



Pel's Fishing Owl - a pair was found on a wooded island south of Shakawe (Jan-Ake Alvarsson)

NAMIBIA & THE OKAVANGO

21 SEPTEMBER – 8 OCTOBER 2017

LEADER: STEVE BRAINE

For most of the country the previous three years drought had been broken and although too early for the migrants we did however do very well with birding generally. We searched and found all the near endemics as well as the endemic Dune Lark. Besides these we also had a new write-in for the trip! In the floodplains after observing a wonderful Pel's Fishing Owl we travelled down a side channel of the Okavango River to look for Pygmy Geese, we were lucky and came across several pairs before reaching a dried-out floodplain. Four birds flew out of the reedbeds and looked rather different to the normal weavers of which there were many, a closer look at the two remaining birds revealed a beautiful pair of Cuckoo Finches. These we all enjoyed for a brief period before they followed the other birds which had now disappeared into the reedbeds.

Very strong winds on three of the birding days made birding a huge challenge to say the least after not finding the rare and difficult Herero Chat we had to make alternate arrangements at another locality later in the trip. The entire tour from the Hosea Kutako International Airport outside the capital Windhoek and returning there nineteen days later delivered 375 species. Out of these, four birds were seen only by the leader, a further three species were heard but not seen. A total of 5111km was travelled during the tour including game drives in the Etosha National Park. Due to different flight times Jan-Ake Bengt arrived earlier than the rest and we did a little birding in and around the airport area before the next flight arrived with the rest of the group at 12:00. We then headed for the Vineyard where we had lunch before a trip to the Gammams sewerage works. Before heading to the sewerage works we had stunning views of a pair of Bat Hawks which had arrived and taken up residence in some gum trees in the middle of the city! The first Birdquest tour to start with this rare and normally difficult species.



Bat Hawk in Windhoek city, a very lucky find for the first day! (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

At Gammams although there were no migrants we were rewarded with a few wetland species, these included South African Shelduck, a single female Southern Pochard, Hottentot Teal, Red-billed Teal and Egyptian Goose. Other species included Purple Swamphen, Common Moorhen, Little Grebe, Red-knobbed Coot, African Sacred Ibis Black-crowned Night Heron, Striated Heron, Squacco Heron, Little Egret, Western Cattle Egret, Black-headed Heron, Reed Cormorant, White-breasted Cormorant, and a single Great White Pelican. Blacksmith's Lapwing, Three-banded plover, African Jacana and the first migrant Wood Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper and Ruff were also seen here. We returned back to the Vineyard where we took a short walk in the area and managed to call in an obliging Pearl-spotted Owl which soon got mobbed by an adult Gabar Goshawk. Other common species seen throughout the tour included Ring-necked Dove, Laughing Dove, Namaqua Dove and many Grey Go-away Birds. Swifts included African Palm, Little, White-rumped Bradfield's and many White-backed Mousebirds were also seen. Fork-tailed Drongos, Acacia Pied Barbets, African Grey Hornbills, Pririt Batis, Red-eyed Bulbuls and Rock Martins were numerous throughout.

The following morning after breakfast we headed off via the small town of Rehoboth to Namib Grens our accommodation for the night. Along this route we encountered our first Damara Red-billed Hornbills, Monteiro's Hornbills and Southern Yellow-billed Hornbills as well as Burchell's Starling, Many Cape Glossy Starlings, Northern Black Korhaan, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Booted Eagle, and a nestling African Hawk Eagle. Crowned Lapwings were common on the road verges. The skies were incredibly hazy and we stopped with our packed lunch near Nauchas along this route we saw the first Swallow-tailed Bee-eaters, Purple Roller, Common Scimitarbill, and on the road verges near Windhoek we encountered many Shaft-tailed and Long-tailed Paradise Whydahs out of breeding plumage, a brief view of a Yellow Canary and many Southern Fiscal the western race with the distinct white supercilium. We arrived at Namib Grens at 14:10 and after unpacking we took a walk to the farm earth dam where we added more Southern Pochard, many Maccoa duck, Cape Teal, Black-winged Stilt, Pied Avocet, Kittlitz's Plover, Cape Wagtail, and Common Greenshank. A late afternoon drive to the Spreetshoogte pass produced a pair of Verreaux's Eagles and we called in a Layard's Tit-Babbler. We also heard Bokmakierie and although they responded to play back they never came closer and we did not see the bird. Birds in the camp grounds were Karoo Scrub Robin, Red-headed Finch, Black-throated Canary, White-throated Canary, Common Waxbill, Great Sparrow, Grey-headed Sparrow, White-browed Sparrow Weaver, Scaly-feathered Finch, Lark-like and Cinnamon-breasted Buntings, Southern Masked Weaver and Red-billed Quelea. After dinner we had a walk in the area and called in a Spotted Eagle Owl which showed well.



Purple Roller was seen frequently along the roads and parks en route (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

The following morning, we left for the pass once again more, the wind was blowing a gale and birds were lying low, we spent the best part of the morning looking for Herero Chat without any luck and eventually had to pack up to be in time for lunch at Rostock. Along the route we had good views of no less than six Rüppell's Korhaan and a brief glimpse of Dune Lark before lunch. Other species were Chat Flycatcher, Karoo Chat, Familiar Chat, Southern Ant-eating Chat, Mountain Wheatear, Dusky Sunbird, Sociable Weaver, Speckled Pigeon, Namaqua Sandgrouse and a single Burchell's Courser, Gray's Lark gave splendid views. We arrived in Walvis Bay late afternoon and booked into the Oyster Box where we had time to clean up and refresh before dinner at Anchors restaurant.

On day four we had an early morning start to Rooibank to search for the elusive Dune lark, we were extremely fortunate in finding a very confiding pair shortly after stopping at a locality which has delivered well in the past. We spent some time with these birds and there were many good photographic opportunities. We then went back to the lagoon at Walvis Bay and scanned through the many waders which included Little Stint, Curlew Sandpipers, Ruddy Turnstones, Marsh Sandpiper, Sanderlings hundreds of Pied Avocets and Black-winged Stilts, Hartlaub's Gulls, Kelp(Cape) Gulls and a few Grey-headed Gulls. We then returned to the Oyster Box for lunch and then in the afternoon we continued birding the lagoon area and had good sightings of Damara Terns, many Chestnut-banded Plovers, and other species not seen in the morning, these included Common Ringed Plover, Grey Plover, Whimbrel, Greater crested Tern, Sandwich Terns, Common and Caspian Terns. We then stopped at a spot where we had views of Orange River White-eye before retiring for the day and preparing for dinner.

