



The stunning Green-breasted Pitta was the bird of the trip. (Dani Lopez-Velasco. All photos taken during the tour by the same author)

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For any world-travelling birder, a visit to Uganda should definitely be on the agenda. Why? The extraordinary 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 pretty much guaranteed close encounters with 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!

This year's tour was, as usual, packed with highlights, but several stand out: Shoebill, of course, was one of the birds of the trip, and we succeeded in seeing it at three different places, including walk-away views at Murchison Falls NP. A stunning male Green-breasted Pitta was watched in the scope, in full display, for more than half an hour, at Kibale, while a at least 4 of the near-mythical Grauer's (African Green) Broadbills

were watched at length near their nest 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 very lucky with Leopards, with 3 seen very well. There were of course many more avian highlights. A whole host of Albertine Rift endemic species included the superb Ruwenzori Turaco, whilst other favourites included several amazing Pennant-winged Nightjars or the gorgeous Doherty's Bushshrike. Amongst the many other mouth-watering specialities that we saw were Nahan's Partridge, Heuglin's and Handsome Francolins, Dwarf Bittern, White-backed Night Heron, Mountain Buzzard, Crowned Eagle, Forbes's Plover, African Finfoot, African Crake, Afep Pigeon, Black-billed Turaco, Dusky and Olive Long-tailed Cuckoos, Black-shouldered and Ruwenzori Nightjars, Chocolate-backed and African Dwarf Kingfishers, Forest Wood-Hoopoe, White-thighed Hornbill, Red-faced Barbet, Dwarf and Willcocks's Honeyguides, Tullberg's and Speckle-breasted Woodpeckers, Ruwenzori and Ituri Batises, Jameson's Wattle-eye, Lowland and Mountain Sooty Boubous, Papyrus Gonolek, Petit's Cuckooshrike, Mountain Oriole, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Stripe-breasted Tit, Kakamega, Olive-breasted (Mountain), Joyful, Toro Olive and White-throated Greenbuls, Yellow-eyed (split from Lesser) Bristlebill, White-browed Crombec, Grauer's Warbler, Red-faced and Uganda Woodland Warblers, White-winged and Grauer's Swamp Warblers, Trilling, Chubb's, Carruthers's, Red-pate, Foxy and Long-tailed Cisticolas, Black-faced Prinia, Ruwenzori Apalis, Red-winged Grey Warbler, Lowland and Mountain Masked Apalises, Chestnut-throated Apalis, Grey-capped Warbler, Scaly-breasted, Puvel's and Mountain Illadopsises, Dusky and Black-lored Babbler, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, Stuhlmann's and Sharpe's Starlings, Red-throated Alethe, Eastern Forest Robin, Equatorial Akalat, Archer's Ground Robin, Grey-winged, White-bellied and Blue-shouldered Robin-Chats, White-fronted Black Chat, Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher, Silverbird, Grey-headed, Blue-headed, Ruwenzori Double-collared, Regal and Red-chested Sunbirds, Shelley's Sparrow, Strange Weaver, 'Victoria' Masked Weaver, Weyns's Weaver, Red-winged Pytilia, Dusky Crimsonwing, Red-headed Bluebill, Dusky and Brown Twinspots, Kandt's Waxbil, Western Citril and Papyrus Canary. We recorded a highly impressive 602 species of birds of which all but 12 were seen, and 53 species of mammals.



Uganda is THE place to see the incomparable Shoebill, and as the picture shows, we had "decent" views of this mega bird.

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 and absolutely stunning Shoebill. We arrived after dawn, and were soon taken in our modernized and motorized wooden pirogues straight to the favoured areas. Unfortunately, no Shoebill was to be seen there. We kept searching, seeing Lesser Jacanas, jewel-like Malachite Kingfishers and noisy Pied Kingfishers, until a large soaring bird was spotted flying above us. Thankfully, It turned out to be our target, a magnificent Shoebill! We enjoyed good views – although we all hoped for a sitting bird later on the tour- of this mega bird until it was lost out of sight. Lots of other waterbirds were present in the area, including Yellow-billed Duck, African Openbill, Marabou Stork, Hadada Ibis, Striated and Purple Herons, Little Egret, Hamerkop, Reed Cormorant, Black Crake, Long-toed and Spur-winged Lapwings and White-winged Terns. Overhead Black-winged and Yellow-billed Kites, the vociferous African Fish Eagle, Hooded and Palm-nut Vultures, African Marsh Harriers and Lizard Buzzards, as well as a pair of Blue-breasted Bee-eaters were all seen, while in the dense swampland vegetation Winding Cisticolas and Swamp Flycatchers were photographed. Returning to dry land we had lunch admiring a busy weaver colony, where we managed to get good looks at the localized Orange Weaver. We also found some Grey-rumped Swallows amongst the more numerous Lesser Striped, Red-breasted, Mosque, and Angola Swallows. Other species seen during the afternoon included Black-headed Heron, Wahlberg’s Eagle, Long-crested Eagle, Shikra, Common Kestrel, Red-eyed Dove, Blue-spotted Wood Dove, Tambourine Dove, African Green Pigeon, Red-headed Lovebird, Great Blue Turaco, Eastern Plantain-eater, Blue-headed Coucal, Diederik and Klass’s Cuckoos, African Palm, Little and White-rumped Swifts, Speckled Mousebird, Broad-billed Roller, Striped and Woodland Kingfishers, African Pied and Black-and-white Casqued Hornbills, Cardinal Woodpecker, Black-and-white Shrike Flycatcher, Brown-throated Wattle-eye, Pied Crow, Rufous-naped Lark, Dark-capped Bulbul, Yellow-throated Leaflove, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Grey-capped Warbler, Grey-backed Camaroptera, African Yellow White-eye, Splendid and Rüppell’s Starlings, African Thrush, Sooty Chat, Northern Black Flycatcher, Collared, Green-headed, Green-throated, Scarlet-chested, Superb and Olive-bellied Sunbirds, Northern Grey-headed Sparrow, Black-necked Weaver, Fan-tailed Widowbird, Red-billed Firefinch, Bronze Mannikin, Common Waxbill, Pin-tailed Whydah and African Pied Wagtails, as well as a brief group of the rare Weyns’s Weaver. Some final birding in the late afternoon in the hotel gardens gave us excellent looks at the colourful Black-headed Gonolek, as well as African Grey Woodpeckers, Double-toothed Barbet and Northern Puffback, amongst others.



Malachite Kingfisher is a common but nevertheless gorgeous species.

The next morning we left Entebbe very early and skirted the sprawling city of Kampala, seeing a pair of Bat Hawks on the way, before reaching the open cultivated countryside that is dominated by open swampland. We made a stop en route at the Luwero swamps where we found the localized Marsh Widowbird. A trio of Saddle-billed Storks were in evidence, and we noted the Yellow-shouldered form of Yellow-mantled Widowbird as well as Black Crake, Blue-headed Coucal, Fork-tailed Drongo Grey-headed Nigrita and Yellow-fronted Canary. 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 with a good selection that included Western Banded Snake Eagle, Bateleur, African Harrier-Hawk, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Wahlberg's, Martial and Long-crested Eagles and Grey Kestrel. In the afternoon we birded some open ranch lands and managed to see a good selection of open-country birds, including a stunning White-crested Turaco, Blue-naped Mousebird, Grey-headed Kingfisher, African Grey Hornbill, Meyer's Parrot, African Golden Oriole, Black-headed Oriole, White-headed and Spot-flanked Barbets, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Grey Penduline-tit, Black Cuckooshrike, Tropical Boubou, White-shouldered Black Tits, Buff-bellied Warbler, Grey-backed Fiscal, African Paradise Flycatcher, Lesser Honeyguide, White-browed Scrub Robin, Piapiac, Spotted Palm-Thrush, Arrow-marked Babbler, Northern Crombec, Lesser Blue-eared, a single Bronze-tailed, and Purple Starlings, Copper Sunbird, Red-headed Weaver, Black and Northern Red Bishops, White-browed Sparrow-weaver, Pin-tailed Whydah, Village Indigobird, and Yellow-throated Longclaw, Golden-breasted Bunting. We continued on through Masindi, where we had to spend a couple of hours in order to get one of the vehicles fixed, to enter Murchison Falls National Park, seeing a nice Greyish Eagle-Owl on the journey, while a vocal African Wood Owl was seen just by our cabins.



A breeding male Northern Red Bishop and a close up of an African Wattled Lapwing.

Kaniyo Pabidi is part of the sprawling Budongo Forest and although most regularly visited by tourists hoping to see chimps, we birders had Puvel's Illadopsis on our minds. And as luck would have it, the very first bird we saw was one of these elusive Illadopsis bathing on a rain puddle by the parking lot! We had great scope views of the bird, and then explored the network of trails that lead into the superb rainforest with its magnificent mahogany and ironwood trees. As usual the birding was relatively slow going, but with some persistence we got to see some of its shy inhabitants. Barbets sang from treetops but remained invisible, as did several African Emerald Cuckoos, while Fire-crested Alethes whistled from the undergrowth. Kingfishers were in evidence and we enjoyed excellent views of the stunning Chocolate-backed and the scarce African Dwarf. Other notable species seen during the morning included White-thighed Hornbill, Afep Pigeon, Blue

Malkoha, Narina Trogon, Yellow-crested Woodpecker, Western Oriole, Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher, Western Nicator, Slender-billed and White-throated Greenbuls, Green Crombec, Green Hylia, White-tailed Ant-thrush, Fraser's Rufous Thrush and Eastern Forest Robin. After lunch we continued on through the park. We called in at Sambiya River Lodge briefly to drop off our bags where we were rewarded with excellent views Red-throated Bee-eaters. The localized Heuglin's Francolin was seen at very close range, while a range of several other bush country birds were also seen nearby, including Helmeted Guineafowl, Bateleur, African Goshawk, Vinaceous Dove, Western Black-headed Batis, Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Brubru, Short-winged Cisticola, Red-winged Grey Warbler, Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat, Pale Flycatcher, Beautiful Sunbird, Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-weaver, Black-winged Red Bishop, Yellow-mantled Widowbird, a pair of Red-winged Pytilias, a single Brown Twinspot, and a singing 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. Nearby a pair of Blue-breasted Kingfishers was seen pretty well, although never staying in view for long. We then waited patiently for dusk and the expected emergence of hundreds and thousands of bats. However, as we experienced last year, only a few were seen. On the drive back to the hotel we were rewarded with a great sighting of a Serval Cat, and had excellent views of several Pennant-winged Nightjars, including a couple of males, as well as a single Slender-tailed Nightjar and some Uganda Grass Hares.



