



The extraordinaire Shoebill gave fantastic views during the tour. (DLV. All photos taken by DLV and Bradley Hacker)

ULTIMATE UGANDA

15/20 JULY (RWANDA EXTENSION) – 8 AUGUST 2018

LEADER: DANI LOPEZ-VELASCO and LIVINGSTONE KALEMA

For any world-travelling birder, a visit to Uganda should definitely be on the agenda. Why? The fabulous Shoebill is probably a good-enough reason to visit this magical, friendly and welcoming country, but there are many more, including a good selection of Albertine Rift endemics, with such megas as Grauer's Broadbill or Green-breasted Pitta, as well as other difficult western African forest species. Together with some great mammal watching, with of course primates as the icing of the cake, in particular the mighty Eastern Gorillas and Chimpanzees. Combined with excellent accommodation and food, impressive scenery and a good road network, it's easy to understand why this African country is undoubtedly one of my favourites in the whole world! Rwanda has a lot to offer too, Nyungwe forest is a wonderful and very birdy place, and in the bird front, the unique Red-collared Mountain Babbler stands out. By visiting the 2 countries, any visiting birder greatly increases the chances of seeing a very good selection of Albertine Rift endemics.

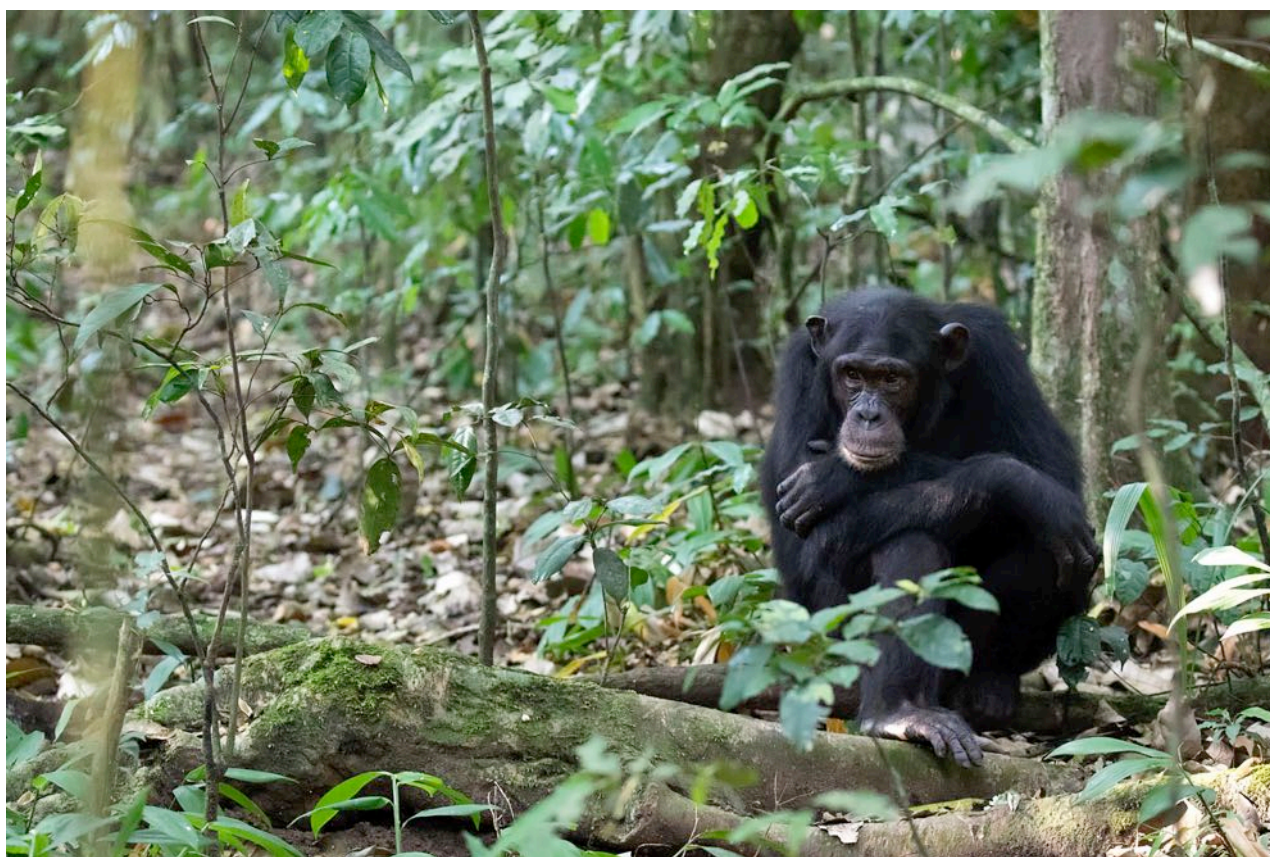


This wonderful and rarely seen Green-breasted Pitta was one of the highlights of the tour.

This year's tour was, with over 580 species recorded, packed with highlights, but several stand out: Shoebill, of course, was one of the birds of the trip, and we succeeded in getting walk-away views both at Mabamba and Murchison Falls NP. A stunning Green-breasted Pitta was seen extremely well, at very close quarters, at Kibale, while, after some hard word, 3 of the near-mythical Grauer's (African Green) Broadbills were watched at length at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. On the mammal front, our encounters with the incredible Eastern Gorillas of Bwindi were truly unforgettable, as were the Chimpanzees at Kibale, while we were also lucky with Lions, with sightings both in Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NP.

There were of course many more avian highlights. A whole host of Albertine Rift endemic species included the superb Ruwenzori Turaco, seen in Nyungwe, Rwanda, where we also saw Red-collared (Mountain) Babbler, the rare Kungwe Apalis and the stunning Kivu (Abyssinian) Ground Thrush, whilst other favourites seen in the main tour included several amazing adult male Pennant-winged Nightjars flying around our vehicle in Murchison Falls NP or the gorgeous Doherty's Bushshrike singing its heart out in the highland forest. Amongst the many other mouth-watering specialities that we saw were 3 Nahan's Partridges, Heuglin's and Handsome Francolins, White-backed Night Heron, Mountain Buzzard, perched Crowned Eagle, Brown-chested Lapwing, African Finfoot, African Crake, Afep Pigeon, Black-billed Turaco, Forest

Wood Hoopoe, Dusky and Barred Long-tailed Cuckoos, Northern White-faced Owl, Ruwenzori Nightjar, Chocolate-backed and African Dwarf Kingfishers, White-thighed Hornbill, Willcock's, Least and Dwarf Honeyguides, Tullberg's, Speckle-breasted and Elliot's Woodpeckers, Ruwenzori and Ituri Batises, Jameson's Wattle-eye, Lowland, Willard's and Mountain Sooty Boubous, Lühder's, Lagdens and Doherty's Bushshrikes, Papyrus Gonolek, Petit's Cuckooshrike, White-tailed Lark, Mountain Oriole, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Stripe-breasted Tit, Kakamega, Olive-breasted (Mountain), Toro Olive and White-throated Greenbuls, Yellow-lored Bristlebill, White-browed Crombec, Neumann's (Short-tailed) Warbler, Grauer's Warbler, Red-faced and Uganda Woodland Warblers, White-winged and Grauer's Swamp Warblers, Whistling, Chubb's, Carruthers's, Foxy and Long-tailed Cisticolas, Black-faced Prinia, Ruwenzori Apalis, Red-winged Grey Warbler, Lowland and Mountain Masked Apalises, Chestnut-throated Apalis, Scaly-breasted and Mountain Illadopsises, Dusky and Black-lored Babblers, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, Red-faced Barbet, Sharpe's Starling, Red-throated and Fire-crested Alethes, (Eastern) Forest Robin, Archer's Ground Robin, Blue-shouldered, Grey-winged and White-bellied Robin Chats, Equatorial Akalat, Jameson's Antpecker, Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher, Chapin's Flycatcher, Silverbird, Purple-breasted, Grey-headed, Superb, Blue-headed, Ruwenzori Double-collared, Regal and Red-chested Sunbirds, Shelley's Sparrow, Strange Weaver, Weyns's Weaver, Dusky Crimsonwing, Grey-headed Oliveback, Dusky and Brown Twinspots, Kandt's Waxbil and Western Citril.



Chimpanzee at Kibale.

Our Rwanda pre-tour extension started in Kigali, the capital of the country. From there, and after a good night's sleep, we drove westwards towards our base for the next 3 days, the beautiful and little visited Nyungwe National Park in the southwestern part of the country. During the journey we saw a Ruaha Chat, as well as some common and widespread African birds, such as Hamerkop, Yellow-billed Kite and Pied Crow. The road was in very good condition, and we all admired how clean everything was in Rwanda, where, amongst other things, plastic bags have been banned. Once we got to our hotel, overlooking the mountains and the forest, we left our bags and went straight birding with our excellent local guide Claver. Our afternoon outing was very productive, and the whole place was extremely birdy, something we experienced every day during our stay. The birds were very responsive too, and some of the Albertine Rift endemics that are hard to see in Bwindi were far easier to find here. To have a good chance of seeing all of the possible endemics,

coming to Nyungwe is a must. Possibly the best bird seen during the afternoon was a very cooperative Willard's Sooty Boubou, an Albertine Rift endemic, described not long ago, that showed very well. Other key birds such as the tiny White-browed Crombec, Ruwenzori Apalis, Mountain Masked Apalis, Red-faced Woodland Warbler, Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher, Blue-headed Sunbird and the cracking Regal Sunbird were all easily seen too. Supporting cast included Great Blue Turaco, Blue Malkoha, a showy Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo, some Scarce Swifts, colourful Cinnamon-chested Bee-eaters, a pair of Many-colored Bushshrikes and Olive-breasted Greenbul.



Regal Sunbird from Nyungwe. What a beautiful sunbird!

During the next 3 days, in excellent weather and without seeing a single tourist while in the forest, we birded a variety of areas and trails in the Nyungwe area. Nyungwe National Park protects the largest remaining tract of Albertine Rift forest in Rwanda. Nyungwe Forest covers over 1000 square kilometres and is thought to be one of Africa's oldest and most diverse forests. A series of forest types are protected here in an elevational range of from 1600m to almost 3000m. The park area was first gazetted as a reserved forest in 1933 and achieved national park status in 2004. Although there has been some impact from agricultural encroachment and even gold-mining, the vast majority of the area remains pristine. The park lies on the Congo/Nile watershed and Mount Bigugu is the farthest point from the Mediterranean that the Nile's water flows from.

The birding was excellent, and we saw all of the expected targets. The most important bird here, and one that took some time to find, was Red-collared (Mountain) Babbler. Nyungwe is arguably the only reliable and safe location in the world to see this bird, so it was a top priority for us. We drew a blank on our first day, but finally, on day 2, we tracked down a small flock of these canopy-dwelling and unique babblers. They creep along trunks and branches in nuthatch style, and we enjoyed excellent views of them, much to everyone's delight. Another range-restricted species we focused on was the rare Kungwe Apalis. We spent some time looking for it and eventually we found a pair, which showed nicely. The rare Kivu Ground Thrush, now lumped in Abyssinian Ground Thrush by some authorities, was another major highlight during our stay, with a singing bird showing extremely well. Two highly desired bushshrikes, Lagden's and Doherty's, both tricky to see in Uganda, obliged at length too. Another unforgettable encounter we had was that of a fearless Red-throated Alethe, normally a very elusive species, that hopped around us in the trail, even in between our feet a few times! Magical! The unique Neumann's (Short-tailed) Warbler proved tricky to see, but after some persistence we all managed decent views. Stunning Purple-breasted Sunbirds were pleasantly common too, especially around *Symphonia* flowering trees, and were definitely much easier to see than in Bwindi. Other specialities seen during our time in Nyungwe included Handsome Francolin, Crowned Eagle, Cassin's Hawk

Eagle, Mountain Buzzard, Black-billed Turaco, Bar-tailed Trogon, Dwarf Honeyguide, Tullberg's and Elliot's Woodpeckers, Ruwenzori Batis, Mountain Sooty Boubou, Mountain Oriole, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, White-bellied Crested Flycatcher, Stripe-breasted Tit, Grauer's Warbler, Chubb's Cisticola, Black-faced Prinia, Lühder's Bushshrike, Mountain Illadopsis, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, Archer's Ground Robin, Equatorial Akalat, Ruwenzori Double-collared Sunbird, Strange Weaver and Dusky Crimsonwing. Nightbirding gave us African Wood Owl, a calling Red-chested Owlet and Ruwenzori (now lumped in Montane) Nightjar. The near-mythical Albertine Owlet, present in the forest, was, expectedly, not heard, in spite of trying hard for it.