The next morning, we left early and headed off to a locality east of the Spitzkoppe where Herero Chat has been very reliable in the past few years. En route we saw several Karoo Chats, Chat Flycatchers, and several other species we had recorded while travelling through the desert until reaching the Herero Chat locality. Not long after hiking towards the locality we heard the soft call of a distant chat and after a further climb up some broken granite boulders we eventually came across a pair of the chats which had evaded us at the Spreetshoogte pass, once everyone had good views of the birds we headed back down towards the vehicle and not 50m from the vehicle another pair was seen! From here we headed for the town of Khorixas via Uis for lunch, and en route had good views of Benguela Long-billed Larks, Red-crested Korhaan and more Rüppell's Korhaans. We refuelled and after lunch continued to Huab Lodge.



Dune Lark, a pair showed beautifully near Rooibank one early morning (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

After arriving at Huab Lodge we had a little time to sort ourselves out before a 'game drive' where we were fortunate to locate a group of Hartlaub's Spurfowl, other species seen were Southern White-crowned Shrike, Crimson-breasted Shrike, glimpses of Rüppell's Parrots, and Carp's Black Tits before returning for dinner. Shortly before dinner we called in an African Scops Owl and had good views of the bird.

After breakfast we left with lunch packets and set off on the long journey to the Kunene River passing through the small town of Kamanjab and Opuwo and then on to Kunene River Lodge situated on the banks of the River. En route we encountered our first Meves's Long-tailed Starlings, White-tailed Shrikes, Red-billed Spurfowl, Cape (Black) Crows and other species seen before. After arriving at the lodge, we checked in and then did a walk along the river where we recorded good Bennett's Woodpecker (form capricorni), Cardinal Woodpecker, Lilac-breasted Roller, Reed Cormorant, Little Bee-eaters, Swamp Boubou, Little Sparrowhawk, Bare-cheeked Babbler, Violet Woodhoopoe and the beautiful form of Red-necked Spurfowl (form afer).

Day seven had us up at 4:30 to travel to the Angola Cave Chat locality to get there by dawn. We reached the site and clambered up a rocky hillside to sit and wait for this rare and very localised species within Namibia. It took a while before the first bird was heard calling far up the hillside, but patience prevailed and a while later two birds appeared within 20m of the group. While waiting for these there were many Red-faced Mousebirds flying by, several White-bellied Sunbirds feeding on a flowering tree nearby and the distant call of Grey-headed Bush Shrike. After clambering back down the rocky slope we had breakfast at the bottom of the ridge and then managed to get a distant view of the Bush Shrike (this form has no orange on the breast and a slight white eye-ring). En route back to the lodge we stopped at a river seep and spent some time waiting for the beautiful Cinderella Waxbill when eventually 12 birds appeared and were observed by all. At this locality we also had several Rosy-faced Lovebirds, White-tailed Shrikes, Grey-headed Sparrows, Violet-eared Waxbills, Black-throated Canaries, Grey Go-away birds, a pair of African Hawk Eagle soaring overhead, the first Yellow-billed Oxpecker seengrooming a hot and tired donkey! before returning to the lodge for lunch. Within the lodge gardens we heard White-browed Coucal calling and had good views of the Rufous-tailed Palm Thrushes, Red-eyed Bulbuls and across the river a single Goliath Heron. Later in the afternoon we did a boat trip but could not go too far as the river was extremely low, however we had good views of Pied Kingfisher, African Pied Wagtail, Water Thick-knee, Wire-tailed Swallows following the boat and a perched Giant (Verreaux's) Eagle Owl.

Next page: Rüppell's Korhaan, a desert species seen frequently in the Namib, Hartlaub's Spur Fowl, female and male tracked down eventually near Huab Lodge and Kori Bustard (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).





A wonderful pair of Pygmy Geese near Shakawe - about 12 of these spectacular birds were seen in total (Jan-Åke Alvarsson)

Day eight had us leaving the lodge along the track to Rua Cana falls where we refuelled before heading for the Etosha National Park. Along the river we were fortunate to have a close view of a perched Black Stork. A short stop at the Onesi dam was very productive with two Slaty Egrets, Black Egret, African Painted Snipe, Baillon's Crake, a pair of Pygmy Geese, Southern Pochard, Cape Shoveler, Great White Egret, Little Egret, White-faced Whistling Ducks, Common Moorhens, Little Grebe, Squacco Heron, Purple Heron, Black-winged Kites, Lesser Swamp Warblers, Blue Waxbills and Red-billed Firefinches. We then travelled towards Etosha having lunch en route. Shortly after entering the park we stopped at the waterhole 'Renostervlei' and had our first good sightings of African White-backed and Lappet-faced Vultures who were finishing off a Zebra carcass while others were seen drinking at the waterhole. Here we also saw the first of many Kori Bustards and Pied Crows, at another waterhole near Dolomite we had a brief glimpse of four Temmick's Coursers as well as many Grey-backed Sparrow-larks, Red-capped Larks, and a perched Lanner Falcon. Game included Hartmann's Mountain Zebra, Plains (Burchell's) Zebra, African Elephant, Gemsbok (Oryx), Kudu, Warthog, Giraffe and a single male Eland. We then checked in to Dolomite camp for the night, the following morning at breakfast we were greeted by a calling Hartlaub's Spurfowl and Short-toed Rock Thrush.

The following morning, we spent the day travelling through the western part of the park to Okaukuejo where we spent the night. Along the route we had hundreds of head of various game species including Red Hartebeest, Brindled Gnu (Blue Wildebeest), Springbok, Lion and African Elephant, we also encountered a Spotted Hyaena with a nasty snare around the neck with large open wounds. North of the Okaukuejo camp we found Pink-billed, Red-capped, Spike-heeled, Eastern Clapper and Rufous-naped Larks. We then searched and found a very obliging Rufous-eared Warbler and a Red-necked Falcon which showed well before returning to the camp. The night at the waterhole had several Rufous-cheeked Nightjars hawking overhead and several African Elephant and Black Rhino. From Okaukuejo we travelled eastwards visiting several waterholes en route and reaching the camp of Halali for lunch. A short walk in the camp gave good views of Damara Red-billed Hornbill, African Grey Hornbill, Southern White-crowned Shrike on a nest with a small chick and a roosting Western Barn Owl. From Halali we continued eastwards through the park to Namutoni camp where we spent two nights. A trip to Dik-dik drive delivered the diminutive Damara Dik-dik the smallest antelope in the park as well as many Crested Francolin and eventually a group of Swainson's Spurfowl. Other species in the vicinity included Green-winged Pytilia, Emerald spotted Dove and Violet-eared Waxbills. The following morning, we were picked up after breakfast by Etosha Game viewers and spent the day in their open vehicle. We firstly went northwards to Andoni where Blue Cranes had been sighted two days previously but we were without luck as there were not birds in sight. The area did however offer good views of Northern Black Korhaans, African