We enjoyed great views of the fantastic Pennant-winged Nightjar during the tour.

The next morning we drove out before it was light, seeing again some Pennant-winged Nightjars, and as it got light we were lucky to find a confiding male White-fronted Black Chat, one of our main targets in the park. During the next two days we explored the park on both the south and north banks 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. We spent much of our time searching out the specialties of the park and were rewarded with good views of Red-winged Warbler in the scrubby savannah, Brown-rumped Bunting in the more forested areas, while beautiful Silverbirds were easy to see and several attractive Shelley's Sparrows were found in the areas of whistling thorn. The little Foxy Cisticola gave good views, but possibly the best - and toughest! - bird was the elusive Dusky Babbler with which we struggled for two days before getting excellent views at the very final attempt, right near our lodge. Persistence pays off! A boat trip took us downstream towards the delta and gave us two highlights. One of them was stranding on a sand bank in the shallow

waters while looking –successfully- for some papyrus specialties (that included Papyrus Gonolek and Carruthers's Cisticola), having to be rescued by the rangers. Thankfully the group was very understanding and took it as an extra adventure! The other one was enjoying absolutely point-blank views of a Shoebill. 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 Goliath Herons, small numbers of African Darters and a pair of Giant Kingfishers. Two Allen's Gallinules were sighted and other waterside birds included White-faced Whistling Duck, Knob-billed Duck, Spur-winged and Egyptian Geese, African Sacred Ibis, Squacco and Grey Herons, Great and Intermediate Egrets, Western Osprey, Long-toed and Spur-winged Lapwings, Grey-headed Gull and Whiskered Tern. 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, Olive 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, and a pair of Red-necked Falcons showed very well too. Vultures were well represented in the park and we saw Palm-nut, White-backed, Rüppell's and Lappet-faces Vultures. Other species seen during our stay included Crested Francolin, Denham's and Black-bellied Bustard, Brown Snake Eagle, Spotted Thick-knee, African Wattled Lapwing, Mourning Collared Dove, Black-billed Wood Dove, Senegal and White-browed Coucals, Black-billed Barbet, Nubian Woodpecker, Greater Honeyguide, Grey-headed Bushshrike, Black-crowned Tchagras, Yellow-billed Shrike, Flappet Lark, Moustached Grass Warbler, Northern Crombec, a number of cisticolas that included Singing, Red-faced, Rattling, Croaking, Short-winged, Foxy, Winding and Zitting, Brown Babbler, Spotted Palm Thrush, Brown-backed Scrub Robin, Speckle-fronted, Little, Thick-billed and Vitelline Masked Weavers, Bar-breasted Firefinch, Black-rumped Waxbill, Black-faced Quailfinch and Plain-backed Pipit.



Both Heuglin's Francolin, left, and Denham's Bustard, right, performed in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Reluctantly we departed the park and made our way through cultivation and open scrub where we found White-rumped Seedeater and Village Indigobird. Other species seen on the journey included Black-winged Kite, Martial Eagle, Brown-crowned and Marsh Tchagras. We had lunch on the Butiaba Escarpment, where we found a family of Mocking Cliff Chats as well Cinnamon-breasted Rock Bunting. We made a short stop in the afternoon in the forest at Busingiro, where things were pretty quiet. Nevertheless, we managed to add a few species to our list, including Sabine's and Cassin's Spinetails, African Emerald Cuckoo, Speckled Tinkerbird, Yellow-spotted Barbet, Yellow-whiskered Greenbul, Olive-green Camaroptera, Fraser's Forest Flycatcher, Sooty Flycatcher 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.



You can't get tired of watching Giraffes...

We had a full day to explore the birdy 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 actually get good views of them, but in the end we did very well with all the main targets. The diminutive Ituri Batis, a very localized species in Uganda that elsewhere only occurs in Congo, piped out its high-pitched calls over the forest from the tops of the high trees, and after a bit of searching we managed to get good looks, even in the scope, of this charming species. The rare Nahan's Partridge proved even more challenging, as they seemed to be very little vocal during our visit. Luckily, we eventually found a responsive pair and after a bit of positioning, everyone got good looks at a calling bird. The desirable African Dwarf Kingfisher sat in the open and posed for a long time while in the undergrowth both Scaly-breasted and Brown Illadopsis were heard, but only the latter was seen. We spent ages frustratingly looking for a calling Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo, successfully getting good flight views several times, but we just couldn't find it perched! The beautiful Jameson's Wattle-eye showed brilliantly, side by side with a Chestnut Wattle-eye at one point, and we lured out of the dense cover a nice White-spotted Flufftail, which showed well. The queen of the forest, the impressive Crowned Eagle, was seen briefly in flight, and the diminutive and local Uganda Woodland Warbler was spotted high in the canopy. Of the more conspicuous birds we saw a pair of striking African Shrike Flycatchers, a noisy group of Dusky Tits, a couple of small flocks of distinctive wing-flicking Spotted Greenbul, lovely Rufous-crowned Eremomelas delighted, perky Chestnut-capped Flycatchers flitted about, and Olive-green Camaropteras were finally persuaded to show themselves. A Lemon-bellied Crombec kept to the canopy and several barbets were seen, including Streaky-throated. A number of greenbuls were seen, and we added Little Grey and Plain (Cameroon Sombre) to our list. Other birds sighted included Black-capped and Buff-throated Apalis, Grey-throated Tit-flycatcher, Little Green, Grey-chinned and Olive Sunbirds and colourful Red-headed and Crested Malimbés. At the end of the day we visited a nearby spot where we saw Red-collared Widowbird and a brief Brown Twinspot.



Budongo Forest is surely the easiest place to catch up with the shy African Dwarf Kingfisher.

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 the plenty of granivorous birds including Red-collared Widowbird, Red-headed Quelea, Black Bishop and African Firefinch. The habitat also held a Heuglin's Francolin calling from a tree, some vocal Black Cuckoos, several Red-faced Lovebirds, a pair of Ross's Turacos, a Blue-breasted Kingfisher perched on a telephone wire (!), White-chinned Prinia, showy Snowy-crowned Robin-Chats and yet another Brown Twinspot. Along the journey we made a stop in a papyrus swamp where we got brief looks at a White-winged Swamp Warbler. Further on, we noted Northern Fiscal and Baglaffeht Weaver before eventually reaching the forest itself, just in time for some late afternoon roadside birding before it started raining. Thankfully, we soon managed to locate the two main targets of Lowland Masked Apalis and Joyful Greenbul, and enjoyed good views of both of them, while a small group of Blue-throated Brown Sunbirds was seen in the scope. We then continued through tea estates, with a flat tyre somewhat delaying us, to our lodge, for a two nights stay on the very edge of the Kibale National Park itself.

We had to be up well before dawn in order to increase our chances of finding the elusive Green-breasted Pitta. 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. A Red-chested Owlet called in the distance, and 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 after a frantic search, we located the bird quite high up in a tree. It was still quite dark, and the views were frankly not very satisfactory, but it was obviously better than nothing given the rarity of the bird. Seconds later, the bird flew off and we went after it again. During the next half an hour, the pitta played hide and seek with us, just giving the briefest of views. And once we thought the show was over, the bird started calling again, and this time we managed to find it in a low branch pretty close to our position. For a change, the bird stayed in that branch, displaying and giving its characteristic call while jumping up, for the next half an hour, and we had the best possible views in the scope of this mega bird. Wow!! Very happy with our pitta encounter, we moved

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 face to face with female and her baby. We watched our closest relatives for a lengthy time, and the whole experience surely became one of the highlights of the trip. In the afternoon we returned to the forest and managed to add a few species to our list. Black Bee-eater were, as usual, much appreciated, and the usual pair of Cassin's Flycatcher gave excellent views on the river, while other species noted included African Goshawk, Black-billed Turaco, Blue-throated Roller, Grey-throated Barbet, Velvet-mantled Drongo, Narrow-tailed Starling, Ashy Flycatcher, Yellow-mantled and Dark-backed Weavers.



A baby Chimpanzee. If you took that hair away, it would be just like watching a human baby...

The next morning we embarked on a lengthy walk around Bigodi Wetland that produced a number of

interesting species. A pair of Speckle-breasted Woodpeckers was a good find, and a singing Bocage 's Bushshrike gave excellent views. After having eluded us for a while, we finally caught up with Green Hylia here. Other interesting species recorded during the morning included Woolly-necked Stork, Grey Parrot, Yellow-billed Barbet, Buff-spotted Woodpecker, Black-and-white Shrike Flycatcher, Honeyguide Greenbul, Dark-capped Yellow Warbler, Brown Illadopsis, Dusky-blue and Grey Tit-Flycatchers, our first Bronzy Sunbirds, Compact Weaver, Red-headed Bluebill, Black-crowned Waxbill and Brimstone Canary. After lunch we set off for Queen Elizabeth National Park and a completely new set of birds. We paused briefly at the equator for the obligatory tourist shots before reaching the open savannahs of Queen Elizabeth National Park where we spent the next couple of nights in the sumptuous Mweya Lodge. We found plenty of Red-necked Spurfowl along the way, as well as an adult Martial Eagle and African Pipit. Once inside the entrance we were pleased to find a number of African Crakes by the roadside, some giving excellent views. Other species seen included a single Lesser Flamingo on a crater lake and some Senegal Lapwings, but the definite highlight came in form of a pair of Leopards seen very well – and even heard roaring! - at dusk, very close to our vehicle as we were about to enter the lodge grounds. What a sight!