Red-collared (Mountain) Babbler and Archer's Ground Robin from Nyungwe.

On our last day, as we left the park, we made a short stop in a marshy area to look for Grauer's Swamp Warbler, which proved easy to find. On the way back to Kigali we stopped in a papyrus swamp by the road,

which gave us a colorful Papyrus Gonolek, as well as a singing Greater Swamp Warbler. After an early dinner, we took a flight to Entebbe, Uganda, where the main tour started the following day.



Willard's Sooty Boubou and Lühder's Bushshrike.

Our Uganda tour began in Entebbe with an early morning visit to Mabamba Swamp, in order to look for what is arguably one of the “best” birds in the world, – the bizarre, prehistoric-looking and absolutely stunning Shoebill. We finally arrived at Mabamba and were soon taken in two wooden pirogues straight to the favoured areas of our prized target. And it didn't take more than five minutes before we were face-to-face with an extraordinary Shoebill! We enjoyed walk-away views for as long as we wanted, and we even saw the bird catching a big eel-type fish. What an amazing bird! Not far from the first one, we also found another one. Fully satisfied with our views, we decided to visit a nearby Weyns's Weaver colony. This is an

uncommon and range-restricted species, and we were very pleased with the great views obtained of large numbers of them around their nests. Some more exploration of the marsh gave us great views of a pair of Lesser Jacanas, jewel-like Malachite Kingfishers and noisy Pied Kingfishers, Yellow-billed Duck, African Openbill, Marabou Stork, Hadada Ibis, Purple and Squacco Herons, Little Egret, Hamerkop, Reed Cormorant, African Jacana and Long-toed Lapwing. Blue-breasted Bee-eaters were seen flying around, while in the dense swampland vegetation Winding Cisticolas and Swamp Flycatchers were photographed. Returning to dry land we visited a small weaver colony on the lakeshore, and soon found a bright male Orange Weaver. We had lunch in another marshy area, where at least 3 Blue Swallows were soon found, giving excellent views together with other hirundines. Other species seen throughout the morning included Black-headed Heron, African Harrier-Hawk, Palm-nut and Hooded Vultures, Wahlberg's Eagle, vociferous African Fish Eagles, Lizard Buzzard, African Marsh Harrier, Shikra, Senegal Lapwing, White-winged Tern, Red-eyed Dove, Blue-spotted Wood Dove, African Green Pigeon, Great Blue Turaco, Eastern Plantain-eater, White-throated Bee-eater, Blue-headed Coucal, Levallant's, Diederik and Klass's Cuckoos, African Palm, White-rumped and Little Swifts, Speckled Mousebird, Broad-billed Roller, Woodland Kingfisher, Black-and-white Casqued Hornbill, Brown-throated Wattle-eye, Pied Crow, Piapiac, Dark-capped Bulbul, Yellow-throated Leaflove, Grey-rumped Swallow, Brown-throated (Plain) Martin, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Grey-capped Warbler, Grey-backed Camaroptera, African Yellow White-eye, Rüppell's Starling, African Thrush, Sooty Chat, Northern Black Flycatcher, Red-chested Sunbird, Northern Grey-headed Sparrow, Black-necked, Black-headed, Vieillot's Black and Northern Brown-throated Weavers, Fan-tailed Widowbird, Red-billed Firefinch, Bronze and Black-and-white Mannikins, Common Waxbill, Pin-tailed Whydah, Yellow-throated Longclaw, African Pipit and African Pied Wagtail. We spent the afternoon driving towards Jinja. The traffic was dreadful, and we reached our accommodation well after sunset.



Weyns's Weaver from Mabamba.

The next day we visited the remnants of Mabira Forest, and during our productive time here we managed to find some special birds. A pair of White-spotted Flufftails showed exceptionally well, as did 2 Forest Wood Hoopoes, our main target in the forest. A calling Lowland Sooty Boubou gave brief views, while another key species here, Yellow-lored Bristlebill, sat in the open for ages. A singing Blue-shouldered Robin Chat was, as usual, difficult to spot in its thick home, but after some persistence all of us saw the bird, and Sander even managed to get a good photo! We had our first views of Tambourine Dove, a Grey Longbill was found, and

plenty of confusing greenbuls including Slender-billed, Little, Little Grey, Plain (Cameroon Sombre), Yellow-whiskered, Honeyguide, White-throated and Red-tailed were seen. A cracking Jameson's Wattle-eye showed extremely well too. Other additions to our list included Black-billed Turaco, Narina Trogon, African Pied Hornbill, Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Yellow-spotted, Grey-throated, Yellow-billed and Hairy-breasted Barbets, Yellow-throated Tinkerbird, Brown-eared Woodpecker, Chestnut Wattle-eye, African Shrike-Flycatcher, Olive-green Camaroptera, Western Oriole, Western Nicator, Buff-throated Apalis, Green Crombec, a skulking Scaly-breasted Illadopsis seen by some of us, Purple-headed Starling, Fraser's Rufous Thrush, Ashy Flycatcher, (Eastern) Forest Robin, Grey-headed, Little Green, Grey-chinned and Blue-throated Brown Sunbirds, Yellow-mantled Weaver, Red-headed Malimbe and White-breasted and Grey-headed Nigritas. All in all, a very productive day in the forest.

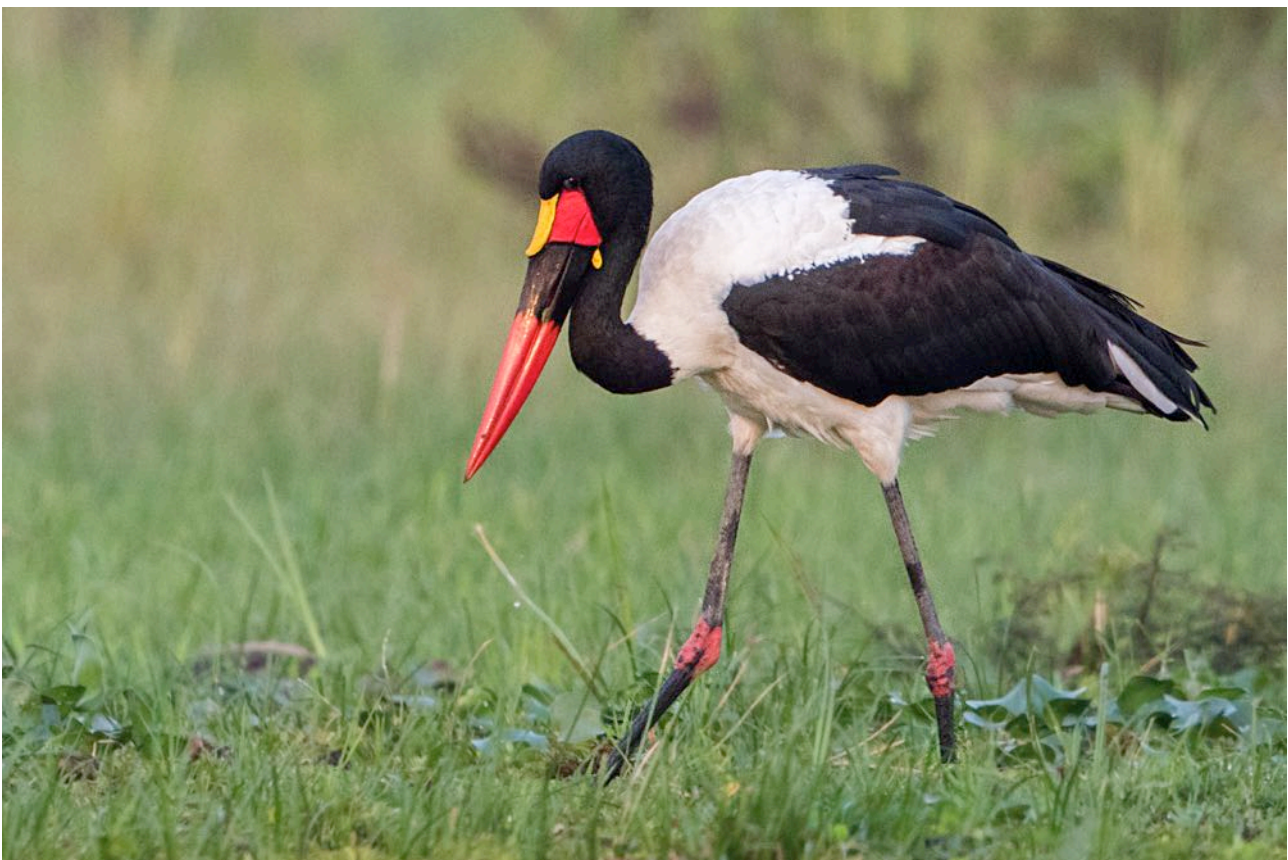
The next morning we left our hotel early, but nevertheless we got caught in very heavy traffic in the sprawling city of Kampala. As a result, we didn't reach the open cultivated countryside until lunchtime. We made a quick stop en route at the Luwero marshes where we found the localized Marsh Widowbird. Here we also noted the yellow-shouldered form of Yellow-mantled Widowbird as well as African Openbill, African Marsh Harrier and Blue-headed Coucal. A small breeding colony of Pink-backed Pelicans nearby distracted us for a while, and the journey proved to be good for raptors as well, including African Harrier-Hawk, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Long-crested Eagle and Grey Kestrel. In the afternoon we birded some ranch lands and managed to see a good selection of open-country birds, including a stunning White-crested Turaco, Bruce's Green Pigeon, Blue-naped Mousebird, Broad-billed Roller, Striped, Woodland and African Pygmy Kingfishers, Little Bee-eater, White-headed, Double-toothed and Spot-flanked Barbets, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, a brief Greater Honeyguide, Meyer's Parrot, Black Cuckooshrike, Black-crowned Tchagra, Northern Puffback, Tropical Boubou, White-shouldered Black Tit, Grey-backed Fiscal, Black-headed Oriole, Piapiac, a brief Northern Crombec, Croaking Cisticola, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Buff-bellied Warbler, Brown Babbler, Splendid, Lesser Blue-eared, a brief Bronze-tailed and Purple Starlings, White-browed Scrub Robin, Pale Flycatcher, Copper, Marico, Red-chested and Scarlet-chested Sunbirds, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Little, Spectacled and Red-headed Weavers, Black Bishop, Pin-tailed Whydah, Village Indigobird, Green-winged Pytilia and Golden-breasted Bunting. We arrived to Jinja in the early evening, where we stayed overnight.



The two main target birds in the Royal Mile: Ituri Batis and Nahan's Partridge.

Next morning we headed towards Kaniyo Pabidi, part of the sprawling Budongo Forest. We did some roadside birding on the way, seeing Marsh Tchagra, Brown-backed Scrub Robin, Compact Weaver, Red-collared Widowbird and Brown Twinspot amongst other things. We then spent most of the morning exploring the network of trails that lead into the superb rainforest with its magnificent mahogany and ironwood trees. The birding was very slow going this morning, but with some persistence we got to see some of its shy

inhabitants. A singing Fire-crested Alethe sat in a log for a while, Blue Malkohas were seen in the canopy, a pair of Yellow-crested Woodpeckers obliged and a small flock of lively Chestnut-capped Flycatchers delighted us. The highly sought-after and jewel-like African Dwarf Kingfisher was seen well, but Chocolate-backed Kingfisher remained a heard-only bird. In spite of visiting all known territories and playing the tape at all the usual sites, strangely we couldn't get any response from Puvel's Illadopsis. Other notable species seen during the morning included Red-chested Cuckoo, Western Oriole, Spotted Greenbul, Green Hylia, Red-headed Malimbe and Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher. After lunch we continued on through the park. A good range of bush country birds were logged, such as Helmeted Guineafowl, Crested Francolin, Bateleur, Black-billed Wood Dove, Vinaceous Dove, Grey-headed Kingfisher, our first cracking Red-throated Bee-eaters, White-crested Helmetshrike, Brown-throated Wattle-eye, Red-shouldered Cuckoshrike, Northern Puffback, Red-winged Grey Warbler, Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat, Short-winged and Rattling Cisticolas, Beautiful Sunbird, Chestnut-crowned Sparrow Weaver and Cabanis's Bunting. Once at the falls, we watched in amazement as the huge volume of water surged through the narrow ravine and over the edge of the falls, while a number of Rock Pratincoles rested on the rocks. It was then time to drive back to our wonderful hotel on the other side of the river.