The Red-necked Spurfowl (form afer), a spectacular bird seen often along the Kunene River (Jan-Ake Alvarsson)

pipits, Eastern Clapper larks displaying and calling as well as numbers of Grey-backed Sparrow-larks, Red capped larks and Kittlitz's plovers. We also had good views of a few Tawny Eagles and a Brown Snake Eagle. Along the road back we managed to call up a Barred Wren Warbler and good views several Pied Babblers. From Namutoni we travelled to the exit gate at Namutoni and along the road we had excellent views of a perched Martial Eagle. We then travelled on via Tsumeb along the road we stopped at a few places and managed to get good Green winged Pytilia, Black-backed Puffback, White-browed Scrub Robin, Grey-backed Camaroptera, and Brubru before travelling to Grootfontein for refuelling, soon after setting off we had good views of a pair of Temmick's Coursers. We then travelled to Roy's camp for lunch and a short walk produced a few wary Black Faced Babblers plus a few other thornveld species such as Violet-eared Waxbills, Green winged Pytilia, Crimson-breasted Shrike and a group of White Helmet Shrikes. A few more stops in the woodlands did not produce much, new birds included Chinspot Batis, Yellow-throated Petronia, Amethyst and Scarlet-chested Sunbirds, African Hoopoe, Southern Red-billed hornbill, Striped kingfisher and Pale Flycatcher. At our accommodation at Kaisosi we had close views of Holub's Golden Weaver, Magpie Shrike, Angolan Mourning Dove, Kurrichane Thrush, Tawny-flanked Prinia and Black-headed Oriole. A brief visit to the sewerage works did not deliver much but we saw two African Cuckoos on the way to Kaisosi where we were to spend the night. We then took a late afternoon drive to the Rundu sewerage ponds again which proved well worth while with good views of African Rail, Baillon's Crake, African Snipe, brief glimpses of Little Rush Warbler, African Hobby and Marsh Owl also a selection of waders and wetland birds which we had seen before, we then returned to Kaisosi for dinner. Fiery-necked Nightjars were heard late into the night but not seen.

The following morning, we travelled to Ndhovu Lodge and on arrival for lunch we had our first Greater Blue-eared Starlings, Dark-capped Bulbuls, Swamp Boubou and African Wood Owl one was on a nest in a hollow tree right in front of the lodge! Birds along the way included good views of four Cut-throat Finches, female Red-headed Weaver, several Yellow-throated Petronia, Brubru, Tinkling Cisticola, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Southern Black Flycatcher, White-browed Robin Chat, Green-capped Eremomela and Southern Black Tits. African Barred Owl was heard calling across the river but not seen. A late afternoon boat trip to a Carmine Bee-eater colony gave superb views of these magnificent birds. Along the river we recorded Marabou, African Marsh Harrier, Senegal and Coppery-tailed Coucal, Collared Pratincole, Giant Kingfisher, Malachite Kingfisher, Meyers Parrots, and the first African Skimmers for the trip. On returning at dusk the first Black-crowned Night Herons started departing from their daytime roosts. On day fourteen we had an early morning walk which was not too productive and after breakfast left via the Mahangu game park to the border of Botswana. The park had a massive die-off of Hippopotamus and the reason not confirmed at the time but thought to be an anthrax



African Hawk Eagle. Next page, clockwise from top: African Wood Owl, Western Barn Owl and Rosy-faced Lovebirds (Jan-Åke Alvarsson)

outbreak. After breakfast we then travelled via the border into Botswana and on to Shakawe river Lodge. After checking in we did a bit of birding in the area and prepared for the next day which was to be mainly water-born.

The entire day was devoted to the river where we spent most of our time. From time to time we would do short trails into the riverine forest and we eventually had excellent views of Pel's Fishing Owl on an isolated island within a large floodplain. On the boat a little later we recorded Cuckoo Finch for the first time on this Birdquest trip. On the return trip a brief view of Little Bittern. Along the banks we observed Giant, Pied and Malachite Kingfishers, White-fronted, Carmine and Little Bee-eaters were also commonly seen. On the floodplain while searching for the Fishing Owl we also saw several African Green Pigeon here we also called in a pair of Bearded Woodpeckers. The afternoon boat trip upriver gave us good views of White-backed Night Heron, Greater Swamp Warbler and a White-fronted Bee-eater colony gave good photographic opportunities on the return trip a brief view of Little Bittern.

Day sixteen had us packing up and travelling to the border to clear customs, on the way we had good views of Jameson's Firefinch, Marico and White-bellied Sunbirds, more Southern Pied Babbler and a Lesser honeyguide. We then stopped in the woodland to search for Rufous-bellied Tit but to no avail, however we had very good views of Bradfield's Hornbill and at another stop good views of Little Banded Goshawk(Shikra), Dark Chanting Goshawk, Yellow-fronted Canary, and African Yellow White-eyes. We stopped for lunch at Poppa falls camp and a walk to the rapids gave us a distant look at a pair of Rock Pratincoles, from the restaurant we saw Pied Kingfisher, Grey-backed Camaroptera, and several other species seen previously. Further searching in the woodland, we had Chinspot Batis, Brown-crowned Tchagra, and Golden-breasted Bunting, we then searched some prime habitat for Souza's Shrike and were eventually rewarded with two pairs which gave excellent views. We arrived in Rundu late afternoon and after breakfast the following day we had a long drive to Erongo Wilderness Lodge, a brief stop at Otjiwarongo sewerage works gave us sightings of several birds seen previously but nothing new. During dinner we called in a Freckled Nightjar which gave us a fly by and later more were seen flying around the floodlit waterhole.

The last day of the tour had us up early to look for the last special, the enigmatic Rockrunner. Several were calling far up the granite hills and later we were lucky to have three pairs around us with a lot of interaction and interesting behaviour. Other species seen in numbers were Rosy-faced Lovebirds, Cape Buntings, Pririt Batis, Short-toed Rock Thrush, Monteiro's Hornbills, Speckled Pigeon and flying Rock Kestrels. We then packed up and headed off to Windhoek to catch the respective flights back home, no new birds were seen enroute, we





Souza's Shrike - a difficult bird to find however, we had splendid views of two pairs E of Rundu (Jan-Ake Alvarsson).

then dropped off Jan-Ake Bengt for his shuttle to the airport. After lunch at River crossing lodge we travelled to the Hosea Kutako International Airport for the flights back home, although no or very few migrants were seen the total of 374 species for the trip was good and all the near endemics and most of the specials were seen.



Southern Carmine Bee-eaters are always popular! (Steve Braine).

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). IOC World Bird Names. The list is updated several times annually and is available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>

Species which were heard but no seen are indicated by symbol (H)

Species which were only recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (LO).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (NL)

Species marked with the diamond symbol◊ are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' birds for some other reason (e.g. it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

Common Ostrich *Struthio camelus* Most birds seen in the Namib Desert and Etosha.

White-faced Whistling Duck (W-f Duck) *Dendrocygna viduata*

Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis*

Knob-billed Duck (Comb D) *Sarkidiornis melanotos* Only a single individual on the Okavango.