Grey-crowned Crane, Uganda's National bird, and always a delight to watch.

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, and while scoping one, a Spotted Hyena appeared right in front of us, allowing very close views. Crowned Lapwing, Collared Pratincole, Little Bee-eater and Red-capped Larks were found on the plains, while Lappet-faced Vulture and Black-chested Snake Eagle soared overhead. A nice flock of Temminck's Coursers was found in an area of burnt ground, and a late (or oversummering?) Lesser Grey Shrike was photographed. A number of other interesting species were noted, and these included Bare-faced Go-away-bird, a Central African Hoopoe showing its distinctive primary pattern, Chinspot Batis, Fan-tailed Grassbird, Black-lored Babbler, Lesser Masked Weaver and a pair of Green-winged Pytilias. We also experienced 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 Great white Pelicans, Yellow-billed Stork, Goliath Heron, Water Thick-knee, Black-winged Stilt, Common Greenshank, Gull-billed Tern and numbers of showy Black Crakes. Over the waters were good numbers of hirundines, including Barn and Red-rumped Swallows and Banded and Brown-throated Martins. Along the reedy edges Lesser Swamp Warblers skulked and eventually were seen well. 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 great views of Black-shouldered Nightjar and Square-tailed Nightjar.



African Crake, left, and Yellow-throated Longclaw were easy to see at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Leaving Mweya Lodge the next morning we managed to add a couple of species to our list in form of Southern Red Bishop and Crimson-rumped Waxbill. In the papyrus along the Kazinga Channel we enjoyed wonderful views of the colourful Papyrus Gonolek. We then embarked on a long 'game drive' that took us towards and through the Ishasha sector of the park, and on the journey we had mega views of a big Leopard – our third one of the tour! – sleeping on an Acacia. Once in the Ishasha sector, the highlight was definitely the face-to-face encounter with a group of Lions, including a powerful male, that gave the best possible views from our vehicles, as they rested on two large trees. This tree-climbing habit is typical of the lions at Ishasha (and are therefore commonly called tree-climbing Lions), and is quite uncommon elsewhere

Bird-wise, we did well, getting good views of both Trilling and Stout Cisticolas, while a rare Forbes's Plover was found in a rain puddle on the track. 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.



A black and white portrait of one of the tree-climbing male Lions seen in the Ishasha sector of Queen Elizabeth NP.



A roosting Leopard and a colourful Papyrus Gonolek.



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. 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 Habinyanja or 'H' 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, Chris and I spent the day out birding in the forest, trying to hunt out the specialties, which was pretty difficult due to the rain we experienced during most of the day. The following day the whole group visited the same forest area, but the birding was even more difficult, with almost non-stop rain from dawn to dusk. However despite this problem we worked hard and thus managed to notch up a decent selection of the specials. A singing Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo was seen exceedingly well at the same spot on both days. Single Red-throated Alethes were seen well, and both Grey-winged and White-bellied Robin-Chats and Mountain Illadopsis were teased out of the shadows. A displaying African Broadbill was sadly only seen briefly, as was an Equatorial Akalat, while on the other hand, Bar-tailed Trogon and Blue-throated Roller were far more cooperative. One of the more difficult birds of the Bwindi forests is the peculiar little Neumann's or Short-tailed Warbler but unfortunately they weren't calling and thus we didn't have a sniff. Ansorge's Greenbul, a species first discovered in the country during BirdQuest's 2001 Uganda tour was seen and also present were Kakamega (split from Shelley's) and Red-tailed Greenbuls. The striking Lühder's Bushshrike showed well, and eventually we all had good looks at the skulking Black-faced Rufous Warbler, whilst in the tangles we also found the diminutive White-browed Crombec. Other species recorded during our time here included European Honey Buzzard, Cassin's Hawk-Eagle, Western Bronze-naped Pigeon, Scarce Swift, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater, Cassin's Honeybird, Wilcock's Honeyguide, Tullberg's Woodpecker, Pink-footed Puffback, Petit's Cuckooshrike, Mountain Oriole, Red-faced Woodland Warbler, Chubb's Cisticola, Black-throated Apalis, Stuhlman's Starling, White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher, Blue-headed and Northern Double-collared Sunbirds, Black-necked, Brown-capped and Black-billed Weavers, Mountain Wagtail and Streaky and Thick-billed Seed eaters.



The small Red-faced Woodland Warbler was seen very well a number of times.

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 began with a short visit to the forest near the park headquarters, where the highlights included excellent views of the aptly named Many-colored Bushshrike and a showy Red-capped Robin-Chat on the track. Then 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 Yellow Bishop, Western Citril, Black-throated Canary and Mackinnon's Shrike. We spent some

time in a nearby swamp where the elusive Red-chested Flufftail is usually present, but despite our efforts, none responded to our tape. At 'the neck' section of the park we reacquainted ourselves with a number of familiar forest species, including some nice Black Bee-eaters and a calling Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo, and added Black-faced Prinia to the list. We drove on to higher levels to search for the often-elusive Dusky Twinspot which as luck would have it we located it after a bit of searching right near the vehicle, although the bird didn't stay for long. Other species seen here included Mountain Buzzard, African Olive Pigeon, White-necked Raven and Yellow-bellied Waxbill. 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, Stripe-breasted Tit, Ruwenzori Batis, Ruwenzori and Mountain Masked Apalis all showed nicely, as did a pair of Horus Swifts that kept flying around us, while on the other hand, the always elusive Grauer's Warbler was heard uttering its characteristic song very close to us but only gave the briefest of views. We then went to look for the hoped for Ruwenzori Nightjar, and luckily the bird performed, giving the best possible views, flying around us and even perching in full view on a tree just a few metres from us. Handsome Francolin is another difficult speciality of the area, and this time, in a bit of a "Nocturnal Curassow" manner, we located the approximate tree where a bird was heard calling at dusk, and once it got dark, we managed to find it with the spotlight, giving excellent views. It had surely been a great afternoon, and we slowly drove 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.



Ruwenzori Nightjar, left, and Handsome Francolin, right, were spotlighted on our first evening in Ruhija.

The main reason for coming to Ruhija was to trek up and down a number of times to the Mubwindi Swamp where some exciting targets occur. After an early start, and a few stops during the descent, seeing Yellow-streaked, Olive-breasted and Cabanis's Greenbuls, Grey Cuckooshrike, Mountain Yellow Warbler as well as our first Archer's Ground Robin, 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. After putting on a lot of time prior to our visit, our local guide Amos had found a nest some days earlier and so we were hoping that the birds were still there. We were taken to the tree where the nest was, and with fingers crossed, we waited. Oriole Finch and Dwarf Honeyguide were seen in the area, but everything was eclipsed when the first broadbill was found. Yes! During the next hour, no less than four broadbills were seen busy attending their exquisite mossy hanging nest, and we were able to watch these charismatic birds for as long as we wished. What a relief, and what a

great bird!! Our next target, the skulking Grauer's Swamp Warbler, was to be found in the swamp itself but at first they were pretty secretive and it took some time before we all had good views. We had lunch by the swamp, getting mega views of the superb Regal Sunbird, and then, with both of the main target birds securely tucked under our belts we walked back along a longer but less steep trail back. A few good birds were seen, including White-headed Wood Hoopoe, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, Waller's and Sharpe's Starlings, Abyssinian Thrush, Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher, Chestnut-throated Apalis, Dusky Crimsonwing and Kandt's Waxbill, while as we made it to the main road, a soaring African Cuckoo-Hawk was spotted. It had truly been a memorable day, and after an early dinner we all went to bed with big smiles on our faces.