Saddle-billed Stork.

The next morning we drove out before it was light, and we explored the park on the north bank and by boat along the river. The south bank is for the most part heavily vegetated with shrubs and trees and tall grasses whilst the north bank comprises short grasslands, rolling hills and open Borassus Palm-studded grasslands inhabited by large herds of game that include numerous Uganda Kob, Rothschild's Giraffes and many Sudan Oribi and Lelwel Hartebeest, as well as some Patas Monkeys. We spent much of our time searching out the specialties of the park and were rewarded with sightings of most of them, from uncommon Dusky Babbler, to beautiful Silverbirds, to attractive Shelley's Sparrows. A boat trip took us downstream towards the delta. A few large Nile Crocodiles and numerous Hippopotamuses wallowed in the shallows and as we made our way downstream, past both Senegal and Water Thick-knees, numerous Pied Kingfishers, impressive Saddle-billed Storks and Goliath Herons and small numbers of African Darters. Other waterside birds included White-faced Whistling Duck, Spur-winged and Egyptian Geese, Yellow-billed Stork, Black Crake, African Sacred Ibis, Squacco and Grey Herons, Great and Intermediate Egrets, Long-toed and Spur-winged

Lapwings, Grey-headed Gull, Carruthers's Cisticolas, Papyrus Gonolek and Swamp Flycatchers. As we were about to disembark, we found a pair of very obliging Shoebills. On the short grass plains of the north bank we watched some impressive Abyssinian Ground Hornbills, fancy-looking Black-headed Lapwings and hundreds of Piapiacs, as well as colourful Swallow-tailed, Little and Northern Carmine Bee-eaters and breeding plumaged Northern Red Bishops. Uganda's National Bird, the impressive Grey Crowned Crane was admired at close quarters. Vultures are well represented here and we observed White-backed, Rüppell's and Lappet-faced. Several new raptors were also logged, including Western Banded Snake Eagle, Martial Eagle and Gabar Goshawk. Other species seen during the day included Black-bellied Bustard, African Wattled Lapwing, Wood Sandpiper, Gull-billed Tern, Common Buttonquail, Mourning Collared Dove, White-browed and Senegal Coucals, a party of Green Wood Hoopoes, Black Scimitarbill, Black-billed Barbet, Nubian Woodpecker, Flappet Lark, Banded Martin, Moustached Grass Warbler, Foxy and Zitting Cisticolas, hundreds of Violet-backed Starlings, Yellow-billed Oxpecker, Spotted Palm Thrush, Sooty Chat, Speckle-fronted, Thick-billed and Vitelline Masked Weavers, Black-winged Red Bishop, Yellow-mantled Widowbird, Bar-breasted Firefinch and Black-rumped Waxbill. A night drive on the north bank delivered unbeatable views of several fully plumaged male Pennant-winged Nightjars, certainly a trip highlight, as well as a pair of Slender-tailed Nightjars and our only Northern White-faced Owl of the trip. Nearby we also found a Lioness with 2 small cubs.



Classic Murchison Falls NP scenery.

Reluctantly we departed the park the next day, adding a couple of good birds on the way, including a pair of overdue Heuglin's Francolins, and made our way through cultivation and open scrub. Here, we found our target White-rumped Seedeater, as well as Brown Snake Eagle, Olive Bee-eater, Cardinal and African Grey Woodpeckers, Western Black-headed Batis, Green-backed Eremomela, Grey-headed Bushshrike –heard only-, and Black-faced Waxbill. We had lunch on the Butiaba Escarpment, where we found Namaqua Dove, a pair of Horus Swift prospecting an abandoned bee-eater colony, a flock of Cut-throat Finches –a species without records in the country until 2016- and a brief Cinnamon-breasted Rock Bunting. We made a short stop in the afternoon in the forest at Busingiro, where we did very well in spite of the hour. The highlight was undoubtedly the diminutive Ituri Batis, a very localized species in Uganda that elsewhere only occurs in Congo, that showed so very well, almost eye level, while supporting cast included Mottled and Cassin's Spinetails, Yellow-billed Barbet, Yellow-whiskered Greenbul and White-breasted Nigrita. By dusk we arrived at the little town of Masindi, which was to be our base for the next two nights.



A spectacular male Pennant-winged Nightjar.

We had a full day to explore Budongo Forest and we concentrated on a stretch that is known as the Royal Mile. Birding here is no easy thing, the birds are shy and it takes time to get good views of them, but in the end we did very well with the main targets. The rare and very shy Nahan's Partridge proved easy to see this time, with 3 birds showing very well, and even crossing the trail exactly at the spot we wanted. The attractive Chocolate-backed Kingfisher was finally tracked down, and we even scoped it, and we saw another African Dwarf Kingfisher, while a single Forest Wood Hoopoe was a surprise find here. A large group of Crested Guinea-fowls was most welcome too. A calling Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo proved, typically for the species, challenging to see, and was only glimpsed a couple of times. A cracking Jameson's Wattle-eye showed nicely, and the tiny and local Uganda Woodland Warbler was spotted high in the canopy, sharing the tree with an uncommon Lemon-bellied Crombec. Of the more conspicuous birds we saw a pair of striking Fraser's Forest Flycatchers –our only ones of the tour-, a couple of small flocks of distinctive wing-flicking Spotted Greenbuls, lovely Rufous-crowned Eremomelas delighted and perky Chestnut-capped Flycatchers flitted about. Other birds sighted included Speckled Tinkerbird, Yellow-crested Woodpecker, Chestnut Wattle-eye, Western Oriole, Thick-billed Honeyguide, Western Nicator, Fraser's Rufous Thrush, Little Green, Grey-chinned and Olive Sunbirds, Red-headed Malimbe and Red-headed Bluebill. In the afternoon we visited some cultivated areas not far from the road, adding Woolly-necked Stork, African Hobby, Whistling Cisticola, Brown Babbler, African Yellow Warbler, Holub's Golden Weaver, Cardinal and Red-headed Queleas (breeding-plumaged males of both), a brief Grey-headed Oliveback, Black-bellied Firefinch, Black-crowned Waxbill and Magpie Mannikin (building a nest in a small village).

The next day was mainly a long travel day to Kibale Forest but we first had some time by some of Uganda's many swamps. In the surrounding cultivation we found plenty of granivorous birds including the sought-after Grey-headed Oliveback, which gave much better views than yesterday. The habitat also held a vocal Black Cuckoo, a male Orange-tufted Sunbird –a rarely seen species-, some fly-by Red-faced Lovebirds, Senegal Coucal, Marsh Tchagra, Black Bishop and our first Green-headed Sunbirds. Along the journey we made a stop in a papyrus swamp where we got great looks at a White-winged Swamp Warbler. Further on, we noted Northern Fiscal before eventually reaching the forest itself, just in time for some late afternoon roadside birding. We soon managed to locate our 2 main targets: Lowland Masked Apalis and Joyful Greenbul, both showing very well, while a Cassin's Honeybird was a good find too. Not far from there, on a small forest pond, we found a single African Black Duck. We then continued through tea estates, arriving to our lodge for a 3 nights stay on the edge of the Kibale National Park itself.



White-thighed Hornbill.

We had to be up well before dawn in order to increase our chances of finding the rare and elusive Green-breasted Pitta, one of the ultimate birds in Uganda and the whole of Africa. Our guide led us through the darkness into the preferred area of the pitta, and we quietly waited for the frog-like call of our target to be heard. Gradually the inhabitants of the forest started waking up and the dawn chorus began. And soon after, we heard the distinctive call of our quarry! We walked towards the sound as quietly as we could, and not long after we were watching the bird, sitting on a branch and doing its typical jump as it made its display call, just a few metres from us. Excellent! We had frame-filling scope views of this mega bird for half an hour, admiring its beautiful plumage in detail, before moving on to look for our other main target in the forest. Kibale Forest has surely got to be THE place to see Chimpanzee as it now boasts of at least a 90% hit rate chance of seeing members of their habituated troops. Leaving the pitta territories behind we were taken into the heart of a group of chimps, and soon found ourselves below a tree where a small group was feeding. We watched our closest relatives for a lengthy time, and then some more started to arrive, on foot, walking just next to us. We witnessed all kinds of behaviours, just a few feet from us, including some impressive aggressive display by a male, and the whole experience surely became one of the highlights of the trip. It was really unforgettable. Afterwards we did a bit more birding in the forest, and found another (or the same?) pitta, feeding on the ground and giving terrific views. Very happy with our successful morning, we went back to our hotel for lunch. In the afternoon we did some roadside forest birding, which was very productive. Black Bee-eaters were, as usual, much appreciated, and posed nicely in the scope, next to a Blue-throated Roller,

while a Cassin's Flycatcher gave excellent views sitting on a rock by the river. Other notable species seen included Afep Pigeon, some Narrow-tailed Starlings, Cassin's Hawk Eagle, African Emerald and Klass's Cuckoos, a small group of noisy White-headed Wood Hoopoes, Brown-eared Woodpecker, Grey Parrot, African Shrike Flycatcher, Petit's Cuckooshrike, Velvet-mantled Drongo, African Blue Flycatcher, Buff-throated Apalis, Sooty Flycatcher, Green-throated Sunbird and Mountain Wagtail. A truly unforgettable day!



An impressive Crowned Eagle.

The next morning we embarked on a lengthy walk around Bigodi Wetland that produced a number of interesting species. The highlight was watching 2 male Speckle-breasted Woodpeckers, a range-restricted and uncommon species, and our main target here, at very close quarters. Other interesting species recorded during the morning included African Goshawk, some Great Blue and Ross's Turacos, a pair of confiding White-spotted Flufftails, Crowned and African Pied Hornbills, a single Buff-spotted Woodpecker, Grey Parrot, Yellow-billed Barbet, Black-and-white Shrike-Flycatcher, our first Bocage's Bushshrike, White-chinned Prinia, Dusky-blue, Grey-throated Tit and African Blue Flycatchers, our first Superb Sunbird, Red-headed Bluebill and Black-crowned Waxbill. During the afternoon we returned to the same stretch of forest road as the previous day. The highlight was undoubtedly an impressive Crowned Eagle, perched next to the road and first spotted by Sofia.



Speckle-breasted Woodpecker and Red-headed Bluebill from Bigodi Swamp.

We spent the next morning in some cultivated and marshy areas not far from Kibale, looking for the very rare White-collared Oliveback, but we drew a blank. Overall, it was very quiet, although a group of Crested Guinea-fowls next to the road was seen, we heard a Shining-blue Kingfisher that refused to show, while Tropical Boubou and African Yellow Warbler were new for us. After lunch we set off for Queen Elizabeth National Park and a completely new set of birds. In the afternoon we reached the open savannahs of the park, where we spent the next couple of nights in the sumptuous Mweya Lodge. We found plenty of Red-necked Spurfowl, 2 Black-winged Kites and a Shikra along the way, although there was a lot of traffic on the very dusty track, and no African Crakes were seen.



African Crake.