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* Common throughout.

South African Shelduck ◊ *Tadorna cana*

African Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus*

Cape Teal *Anas capensis*

Cape Shoveler ◊ *Anas smithii*

Red-billed Teal (R-b Duck) *Anas erythrorhyncha*

Hottentot Teal *Anas hottentota*

Southern Pochard *Netta erythrophthalma*

Maccoa Duck *Oxyura maccoa*

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris*

Coqui Francolin *Peliperdix coqui* A pair flushed up while birding the Woodland east of Rundu.

Crested Francolin *Dendroperdix sephaena*

Hartlaub's Spurfowl ◊ (H Francolin) *Pternistis hartlaubi* A male and five females at Huab and a female at Dolomite.

Red-billed Spurfowl ◊ (R-b Francolin) *Pternistis adspersus*

Swainson's Spurfowl ◊ (S Francolin) *Pternistis swainsonii* Six birds seen at dik-dik drive in Etosha.

Little Grebe (Dabchick) *Tachybaptus ruficollis* Plentiful where ever open water is found.

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* A few at the Walvis Bay lagoon.

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus*

Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor*
 Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis* Two birds seen in Mahangu Game Park.
 African Openbill (A Open-billed Stork) *Anastomus lamelligerus* Three birds seen from the hotel in Rundu.
 Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* A singleton on the Kunene River.
 White Stork *Ciconia ciconia* A singleton at the Walvis Bay Lagoon.
 Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumenifer*
 African Sacred Ibis (Sacred I) *Threskiornis aethiopicus*
 Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* Twenty at Onesi dam.
 African Spoonbill *Platalea alba*
 Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* A single bird on the Okavango from the boat.
 White-backed Night Heron *Gorsachius leuconotus* A single bird flushed out from thickets on the Okavango.
 Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*
 Striated Heron (Green-backed H) *Butorides striata*
 Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* Plentiful at Onesi and Okavango River.
 Rufous-bellied Heron *Ardeola rufiventris* Two seen flying along the Okavango River.
 Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* Common throughout.
 Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* Common on the coast, rare elsewhere.
 Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala*
 Goliath Heron *Ardea goliath* Two seen along the Kunene River.
 Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* Individuals seen at Onesi and Okavango River.
 Great Egret (Great White E) *Ardea alba*
 Yellow-billed Egret (Intermediate E) *Egretta intermedia*
 Black Heron (B Egret) *Egretta ardesiaca*
 Slaty Egret *Egretta vinaceigula* Two seen at Onesi Dam.
 Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
 Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta*
 Great White Pelican (Eastern W P) *Pelecanus onocrotalus* Common on the lagoon at Walvis Bay.
 Reed Cormorant (Long-tailed C) *Microcarbo africanus*
 White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax lucidus*
 Cape Cormorant *Phalacrocorax capensis*
 African Darter *Anhinga rufa*
 Secretarybird *Sagittarius serpentarius* Seen only in the Etosha National Park.
 Black-winged Kite (Black-shouldered K) *Elanus caeruleus* Common throughout.
 African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene) *Polyboroides typus* Two birds on the Okavango River.
 White-backed Vulture (African W-b V) *Gyps africanus* Many birds seen in Etosha and Mahangu Park.
 Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos*
 Black-chested Snake Eagle (B-breasted S N) *Circaetus pectoralis*
 Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus*
 Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* Seen in Etosha and the woodlands of the Northeast.
 Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus* A pair seen in Windhoek city in gum trees.
 Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* Two seen perched and another flying – Etosha and Mahangu area.
 Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraetus wahlbergi* A single seen between Rundu and Grootfontein.
 Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus* A single seen in the southern Namib.
 Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax* Several seen in Etosha and along the road network.
 African Hawk-Eagle *Aquila spilogaster* Two juveniles on nests and a adult pair seen soaring near Kunene.
 Verreaux's Eagle (Black E) *Aquila verreauxii* A pair seen circling at the Spreetshoogte Pass.
 Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* Two seen on separate nests and others flying by.
 Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates* A juvenile and one adult in the Woodland east of Rundu.
 Pale Chanting Goshawk (Southern P C G) *Melierax canorus* Common except in the Northeast.
 Shikra (Little Banded Goshawk) *Accipiter badius* A single bird seen in the Woodland east of Rundu.
 Little Sparrowhawk *Accipiter minullus*
 African Marsh Harrier *Circus ranivorus*
 Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius*
 African Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer* Only seen on the Okavango and heard on the Kunene River.
 Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur*
 Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori* Common only in Etosha.



The spectacular Wattled Crane (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

Ludwig's Bustard ♦ *Neotis ludwigii* A single bird seen drinking at Dolomite waterhole in Etosha.
 Rüppell's Korhaan ♦ *Eupodotis rueppellii* Seen in the Namib a total of 12 individuals.
 Red-crested Korhaan (Crested Bustard) *Lophotis ruficrista*
 Northern Black Korhaan ♦ *Afrotis afraoides*
 African Rail (A Water R) *Rallus caerulescens* Seen only at Rundu sewerage ponds.
 Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra*
 Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* Seen at Onesi and Rundu sewerage ponds.
 African Swamphen (A Purple S) *Porphyrio madagascariensis*
 Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*
 Red-knobbed Coot (Crested C) *Fulica cristata*
 Wattled Crane ♦ *Grus carunculata* Three pairs seen in the Mahangu Park.
 Water Thick-knee (W Dikkop) *Burhinus vermiculatus*
 Spotted Thick-knee (S Dikkop) *Burhinus capensis*
 African Oystercatcher ♦ (A Black O) *Haematopus moquini* A few seen on the lagoon at Walvis Bay.
 Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* Commonly seen throughout.
 Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* Large numbers at the Walvis Bay lagoon.
 Long-toed Lapwing (L-t Plover) *Vanellus crassirostris* Good views on the Okavango River.
 Blacksmith Lapwing (B Plover) *Vanellus armatus* Very common throughout.
 Crowned Lapwing (C Plover) *Vanellus coronatus* Common throughout.
 African Wattled Lapwing (A W Plover) *Vanellus senegallus* A single bird seen flying by at Kaisosi on the Okavango.
 Grey Plover (Black-bellied P) *Pluvialis squatarola*
 Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*
 Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* Seen at Namibgrens, Walvis Bay and in Etosha.
 Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris* Common throughout.
 White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus*
 Chestnut-banded Plover *Charadrius pallidus* Thousands of juveniles with scattered adults at Walvis Bay lagoon.
 Greater Painted Snipe *Rostratula benghalensis* A single bird at Onesi.
 African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus*
 African Snipe (Ethiopian S) *Gallinago nigripennis* Heard drumming at Onesi and a few seen Rundu sewage ponds.
 Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*



African Skimmer in flight nr Shakawe several birds were still breeding with eggs and young chicks (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