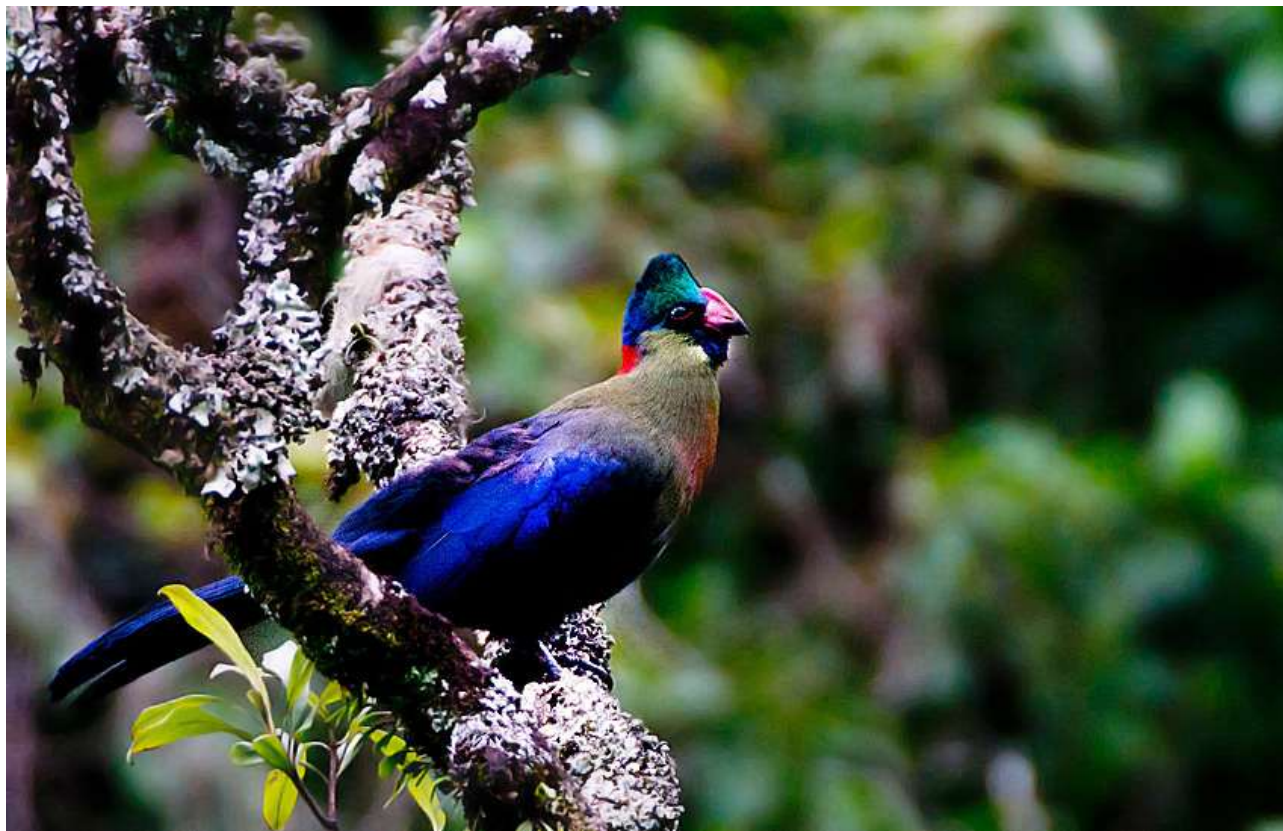


Grauer's (African Green) Broadbill, the holy grail of the Albertine Rift Endemics, showed superbly in Mubwindi Swamp.

The following morning we continued birding in the Ruhija area. Livingstone knew of a good place for the gorgeous Doherty's Bushshrike, and within no time we had close-up views of a pair of this colourful birds. It was time to move on as we had a long journey ahead of us and also an important stop to make en route. Near Lake Bunyonyi we stopped at a very productive area of degraded papyrus swamp, where the localised Papyrus Yellow Warbler is usually found. However, it wasn't the case this time, and despite our best of efforts, we couldn't locate any. In the same area, the mysterious weavers that are presumed to be the form known as Victoria Masked Weaver were also found, and we also had excellent views of Greater Swamp Warbler and White-winged Swamp Warbler. We then continued onto Kisoro, making two productive stops on the way. In a forested area by the road, and after pretty much having lost all hope of seeing Strange Weaver, we located a pair that offered excellent views. Later, at a wetland area, we ticked off Hottentot Teal, Little Grebe, Lanner Falcon, African Rail, African Snipe, Three-banded Plover and Red-knobbed Coot.

Mgahinga National Park in a truly beautiful setting under the shadow of the volcanoes is situated right on the borders with Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda and has now become firmly established as a regular destination on the BirdQuest itinerary. A Cinnamon Bracken Warbler showed nicely by the visitor centre, and we then set off. Walking over the regenerating heathland in the fresh morning air, we admired the scenery with the towering cones of three impressive volcanoes dominating the skyline. In glorious surroundings we found the glittering Ruwenzori Double-collared Sunbird along with the deeply coloured

igneiventris race of Variable Sunbird. A Mountain Sooty Boubou obliged, as did a trio of young Dusky Crimsonwings. Possibly the most 'special' bird that we saw came in the shape of the incredible Ruwenzori Turaco. The amazing combination of colours was truly spectacular, and we spent a long time watching these beauties – a must-see bird if you are a turaco fan! We ate our picnic lunch just before it started raining, and then descended through some eerie stands of seemingly lifeless bamboo. Birding got very quiet, but we managed to tick off a few more birds, including Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk, Western Tinkerbird, White-tailed Crested Flycatcher, Cape Robin-Chat and a glorious Malachite Sunbird.



The brilliant Ruwenzori Turaco was the highlight of our visit to Mgahinga NP.

It was a long and rainy 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 saw little of note, and we arrived in time for some afternoon birding that unfortunately was spoiled by heavy rain. We had a full day to explore this reserve, and we did very well with the specialities. Our main quarry, the localized Red-faced Barbet proved pretty easy this year, and we enjoyed excellent scope views of a pair of vocal birds. Both Long-tailed Cisticola and White-winged Black Tit obliged, while other notable species sighted included Crested Francolin, Emerald-spotted Wood Dove, Lilac-breasted Roller, Green Wood Hoopoe, Common Scimitarbill, Brown-backed (Wahlberg's) Honeybird, Black Cuckooshrike, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Wattled Starling, Greater Blue-eared and Violet Backed Starlings. At night African Scops Owl and Swamp Nightjars were spotlighted, whilst mammals included some Common Zebra and Impala. A morning a boat trip on the lake delivered excellent views of a pair of adult White-backed Night Herons and allowed us to get extra close to an obliging pair of African Finfoot for amazingly prolonged views. This is surely the easiest place in the world to see this usually shy bird totally unconcerned by your presence.

Next morning we slowly made our way back to Entebbe, making a productive stop at a wetland area where Spur-winged Goose, Fulvous Whistling Duck, Allen's Gallinule, African Swampphen and Lesser Moorhen were all present. As we were in the outskirts of the city, I saw a big bird in a degraded marshy area just by the roadside, which turned out to be a Shoebill!!! Unbelievably, this proved to be pretty much the very last bird of the main tour. Part of the group was transferred to the airport, and after saying goodbye to them,

those remaining – Meg, Chris and I- continued to the town of Jinja dominated by the Owen Falls dam.



African Finfoot at Mburo lake.

The next day we visited the remnants of Mabira Forest, and during our productive time here we managed to find some very special birds. One of the stars of the forest is the scarce Forest Wood Hoopoe, and within no time we found a small and active group of these lively birds, enjoying excellent views. A calling Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo was eventually located by Chris, and we had unbeatable scope views, while a pair of White-spotted Flufftails also showed exceptionally well. Lowland Sooty Boubou came pretty quickly to the tape, but on the other hand the always-shy Blue-shouldered Robin Chat played much harder, and after literally several hours playing all sorts of tricks, I was the only one who got decent views. Shining-blue Kingfisher was seen briefly on a nearby pond and White-throated Bee-eater were thankfully more cooperative, perching in exposed branches for long. Grey Longbill and drab-looking Toro Olive Greenbuls were seen, and heard, well, and we finally connected with Pale-breasted Illadopsis. Purple-throated Cuckooshrike and Grey-headed Sunbird – briefly and high up! – were also logged, and the scarce Black-bellied Seedcracker was seen twice. It wasn't until afternoon that we finally caught up with the skulking Yellow-eyed Bristlebill. All in all, a very productive day in the forest.

Next we embarked on a long drive northeastwards to the distant town of Soroti, making a productive stop where we added Papyrus Canary and African Pygmy Goose to our list, while later on we had a large group of swifts which contained a couple of Mottled Swifts, and we also saw a singing Red-pate Cisticola. Our main reason visiting this once dangerous region which had been out of bounds for so long was for a chance to see Uganda's only endemic bird, the little known Fox's Weaver. There have been no published breeding records since 1996, and only a few verified sightings afterwards – a number of breeding claims refer to Northern Brown-throated Weavers! Nik had seen the bird on a couple of previous Birdquest tours to the area, but always by chance, although on the other hand, on last year's tour the bird was completely missed. And this time, despite extensive searches by land and boat over the next day and a half, doing everything in our hands and checking out every location where the bird had been seen previously, we failed. The birding was fun though, with plenty of birds to keep us entertained. There were good numbers of Allen's Gallinule, Lesser

Moorhen and Lesser Jacanas, and we also saw a few Little Bitterns and single Dwarf Bittern and Rufous-bellied Heron. Other new birds included a late (or oversummering?) 2cy Steppe Buzzard, a singing Red-chested Flufftail, a group of 3 Great-spotted Cuckoos, Abyssinian Roller, Abyssinian Scimitarbill, Red-billed Oxpecker, Cardinal Quelea, a couple of Cuckoo Finches and Yellow-crowned Bishop. It seems that the weavers in the Soroti area are nowadays either rare, their numbers have declined or they do dispersive movements, and what's clear is that they aren't by any means reliable. We'll have to try finding a new, more reliable location for the future.



Lesser Jacanas were fairly common in the Soroti area.

As a summary, we all agreed It had surely 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. Thanks Livingstone, and thanks to Nik Borrow for his tips and helpful advice too.



Above, Pink-backed Pelican with a Grey-headed Gull, and Albertine Rift endemic Stripe-breasted Tit, below.





The colors of Africa... A stunning Doherty's Bushshrike and an impressive sunset over the plains at Queen Elizabeth NP.



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.

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* Seen at various wetlands.
Fulvous Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* Seen near Mburo and at Soroti.
Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis* A few birds seen.
Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* Fairly common and widespread.
Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
African Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus* A male seen on the way to Soroti.
Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata* Small numbers seen.
Red-billed Teal *Anas erythroryncha* A single bird near Mburo.
Hottentot Teal *Anas hottentota* A few en route to Kisoro.
Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* Fairly common and widespread.
Nahan's Francolin ◊ *Ptilopanchus nahani* (**E**) Seen well in Budongo Forests.
Coqui Francolin *Peliperdix coqui* (H) Heard at Mburo.
Crested Francolin *Dendroperdix sephaena* Seen at various localities.
Heuglin's Francolin ◊ *Pternistis icterorhynchus* Seen well in Murchison Falls NP.
Handsome Francolin ◊ *Pternistis nobilis* Seen well in Bwindi.
Red-necked Spurfowl *Pternistis afer* Particularly common at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* Small numbers seen.
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 on two dates.
Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* Several sightings of this impressive stork.
Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumenifer* Common and widespread.
African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* Small numbers seen.
Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash* Common and widespread.
Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* Seen on two dates.
African Spoonbill *Platalea alba* A few seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* The resident race *payesii* in the Soroti area. 28
Dwarf Bittern *Ixobrychus sturmii* A single bird seen near Soroti.
White-backed Night Heron ◊ *Gorsachius leuconotus* Great views of a pair at Mburo.
Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* 1 seen.
Striated Heron *Butorides striata* Small numbers at various wetlands.
Malagasy Pond Heron ◊ *Ardeola idae* One classic bird seen at Murchison Falls.
Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* Recorded at several locations.