During our time spent in 'Queen Elizabeth' we explored the extensive savannahs, acacia woodland and waterways both in our sturdy landcruiser and by boat. Our luxurious accommodation overlooked the Kazinga Channel and the grounds held plenty of birds to keep us entertained during our meals, including Red-chested Sunbirds, Swamp Flycatchers and numerous Black-headed and Slender-billed Weavers. In the open grasslands Black Coucals were easy to find this year. After a while, we found a confiding African Crake, feeding on the side of the track, and later we saw some more, allowing for great studies. We explored a quiet track where we found the rare Black-rumped Buttonquail, which gave decent views, as well as several Common Buttonquails and a single Blue Quail, with another one dead on the road. An unexpected sighting was that of a singing White-tailed Lark, a very rare species in Uganda. Senegal and Crowned Lapwings, Collared Pratincole, a single Red-capped Lark and many Quailfinches were also found on the plains, while a lone Lappet-faced Vulture and several Bateleurs soared overhead. A number of other interesting species were noted, and these included Martial Eagle, Gabar Goshawk, Central African (Eurasian) Hoopoe, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Red-breasted Swallow, Black-lored and Arrow-marked Babbler, Rufous-naped and Flappet Larks, Fan-tailed Grassbird, Wattled Starling, Northern Black Flycatcher, White-winged Widowbird and Golden-breasted Bunting. In the mammal front, we had great views of a Lion and a Lioness next to the vehicle. We also enjoyed a magnificent afternoon boat trip on the Kazinga Channel that offered excellent wildlife viewing and plenty of photographic opportunities for waterside birds that included a flock of 100+ African Skimmers. As usual there were amazing numbers (600+) of Pied Kingfishers catching and carrying fish everywhere. A large congregation of White-breasted Cormorants was gathered and there were smaller numbers of Pink-backed and Great White Pelicans, Yellow-billed Stork,

Goliath Heron, African Spoonbill, Water Thick-knee, Ruff, Black-winged Stilt, Kittlitz's and Three-banded Plovers, Marsh Sandpiper, Gull-billed Tern and a few showy Black Crakes. Good numbers of Baltic Gulls were present this time, and with them, 2 adult Steppe (Caspian) Gulls, which had been present for a while, and constitute the first records for Uganda. Added on to this were some excellent encounters with Lake Chad Buffalo, a few Nile Crocodiles and more and more hippos. An owling session before dinner produced good views of Square-tailed (Gabon) Nightjar.



Hippos.

Leaving Mweya Lodge the next morning we managed to add a couple of species to our list in form of Southern Red Bishop and Lesser Masked Weaver. We then embarked on a long 'game drive' that took us towards and through the Ishasha sector of the park. Bird-wise, we did well, getting good views of a single Brown-chested Lapwing, Levillant's Cuckoo, Stout Cisticola and Crimson-rumped Waxbill. However, no tree-climbing lions could be found at their favoured trees. We had lunch by the river, where Dave and Brad found an African Finfoot. We reached our destination of Buhoma on the edge of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest at the end of the day and settled into our comfortable and welcoming lodge with rooms that overlooked the valley and the impressive steep forested slopes beyond. Bwindi Impenetrable Forest is considered to be the richest in East Africa for plant, mammal, bird and butterfly species: over 330 bird species have been recorded here, for example. The Impenetrable is a wonderfully evocative name and often appears in the ornithological literature for Africa. The forest was so named not because it was any more densely vegetated than other forests, but because of the steepness of the hills, which made progress almost impossible. Fortunately it is possible to see most of the special birds of this wonderful area by walking along the roads or along gently sloping tracks.

Most of the group, except for Brad, who went to see the gorillas, spent the whole next day birding along Buhoma track. Birding was good, and we did well with the special birds we were after. A displaying African Broadbill gave good views, as did a pair of uncommon Chapin's Flycatchers, and skulking Equatorial Akalat and White-bellied Robin Chat proved easy to see this year. Ansorge's Greenbul, a species first discovered in the country during BirdQuest's 2001 Uganda tour, was studied in detail, as well as wing-flicking Yellow-streaked Greenbuls, alongside the other more common and widespread greenbuls. Willard's Sooty Boubou

put on a great show, and the striking Lühder's Bushshrike obliged too. We spent considerable time chasing a singing Neumann's (Short-tailed) Warbler, but we only managed fleeting views. On the other hand, Black-faced Rufous Warbler was far easier to see, whilst in the tangles we also found the diminutive White-browed Crombec and the cute Re-faced Woodland Warbler. Other species recorded during the day included a heard only Western Bronze-naped Pigeon, Scarce Swift, Bar-trailed Trogon, Black Bee-eater, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater, Willcock's Honeyguide, Tullberg's and Elliott's Woodpeckers, Pink-footed Puffback, Dusky Tit, Petit's Cuckooshrike, Mountain Oriole, Chubb's Cisticola, Black-throated Apalis, Mountain Illadopsis, Chestnut-winged Starling, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher, White-tailed Ant Thrush, Red-throated Alethe, Northern Double-collared Sunbird, Black-necked, Brown-capped and Black-billed Weavers, Oriole Finch and Thick-billed Seed eater.



A confiding Red-throated Alethe.

Bwindi is one of the world's best-known areas for gorilla trekking, and most of the group decided to go in search of these marvellous creatures. This year the group went to visit the 'R' group, which fortunately was not too far away from the road, and none regretted the hike, as they enjoyed one of the ultimate wildlife experiences on Earth. The time spent amongst these great and so closely related to us apes, deep in the forest, is a heart catching experience that everybody with an interest in nature should experience at least once during a lifetime. The world population of Mountain Gorillas is less than 1000 individuals, and an estimate 400 animals is thought to inhabit Bwindi itself. As Nik accurately summarizes in one of this reports, the taxonomy of the 'mountain' Gorillas has been hotly debated in recent decades. Most taxonomists seem to agree now on two species of Gorilla, Western Lowland Gorilla (*G. gorilla*) and Eastern Gorilla (*G. beringei*). The eastern group includes both the Eastern Lowland Gorilla (*G. beringei graueri*) and two mountain populations of the nominate form *G. b. beringei*. The Bwindi population is at the centre of the argument and has been suggested to form a third subspecies *G. beringei bwindi*. It has been claimed that these are not 'mountain' gorillas at all on morphological and ecological grounds. Mitochondrial DNA research however reveals the Bwindi and Virunga populations to be indistinguishable.

While most of the group were watching the gorillas, some of us went back to the Buhoma track. The birding was similar to the previous day, although we saw a couple of different things. Probably the best bird seen was the enigmatic and little known Jameson's Antpecker, which was watched at length as it fed amongst some dead leaves in the midstorey. We also found a rather cooperative Neumann's Warbler, while both Many-colored Bushshrike and Grey-winged Robin Chat were new additions to our list.



"Silverback" Eastern Gorilla.

Our next short journey took us from the lower part of the forest at Buhoma to the higher areas around Ruhija. We had plenty to look for on the way and the day was a mixture of walk, bird and drive. We made a couple of stops in the swampy and cultivated areas not too far from Buhoma itself and in the weedy fields we discovered an impressive flock of 30 Grey-crowned Cranes, Black Sparrowhawk, African Firefinch, Western Citril and Mackinnon's Shrike. At 'the neck' section of the park we reacquainted ourselves with a number of familiar forest species, and added Slender-billed Starling, Toro Olive Greenbul and Black-faced Prinia to the list. A male Blue-throated Brown Sunbird showed nicely, and a brief honeguide we photographed seemed to be the rare Least Honeyguide, according to everyone consulted. We later drove on to higher levels to look for the uncommon Dusky Twinspot, which as luck would have it, was found very quickly. A pair gave fantastic views and even posed for photos! Also here we saw our first Yellow-bellied Waxbills. We then continued onto Ruhija where the air was cooler and we began to find some of the higher-level specialities of the Impenetrable Forest. White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, Stripe-breasted Tit, Regal Sunbird and Mountain Masked and Ruwenzori Apalis all showed nicely. The skulking Grauer's Warbler gave more than decent views too. We then drove a bit higher, reaching the bamboo zone, and soon after leaving the vehicle, new birds were found. A singing Doherty's Bushshrike gave fantastic views, a pair of shy Dusky

Crimsonwings delighted us, the retiring Archer's Ground Robin wasn't retiring, at all, this time, and Mountain Sooty Boubou, Strange Weaver and Mountain Yellow Warbler were also found. Before it was dark, we decided to look for the uncommon Handsome Francolin, and not long after we enjoyed terrific views of a couple of birds feeding on the side of the road. Once darkness fell, we waited for Ruwenzori Nightjar to show up at our usual stake out, but the bird had other plans and we didn't even hear it. It had surely been a great afternoon, and we slowly drove back to our comfortable lodge at Ruhija with its panoramic views and rested up for a good nights sleep to prepare for the long hike the next day.



2 rare birds from Bwindi, Jameson's Antpecker and Dusky Twinspot.

The main reason for coming to Ruhija was to trek up and down a number of times to the Mubwindi Swamp where some exciting species occur. After an early start, and a few stops during the descent, seeing Yellow-streaked and Olive-breasted Greenbuls, Grey Cuckooshrike, Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher and Strange Weaver, we made it to the bottom. The area around the swamp is prime habitat for the rarely seen Grauer's (or African Green) Broadbill, the ultimate of all Albertine Rift endemics, which we always hope to see, but

which can easily be missed. A nest had been found earlier this year, but the chicks had fledged a couple of weeks before our arrival. With no sightings at all in the area in the last week, we knew the chances of finding them were going to be slim. Nevertheless, we hoped for the best, and started to look for them. Time went by without any sign of our quarry, and by midday we were beginning to lose hope. But then, one of our rangers came running through the thick bush, and told us our local guide Amos had found them in a distant ridge. Very excited with the news, we went for them as quickly as we could. It sure took some effort to reach the spot, and once there, things weren't easy either! We could hear the birds, but they were high up in the thick canopy and we couldn't find them. After some tense moments, the broadbills -3 of them- started moving around, and even came very low down, allowing for some unbelievable views. Mission accomplished, and what a relief! We then went to swamp itself to look for Grauer's Swamp Warbler. At first they were very secretive and it took some time before we all had good views. Carruthers's Cisticolas were also present in the area. We had lunch by the swamp, and then, with both of the main target birds securely tucked under our belts we walked back. A calling Grey-chested Babbler proved very tricky to see, and we saw some other species such as Chestnut-throated Apalis. We eventually got back to the road, and headed to the hotel for a well-deserved dinner and rest.



The following morning we did a bit of birding near Ruhija, with the best bird being a male Purple-breasted Sunbird feeding in a flowering tree. Western (Green) Tinkerbird was also found in the same area. It was then a long haul to Lake Mburo and into a very different habitat (and birds!) from where we had been for the past week, it being a thorn-bush haven surrounded by grazing land for the ridiculously large-horned Ankole Cattle. On the way we made a couple of short stops, first admiring some African Black Swifts and then having lunch near some hills where Bernard spotted the only Tawny Eagle of the tour.



Red-faced Barbet.

We had a full day in the park and made the best of it. The key bird in Mburo is Red-faced Barbet, and this year we had no trouble at all finding it, with excellent close-up views of 3 birds on our first afternoon. We also saw our second Brown-chested Lapwing of the tour, and both Long-tailed Cisticola and White-winged Black Tit obliged. Sander found us a nice Bat Hawk, and a group of feeding Red-headed Lovebirds was much appreciated. Crested Barbet is a recent coloniser to Uganda, and Mburo in particular, and we saw no less than 4 birds, our first records for this tour. Other notable species sighted during our time in Mburo included Coqui and Crested Francolins, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Common Scimitarbill, Emerald-spotted Wood Dove, Lilac-breasted Roller, Brubru, Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Red-faced Crombec, Trilling Cisticola, Southern Black Flycatcher, Purple-banded Sunbird and Greater Blue-eared Starling. A morning boat trip allowed us to get excellent views of 3 different African Finfoots. This is surely one of the easiest places in the world to see this usually very shy bird. White-backed Night Heron is another speciality of the lake, and we studied at length a cracking adult, found by Pete roosting in some thick vegetation, and later 2 juveniles in a nest. Fishing African Fish Eagles delighted us, and a male Little Bittern gave close views. Mammals are well represented in the park, and we noted good numbers of Common Zebras, Impalas and even saw some Eland. Slender Mongoose and a troop of Dwarf Mongoose were much appreciated too. At night African Scops Owl was seen briefly, although the usual Black-shouldered Nightjars didn't cooperate, whilst 2 rare Thick-tailed Greater Galagos were found too.

Next morning we slowly made our way back to Entebbe, noting some previously seen species. We intended to stop at a marsh which usually has lots of birds, but unfortunately it was dry. Eventually we made it to the airport, where this wonderful trip came to an end.