Eurasian Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*
 Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*
 Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*
 Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* Few seen throughout.
 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
 Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
 Sanderling *Calidris alba*
 Little Stint *Calidris minuta*
 Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*
 Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* Seen frequently at all water bodies and coast.
 Burchell's Courser ♦ *Cursorius rufus* One good sighting in the Namib.
 Temminck's Courser *Cursorius temminckii* Seen along the roads and in the Mahangu Park.
 Double-banded Courser (Two-banded C) *Rhinoptilus africanus* Common only in Etosha.
 Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*
 Rock Pratincole *Glareola nuchalis* Two seen at Poppa falls rest camp.
 African Skimmer *Rynchops flavirostris* Seen breeding along the Okavango River at N'Dhovu and Shakawe.
 Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* Three birds seen in Walvis Bay.
 Hartlaub's Gull ♦ *Chroicocephalus hartlaubii* Commonest gull along the coast.
 Cape Gull ♦ *Larus vetula* Common along the coast.
 Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*
 Greater Crested Tern (Swift T) *Thalasseus bergii*
 Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*
 Damara Tern ♦ *Sternula balaenarum* Several birds seen fishing in the lagoon at Walvis Bay.
 Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*
 Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* A few seen along the Okavango River.
 White-winged Tern (W-w Black T) *Chlidonias leucopterus*
 Namaqua Sandgrouse ♦ *Pterocles namaqua* Common in the Namib and Etosha.
 Double-banded Sandgrouse *Pterocles bicinctus* Good views of a pair in Etosha.
 Burchell's Sandgrouse ♦ *Pterocles burchelli* Good views in Etosha.
 Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon) *Columba livia*



Pearl Spotted Owlet (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

- Speckled Pigeon (Rock P)** *Columba guinea* Common throughout.
- Mourning Collared Dove (African Mourning D)** *Streptopelia decipiens* A few pairs on the Kunene and Okavango River.
- Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semitorquata* Very common along the Okavango River.
- Ring-necked Dove (Cape Turtle D)** *Streptopelia capichola* Common throughout.
- Laughing Dove (Palm D)** *Spilopelia senegalensis* Common throughout.
- Emerald-spotted Wood Dove (Green-spotted D)** *Turtur chalcospilos*
- Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis* Common throughout.
- African Green Pigeon** *Treron calvus* Several pairs seen near Shakawe.
- Grey Go-away-bird (G Lourie)** *Corythaixoides concolor* Common throughout.
- Senegal Coucal** *Centropus senegalensis* Two birds on the Okavango.
- Coppery-tailed Coucal** ♦ *Centropus cupreicaudus* Two birds seen along the Okavango River.
- White-browed Coucal** *Centropus superciliosus* Heard on the Kunene and a single bird seen near Shakawe.
- African Cuckoo** *Cuculus gularis* Two seen together near the Rundu sewerage ponds.
- Western Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*
- African Scops Owl** *Otus senegalensis* Heard frequently and seen at Huab lodge.
- Spotted Eagle-Owl** *Bubo africanus* One called in at Namibgrens and another in Etosha.
- Verreaux's Eagle-Owl (Giant E-O)** *Bubo lacteus* A single bird on the Kunene River.
- Pel's Fishing Owl** ♦ *Scotopelia peli* A single bird in the riverine Woods near Shakawe.
- African Wood Owl** *Strix woodfordii* A pair nesting at N'Dhovu lodge.
- Pearl-spotted Owlet (P-s Owl)** *Glaucidium perlatum*
- African Barred Owlet (African B Owl)** *Glaucidium capense* Not seen but Heard across from N'Dhovu lodge.
- Marsh Owl** *Asio capensis* One seen at Rundu sewage ponds.
- Rufous-cheeked Nightjar** *Caprimulgus rufigena*
- Fiery-necked Nightjar** *Caprimulgus pectoralis*
- Square-tailed Nightjar (Mozambique N, Gabon N)** *Caprimulgus fossii* Called in around the boat Kunene River lodge.
- African Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus* Common throughout.
- Alpine Swift** *Tachymarptis melba*
- Common Swift (European S)** *Apus apus* A single bird seen near Rundu.
- Bradfield's Swift** ♦ *Apus bradfieldi* A few seen flying with Palm swifts at the Vineyard.
- Little Swift** *Apus affinis* Very common throughout.



Monteiro's Hornbill (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer*

White-backed Mousebird ♦ *Colius colius* Common in the Namib and in Windhoek.

Red-faced Mousebird *Urocolius indicus* Common throughout seen well at Cave Chat site.

Purple Roller (Rufous-crowned R) *Coracias naevius* Singletons scattered throughout.

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus*

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* A single pair at Shakawe.

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* A single bird called in near Rundu.

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus*

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima*

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus*

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus*

White-fronted Bee-eater *Merops bullockoides* A few colonies on the Okavango river.

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* Heard in the Woodland and a single bird seen by leader.

Southern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicoides* Over a hundred at a colony near N'Dhovu on the Okavango River.

African Hoopoe *Upupa africana* Scattered singletons throughout.

Green Wood Hoopoe (Red-billed W H) *Phoeniculus purpureus* In woodlands E of Rundu and along the Okavango.

Violet Wood Hoopoe ♦ (Southern V W H) *Phoeniculus damarensis* Seen along the Kunene east of the lodge.

Common Scimitarbill (Greater S) *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*

Bradfield's Hornbill ♦ *Tockus bradfieldi* Five birds seen in the Woodland near the Mahangu Park.

African Grey Hornbill *Tockus nasutus* Common throughout.

Monteiro's Hornbill ♦ *Tockus monteiri* Seen frequently from Windhoek to Huab and Erongo.

Damara Red-billed Hornbill ♦ (Damara H) *Tockus damarensis* Common in the Huab area northwards to the Kunene.

Southern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus rufirostris* Common east of Etosha into the Kavango.

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus leucomelas*

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird (Y-f Tinker Barbet) *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* Encountered in the woodland of the NE.

Acacia Pied Barbet (Pied B) *Tricholaema leucomelas*

Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus* A pair at Shakawe.

Crested Barbet (Levaillant's B) *Trachyphonus vaillantii* Seen at Shakawe, heard frequently along the Okavango.