Rufous-bellied Heron *Ardeola rufiventris* Seen well in the Soroti area.
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 at Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NP.
Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia* Fairly common and widespread.
Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* Fairly common and widespread.
Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta* Common and widespread.
Shoebill *Balaeniceps rex* Seen at Mabamba, Queen Elizabeth and near Entebbe.
Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* Small numbers at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Pink-backed Pelican *Pelecanus rufescens* Small numbers seen at various localities.
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 and Mburo.
Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* Single birds recorded.



Forbes's Plover and Allen's Gallinule.

European Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* A soaring male photographed near Buhoma.
Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* Scattered sightings throughout the tour.
African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene) *Polyboroides typus* Small numbers seen during the tour.
Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis* Widespread.
European Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus* Three birds recorded.
African Cuckoo-Hawk *Aviceda cuculoides* Good views of one near Ruhija.
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* Three seen at Murchison Falls. See note.
Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos* A total of 5 birds seen during the tour.
Black-chested Snake Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis* A couple birds seen.
Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus* Scattered sightings during the trip.
Western Banded Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens* Four birds recorded through the tour.
Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* Fairly common and widespread.
Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus* A pair at dawn near Entebbe.
Crowned Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus* A single bird seen briefly in flight at Budongo.
Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* A total of 7 birds seen throughout the trip.
Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis* Fairly common and widespread.
Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraetus wahlbergi* Widespread.
Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax* Four birds seen during the tour.
Cassin's Hawk-Eagle *Aquila africana* Three birds seen.

Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus* Widespread.
Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* Four birds seen.
Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates* Several birds seen during the first half of the trip.
African Goshawk *Accipiter tachiro* Two birds seen.
Shikra *Accipiter badius* Seen at various localities.
Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk *Accipiter rufiventris* A bird seen well at Mgahinga.
Black Sparrowhawk (Great S) *Accipiter melanoleucus* A single bird 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. 55
Steppe (Common) Buzzard *Buteo (buteo) vulpinus* A single late/oversummering 2 cy near Soroti.
Mountain Buzzard *Buteo oreophilus* Seen well at Ruhija.
Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur* Small numbers recorded during the tour.
Denham's Bustard *Neotis denhami* Four birds seen at Murchison Falls.
Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis melanogaster* Three birds recorded.
White-spotted Flufftail *Sarothrura pulchra* Cracking views.
Red-chested Flufftail *Sarothrura rufa* (H) Heard only this year despite all of our efforts.
African Finfoot *Podica senegalensis* Fantastic views of a pair at Mburo.
African Rail *Rallus caerulescens* Seen near Kisoro.
African Crake *Crex egregia* No less than 13 birds on our first afternoon at Queen Elizabeth NP!
Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra* Fairly common at wetland habitats.
African Swamphen *Porphyrio madagascariensis* Seen a couple of times.
Allen's Gallinule *Porphyrio alleni* Seen at Murchison and Soroti.
Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* Scattered sightings.
Lesser Moorhen *Gallinula angulata* Seen very well in the Soroti area.



A confiding Lesser Moorhen.

Red-knobbed Coot (Crested C) *Fulica cristata* 10 seen en route to Mgahinga.
Grey Crowned Crane *Balearica regulorum* Widespread. See Note.
Common Buttonquail *Turnix sylvatica* A single bird seen at 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.
Spotted Thick-knee (S Dikkop) *Burhinus capensis* 1 in Murchison Falls NP.
Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* Small numbers 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.
African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus* Small numbers at various localities.
Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* Small numbers seen.
Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris* A single seen on the way to Mgahinga.
Forbes's Plover *Charadrius forbesi* A single bird photographed at Queen Elizabeth NP.
African Snipe *Gallinago nigripennis* One seen well in a marsh near to Kisoro.
Lesser Jacana *Microparra capensis* Seen well at Mabamba and Soroti.
African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* Fairly common in wetlands.
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* One seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Temminck's Courser *Cursorius temminckii* Five birds recorded at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Rock Pratincole *Glareola nuchalis* Good views of at least 50 birds at Murchison Falls.
African Skimmer *Rynchops flavirostris* Good in Murchison Falls NP and at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* A few birds seen.
Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* Good numbers at Queen Elizabeth NP.
White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* Large numbers at Mabamba swamp.
Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon) *Columba livia* Small numbers seen at various villages.
Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea* A few birds seen.
Afep Pigeon *Columba uncinata* A single bird seen well at Kibale.
African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix* Several birds seen well at Bwindi.
Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques* (H) Heard several times at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.
Dusky Turtle Dove *Streptopelia lugens* Seen at Bwindi and Mgahinga.



Dusky Turtle Dove in Mgahinga.

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 at various places during the first half of the tour.

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis* Most commonly recorded at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos* One bird 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. 55

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria* Seen at several localities.

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* Seen near Soroti.

African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus* Small numbers recorded throughout the trip.

Great Blue Turaco *Corythaeola cristata* This impressive turaco was fairly common.

Black-billed Turaco ♦ *Tauraco schuettii* Small numbers seen during the tour.

White-crested Turaco *Tauraco leucolophus* Good views of one on the second day of the tour.

Ruwenzori Turaco ♦ *Tauraco johnstoni* Excellent views of *kivuensis* at Mgahinga which lacks the yellow facial skin.

Ross's Turaco *Musophaga rossae* Five birds seen.

Bare-faced Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides personatus* Seen at two locations.

Eastern Plantain-Eater *Crinifer zonurus* Fairly common.

Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis* Two seen near Murchison Falls.

Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus* Scattered sightings.

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.

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* Three birds seen in the Soroti area.

Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii* Three scattered sightings.

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus* A single juvenile seen, being fed by bulbuls.

Diederik (Didric) Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius* Good numbers recorded.

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* Widespread.

African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus* A couple of males seen well, and several more heard.

Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo ♦ *Cercococcyx mechowii* Eventually seen well. What a difficult bird to spot!

Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx olivinus* One seen very well in the lower part of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.



Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo, left, and a juvenile Jacobin Cuckoo begging a Dark-capped Bulbul for food.

Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx montanus* (H) Heard only several times.

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitaries* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.

Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* Seen near Murchison Falls NP.

Greyish Eagle-Owl *Bubo cinerascens* One bird seen at Murchison Falls NP.
African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii* One was seen well at Budongo Ecolodge.
Red-chested Owlet *Glaucidium tephronotum* (H) Heard only at Bwindi.
African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis* Seen well at Mburo.



African Scops Owl and Square-tailed Nightjar.

Black-shouldered Nightjar ♦ *Caprimulgus nigriscapularis* Seen well at Queen Elizabeth.
Ruwenzori Nightjar ♦ *Caprimulgus ruwenzorii* Seen very well in Bwindi.
Slender-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus clarus* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Swamp Nightjar *Caprimulgus natalensis* Seen well at Mburo.
Square-tailed Nightjar (Gabon N) *Caprimulgus fossii* Three seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Pennant-winged Nightjar *Macrodipteryx vexillarius* Excellent views of several birds at Murchison Falls.
Scarce Swift *Schoutedenapus myoptilus* Small numbers seen at Bwindi.
Sabine's Spinetail *Rhaphidura sabini* Seen several times.
Cassin's Spinetail *Neafrapus cassini* Seen well over Budongo.
African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* Fairly common and widespread.
Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba* Small numbers noted at various places.
Mottled Swift *Tachymarptis aequatorialis* Seen near Soroti.
Little Swift *Apus affinis* Fairly common and widespread.
Horus Swift *Apus horus* Seen well in Bwindi.
White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* Scattered sightings.
Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus* Fairly common and widespread.
Blue-naped Mousebird *Urocolius macrourus* Fairly common and widespread.
Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina* Two birds seen well in the forest.
Bar-tailed Trogon *Apaloderma vittatum* Three birds seen well at Bwindi.
Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus* Seen at Mburo.
Abyssinian Roller *Coracias abyssinicus* Seen in Soroti.
Blue-throated Roller *Eurystomus gularis* Seen well at Bwindi.
Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* Scattered sightings.
Chocolate-backed Kingfisher *Halcyon badia* Great views of this stunning kingfisher in Budongo.
Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala* Fairly common and widespread. 55
Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* Fairly common and widespread.

Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica* A total of five birds seen.
Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis* Singles and pairs seen at various locations.
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* One bird seen briefly in a small pond in Mabira.



Two good kingfishers: Blue-breasted, left, and Chocolate-backed, right.

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima* A pair seen at Murchison Falls.
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 at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Blue-breasted Bee-eater *Merops variegatus* Small numbers recorded.
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater *Merops oreobates* Recorded at various locations on the second half of the tour.
Red-throated Bee-eater *Merops bullocki* Recorded at various localities.
White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis* Only seen at Mabira forest.
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus* A single migrant was recorded at Murchison Falls.
Olive Bee-eater (Madagascar Bee-eater) *Merops superciliosus* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.
Northern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicus* Small numbers of this stunning species at Murchison Falls.
Central African Hoopoe *Upupa (epops) senegalensis* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
White-headed Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus bollei* Seen well at Bwindi.
Forest Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus castaneiceps* 3 together in Mabira Forest.
Green Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus* Seen in Murchison Falls NP.
Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas* Seen at Mburo.
Abyssinian Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus minor* 2 seen at Lake Bisina.
Crowned Hornbill *Tockus alboterminatus* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.
African Pied Hornbill *Tockus fasciatus* Seen a few times.
African Grey Hornbill *Tockus nasutus* Fairly common.
White-thighed Hornbill *Bycanistes albotibialis* Seen in Budongo.
Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill *Bycanistes subcylindricus* Fairly common and widespread.
Abyssinian Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus abyssinicus* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Grey-throated Barbet *Gymnobucco bonapartei* Several birds seen in the forest.