As a summary, we all agreed It had been an amazing trip with so many unforgettable moments. Uganda is the proud owner of an extensive network of well-managed parks and reserves which contain a wide range of habitats. The country boasts a bird list of over 1000 species, as well as large numbers of big game and wonderful facilities for unrivalled primate watching, making this one of the most outstanding eco-destinations anywhere in the world. All of these natural wonders are complemented by the extremely high standard of comfortable accommodation that is now available. The people are very friendly and helpful and in particular I would like to express my gratitude to Livingstone, our driver/guide. He is one of the friendliest, humblest and hardest-working persons I know, and without him this tour wouldn't have been as successful and enjoyable as It was.



Palm-nut Vulture.



Ruwenzori Ruraco and African Skimmer –Yellow-billed Stork in the background-.





African Fish Eagle and Yellow-lored Bristlebill.





Wire-tailed Swallow.

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**. This list is updated several times annually and is available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>.

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the 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).

Conservation threat categories and information are taken from *Threatened Birds of the World*, BirdLife International's magnificent book on the sad status of the rarest 10% of the world's avifauna, and updates on the BirdLife website: <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/home>

E = Endangered, **V** = Vulnerable, **NT** = Near Threatened, **DD** = Data Deficient.

BIRDS

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* Seen at several wetlands.

Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis* A few birds seen in wetland areas.

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* Fairly common and widespread.

Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata* Small numbers seen.

African Black Duck *Anas sparsa* One seen in Kibale.

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* Fairly common and widespread.

Crested Guineafowl (Western C G) *Guttera [pucherani] verreauxi* Seen very well in the Royal Mile and Kibale.

Nahan's Partridge (N Francolin) ♦ *Ptilopanchus nahani* (E) Three seen very well at the Royal Mile in Budongo.

Coqui Francolin *Peliperdix coqui* Seen at Mburo.

Crested Francolin *Dendroperdix sephaena* Seen at various locations.

Scaly Francolin *Pternistis squamatus* (H)

Heuglin's Francolin ♦ *Pternistis icterorhynchus* Seen well in Murchison Falls.

Handsome Francolin ♦ *Pternistis nobilis* Seen briefly in Nyungwe, and very well at Bwindi.

Red-necked Spurfowl *Pternistis afer* Particularly common at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Blue Quail ♦ *Excalfactoria adansonii* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* Small numbers seen.



Heuglin's and Handsome Francolins.

Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis* Small numbers noted at Queen Elizabeth NP.

African Openbill (A Open-billed Stork) *Anastomus lamelligerus* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.

Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus* Seen a few times.

Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* 5 seen in Murchison Falls NP.

Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumenifer* Common and widespread.

African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* Small numbers seen.

Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash* Common and widespread.

African Spoonbill *Platalea alba* Small numbers seen, both in Rwanda and Uganda.

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* The resident race *payesii* seen at Mburo very well.

White-backed Night Heron ♦ *Gorsachius leuconotus* Seen extremely well at Mburo.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* Seen in Murchison Falls.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* Small numbers at various wetlands.

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* Recorded at several locations.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* Common and widespread.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* Fairly common.

Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala* Common and widespread.

Goliath Heron *Ardea goliath* Small numbers seen.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* Recorded at various wetlands.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* Seen several times.

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia* Only 1 sighting.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* Fairly common and widespread.

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta* Common and widespread.

Shoebill *Balaeniceps rex* 2 Seen at Mabamba and 2 Murchison Falls NP. What a bird!



Adult White-backed Night Heron with a chick ta Mburo.

Pink-backed Pelican *Pelecanus rufescens* Small numbers seen at various localities.

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* Seen in the Kazinga Channel.

Reed Cormorant (Long-tailed C) *Microcarbo africanus* Small numbers at several locations.

White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax lucidus* Large numbers at Queen Elizabeth NP.

African Darter *Anhinga rufa* Recorded at Murchison Falls NP.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* 3 sightings.

African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene) *Polyboroides typus* Small numbers seen during the tour.

Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis* Widespread.

Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus* A few seen.

White-backed Vulture (African W-b V) *Gyps africanus* Small numbers seen at various locations. See note.

Rüppell's Vulture *Gyps rueppelli* Several seen at Murchison Falls. See note.

Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotus* 2 birds seen.

Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus* Scattered sightings during the trip.

Western Banded Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens* 3 birds recorded.

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* Fairly common and widespread.

Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus* 1 spotted by Sander in Mburo.

Crowned Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus* Amazing views of a perched adult in Kibale. A pair in Nyungwe too.

Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* 5 birds seen this year.

Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis* Fairly common and widespread.

Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraaetus wahlbergi* Widespread.

Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax* 1 birds seen.

Cassin's Hawk-Eagle *Aquila africana* 2 birds seen, one in Nyungwe and one in Kibale.

Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus* Widespread.

Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* Two seen.
Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates* Several birds seen during the first half of the trip.
African Goshawk *Accipiter tachiro* 2 birds seen.
Shikra *Accipiter badius* Seen a couple of times, albeit briefly.
Black Sparrowhawk (Great S) *Accipiter melanoleucus* 3 birds seen.
African Marsh Harrier *Circus ranivorus* A few birds recorded.
Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius* Fairly common.
African Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer* Fairly common and widespread.
Mountain Buzzard ♦ *Buteo oreophilus* Seen well in the extension and in Bwindi.
Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur* Small numbers recorded during the tour.
Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis melanogaster* 2 birds recorded.



Bateleur.

White-spotted Flufftail *Sarothrura pulchra* Cracking views in Mabira and Kibale.
African Finfoot *Podica senegalensis* Fantastic views of 3 at Mburo, and 1 seen by some in Queen Elizabeth.
African Crake *Crex egregia* A few seen well at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra* Fairly common at wetland habitats.
Grey Crowned Crane *Balearica regulorum* Widespread. See Note.
Common Buttonquail *Turnix sylvatica* 1 in Murchison and few seen well at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Black-rumped Buttonquail ♦ *Turnix nanus* 2 seen well in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Senegal Thick-knee *Burhinus senegalensis* Seen on the boat at Murchison Falls.
Water Thick-knee *Burhinus vermiculatus* Several seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* 2 at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Long-toed Lapwing *Vanellus crassirostris* Seen several times.
Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus* Widespread.
Black-headed Lapwing *Vanellus tectus* Several birds seen at Murchison.
Senegal Lapwing *Vanellus lugubris* Good numbers at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Crowned Lapwing *Vanellus coronatus* Seen at Queen Elizabeth.

Brown-chested Lapwing ♦ *Vanellus superciliosus* Seen well in Queen Elizabeth and Mburo.

African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus* Small numbers at various localities.

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* Small numbers seen.



Female White-spotted Flufftail and Three-banded Plover.

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris* Seen in the Kazinga channel.
Lesser Jacana *Microparra capensis* Seen well at Mabamba .
African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* Fairly common in wetlands.
Ruff *Calidris pugnax* Seen in the Kazinga channel.
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* Recorded at Queen Elizabeth and Mburo.
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* Seen 3 times.
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* Seen several times.
Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* Seen at the Kazinga Channel.
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* One seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Rock Pratincole *Glareola nuchalis* Good views at Murchison Falls.



Baltic (Lesser Black-backed) Gull with a finnish colour ring, Steppe (Caspian) Gull and African Skimmer.

African Skimmer *Rynchops flavirostris* Good numbers at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* A few birds seen.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (W) (Baltic G) *Larus [fuscus] fuscus* A few birds in the Kazinga Channel.

Steppe (Caspian) Gull *Larus (cachinnans) barabensis* 2 adults in the Kazinga channel.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* Good numbers at Queen Elizabeth NP.

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* A few at Mabamba swamp and the Kazinga channel.

Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon) *Columba livia* Small numbers seen at some villages.

Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea* A few birds seen.

Afep Pigeon *Columba unicincta* A single bird seen at Kibale.

African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix* Only seen in Nyungwe.



Comparison of Black-billed, Emerald-spotted and Blue Spotted Wood Doves.

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques* (H) Heard in Bwindi.
Dusky Turtle Dove *Streptopelia lugens* 1 seen in Bwindi.
Mourning Collared Dove *Streptopelia decipiens* Small numbers noted at various locations.
Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* Fairly common and widespread.
Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola* Fairly common at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Vinaceous Dove *Streptopelia vinacea* Small numbers seen during the first half of the tour.
Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis* Most commonly recorded at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos* Several birds seen at Mburo.
Black-billed Wood Dove *Turtur abyssinicus* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer* Small numbers recorded at various locations.



Ross's and Ruwenzori Turacos are two stunning birds.

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria* Seen at several localities.
African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus* Small numbers recorded throughout the trip.
Bruce's Green Pigeon *Treron waalia* 3 seen near Masindi.
Great Blue Turaco *Corythaeola cristata* This impressive turaco was fairly common.
Black-billed Turaco ♦ *Tauraco schuettii* Small numbers seen in the forests visited, first in Nyungwe.
White-crested Turaco *Tauraco leucolophus* Good views of 2 near Masindi.
Ruwenzori Turaco ♦ *Tauraco johnstoni* Excellent views in Nyungwe.
Ross's Turaco *Musophaga rossae* Several birds seen.
Bare-faced Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides personatus* Seen at Mburo.
Eastern Plantain-Eater *Crinifer zonurus* Fairly common.
Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus* Scattered sightings.
Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis* 2 birds seen, first in Murchison Falls.
White-browed Coucal *Centropus superciliosus* Fairly common and widespread.
Black Coucal *Centropus grillii* Seen well at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Blue Malkoha (Blue Yellowbill) *Ceuthmochares aereus* Scattered sightings during the trip.
Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii* 2 scattered sightings.

Diederik (Didric) Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius* Widespread.
Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* 3 birds seen, more heard.
African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus* 1 bird seen in Kibale.
Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo ♦ *Cercococcyx mechowii* 1 seen briefly by some in Kibale.
Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx montanus* Seen very well in Nyungwe.



The elusive Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo and the far easier to see Red-chested Cuckoo.

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitaries* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.
Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* Seen well near Masindi.
African Cuckoo *Cuculus gularis* One sighting.
African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis* One seen briefly in Mburo.
Northern White-faced Owl *Ptilopsis leucotis* Great views of one in Murchison Falls.
African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii* A pair showed well in Nyungwe.
Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum* 3 seen at Mburo.
Red-chested Owlet *Glaucidium tephronotum* Heard and glimpsed in Nyungwe.
Black-shouldered Nightjar ♦ *Caprimulgus nigriscapularis* (H) Recorded in Mburo.
Ruwenzori Nightjar ♦ *Caprimulgus ruwenzorii* Seen very well at Nyungwe.

Slender-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus clarus* 2 seen in Murchison.
Swamp Nightjar *Caprimulgus natalensis* (H) Heard in Mburo.
Square-tailed Nightjar (Gabon N) *Caprimulgus fossii* 1 seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Pennant-winged Nightjar *Macrodipteryx vexillarius* Excellent views of up to 10, including adult males, in Murchison.
Scarce Swift *Schoutedenapus myoptilus* Small numbers seen at Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura ussheri* Seen very well in Budongo.
Cassin's Spinetail *Neafrapus cassini* Seen well over Budongo.
African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* Fairly common and widespread.
Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba* 2 seen.
African Black Swift *Apus barbatus* Seen on the way to Mburo.
Little Swift *Apus affinis* Fairly common and widespread.
White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* Scattered sightings.
Horus Swift *Apus horus* 2 inspecting a bee-eater colony in the Butiaba scarpment.
Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus* Fairly common and widespread.
Blue-naped Mousebird *Urocolius macrourus* Fairly common and widespread.
Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina* Seen in Mabira.
Bar-tailed Trogon *Apaloderma vittatum* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.



Bar-tailed Trogon and Mottled Spinetail.

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus* Seen at Mburo.
Blue-throated Roller *Eurystomus gularis* Seen well in Kibale.
Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* Common.
Chocolate-backed Kingfisher *Halcyon badia* Great views at the Royal Mile.
Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala* Fairly common and widespread.
Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* Fairly common and widespread.
Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica* Seen in Mabira.
Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis* Common.
African Dwarf Kingfisher *Ispidina lecontei* Seen well in Budongo Forest.
African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ispidina picta* Recorded at various localities.

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus* Fairly common.

Shining-blue Kingfisher *Alcedo quadribrachys* (H) Heard only near Kibale.