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* Two birds seen in the northeastern woodlands



Bennett's Woodpecker (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

- Bennett's Woodpecker** ♦ *Campethera bennettii* The pale breasted form capricorniseen along the Kunene River.
- Golden-tailed Woodpecker** *Campethera abingoni*
- Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens* Seen at several localities throughout.
- Bearded Woodpecker** *Dendropicos namaquus* A single pair called in along the riverine Woodland near Shakawe.
- Rock Kestrel** *Falco rupicolus*
- Greater Kestrel (White-eyed K)** *Falco rupicoloides*
- Red-necked Falcon** ♦ *Falco chicquera* Very good views of three birds in Etosha.
- African Hobby** *Falco cuvierii* A single bird at dusk near the Rundu sewerage ponds.
- Lanner Falcon** *Falco biarmicus*
- Rosy-faced Lovebird** ♦ *Agapornis roseicollis* Common at Erongo and Kunene River.
- Meyer's Parrot (Brown P)** *Poicephalus meyeri* Common near Shakawe and the Mahangu park.
- Rüppell's Parrot** ♦ *Poicephalus rueppellii* Seen at Huab and the Kunene area.
- Chinspot Batis** *Batis molitor* Common in the woodlands of the northeast.
- Pririt Batis** ♦ *Batis pririt* Common from Windhoek and the western areas.
- White-tailed Shrike** ♦ *Lanioturdus torquatus* Good views of several birds from Huab to Kunene.
- White-crested Helmetshrike (White H)** *Prionops plumatus*
- Retz's Helmetshrike (Red-billed H)** *Prionops retzii* A pair with two young Shakawe and another 4 near Rundu.
- Grey-headed Bushshrike** *Malaconotus blanchoti* A single at the Cave Chat site, form citrinipictus with yellow breast.
- Orange-breasted Bushshrike** *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus*
- Bokmakierie** ♦ *Telophorus zeylonus* Heard at the Spreetshoogte Pass but not seen.
- Brown-crowned Tchagra (Three-streaked T, Brown-headed T)** *Tchagra australis* Common throughout.
- Black-backed Puffback** *Dryoscopus cubla* Common throughout.
- Swamp Boubou** ♦ *Laniarius bicolor* Abundant along the Kunene and Okavango Rivers.
- Crimson-breasted Shrike** ♦ *Laniarius atrococcineus* Common throughout in suitable habitat.
- Brubru** *Nilaus afer* Common more often heard than seen.
- Black Cuckooshrike** *Campephaga flava* Seen only by leader in forest at Shakawe River Lodge.
- Maggie Shrike (African Long-tailed S)** *Urolestes melanoleucus* Common along Okavango floodplains Rundu E.
- Southern White-crowned Shrike** ♦ *Eurocephalus anguimans*
- Souza's Shrike** ♦ *Lanius souzae* Two pairs found in the woodlands east of Rundu.
- Southern Fiscal (S F Shrike)** *Lanius collaris* Very common in the Namib and western Etosha.



Benguela Long-billed Lark and Carp's Tit (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

- Black-headed Oriole (Eastern B-h O) *Oriolus larvatus*** Two birds seen by leader plus one at Kaisosi and Shakawe.
- Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis*** Very common throughout.
- African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis*** A single bird along the Okavango.
- Cape Crow (C Rook, Black C) *Corvus capensis***
- Pied Crow *Corvus albus*** Abundant throughout.
- Carp's Tit ♦ (C's Black T) *Parus carpi*** Seen in pairs at Huab and near the Kunene.
- Southern Black Tit ♦ *Parus niger*** Three pairs seen in the Woodland and Kaisosi.
- Ashy Tit ♦ (Ashy Grey T) *Parus cinerascens***
- Cape Penduline Tit ♦ *Anthoscopus minutus*** A small group seen at the Edge of the Namib desert.
- Rufous-naped Lark *Mirafr africana*** Only one in Etosha.
- Eastern Clapper Lark ♦ *Mirafr fasciolata*** Several seen on Andoni plains in Etosha.
- Fawn-coloured Lark *Calendulauda africanoides*** Birds seen in west Etosha and the woodlands of the northeast.
- Sabota Lark ♦ *Calendulauda sabota*** Abundant along the Namib Edge north to Kunene.
- Dune Lark ♦ *Calendulauda erythrochlamys*** Seen briefly near Rostock and then excellent views near Rooibank.
- Benguela Long-billed Lark ♦ *Certhilauda benguelensis*** Very good views north of Spitskoppe.
- Spike-heeled Lark ♦ *Chersomanes albofasciata***
- Gray's Lark ♦ *Ammomanopsis grayi*** A single bird showed well on the road to Walvis Bay.
- Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea***
- Pink-billed Lark ♦ *Spizocorys conirostris*** Good views in the road while in Etosha.
- Stark's Lark ♦ *Spizocorys starki*** Several along the roadside in the Namib desert.
- Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark (C-b Finchlark) *Eremopterix leucotis*** Many seen well in Etosha.
- Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark ♦ (G-b Finchlark) *Eremopterix verticalis*** Common throughout.
- African Red-eyed Bulbul ♦ *Pycnonotus nigricans*** Very common throughout except for northeast.
- Dark-capped Bulbul (Black-eyed B) *Pycnonotus tricolor*** Common only along the Okavango River.
- Yellow-bellied Greenbul (African Y-b Bulbul) *Chlorocichla flaviventris*** Seen along the Kunene and Okavango Rivers.
- Terrestrial Brownbul (T Bulbul) *Phyllastre phusterrestres*** Several seen at Shaawe and Poppa Falls Resort.
- Brown-throated Martin (Plain M) *Riparia paludicola*** About 20 seen along the Okavango River.
- Banded Martin *Riparia cincta*** A few seen along the Okavango near Shakawe.
- Barn Swallow (European S) *Hirundo rustica***
- White-throated Swallow *Hirundo albigularis*** A pair feeding chicks at the Gammams sewage works in Windhoek.



