i>
Bank Cormorant - EN	<i>Phalacrocorax neglectus</i>
Cape Cormorant - EN	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>
White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>
<b>Ibises, Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)</b>	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>
<b>Hérons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)</b>	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
<b>Pelicans (Pelecanidae)</b>	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
<b>Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)</b>	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
Martial Eagle - EN	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>
Pale Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>
African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>
Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter rufiventris</i>
Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>
African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>
Black Harrier - EN	<i>Circus maurus</i>
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>
Forest Buzzard	<i>Buteo trizonatus</i>
<b>Owls (Strigidae)</b>	
Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>
African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>
<b>Mousebirds (Coliidae)</b>	
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>
Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>
<b>Hoopoes (Upupidae)</b>	
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>
<b>Bee-eaters (Meropidae)</b>	
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
<b>Honeyguides (Indicatoridae)</b>	
Brown-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>
Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>
Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>
<b>African Barbets (Lybiidae)</b>	
Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>
<b>Woodpeckers (Picidae)</b>	
Ground Woodpecker	<i>Geocolaptes olivaceus</i>
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>
Olive Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos griseocephalus</i>
<b>Caracaras, Falcons (Falconidae)</b>	
Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>
Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
<b>Wattle-eyes, Batises (Platysteiridae)</b>	
Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>
Pirit Batis	<i>Batis pririt</i>
<b>Bushshrikes (Malaconotidae)</b>	
Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>
Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>
<b>Drongos (Dicuridae)</b>	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
<b>Monarchs (Monarchidae)</b>	
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>
<b>Shrikes (Laniidae)</b>	
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
<b>Crows, Jays (Corvidae)</b>	

Common Name	Scientific Name
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>
<b>Rockjumpers (Chaetopidae)</b>	
Cape Rockjumper	<i>Chaetops frenatus</i>
<b>Fairy Flycatchers (Stenostiridae)</b>	
Fairy Flycatcher	<i>Stenostira scita</i>
<b>Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)</b>	
Grey Tit	<i>Melaniparus afer</i>
<b>Penduline Tits (Remizidae)</b>	
Cape Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus minutus</i>
<b>Larks (Alaudidae)</b>	
Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>
Cape Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda curvirostris</i>
Black-eared Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix australis</i>
Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>
Karoo Lark	<i>Calendulauda albescens</i>
Cape Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafra apiata</i>
Large-billed Lark	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>
Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>
<b>Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)</b>	
Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>
Cape Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>
<b>Swallows, Martins (Hirundinidae)</b>	
Black Saw-wing	<i>Psaldiprocne pristoptera</i>
Banded Martin	<i>Neophedina cincta</i>
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
Large Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>
Pearl-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>
White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>
Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>
<b>Crombecs, African Warblers (Macrosphenidae)</b>	
Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>
Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>
<b>Reed Warblers &amp; Allies (Acrocephalidae)</b>	
Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>
<b>Grassbirds &amp; Allies (Locustellidae)</b>	
Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>
<b>Cisticolas &amp; Allies (Cisticolidae)</b>	
Grey-backed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola subruficapilla</i>
Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>
Neddicky	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
Cloud Cisticola	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>
Karoo Prinia	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>
Namaqua Warbler	<i>Phragmacia substriata</i>
Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>
Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>
Cinnamon-breasted Warbler	<i>Euryptila subcinnamomea</i>
Karoo Eremomela	<i>Eremomela gregalis</i>
<b>Sylviid Babblers (Sylviidae)</b>	
Layard's Warbler	<i>Curruca layardi</i>
Chestnut-vented Warbler	<i>Curruca subcoerulea</i>
<b>White-eyes (Zosteropidae)</b>	
Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops virens</i>
<b>Sugarbirds (Promeropidae)</b>	
Cape Sugarbird	<i>Promerops cafer</i>
<b>Starlings, Rhabdornises (Sturnidae)</b>	
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>
Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>
Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>
<b>Thrushes (Turdidae)</b>	
Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>
<b>Chats, Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae)</b>	
Karoo Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas coryphoeus</i>
Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Sigelus silens</i>
African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>
Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Dessonornis caffer</i>
Cape Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>
African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>



Common Name	Scientific Name
Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Emarginata sinuata</i>
Karoo Chat	<i>Emarginata schlegelii</i>
Tractrac Chat	<i>Emarginata tractrac</i>
Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>
Mountain Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla monticola</i>
Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>
Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>
<b>Sunbirds (Nectariniidae)</b>	
Orange-breasted Sunbird	<i>Anthobaphes violacea</i>
Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>
Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>
Southern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chalybeus</i>
Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fuscus</i>
<b>Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae)</b>	
Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
<b>Weavers, Widowbirds (Ploceidae)</b>	
Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>
Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>
<b>Waxbills, Munias &amp; Allies (Estrildidae)</b>	
Sweet Waxbill	<i>Coccyzygia melanotis</i>
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
<b>Indigobirds, Whydahs (Viduidae)</b>	
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>
<b>Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae)</b>	
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>
Nicholson's Pipit	<i>Anthus nicholsoni</i>
<b>Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae)</b>	
Eurasian Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
Forest Canary	<i>Crithagra scotops</i>
Cape Siskin	<i>Crithagra totta</i>
Yellow Canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>
Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>
White-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra albogularis</i>
Protea Canary - NT	<i>Crithagra leucoptera</i>
Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>
Black-headed Canary	<i>Serinus alario</i>
<b>Buntings (Emberizidae)</b>	
Lark-like Bunting	<i>Emberiza impetuani</i>
Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>

<b>Species Seen</b>	<b>241</b>
Species heard only	5
Total species recorded	246

### Mammal List

Common Name	Scientific Name
<b>Hyraxes (Procaviidae)</b>	
Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>
<b>Rabbits and Hares (Leporidae)</b>	
Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>
<b>African Molerats (Bathyergidae)</b>	
Cape Dune Mole-rat	<i>Bathyergus suillus</i>
<b>Squirrels and Relatives (Sciuridae)</b>	
Eastern Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
<b>Old World Mice, Rats and Gerbils (Muridae)</b>	
Four-striped Grass Rat	<i>Rhabdomys sp.</i>
Karoo Vlei Rat	<i>Otomys unisulcatus</i>
<b>Old World Monkeys (Cercopithecidae)</b>	
Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>
<b>Eared Seals (Otariidae)</b>	
Afro-Australian Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
<b>Mongoose and Fossa (Herpestidae)</b>	
Cape Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes pulverulentus</i>
<b>Civets, Genets, &amp; Oyans (Viverridae)</b>	
Cape Genet	<i>Genetta tigrina</i>
<b>Bovids (Bovidae)</b>	
Blesbok (Bontebok)	<i>Damaliscus pygargus</i>
Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>
Common Eland	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>
<b>Total species seen:</b>	<b>13</b>