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima* 1 sighting.

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* Widespread, with at least 500 birds at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Black Bee-eater *Merops gularis* Great views at Kibale and Bwindi.

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus* Small numbers recorded at Murchison Falls.

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus* Small numbers seen.

Blue-breasted Bee-eater *Merops variegatus* Seen well in Mabamba.

Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater *Merops oreobates* Recorded at various locations on the second half of the tour.

Red-throated Bee-eater *Merops bulocki* Recorded at various places. First in Murchison.

White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis* Seen near Mabamba and Mabira.



Some African jewels: African Pygmy, African Dwarf and Malachite Kingfishers.

Olive Bee-eater (Madagascar Bee-eater) *Merops superciliosus* A few seen.

Northern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicus* Small numbers of this stunning species at Murchison Falls.

Central African Hoopoe *Upupa (epops) senegalensis* Seen briefly at Queen Elizabeth NP.



Red-throated, Cinnamon-chested and Swallow-tailed Bee-eaters.

Forest Wood Hoopoe ♦ *Phoeniculus castaneiceps* 2 seen very well in Mabira, and one unexpected at Royal Mile.
White-headed Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus bollei* Seen at Kibale and Bwindi.
Green Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus* Seen in Murchison.
Black Scimitarbill (B Wood-hoopoe) *Rhinopomastus aterrimus* Seen in Murchison Falls.
Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas* Seen at Mburo.
Abyssinian Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus abyssinicus* Seen well in Murchison Falls NP.
Crowned Hornbill *Tockus alboterminatus* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.



Forest and White-headed Wood Hoopoes and juvenile Abyssinian Ground Hornbill.

African Pied Hornbill *Tockus fasciatus* Several sightings.
African Grey Hornbill *Tockus nasutus* Fairly common.
White-thighed Hornbill *Bycanistes albotibialis* Seen well in Budongo forest.
Black-and-white Casqued Hornbill *Bycanistes subcylindricus* Fairly common and widespread.
Grey-throated Barbet *Gymnobucco bonapartei* Several birds seen in the forest.
Speckled Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus scolopaceus* Fairly common in the forest.
Western Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus coryphaea* Seen well at Bwindi.
Yellow-throated Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus subsulphureus* Scattered sightings.
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus bilineatus* Fairly common.
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* 3 birds seen in dry areas.
Yellow-spotted Barbet *Buccanodon duchaillui* A few birds seen, first in Mabira.



Barbet collection: Yellow-spotted, Double-toothed, Crested and Black-billed Barbets.

Streaky-throated Barbet *Tricholaema flavipunctata* A few birds seen in the forest, first in Mabira.
Spot-flanked Barbet *Tricholaema lacrymosa* Scattered sightings throughout the tour.
White-headed Barbet *Lybius leucocephalus* Seen at a couple of locations, first near Masindi.
Black-billed Barbet *Lybius guifsobalito* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Red-faced Barbet ♦ *Lybius rubrifacies* 2 birds showed extremely well in Mburo.

Crested Barbet *Trachyphonus vaillantii* Seen in Mburo. A recent coloniser.
Double-toothed Barbet *Lybius bidentatus* A few birds recorded.
Yellow-billed Barbet *Trachyphonus purpuratus* Several birds showed well in the forest.
Cassin's Honeybird *Prodotiscus insignis* A single bird seen in Kibale.
Dwarf Honeyguide ♦ *Indicator pumilio* One seen very well in Nyungwe.
Willcocks's Honeyguide ♦ *Indicator willcocksii* Seen at Bwindi.
Thick-billed Honeyguide *Indicator conirostris* Seen well at Budongo.
Least Honeyguide ♦ *Indicator exilis* One bird, seemingly this species, photographed at the Neck, Bwindi.
Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* Seen at Mabira.
Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator* One bird seen near Masindi.
Nubian Woodpecker *Campethera nubica* Several sightings during the trip.
Tullberg's (Fine-banded) Woodpecker ♦ *Campethera tullbergi* Seen at Nyungwe and Bwindi.



Nubian, Tullberg's, Olive and Cardinal –ssp lepidus- Woodpeckers.

Buff-spotted Woodpecker *Campethera nivosa* Seen near Bigodi swamp.
Brown-eared Woodpecker *Campethera caroli* Seen at Kibale.
Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens* Widespread.

Yellow-crested Woodpecker *Dendropicos xantholophus* Seen at Budongo and Kibale.
Elliot's Woodpecker ♦ *Dendropicos elliotii* Seen well at Nyungwe and Bwindi.
African Grey Woodpecker *Dendropicos goertae* Scattered sightings throughout the tour.
Olive Woodpecker *Dendropicos griseocephalus* Seen in Nyungwe.
Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* A couple of birds seen.
Grey Kestrel *Falco ardosiaceus* Widespread at suitable habitat.
African Hobby *Falco cuvierii* 1 seen near Masindi.
Red-headed Lovebird *Agapornis pullarius* Seen very well in Mburo.
Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* 4 scattered sightings.
Meyer's Parrot (Brown P) *Poicephalus meyeri* Several birds recorded.
African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis* Seen in Bwindi.



African Broadbill, Ruwenzori Batis and Grauer's (African Green) Broadbill.

Grauer's Broadbill ♦ *Pseudocalyptomena graueri* (V) After a lot of effort, 3 birds showed brilliantly at Mubwindi.

Green-breasted Pitta ♦ *Pitta reichenowi* Mega views of a bird in Kibale.

African Shrike-flycatcher *Megabyas flammulatus* Seen in Mabira, Budongo and Bwindi Forests.

Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher *Bias musicus* A few seen.

Ruwenzori Batis ♦ *Batis diops* Good views in Nyungwe.

Chinspot Batis *Batis molitor* A few birds recorded.

Western Black-headed Batis *Batis erlangeri* Seen well at Murchison Falls NP.

Ituri Batis ♦ *Batis ituriensis* A pair seen very well at Busingiro.

Chestnut Wattle-eye *Platysteira castanea* Seen a few times in the forest.

Jameson's Wattle-eye ♦ *Platysteira jamesoni* Seen very well in Mabira and Budongo.

Brown-throated Wattle-eye (Common W-e) *Platysteira cyanea* Widespread.



Some good bushshrikes from the tour: Lagden's, Doherty's, Lühder's and Many-colored.

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti* (H) Heard at Murchison Falls.
Many-colored Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus multicolor* Seen well at Nyungwe and Buhoma.
Lagden's Bushshrike ♦ *Malaconotus lagdeni* Seen very well in Nyungwe and briefly in Bwindi.
Bocage's Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus bocagei* First seen in Bigodi swamp..
Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus* Seen briefly in Murchison.
Doherty's Bushshrike ♦ *Telophorus dohertyi* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Marsh Tchagra *Bocagia minuta* Scattered sightings.
Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* A couple of sightings.
Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* Widespread.
Pink-footed Puffback *Dryoscopus angolensis* Seen in Bwindi.
Northern Puffback *Dryoscopus gambensis* Fairly common and widespread.
Lowland Sooty Boubou ♦ (S B) *Laniarius leucorhynchus* 1 seen in Mabira Forest.
Mountain Sooty Boubou *Laniarius poensis* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.



Papyrus and Black-headed Gonoleks.

Willard's Sooty Boubou ♦ *Laniarius willardi* Seen extremely well in Nyungwe and Buhoma.
Lühder's Bushshrike *Laniarius luehderi* Seen at Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Tropical Boubou *Laniarius major* Scattered sightings.
Papyrus Gonolek ♦ *Laniarius mufumbiri* Excellent views near Kigali, and then in Mabamba and Murchison.
Black-headed Gonolek *Laniarius erythrogaster* Fairly common and widespread.
Brubru *Nilaus afer* Seen at Mburo.
Grey Cuckooshrike *Coracina caesia* Several seen at Nyungwe and Ruhija.
Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava* Scattered sightings.
Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike *Campephaga phoenicea* 2 birds seen well.
Petit's Cuckooshrike *Campephaga petiti* Seen at Kibale and Bwindi.
Yellow-billed Shrike *Corvinella corvine* One seen at Murchison Falls.
Mackinnon's Shrike *Lanius mackinnoni* Seen at Bwindi.
Grey-backed Fiscal *Lanius excubitoroides* Widespread.
Northern Fiscal *Lanius humeralis* Widespread.
Western Oriole (W Black-headed O) *Oriolus brachyrynchus* Seen in Mabira and Kibale several times.
Black-headed Oriole (Eastern B-h O) *Oriolus larvatus* One sighting near Masindi.
Montane Oriole *Oriolus percivali* Several birds seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.

Velvet-mantled Drongo *Dicrurus modestus* Seen in Kibale.
Fork-tailed Drongo (Common D) *Dicrurus adsimilis* Common and widespread.
Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone rufiventer* Seen well several times, first in Mabira.
African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis* Scattered sightings.
Piapiac *Ptilostomus afer* Fairly common in the north.
Pied Crow *Corvus albus* Common and widespread.
White-necked Raven (White-naped R) *Corvus albicollis* A few seen in the highlands.
African Blue Flycatcher *Elminia longicauda* Small numbers seen during the tour.
White-tailed Blue Flycatcher *Elminia albicauda* Seen at Nyungwe and Bwindi.



Stripe-breasted, White-shouldered Black, Dusky and White-winged Black Tits.

White-bellied Crested Flycatcher *Elminia albiventris* 2 seen in Nyungwe.
White-shouldered Black Tit *Melaniparus guineensis* A pair seen near Masindi.
White-winged Black Tit *Melaniparus leucomelas* A few birds seen at Mburo.
Dusky Tit *Melaniparus funereus* Flocks were encountered at Nyungwe, Kibale and Bwindi.
Stripe-breasted Tit ♦ *Melaniparus fasciiventer* Seen well at Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Grey Penduline Tit *Anthoscopus caroli* 1 seen near Masindi.
Western Nicator *Nicator chloris* Scattered sightings in the forest.
Rufous-naped Lark *Mirafra africana* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Flappet Lark *Mirafra rufocinnamomea* Several recorded.

White-tailed Lark ♦ *Mirafrja albicauda* 1 in song seen very well in Queen Elizabeth.

Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea* 1 in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Dark-capped Bulbul *Pycnonotus tricolor* Common and widespread.

Kakamega Greenbul ♦ *Arizelocichla kakamegae* Seen in Bwindi.



Flappet Lark and the rare White-tailed Lark, both seen in Queen Elizabeth NP. Notice bill shape, outer tail and back feather differences.

Olive-breasted Greenbul (O-b Mountain G) *Arizelocichla kikuyuensis* Fairly common at Nyungwe and Bwindi.

Slender-billed Greenbul *Stelgidillas gracilirostris* Seen at various locations.

Little Greenbul *Eurillas virens* Recorded at various places.

Little Grey Greenbul *Eurillas gracilis* Seen in Mabira and Budongo.

Plain Greenbul (Cameroon Sombre G) *Eurillas curvirostris* Seen a few times.

Ansorge's Greenbul *Eurillas ansorgei* Seen at Bwindi.

Yellow-whiskered Greenbul *Eurillas latirostris* Seen a few times.
Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator* Seen a couple of times.
Spotted Greenbul *Ixonotus guttatus* Seen at Budongo.
Yellow-throated Leaflove *Atimastillas flavicollis* Recorded at several locations.



Toro Olive Greenbul and Western Nicator.