Rockrunner (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

- Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii* Common along the Kunene and Okavango Rivers.
- Pearl-breasted Swallow** *Hirundo dimidiata* Seen well at Huab Lodge and common along the road to Kunene.
- Rock Martin (African R M)** *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* Abundant in the west but absent from the northeast.
- Greater Striped Swallow** *Cecropis cucullata*
- Lesser Striped Swallow** *Cecropis abyssinica*
- Red-breasted Swallow (Rufous-chested S)** *Cecropis semirufa* A few pairs in Etosha and along the road to Rundu.
- Mosque Swallow** *Cecropis senegalensis* Three pairs seen near Rundu.
- Rockrunner** ♦ *Achaetops pycnopygius* Three pairs seen well at Erongo.
- Long-billed Crombec** *Sylvietta rufescens*
- Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus* A single bird seen in the Woodland near Rundu.
- Greater Swamp Warbler** ♦ *Acrocephalus rufescens* A bird showed well in the papyrus at Shakawe.
- Lesser Swamp Warbler (Cape Reed W)** *Acrocephalus gracilirostris* Seen well at several localities throughout.
- Sedge Warbler (European S W)** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* A single bird seen at Rundu sewage ponds.
- African Reed Warbler (A Marsh W)** *Acrocephalus baeticatus* Seen commonly at Namibgrens and Walvis Bay.
- Little Rush Warbler (African Sedge W)** *Bradypterus baboecala* A single bird called out at Rundu sewage ponds.
- Rattling Cisticola** *Cisticola chiniana* Common at Huab, Kunene and Etosha.
- Tinkling Cisticola** *Cisticola rufigularis* A single bird showed well in the Woodland east of Rundu.
- Chirping Cisticola** ♦ *Cisticola pipiens* A single bird showed well at Shakawe.
- Neddicky (Piping C)** *Cisticola fulvicapilla* Heard only but not seen in the woodlands of the northeast.
- Zitting Cisticola (Fan-tailed C)** *Cisticola juncidis* Common in suitable habitats in Etosha and Rundu.
- Desert Cisticola** *Cisticola aridulus* Common along the roadsides from Windhoek through the desert and Etosha.
- Tawny-flanked Prinia** *Prinia subflava* Common from Rundu along the Okavango River eastwards.
- Black-chested Prinia** ♦ *Prinia flavicans* Very common from Windhoek and the Namib desert.
- Rufous-eared Warbler** ♦ *Malcorus pectoralis* A single bird showed well in Etosha.
- Grey-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brevicaudata* Common throughout.
- Barred Wren-Warbler (African W-w, African Barred W)** *Calamonastes fasciolatus* Seen well in Etosha.
- Yellow-bellied Eremomela** *Eremomela icteropygialis* Common throughout.
- Green-capped Eremomela** *Eremomela scotops* A group of four showed well near N'Dhovu lodge.
- Burnt-necked Eremomela** *Eremomela usticollis* A small group was called in at Namutoni in Etosha.
- Black-faced Babbler** ♦ (B-lored B) *Turdoides melanops* A brief view of six birds at Roy's camp.



Clockwise from top: Barred Wren-Warbler, Rufous-eared Warbler and Violet Wood Hoopoe (Jan-Åke Alvarsson)



Bare-cheeked Babblers (Jan-Åke Alvarsson).

- Arrow-marked Babbler** *Turdoides jardineii* A few groups seen well along the Okavango River.
- Hartlaub's Babbler** ♦ *Turdoides hartlaubii* Very common along the Okavango River.
- Southern Pied Babbler** ♦ *Turdoides bicolor* Several groups from Opuwa, Etosha and nr Shakawe and Mahangu Park.
- Bare-cheeked Babbler** ♦ *Turdoides gymnogenys* Several groups at Huab and along the Kunene area.
- Chestnut-vented Warbler (C-v Titbabbler)** *Sylvia subcaerulea* Common throughout.
- Layard's Warbler** ♦ (L's Titbabbler) *Sylvia layardi* A single bird called in and showed well on Spreetshoogte Pass.
- Orange River White-eye** ♦ *Zosterops pallidus* A fleeting glimpse at Walvis Bay.
- African Yellow White-eye** *Zosterops senegalensis* Common in the woodlands of the northeast.
- Wattled Starling** *Creatophora cinerea* Common throughout.
- Cape Starling (C Glossy S)** *Lamprotornis nitens* Very common throughout.
- Greater Blue-eared Starling (G B-e Glossy S)** *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* A few birds seen at N'Dhovu only.
- Meves's Starling** ♦ (M's Long-tailed S, L-t Glossy S) *Lamprotornis mevesii* Common Kunene and Okavango Rivers.
- Burchell's Starling** ♦ *Lamprotornis australis*
- Violet-backed Starling (Plum-coloured S)** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* A few birds seen in the northeast.
- Pale-winged Starling** ♦ *Onychognathus naboroupp* Common from Windhoek westwards to the Namib.
- Yellow-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus africanus* Common along the Kunene and Okavango Rivers.
- Red-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* Seen only near Shakawe and in Mahangu Park.
- Groundscraper Thrush** *Psophocichla litsitsirupa* Common throughout.
- Kurrichane Thrush** *Turdus libonyana* Common from Rundu eastwards in the woodlands.
- Karoo Scrub Robin (Karoo R)** *Erythropygia coryphoeus* Two pairs in the gardens at Namibgrens.
- Kalahari Scrub Robin** ♦ (Kalahari R) *Erythropygia paena* Very common throughout.
- White-browed Scrub Robin (W-b Robin)** *Erythropygia leucophrys* Heard Kunene and seen before Grootfontein.
- Southern Black Flycatcher** *Melaenornis pammelaina* Plentiful in the woodlands east of Rundu.
- Pale Flycatcher (Mouse-coloured F, Pallid F)** *Bradornis pallidus* Common often with the previous species.
- Chat Flycatcher** ♦ *Bradornis infuscatus* Common in the Eastern Namib desert and western Etosha.
- Marico Flycatcher** ♦ *Bradornis mariquensis* Common throughout.
- Ashy Flycatcher (Blue-grey F)** *Muscicapa caeruleascens*
- White-browed Robin-Chat (Heuglin's C)** *Cossypha heuglini* Common along the Okavango River.
- Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush** ♦ *Cichladusa ruficauda* A pair showed well in the gardens of Kunene River Lodge.
- Short-toed Rock Thrush** ♦ *Monticola brevipes* Reasonably common in the west absent from the northeast.

African Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus* Only two birds seen on the floodplains near Shakawe.

Karoo Chat ♦ *Emarginata schlegelii* Common near Spitkoppe and Eastern Namib.

Tractrac Chat ♦ *Emarginata tractrac* A few birds seen 40km from Walvis Bay.

Ant-eating Chat ♦ (Southern A-e C) *Myrmecocichla formicivora* Common throughout.

Mountain Wheatear (M Chat) *Myrmecocichla monticola* Common along the Namib and mountainous areas.

Familiar Chat (Red-tailed C) *Oenanthe familiaris* Common in the west.

Herero Chat ♦ *Namibornis herero* Two pairs seen east of the Spitskoppe.

Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris* A few in the gardens at Shakawe River lodge.

Amethyst Sunbird (African Black S) *Chalcomitra amethystina* Common in the woodlands in the northeast.

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis* Common throughout.

Marico Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis*

White-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris talatala* Common in the north and northeast.

Dusky Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris fuscus* Common from Windhoek to the Namib Desert.

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali* Common throughout.

Sociable Weaver ♦ *Philetairus socius* Common in the southern Namib and Etosha.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* Common in most towns.

Great Sparrow *Passer motitensis* Common in the west and Etosha.

Cape Sparrow ♦ *Passer melanurus* Seen only at Namibgrens and Walvis Bay.

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer diffusus* Common throughout.

Yellow-throated Petronia (African Y-t Sparrow) *Gymnoris supercilialis* Fairly common in the northeast.

Red-billed Buffalo Weaver *Bubalornis niger* Good views in Etosha and Kaisosi.

Scaly-feathered Weaver ♦ (S-f Finch) *Sporopipes squamifrons* Very common in the Namib and Etosha.

Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis* A single male seen at Shakawe River Lodge.

Holub's Golden Weaver (Golden W) *Ploceus xanthops* Seen along the Kunene and Okavango Rivers.