Speckled Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus scolopaceus* A few birds seen in the forest.
Western Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus coryphaea* Seen at Mgahinga.
Yellow-throated Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus subsulphureus* Scattered sightings.
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus bilineatus* Fairly common.
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* Several birds seen during the first few days of the tour.
Yellow-spotted Barbet *Buccanodon duchaillui* A total of two birds seen, many more heard.
Streaky-throated Barbet *Tricholaema flavipunctata* A few birds seen in the forest.
Spot-flanked Barbet *Tricholaema lacrymosa* Scattered sightings throughout the tour.
White-headed Barbet *Lybius leucocephalus* Seen at a couple of locations.
Red-faced Barbet *Lybius rubrifacies* Two birds gave great views at Mburo.



A pair of localized Red-faced Barbets at Mburo NP.

Black-billed Barbet *Lybius guifsobalito* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Double-toothed Barbet *Lybius bidentatus* 7 birds recorded.
Yellow-billed Barbet *Trachyphonus purpuratus* One seen well at Bigodi.
Cassin's Honeybird *Prodotiscus insignis* A single bird seen in Bwindi.
Brown-backed (Wahlberg's) Honeybird *Prodotiscus regulus* Seen at Mburo.
Willcocks's Honeyguide *Indicator willcocksii* Two brief sightings at Bwindi.
Dwarf Honeyguide *Indicator pumilio* (NT) Good views of a singing bird in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.
Willcocks's Honeyguide *Indicator willcocksii* 1 briefly in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.
Thick-billed Honeyguide *Indicator conirostris* (H) Heard in Bwindi.
Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* Seen in Murchison Falls NP.
Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator* Two birds seen.
Nubian Woodpecker *Campethera nubica* Several sightings during the trip.
Tullberg's (Fine-banded) Woodpecker *Campethera tullbergi* A total of 5 birds seen.
Buff-spotted Woodpecker *Campethera nivosa* A single bird seen.
Brown-eared Woodpecker *Campethera caroli* One seen well at Mabira Forest.
Speckle-breasted Woodpecker *Dendropicos poecilolaemus* A pair seen well at Bigodi.
Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens* Widespread.

Yellow-crested Woodpecker *Dendropicos xantholophus* Seen in Budongo.
Bearded Woodpecker *Dendropicos namaquus* One seen at Mburo.
African Grey Woodpecker *Dendropicos goertae* Scattered sightings throughout the tour.
Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* A few birds seen.
Grey Kestrel *Falco ardosiaceus* Widespread at suitable habitat.
Red-necked Falcon *Falco chicquera* Four birds gave great views in Murchison Falls NP



Speckle-breasted Woodpecker at Bigodi swamp.

African Hobby *Falco cuvierii* A total of 5 birds recorded during the extension.
Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* One bird seen.
Red-headed Lovebird *Agapornis pullarius* A few seen.
Grey Parrot *Psittacus erithacus* Three sightings.
Meyer's Parrot (Brown P) *Poicephalus meyeri* Several birds recorded.
African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis* One leader-only bird in Bwindi.
Grauer's Broadbill ♦ *Pseudocalyptomena graueri* (V) Four birds nest building in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.
Green-breasted Pitta ♦ *Pitta reichenowi* Mega views of a displaying bird in Kibale.
African Shrike-flycatcher *Megabyas flammulatus* Seen in Budongo and Bwindi Forests.
Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher *Bias musicus* Seen at Kibale and Bwindi.
Ruwenzori Batis ♦ *Batis diops* Good views in Bwindi.
Chinspot Batis *Batis molitor* A few birds recorded.
Western Black-headed Batis *Batis erlangeri* A few birds seen in Murchison Falls NP.
Ituri Batis ♦ *Batis ituriensis* A single bird seen well in the Royal Mile at Budongo.
Chestnut Wattle-eye *Platysteira castanea* Seen briefly in Budongo and then at Mabira Forest.
Jameson's Wattle-eye ♦ *Platysteira jamesoni* Seen very well in Budongo.
Brown-throated Wattle-eye (Common W-e) *Platysteira cyanea* Widespread.

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Lagden's Bushshrike *Malaconotus lagdeni* (H) Heard only at Mgahinga.
Many-colored Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus multicolor* One was seen well at Bwindi.
Bocage's Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus bocagei* Several birds seen.
Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus* Seen in Murchison Falls NP.
Doherty's Bushshrike ♦ *Telophorus dohertyi* Seen very well in Bwindi.
Marsh Tchagra *Bocagia minuta* Two scattered sightings.
Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* Widespread.
Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* Small numbers seen.
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 well in Mabira Forest.
Willard's Sooty Boubou ♦ *Laniarius willardi* (H) Heard in the lower part of Bwindi Forest but didn't come to the tape.
Mountain Sooty Boubou *Laniarius poensis* Seen very well at Mgahinga.
Lühder's Bushshrike *Laniarius luehderi* Seen at Bwindi.
Tropical Boubou *Laniarius major* Scattered sightings.



The rare Ituri Batis and a Fraser's Forest Flycatcher.

Papyrus Gonolek ♦ *Laniarius mufumbiri* Excellent views at a couple of locations.
Black-headed Gonolek *Laniarius erythrogaster* Fairly common and widespread.
Brubru *Nilaus afer* Seen at a couple of locations.
Grey Cuckooshrike *Coracina caesia* Several seen at Ruhija.
Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava* Single birds seen at Murchison Falls NP and Mburo.
Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike *Campephaga phoenicea* Only one bird seen.
Petit's Cuckooshrike *Campephaga petiti* Several birds seen at Bwindi.
Purple-throated Cuckooshrike *Campephaga quiscalina* A pair in Mabira Forest.
Yellow-billed Shrike *Corvinella corvine* Recorded at Murchison Falls.
Mackinnon's Shrike *Lanius mackinnoni* Seen at Bwindi.
Grey-backed Fiscal *Lanius excubitoroides* Widespread.
Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor* One late bird at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Northern Fiscal *Lanius humeralis* Widespread.
African Golden Oriole *Oriolus auratus* A single bird at Murchison Falls.
Western Oriole (W Black-headed O) *Oriolus brachyrynchus* Seen several times.
Mountain (Montane) Oriole ♦ *Oriolus percivali* Fairly common at Bwindi.
Black-headed Oriole (Eastern B-h O) *Oriolus larvatus* Scattered sightings.

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



African Blue Flycatcher, above, and White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, below.

White-tailed Blue Flycatcher *Elminia albicauda* Seen at Bwindi.
White-tailed Crested Flycatcher *Trochocercus albonotata* 1 seen in Mgahinga NP.
White-shouldered Black Tit *Melaniparus guineensis* A small flock seen on our second day of the tour.
White-winged Black Tit *Melaniparus leucomelas* Four birds seen at Mburo.

Dusky Tit *Melaniparus funereus* Flocks were encountered at Kibale and Bwindi.
Stripe-breasted Tit ♦ *Melaniparus fasciiventer* Seen well at Bwindi.
Grey Penduline Tit *Anthoscopus caroli* One seen on the second day of the tour.
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.
Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea* Small numbers in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Dark-capped Bulbul *Pycnonotus tricolor* Common and widespread.
Kakamega Greenbul ♦ *Arizelocichla kakamegae* Two seen in Bwindi.
Olive-breasted Greenbul (O-b Mountain G) *Arizelocichla kikuyuensis* Fairly common at 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 Budongo.
Plain Greenbul (Cameroon Sombre G) *Eurillas curvirostris* Seen at Budongo.
Ansorge's Greenbul *Eurillas ansorgei* Seen at Bwindi.
Yellow-whiskered Greenbul *Eurillas latirostris* Seen at Budongo and Bwindi.
Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator* Seen a couple of times.
Spotted Greenbul *Ixonotus guttatus* Seen at Budongo.
Joyful Greenbul ♦ *Chlorocichla laetissima* Seen in Kibale.
Yellow-throated Leaflove *Atimastillas flavicollis* Recorded at several locations.
Cabanis's Greenbul *Phyllastrephus cabanisi* Seen at Bwindi.
White-throated Greenbul ♦ *Phyllastrephus albigularis* Seen in Budongo and Kibale.
Toro Olive Greenbul ♦ *Phyllastrephus hypochloris* Seen well in Mabira forest.
Yellow-streaked Greenbul *Phyllastrephus flavostriatus* Several seen at Bwindi.
Red-tailed Bristlebill *Bleda syndactylus* Glimpsed at Bwindi and seen better at Mabira.
Yellow-eyed Bristlebill ♦ *Bleda [notatus] ugandae* Excellent looks in Mabira Forest.
Red-tailed Greenbul *Criniger calurus* Several recorded at Ruhija.
White-headed Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne albiceps* Widespread.



Two Albertine Rift endemics: Archer's Ground Robin and Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher.

Black Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne pristoptera* Fairly common around Bwindi.
Grey-rumped Swallow *Pseudhirundo griseopyga* Seen on the first day.
Brown-throated Martin *Riparia paludicola* Scattered sightings.
Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* Widespread.
Banded Martin *Riparia cincta* Good numbers at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* Small numbers seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Angolan Swallow *Hirundo angolensis* Widespread.