White-throated Greenbul ♦ *Phyllastrephus albigularis* Seen in Budongo and Kibale.
Toro Olive Greenbul ♦ *Phyllastrephus hypochloris* Seen well at The Neck, Bwindi.
Yellow-streaked Greenbul *Phyllastrephus flavostriatus* Several seen in Bwindi.
Red-tailed Bristlebill *Bleda syndactylus* Seen briefly a couple of times. Heard far more often.
Yellow-lored Bristlebill ♦ *Bleda [notatus] ugandae* Seen very well at Mabira Forest.
Red-tailed Greenbul *Criniger calurus* Several seen.
White-headed Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne albiceps* Widespread.
Black Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne pristoptera* Fairly common around Bwindi.
Brown-throated Martin *Riparia paludicola* 2 sightings.
Banded Martin *Riparia cincta* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* Small numbers seen.
Angolan Swallow *Hirundo angolensis* Widespread.
Blue Swallow ♦ *Hirundo atrocaerulea* Three seen very well near Mabamba.
Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii* Small numbers noted at various localities.
Rock Martin *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* Noted at several locations.
Lesser Striped Swallow *Cecropis abyssinica* Widespread.
Red-breasted Swallow (Rufous-chested S) *Cecropis semirufa* Small numbers at several locations.
Mosque Swallow *Cecropis senegalensis* Seen a couple of times.
Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* Widespread.
Moustached Grass Warbler (African Moustached W) *Melocichla mentalis* Scattered sightings.
Yellow Longbill *Macrosphenus flavicans* (H) Heard at Mabira.
Grey Longbill *Macrosphenus concolor* One seen at Mabira forest.
Northern Crombec *Sylvietta brachyura* Scattered sightings.
Red-faced Crombec *Sylvietta whytii* Seen at Mburo.
Green Crombec *Sylvietta virens* Singles seen at various locations.
Lemon-bellied Crombec *Sylvietta denti* Seen well at the Royal Mile.
White-browed Crombec ♦ *Sylvietta leucophrys* Seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Neumann's Warbler (Short-tailed W) ♦ *Urosphena neumanni* Seen well in Nyungwe and eventually in Buhoma.

Chestnut-capped Flycatcher *Erythrocercus mccallii* Small numbers were seen in Budongo Forest.

Grauer's Warbler ♦ *Graueria vittata* Seen well in Nyungwe and Ruhija.

Green Hylia *Hylia prasina* A few seen.

Red-faced Woodland Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus laetus* Several seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.



Black-faced Rufous Warbler, a rare record shot of the very elusive Neumann's Warbler, and Red-faced Woodland Warbler.

Uganda Woodland Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus budongoensis* 1 was seen up in the canopy in Budongo Forest.

Greater Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus rufescens* Seen near Kigali .

African Yellow Warbler (Dark-capped Y W) *Iduna natalensis* One sighting near Budongo.

Mountain Yellow Warbler *Iduna similis* Recorded in Bwindi.

White-winged Swamp Warbler ♦ *Bradypterus carpalis* Eventually seen well in the papyrus swamps.

Grauer's Swamp Warbler ♦ *Bradypterus graueri* Seen in Nyungwe and Mubwindi swamp. See note.

Cinnamon Bracken Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus* (H) Heard a few times.

Fan-tailed Grassbird *Schoenicola brevirostris* Seen at Queen Elizabeth.

Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.

Whistling Cisticola *Cisticola lateralis* Seen near Masindi.

Trilling Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola woosnami* Seen at Mburo.

Chubb's Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola chubby* Seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana* Several seen in open country.
Winding Cisticola *Cisticola marginatus* Common at various wetlands.
Carruthers's Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola carruthersi* Seen at a few locations.
Stout Cisticola *Cisticola robustus* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Croaking Cisticola *Cisticola natalensis* First seen near Masindi.
Short-winged Cisticola (Siffling C) *Cisticola brachypterus* A couple of sightings.
Foxy Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola troglodytes* Seen well in Murchison Falls.
Long-tailed Cisticola ♦ (Tabora C) *Cisticola angusticauda* 3 seen in Lake Mburo NP.



Some uncommon birds: Red-winged Grey Warbler, Dusky Babbler, Cassin's Honeybird and Chapin's Flycatcher.

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* Widespread.
Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava* Widespread.
Black-faced Prinia ♦ *Prinia melanops* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
White-chinned Prinia *Schistolais leucopogon* Widespread.
Red-winged Warbler ♦ *Helicolais erythropterus* One seen well at Murchison Falls.
Ruwenzori Apalis (Collared A) ♦ *Oreolais ruwenzorii* Several seen in Nyungwe and Ruhija.
Red-winged Grey Warbler ♦ *Drymocichla incana* Two pairs seen at Murchison Falls.

Buff-bellied Warbler *Phyllolais pulchella* Seen a few times in dry country.
Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis flavida* Seen near Masindi and Mburo.
Lowland Masked Apalis ♦ *Apalis binotata* Seen in Kibale.
Mountain Masked Apalis (Black-faced A) ♦ *Apalis personata* Seen well in Nyungwe and Ruhija.
Black-throated Apalis *Apalis jacksoni* A few sightings.
Black-capped Apalis *Apalis nigriceps* (H) Heard at Budongo.
Chestnut-throated Apalis *Apalis porphyrolaema* Recorded in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Buff-throated Apalis *Apalis rufogularis* Seen several times in the forest.
Kungwe Apalis ♦ *Apalis argentea* Seen well in Nyungwe.
Grey Apalis *Apalis cinerea* Seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Grey-capped Warbler *Eminia lepida* Widespread.
Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brevicaudata* Common and widespread.
Olive-green Camaroptera *Camaroptera chloronota* Seen at Masindi and Budongo.
Black-faced Rufous Warbler *Bathmocercus rufus* Seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.



Kivu (Abyssinian) Ground Thrush from Nyungwe and Snowy-crowned and Red-capped Robin Chats.

Green-backed Eremomela *Eremomela canescens* 2 seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Rufous-crowned Eremomela (Brown-c E) *Eremomela badiceps* Seen well in Budongo Forest.

Scaly-breasted Illadopsis ♦ *Illadopsis albipectus* Seen in Budongo forest by some.

Puvel's Illadopsis ♦ *Illadopsis puveli* One gave excellent views at Kaniyo Pabidi.

Brown Illadopsis *Illadopsis fulvescens* (H) Recorded in Budongo.

Mountain Illadopsis ♦ *Illadopsis pyrrhoptera* Seen well in Nyungwe and Ruhija.

Red-collared Babbler ♦ *Kupeornis rufocinctus* A group of 3 seen very well in Nyungwe.

Black-lored Babbler *Turdoides sharpei* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Brown Babbler *Turdoides plebejus* Seen near Masindi first.

Dusky Babbler ♦ *Turdoides tenebrosa* Two seen very well in Murchison.

Arrow-marked Babbler *Turdoides jardineii* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Ruwenzori Hill Babbler ♦ *Pseudoalcippe atriceps* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.

Grey-chested Babbler ♦ (G-c Illadopsis) *Kakamega poliothorax* Heard and glimpsed by some in Mubwindi.

African Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis* Fairly common and widespread.



Equatorial Akalat and White-bellied Robin Chat.

Wattled Starling *Creatophora cinerea* Several flocks seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Purple-headed Starling *Hylopsar purpureiceps* Several groups seen in the forest.

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* Seen at Mburo.

Lesser Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chloropterus* Recorded at several locations.

Bronze-tailed Starling *Lamprotornis chalcurus* A single bird seen briefly in the cattle ranches near Masindi.

Splendid Starling *Lamprotornis splendidus* Several sightings during the tour, best in Bigodi.

Purple Starling *Lamprotornis purpureus* Recorded near Masindi.

Rüppell's Starling *Lamprotornis purpuroptera* Widespread.

Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* Widespread.

Slender-billed Starling *Onychognathus tenuirostris* A large flock at Mubwindi.

Chestnut-winged Starling *Onychognathus (fulgidus) hartlaubi* 1 seen in Bwindi.

Waller's Starling *Onychognathus walleri* Seen in Nyungwe.

Stuhlmann's Starling ♦ *Poeoptera stuhlmanni* Seen briefly by some in Nyungwe.

Narrow-tailed Starling *Poeoptera lugubris* Seen well at Kibale.

Sharpe's Starling ♦ *Poeoptera sharpie* Seen in Nyungwe.

Yellow-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus africanus* Recorded at various locations.

White-tailed Ant Thrush *Neocossyphus poensis* Three scattered sightings.

Fraser's Rufous Thrush (Rufous T) *Stizorhina fraseri* Seen several times in the forest.

Kivu Ground Thrush ♦ (**Abyssinian G T**) *Geokichla [piaggiae] tanganjicae* Brilliant views of one in Nyungwe.

African Thrush *Turdus pelios* Widespread.

Abyssinian Thrush (Mountain T) *Turdus abyssinicus* Seen in Nyungwe.

Fire-crested Alethe *Alethe castanea* Seen very well in Budongo.

Brown-backed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas hartlaubi* Several sightings throughout the tour.

White-browed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys* A few sightings.

Fraser's Forest Flycatcher *Fraseria ocreata* One sighting in the Royal Mile.

Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher (G-t F) *Myioparus griseigularis* Seen in Kibale.

Grey Tit-Flycatcher (Lead-coloured F) *Myioparus plumbeus* 1 seen in Murchison.

White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher *Melaenornis fischeri* Fairly common in Nyungwe and Bwindi.

Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher ♦ *Melaenornis ardesiacus* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.

Northern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides* Scattered sightings.

Southern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis pammelaina* Seen at Mburo.

Pale Flycatcher *Melaenornis pallidus* Seen at Murchison Falls.

Silverbird ♦ *Empidonax semipartitus* Several seen at Murchison Falls.



Red-headed Lovebird in Mburo.

Ashy Flycatcher *Muscicapa caerulescens* Seen in Mabira.

Swamp Flycatcher *Muscicapa aquatic* Seen at several locations.

Cassin's Flycatcher *Muscicapa cassini* Seen in Kibale.

Chapin's Flycatcher ♦ *Muscicapa lendu* Seen well at Buhoma.

African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta* Recorded at various localities.

Dusky-blue Flycatcher *Muscicapa comitata* A few sightings.

Sooty Flycatcher *Muscicapa infusate* Several sightings in the forest.

Red-throated Alethe ♦ *Pseudaethya poliophrys* Seen very well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.

Archer's Ground Robin (Archer's Robin-Chat) ♦ *Cossypha archeri* Seen very well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.

White-bellied Robin-Chat ♦ *Cossyphicula roberti* Seen well in Nyungwe and Buhoma.

Grey-winged Robin-Chat ♦ *Cossypha polioptera* Seen well in Buhoma.

White-browed Robin-Chat *Cossypha heuglini* Fairly common and widespread.

Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat ♦ *Cossypha cyanocampter* Seen well at Mabira.

Red-capped Robin-Chat *Cossypha natalensis* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat *Cossypha niveicapilla* Several sightings.
White-starred Robin *Pogonocichla stellate* Seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Eastern Forest Robin *Stiphrornis (erythrothorax) xantogaster* Seen well in Budongo.
Equatorial Akalat ♦ *Sheppardia aequatorialis* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Spotted Palm Thrush *Cichladusa guttata* Seen at Murchison Falls.
African Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus* Seen a few times.
Sooty Chat *Myrmecocichla nigra* Scattered sightings.
Ruaha Chat ♦ *Pentholaea collaris* Seen in Rwanda.
Grey-headed Sunbird ♦ *Deleornis axillaris* Seen well in Mabira.
Little Green Sunbird *Anthreptes seimundi* First seen in Mabira.
Grey-chinned Sunbird *Anthreptes rectirostris* Several sightings, first in Mabira.
Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris* Widespread.
Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra verticalis* 2 sightings.
Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Cyanomitra cyanoaema* Seen a few times.



Some of the many sunbirds seen during the tour: Purple-breasted, Red-chested, Orange-tufted and Grey-headed.

Blue-headed Sunbird ♦ *Cyanomitra alinae* Seen well in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Western Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra (olviacea) obscura* Scattered sightings.
Green-throated Sunbird *Chalcomitra rubescens* First in Kibale.
Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis* Widespread.

Purple-breasted Sunbird ♦ *Nectarinia purpureiventris* Several birds in Nyungwe, and one in Bwindi. Good show.
Bronzy Sunbird (Bronze S) *Nectarinia kilimensis* Fairly common at Bwindi.
Olive-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris chloropygius* Recorded at a couple of locations.
Northern Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris reichenowi* Fairly common in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Ruwenzori Double-collared Sunbird ♦ (Stuhlmann's S) *Cinnyris stuhlmanni* One male in Nyungwe.
Regal Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris regius* Several seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Beautiful Sunbird *Cinnyris pulchellus* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Marico Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis* First in Masindi.
Purple-banded Sunbird *Cinnyris bifasciatus* Seen in Mburo.
Red-chested Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris erythrocerus* Recorded at various locations.
Orange-tufted Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris bouvieri* One male seen well near Masindi.
Superb Sunbird *Cinnyris superbus* Seen well in Bigodi.
Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus* Recorded a few times.
Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cupreus* Widespread.
White-browed Sparrow-weaver *Plocepasser mahali* Seen in Murchison.