Southern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus xanthopterus* Seen only at Shakawe River lodge.

Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius*

Southern Masked Weaver (Masked W) *Ploceus velatus* Common in the west.

Village Weaver (Spotted-backed W) *Ploceus cucullatus* A few seen at Shakawe River Lodge and along the river.

Chestnut Weaver *Ploceus rubiginosus* Birds out of breeding seen near Kunene river.

Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps* Two females seen in the Woodland east of Rundu.

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* Very common throughout.

Southern Red Bishop *Euplectes orix* Many out of breeding in the reeds at Onesi.

Fan-tailed Widowbird (Red-shouldered Widow) *Euplectes axillaris* A few birds seen near Shakawe along the river.

Green-winged Pytilia (Melba Finch) *Pytilia melba* Common throughout.

Red-headed Finch ♦ *Amadina erythrocephala* Common along the Namibia and in Etosha.

Cut-throat Finch *Amadina fasciata* Four birds seen along the roadside east of Rundu.

Brown Firefinch ♦ *Lagonosticta nitidula* Three groups of about 10 – 20 birds seen along the Okavango near Shakawe.

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegalensis*

Jameson's Firefinch *Lagonosticta rhodopareia* Four birds seen near Shakawe.

Blue Waxbill (Blue-breasted Cordon-bleu) *Uraeginthus angolensis* Common throughout.

Violet-eared Waxbill ♦ *Uraeginthus granatinus* Common throughout.

Cinderella Waxbill ♦ *Estrilda thomensis* 12 birds seen at a water seep on the way back from the Cave Chat site.

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild* Common throughout.

Black-faced Waxbill ♦ *Estrilda erythroneura*

African Quailfinch *Ortygospiza fuscocrissa* A few birds at Onesi were difficult but showed well.

Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura* Seen well in Windhoek.

Shaft-tailed Whydah *Vidua regia* Groups in association with the next species along the roadside south of Windhoek.

Long-tailed Paradise Whydah (Eastern P W) *Vidua paradisaea*

Cuckoo Finch ♦ *Anomalospiza imberbis* Six birds seen on the floodplain near Shakawe.

Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis* Common throughout.

African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* Seen only on the Kunene and Okavango Rivers.

African Pipit (Grassveld P) *Anthus cinnamomeus*

Buffy Pipit *Anthus vaalensis* Seen only by the leader near Spreetshoogte pass (LO).

Black-throated Canary *Crithagra atrogularis* Very common throughout.

Yellow-fronted Canary (Y-eyed C) *Crithagra mozambica* Fairly common in the woodlands of the northeast.

Yellow Canary ♦ *Crithagra flaviventris* Several seen in the Windhoek area and at Gammams.

White-throated Canary ♦ *Crithagra albogularis* Seen at Namibgrens and the Namib.
 Lark-like Bunting ♦ *Emberiza impetuanii* Seen commonly on the way to the Namib.
 Cinnamon-breasted Bunting (C-b Rock B) *Emberiza tahapisi*
 Cape Bunting ♦ *Emberiza capensis* Best views at Erongo Wilderness Lodge.
 Golden-breasted Bunting (African G-b B) *Emberiza flaviventris* Common throughout.

Mammals

Angolan Epauletted Fruit Bat *Epomophorus angolensis* Seen at Kunene and Rundu.
 Bushveld Elephant Shrew *Elephantulus intufi* Seen at the Herero Chat site east of Spitzkoppe.
 Dassie Rat *Petromus typicus* Good views at Erongo Wilderness Lodge.
 Ground Squirrel (Cape Ground S) *Xerus inauris* Along the road to Namibgrens and in Etosha.
 Striped Tree Squirrel (Kuhl's T S) *Funisciurus congicus* Common at Huab Lodge.
 Tree Squirrel (Smith's Bush S) *Paraxerus cepapi* Common in the northeast.
 Scrub Hare *Lepus saxatilis*
 Rock Dassie (Cape D, Cape R Hyrax) *Procavia capensis* Common at Erongo.
 African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* Many seen in Etosha.
 Mountain Zebra *Equus zebra* Common in western Etosha.
 Burchell's Zebra *Equus burchelli* Seen daily throughout Etosha.
 Black Rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis* 14 at Okaukeujo waterhole and one in the bush - Etosha.
 Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibious* Many on the Okavango and Mahangu with a lot dead and dying.
 Warthog *Phacochoerus aethiopicus* Seen throughout.
 Giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis* Seen daily in Etosha.
 Blue Wildebeest (Brindled Gnu) *Connochaetes taurinus* Common in Etosha.
 Red Hartebeest (Hartebeeste) *Alcelaphus buselaphus* Common in Etosha.
 Tsessebe (Sassaby) *Damaliscus lunatus* A single animal on the floodplains in Mahangu Park.
 Springbok (Springbuck) *Antidorcas marsupialis* Common in Etosha and the Namib.
 Klipspringer *Oreotragus oreotragus* Three seen near the Spreetshoogte Pass.
 Damara Dik-Dik (Kirk's D-D) *Madoqua kirkii* Several seen in Etosha.
 Steenbok (Steinbok) *Raphicerus campestris* Common throughout.
 Impala *Aepyceros melampus* Common in Etosha.
 Roan (R Antelope) *Hippotragus equinus* Three seen when entering the Mahangu Park.
 Sable (S Antelope) *Hippotragus niger* Five seen in the Mahangu Park.
 Gemsbok (Oryx) *Oryx gazelle* Seen in the Namib, Huab and Etosha.
 Kudu (Greater K) *Tragelaphus strepsiceros* Seen at Huab and Etosha.
 Bushbuck *Tragelaphus scriptus* Seen at Shakawe, N'Dhovu and the Mahangu Park.
 Eland *Taurotragus oryx* A single bull seen at Dolomite waterhole in Etosha.
 Reedbuck (Common R) *Redunca arundinum* Many seen on the floodplains in Mahangu Park.
 Waterbuck (Common W) *Kobus ellipsiprymnus* Two seen across the river from Ndhovu.
 Red Lechwe (Lechwe) *Kobus leche* Common on the floodplains in Mahangu Park.
 Spotted Hyena *Crocuta crocuta* A couple seen in Etosha one with a snare around his neck.
 Lion *Panthera leo* Eight seen in Etosha.
 Black-backed Jackal *Canis mesomelas*
 Cape Clawless Otter (African C O) *Aonyx capensis*
 Yellow Mongoose (Bushy-tailed Meerkat) *Cynictis penicillata*
 Slender Mongoose *Galerella sanguinea*
 Banded Mongoose *Mungos mungo* A small group seen at Namutoni camp in Etosha.
 Chacma Baboon *Papio ursinus* Commonly seen throughout.
 Vervet Monkey *Cercopithecus aethiops* Common along the Kunene and in Mahangu Park.