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 on our first day.
Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Moustached Grass Warbler (African Moustached W) *Melocichla mentalis* Scattered sightings.
Yellow Longbill *Macrosphenus flavicans* One seen at Budongo Ecological.
Grey Longbill *Macrosphenus concolor* One seen at Mabira forest.
Northern Crombec *Sylvietta brachyura* Scattered sightings.
Red-faced Crombec *Sylvietta whytii* Two seen at Queen Elizabeth and Mburo.
Green Crombec *Sylvietta virens* Singles seen at various locations.
White-browed Crombec ♦ *Sylvietta leucophrys* Two seen in Bwindi.
Lemon-bellied Crombec *Sylvietta denti* Seen in Budongo Forest.
Chestnut-capped Flycatcher *Erythrocerus mcallii* Small numbers were seen in Budongo Forest.
Grauer's Warbler ♦ *Graueria vittata* One leader-only bird seen at Ruhija, and several more heard.
Green Hylia *Hylia prasina* Singles recorded at three different locations.
Red-faced Woodland Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus laetus* Several seen at Bwindi.
Uganda Woodland Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus budongoensis* 1 was seen in Budongo Forest.
Greater Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus rufescens* Seen near Lake Bunyonyi.
Lesser Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus gracilirostris* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
African Yellow Warbler (Dark-capped Y W) *Iduna natalensis* One sighting near Buhoma.
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* Two seen well at Mubwindi swamp. See note.



The skulking Grauer's Swamp Warbler eventually showed well at Mubwindi swamp.

Cinnamon Bracken Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus* Seen well at Mgahinga.
Evergreen Forest Warbler *Bradypterus lopezi* (H) Heard in Bwindi.

Fan-tailed Grassbird *Schoenicola brevirostris* Two seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops* Scattered sightings throughout the trip.
Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans* Only seen once.
Whistling Cisticola *Cisticola lateralis* A couple of birds seen.
Trilling Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola woosnami* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Chubb's Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola chubby* Common at Bwindi.
Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana* Several seen at Murchison Falls.
Winding Cisticola *Cisticola marginatus* Common at Mabamba.
Carruthers's Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola carruthersi* Seen at a few locations.
Stout Cisticola *Cisticola robustus* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.



Stout Cisticola, one of 15 species of cisticolas seen!

Croaking Cisticola *Cisticola natalensis* Recorded at various locations.
Red-pate Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola ruficeps* Present in the Kumi area on the way to Soroti.
Short-winged Cisticola (Siffling C) *Cisticola brachypterus* Recorded at various locations.
Foxy Cisticola ♦ *Cisticola troglodytes* Seen at Murchison Falls NP and Soroti.
Long-tailed Cisticola ♦ (Tabora C) *Cisticola angusticauda* 2 seen in Lake Mburo NP.
Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* Widespread.
Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava* Widespread.
Black-faced Prinia ♦ *Prinia melanops* Seen well in Bwindi.
White-chinned Prinia *Schistolais leucopogon* Widespread.
Red-winged Warbler ♦ *Heliolais erythropterus* A pair was seen well at Murchison Falls.
Ruwenzori Apalis (Collared A) ♦ *Oreolais ruwenzorii* Several seen at Ruhija.
Red-winged Grey Warbler ♦ *Drymocichla incana* Two seen at Murchison Falls.
Buff-bellied Warbler *Phyllolais pulchella* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis flavida* Two seen at Mburo.
Lowland Masked Apalis ♦ *Apalis binotata* Seen in Kibale.
Mountain Masked Apalis (Black-faced A) ♦ *Apalis personata* Seen well at Ruhija.

Black-throated Apalis *Apalis jacksoni* Several seen at Bwindi.
Black-capped Apalis *Apalis nigriceps* Seen well in Budongo.
Chestnut-throated Apalis *Apalis porphyrolaema* Recorded at Bwindi.
Buff-throated Apalis *Apalis rufogularis* Seen several times in the forest.
Grey Apalis *Apalis cinerea* Seen at Bwindi.
Grey-capped Warbler *Eminia lepida* Widespread.
Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brevicaudata* Common and widespread.
Yellow-browed Camaroptera *Camaroptera superciliaris* One seen at Budongo.
Olive-green Camaroptera *Camaroptera chloronota* Seen at Budongo.
Black-faced Rufous Warbler *Bathmocercus rufus* Seen at Bwindi.
Green-backed Eremomela *Eremomela canescens* Two seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Rufous-crowned Eremomela (Brown-c E) *Eremomela badiceps* Seen well in Budongo Forest.
Scaly-breasted Illadopsis ♦ *Illadopsis albipectus* Finally seen well at Mabira forest.
Puvel's Illadopsis ♦ *Illadopsis puveli* Two gave excellent views at Budongo Ecological.
Pale-breasted Illadopsis *Illadopsis rufipennis* (H) Heard only.
Brown Illadopsis *Illadopsis fulvescens* Seen well at Budongo and Bigodi.
Mountain Illadopsis ♦ *Illadopsis pyrrhoptera* Seen well at Ruhija.
Black-lored Babbler *Turdoides sharpei* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Dusky Babbler ♦ *Turdoides tenebrosus* Great views of a family group in Murchison Falls NP.
Brown Babbler *Turdoides plebejus* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Arrow-marked Babbler *Turdoides jardineii* Seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.
Ruwenzori Hill Babbler ♦ *Pseudoalcippe atriceps* Seen well at Bwindi.
African Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis* Fairly common and widespread.
Grey-chested Babbler (G-c Illadopsis) *Kakamega poliothorax* (H) Heard in Bwindi.
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.



Greater Blue-eared Starling.

Lesser Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chloropterus* Recorded at a couple of locations.

Bronze-tailed Starling *Lamprotornis chalcurus* A single bird seen well on our second day.

Splendid Starling *Lamprotornis splendidus* Several sightings during the first week of the tour.

Purple Starling *Lamprotornis purpureus* Recorded twice throughout the trip.

Rüppell's Starling *Lamprotornis purpuroptera* Widespread.

Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* Widespread

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

Waller's Starling *Onychognathus walleri* Seen at Ruhija.

Stuhlmann's Starling ♦ *Poeoptera stuhlmanni* Seen at Ruhija.

Narrow-tailed Starling *Poeoptera lugubris* Recorded at Kibale.

Sharpe's Starling ♦ *Poeoptera sharpie* Four seen well at Ruhija.

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

Red-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* Seen in the Soroti area.

Red-tailed Ant Thrush *Neocossyphus rufus* (H) Heard only.

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

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

African Thrush *Turdus pelios* Widespread.

Abyssinian Thrush (Mountain T) *Turdus abyssinicus* Seen in Bwindi and Mgahinga.

Fire-crested Alethe *Alethe castanea* Seen briefly at Budongo.

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

White-browed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys* Two birds seen at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher (G-t F) *Myioparus griseigularis* Three scattered sightings.



Cassin's Spinetail over Budongo Forest.

Grey Tit-Flycatcher (Lead-coloured F) *Myioparus plumbeus* One seen at Bigodi swamp.

White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher *Melaenornis fischeri* Fairly common at Bwindi.

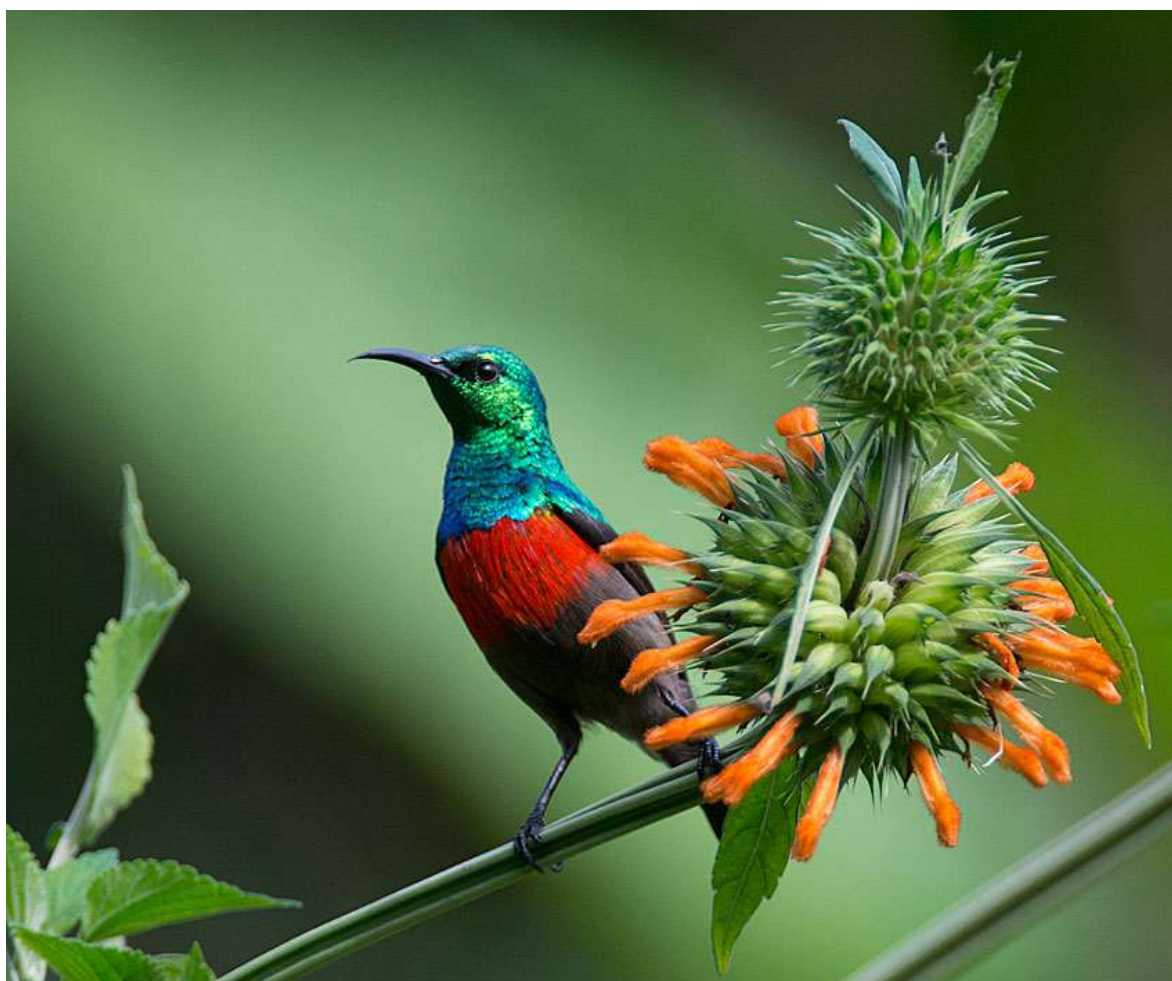
Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher ♦ *Melaenornis ardesiacus* Several seen at Ruhija.