Strange Weaver.

Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-weaver *Plocepasser superciliosus* Small numbers in Murchison Falls NP.
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* Only seen 4 times during the tour.
Shelley's Sparrow *Passer shelleyi* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Northern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus* Widespread.
Speckle-fronted Weaver *Sporopipes frontalis* Seen in Murchison Falls.
Thick-billed Weaver (Grosbeak W) *Amblyospiza albifrons* Widespread.
Baglafecht Weaver *Ploceus baglafecht* Fairly common.
Slender-billed Weaver *Ploceus pelzelni* Recorded a few times, common in Queen Elizabeth.
Little Weaver *Ploceus luteolus* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis* Scattered sightings.
Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus nigricollis* Small numbers recorded at various locations.
Strange Weaver ♦ *Ploceus alienus* Good views in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Black-billed Weaver *Ploceus melanogaster* Seen at Bwindi.
Holub's Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops* Scattered sightings.
Orange Weaver *Ploceus aurantius* 2 near Mabamba.
Northern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus castanops* Seen at several locations.
Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius* 2 in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Vitelline Masked Weaver *Ploceus vitellinus* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus* Common and widespread.
Vieillot's Black Weaver *Ploceus nigerrimus* Widespread.



Grey-headed Oliveback, Dusky Crimsonwing, Thick-billed Seed-eater and Green-winged Pytilia.

Weyns's Weaver ♦ *Ploceus weynsi* Hundreds in a colony at Mabamba Swamp.

Black-headed Weaver (Yellow-backed Weaver) *Ploceus melanocephalus* Widespread.

Yellow-mantled Weaver *Ploceus tricolor* Seen in Mabira and Kibale.

Compact Weaver *Ploceus superciliosus* First seen near Masindi.

Brown-capped Weaver *Ploceus insignis* Several seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.

Red-headed Malimbe *Malimbus rubricollis* Seen in the forest a few times.

Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps* Seent twice.

Cardinal Quelea *Quelea cardinalis* One male near Masindi.

Red-headed Quelea *Quelea erythrops* A large flock near Masindi.

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* Large numbers at Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NP.

Black Bishop *Euplectes gierowii* Three scattered sightings.

Black-winged Red Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus* Seen at Murchison Falls.

Southern Red Bishop *Euplectes orix* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Northern Red Bishop *Euplectes franciscanus* Seen in Murchison Falls.

Fan-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes axillaris* Seen a few times.

Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes (macroura) macroura* Several seen at Murchison Falls.

Yellow-shouldered Widowbird *Euplectes (macroura) macrocercus* Seen in Luwero.

Marsh Widowbird (Hartlaub's M W) *Euplectes hartlaubi* Five seen near Luwero.

Red-collared Widowbird (Red-naped W) *Euplectes ardens* Small numbers near Masindi.



Red-headed Malimbe, Lesser Masked Weaver and Levaillant's Cuckoo.

White-winged Widowbird *Euplectes albonotatus* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Jameson's Antpecker ♦ *Parmoptila jamesoni* Extremely good views in Buhoma.
White-breasted Nigrita (W-b Negrofinch) *Nigrita fusconotus* Several records.
Grey-headed Nigrita (G-h Negrofinch) *Nigrita canicapillus* Various sightings.
Grey-headed Oliveback ♦ *Nesocharis capistrata* 4 seen near Masindi.
Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba* Scattered sightings.
Dusky Crimsonwing ♦ *Cryptospiza jacksoni* Seen in Nyungwe and Ruhija.
Red-headed Bluebill *Spermophaga ruficapilla* Seen well at Bigodi Swamp.
Brown Twinspot ♦ *Clytospiza monteiri* First seen near Masindi.
Dusky Twinspot ♦ *Clytospiza cinereovinacea* A pair seen very well near Ruhija.
Black-bellied Firefinch *Lagonostica rara* A pair seen near Masindi.
Bar-breasted Firefinch *Lagonosticta rufopicta* Recorded at Murchison Falls NP.
Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala* Widespread
African Firefinch *Lagonosticta rubricata* Seen near Bwindi.



Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus bengalus* Widespread.
Yellow-bellied Waxbill *Estrilda quartinia* A few seen.
Fawn-breasted Waxbill *Estrilda paludicola* A few seen.
Crimson-rumped Waxbill *Estrilda rhodopyga* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Black-rumped Waxbill *Estrilda troglodytes* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild* Recorded at several locations.
Black-crowned Waxbill *Estrilda nonnula* First seen at Bigodi Swamp.
Black-faced Waxbill *Estrilda erythronotos* Seen at Mburo.
Kandt's Waxbill ♦ *Estrilda kandti* Seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Bronze Mannikin *Lonchura cucullata* Common and widespread.
Black-and-white Mannikin *Lonchura bicolor* Recorded at various locations.
Magpie Mannikin *Lonchura fringilloides* Seen well and photographed on the way to Masindi.
Quailfinch ♦ *Ortygospiza atricollis* Many seen this year in Queen Elizabeth.

Cut-throat Finch *Amadina fasciata* Seen near Butiaba scarpent. One of the first records for Uganda.
Village Indigobird *Vidua chalybeate* First seen near Masindi.
Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura* Fairly common and widespread.
Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis* Recorded at a couple of locations.
African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* Common and widespread.
Mountain Wagtail (Long-tailed W) *Motacilla clara* Seen at Kibale and Buhoma.
Yellow-throated Longclaw *Macronyx croceus* Common at suitable habitat.



Yellow-throated Longclaw.

African Pipit (Grassland P) *Anthus cinnamomeus* Fairly common at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys* Scattered sightings.
Oriole Finch *Linurgus olivaceous* Seen at Bwindi .
Western Citril ♦ *Crithagra frontalis* First seen in Nyungwe.
White-rumped Seedeater *Crithagra leucopygia* Several as we left Murchison Falls.
Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica* Widespread.
Brimstone Canary *Crithagra sulphurata* Just one sighting.
Thick-billed Seedeater *Crithagra burtoni* Seen at Nyungwe and Ruhija.
Streaky Seedeater *Crithagra striolata* Several birds seen at Nyungwe and Bwindi.
Yellow-crowned Canary *Serinus flavivertex* Seen at Nyungwe.
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting *Emberiza tahapisi* 1 on the Butiaba Scarpment.
Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris* Seen a few times.
Cabanis's Bunting *Emberiza cabanisi* 1 in Murchison Falls NP.

MAMMALS

Chequered Sengi (Giant E S) *Rhynchocyon cimei* One seen in Budongo.

African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* Seen at Murchison and Queen Elizabeth NPs.

Western Tree Hyrax *Dendrohyrax dorsalis* (H)

Red-tailed Monkey (Black-cheeked White-nosed M) *Cercopithecus ascanius* Common and widespread.

L'Hoest's Monkey *Cercopithecus lhoesti* Seen in Nyungwe and Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP.



Elephant.

Thick-tailed Greater Galago *Otolemur crassicaudatus monteiri* 2 seen and photographed in Mburo. Poorly known!

Blue Monkey *Cercopithecus mitis* Seen a few times.

Vervet Monkey *Cercopithecus pygerythrus* A few sightings.

Guereza Colobus (Eastern Black-and-white C) *Colobus guereza* Widespread.

Patas Monkey *Cercopithecus patas* Seen on the north bank of Murchison Falls NP.

Grey-cheeked Mangabey (White-c M) *Lophocebus albigena* Scattered sightings.

Olive Baboon *Papio anubis* Common and widespread.

Central African Red Colobus *Piliocolobus oustaleti* Seen in Kibale Forest.

Eastern Gorilla *Gorilla beringei* Great views of "R" family group at Bwindi.

Chimpanzee *Pan* Amazing encounter at Kibale forest.

Bunyoro Rabbit (Uganda Grass-Hare) *Poelagus marjorita* Seen at night in Murchison Falls NP.

Boehm's Squirrel (B Bush S) *Paraxerus boehmi* Seen in the forest a few times.

Carruther's Mountain Squirrel (M Tree S) *Funisciurus carruthersi* Seen in Nyungwe.

Ruwenzori Sun Squirrel (Montane S S) *Heliosciurus ruwenzorii* Seen in Nyungwe.
Alexander's Dwarf Squirrel (A Bush S) *Paraxerus alexandri* 1 sighting
Red-legged Sun Squirrel *Heliosciurus rufobrachium* Seen once.
Striped Ground Squirrel (Geoffroy's G S) *Euxerus erythropus* Several seen in Murchison Falls NP.
Lion *Panthera leo* Seen both in Murchison –female and cubs- and Queen Elizabeth NP.
Unstriped Grass Rat *Arvicanthis niloticus* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Dwarf Mongoose *Helogale parvula* Seen at Mburo.
Egyptian Mongoose (Egyptian M) *Herpestes ichneumon* Seen at Murchison.
Slender Mongoose *Herpestes sanguineus* 3 sightings.
White-tailed Mongoose *Ichneumia albicauda* Seen at Murchison.



Dwarf Mongoose.

Banded Mongoose *Mungos mungo* Seen at Queen Elizabeth.
Spot-necked Otter *Lutra maculicollis* Seen at Mabamba.
Common Zebra *Equus quagga* Common in Lake Mburo NP.
Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibius* Seen in Murchison Falls, Queen Elizabeth and Lake Mburo NPs.
Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus* Seen in Murchison Falls, Queen Elizabeth and Lake Mburo NPs.
Rothschild's Giraffe *Giraffa (camelopardalis) rothschildi* Seen in Murchison Falls NP and introduced at Mburo.

Cape Buffalo *Syncerus caffer* Only at Lake Mburo NP.

Lake Chad Buffalo *Syncerus brachycerus* Seen in Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NPs.

Nile Bushbuck *Tragelaphus bor* Seen in Murchison Falls, Queen Elizabeth and Lake Mburo NPs.



Lion.

Eland *Taurotragus oryx* Seen well in Lake Mburo.

Black-fronted Duiker *Cephalophus nigrifrons* A few sightings in Bwindi NP and Nyungwe.

Common Duiker *Sylvicapra grimmia* One in Mburo.

Sudan Oribi *Ourebia montana* Common in Murchison Falls NP.

Uganda Kob *Kobus thomasi* Seen in Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NPs.

Defassa Waterbuck *Kobus defassa* Seen in Murchison Falls, Queen Elizabeth and Lake Mburo NPs.

Impala (Common I) *Aepyceros melampus* Seen in Lake Mburo NP.

Uganda Topi *Damaliscus ugandae* Seen in Queen Elizabeth and Lake Mburo NP.

Lelwel Hartebeest (Kongoni) *Alcelaphus lelwei* Common in Murchison Falls NP.

Straw-coloured Fruit Bat *Eidolon helvum* A few seen.

Yellow-winged Bat *Lavia frons* Seen a couple of times.

NOTES TO THE SYSTEMATIC LIST

White-backed Vulture (African White-backed V) *Gyps africanus*

Birdlife International has now classified this declining species as 'Endangered'. However it is still the most widespread and common vulture in Africa, occurring from Senegal, Gambia and Mali in the west, throughout the Sahel region to Ethiopia and Somalia in the east, through East Africa into Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa in the south. Its global population has been estimated at 270,000 individuals. Consistent with other vulture species it has declined by over 90% in West Africa.



White-

backed Vulture.

Rüppell's Vulture *Gyps rueppelli*

Birdlife International has now classified this declining species as 'Endangered'

Grey Crowned Crane *Balearica regulorum*

BirdLife International currently classifies the species as 'Endangered' as it appears to be in rapid decline due to habitat loss and removal of birds and eggs. Uganda has one of the largest and most stable populations with 13,000–20,000 individuals. The world population is now likely to be below 50,000.

Grauer's Swamp Warbler *Bradypterus graueri*

Classified as 'Endangered' by BirdLife International, it is restricted to a few highland swamps in eastern Zaire, southwest Uganda, Rwanda and northern Burundi. At least 500 birds are known from Uganda and the world population probably numbers somewhere between 20,000 and 50,000 individuals and are decreasing.



Yellow-winged Bat