Northern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides* Scattered sightings.

Pale Flycatcher *Melaenornis pallidus* Seen at Murchison Falls.

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

Ashy Flycatcher *Muscicapa caerulescens* A total of 8 birds recorded.
Swamp Flycatcher *Muscicapa aquatic* Seen at several locations.
Cassin's Flycatcher *Muscicapa cassini* Noted at a couple of locations, always in streams.
African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta* Recorded at various localities.
Dusky-blue Flycatcher *Muscicapa comitata* A total of 4 birds seen.
Sooty Flycatcher *Muscicapa infusate* Several sightings in the forest.
Red-throated Alethe ♦ *Pseudalethe poliophrys* Seen at Ruhija.
White-bellied Robin-Chat ♦ *Cossyphicula roberti* One seen well at Bwindi.
Archer's Ground Robin (Archer's Robin-Chat) ♦ *Cossypha archeri* Two seen well at Ruhija.
White-browed Robin-Chat *Cossypha heuglini* Fairly common and widespread.



Olive-bellied Sunbird

Grey-winged Robin-Chat ♦ *Cossypha polioptera* Seen at Buhoma.
Cape Robin-Chat *Cossypha caffra* 2 seen in Mgahinga NP.
Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat ♦ *Cossypha cyanocampter* (LO) After a lot of effort, only seen by Dani in Mabira.
Red-capped Robin-Chat *Cossypha natalensis* One seen well in Bwindi.
Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat *Cossypha niveicapilla* Several sightings.
White-starred Robin *Pogonocichla stellate* Three seen at Ruhija and Mgahinga.
Eastern Forest Robin *Stiphrornis (erythrothorax) xantogaster* Seen well in Budongo.
Equatorial Akalat ♦ *Sheppardia aequatorialis* (LO) One seen briefly under heavy rain in Buhoma.
Spotted Palm Thrush *Cichladusa guttata* Seen at Murchison Falls.
African Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus* Seen a few times.
Mocking Cliff Chat *Thamnodaea cinnamomeiventris* Seen at the Butiaba scarpment.
White-fronted Black Chat ♦ *Oenanthe albifrons* A male in Murchison Falls NP.
Fraser's Forest Flycatcher (F F) *Fraseria ocreata* Seen well in Budongo Forest.

Sooty Chat *Myrmecocichla nigra* Scattered sightings.
Grey-headed Sunbird ♦ *Deleornis axillaris* Seen briefly at Mabira.
Little Green Sunbird *Anthreptes seimundi* Seen in Kibale and Bwindi.
Grey-chinned Sunbird *Anthreptes rectirostris* Three sightings.
Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris* Widespread.
Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra verticalis* Widespread.
Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Cyanomitra cyanoaema* Seen a few times.
Blue-headed Sunbird ♦ *Cyanomitra alinae* Three seen at Bwindi.
Western Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra (olviacea) obscura* Scattered sightings.
Green-throated Sunbird *Chalcomitra rubescens* Recorded at a couple of locations.
Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis* Widespread.
Bronzy Sunbird (Bronze S) *Nectarinia kilimensis* Fairly common at Bwindi.
Malachite Sunbird *Nectarinia famosa* A male in breeding plumage in Mgahinga NP.
Olive-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris chloropygius* Recorded at a couple of locations.
Northern Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris reichenowi* Fairly common at Bwindi.
Ruwenzori Double-collared Sunbird ♦ **(Stuhlmann's S)** *Cinnyris stuhlmanni* Easy to see in Mgahinga NP.
Regal Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris regius* Several seen at Bwindi.
Beautiful Sunbird *Cinnyris pulchellus* Seen at Murchison Falls.
Marico Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis* Seen at Mburo.
Red-chested Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris erythrocercus* Recorded at various locations.
Superb Sunbird *Cinnyris superbus* Seen a few times.
Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus* Recorded at Mgahinga.
Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cupreus* Widespread.
White-browed Sparrow-weaver *Plocepasser mahali* Seen on the second day of the trip.
Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-weaver *Plocepasser superciliosus* Small numbers in Murchison Falls NP.
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* Only seen three times during the tour.
Shelley's Sparrow *Passer shelleyi* Seen at Murchison Falls.



Juvenile Dusky Crimsonwing, left, and Shelley's Sparrow, right.

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 at Bwindi.
Slender-billed Weaver *Ploceus pelzelni* Recorded at various locations.
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 of 2 birds on the way to Mgahinga
Black-billed Weaver *Ploceus melanogaster* Seen at Bwindi.
Holub's Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops* Scattered sightings.
Orange Weaver *Ploceus aurantius* 3 on a small colony of these localized weavers near Mabamba.
Northern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus castanops* Seen at several locations.
Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius* Several in Queen Elizabeth NP.
Victoria Masked Weaver *Ploceus victoriae* A couple of birds of this mystery form near Lake Bunyonyi. See Note.
Vitelline Masked Weaver *Ploceus vitellinus* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus* Common and widespread.
Vieillot's Black Weaver *Ploceus nigerrimus* Widespread.
Weyns's Weaver *Ploceus weynsi* A small flock in Mabamba Swamp and a pair in Mabira Forest.
Black-headed Weaver (Yellow-backed Weaver) *Ploceus melanocephalus* Widespread.



Green Hylia, left, and White-starred Robin, right.

Golden-backed Weaver *Ploceus jacksoni* Two on our first day and a few in the Soroti area.
Yellow-mantled Weaver *Ploceus tricolor* 2 in Kibale NP with more in Mabira Forest.
Compact Weaver *Ploceus superciliosus* Two sightings.
Dark-backed Weaver *Ploceus bicolor* 2 in Kibale NP.
Brown-capped Weaver *Ploceus insignis* Several seen at Bwindi.
Red-headed Malimbe *Malimbus rubricollis* Seen at Kibale and Bwindi.
Crested Malimbe *Malimbus malimbicus* One in Budongo.
Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Cardinal Quelea *Quelea cardinalis* Noted in the Murchison and Soroti areas.
Red-headed Quelea *Quelea erythrops* A few breeding plumaged males near Masindi.
Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* Seen at Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NP.
Yellow-crowned Bishop *Euplectes afer* A couple of males in breeding plumage at Lake Bisina.
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 and Soroti.
Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis* One sighting.
Fan-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes axillaris* Seen on the first two days of the tour.
Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes (macroura) macroura* Several seen at Murchison Falls and Soroti
Yellow-shouldered Widowbird *Euplectes (macroura) macrocercus* Seen in a marshy area on our second day.
Marsh Widowbird (Hartlaub's M W) *Euplectes hartlaubi* Five seen near Luwero.

Red-collared Widowbird (Red-naped W) *Euplectes ardens* Small numbers seen in the Masindi area.
White-breasted Nigrita (W-b Negrofinch) *Nigrita fusconotus* Several records.
Grey-headed Nigrita (G-h Negrofinch) *Nigrita canicapillus* Various sightings.
Red-winged Pytilia *Pytilia phoenicoptera* Two pairs seen at Murchison Falls.
Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba* Scattered sightings.
Dusky Crimsonwing ♦ *Cryptospiza jacksoni* Four seen at Ruhija.
Black-bellied Seedcracker *Pyrenestes ostrinus* Seen at Mabira forest.
Red-headed Bluebill *Spermophaga ruficapilla* Three gave good views at Bigodi Swamp.
Brown Twinspot ♦ *Clytospiza monteiri* A total of 5 birds seen.
Dusky Twinspot ♦ *Clytospiza cinereovinacea* A male seen by some of us at Ruhija.
Bar-breasted Firefinch *Lagonosticta rufopicta* Recorded at Murchison Falls NP.
Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala* Widespread
African Firefinch *Lagonosticta rubricata* Two seen near Bwindi.
Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus bengalus* Widespread.
Yellow-bellied Waxbill *Estrilda quartinia* 3 seen at Ruhija.
Fawn-breasted Waxbill *Estrilda paludicola* Recorded at various locations.
Crimson-rumped Waxbill *Estrilda rhodopyga* Two seen at 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* Seen at Bigodi Swamp.
Black-faced Waxbill *Estrilda erythronotos* Seen at Mburo.
Kandt's Waxbill ♦ *Estrilda kandi* Several flocks at Bwindi.
Quailfinch (Black-faced Q, A Q) *Ortygospiza atricollis* Seen at Murchison Falls NP.
Bronze Mannikin *Lonchura cucullata* Common and widespread.
Black-and-white Mannikin *Lonchura bicolor* Recorded at various locations.
Village Indigobird *Vidua chalybeate* Seen at Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NP.
Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura* Fairly common and widespread.
Cuckoo-Finch (Parasitic Weaver) *Anomalospiza imberbis* Seen in the Soroti area.
Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis* Recorded at a couple of locations.
Mountain Wagtail *Motacilla clara* Seen in Bwindi.
African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* Common and widespread.
Yellow-throated Longclaw *Macronyx croceus* Common in Queen Elizabeth NP.
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 Mubwindi swamp.
Western Citril ♦ *Crithagra frontalis* Several flocks near Ruhija.
Papyrus Canary ♦ *Crithagra koliensis* Seen well on the way to Soroti.
White-rumped Seedeater *Crithagra leucopygia* Two at Murchison Falls.
Black-throated Canary (B-t Seed-eater) *Crithagra atrogularis* Seen at Bwindi.
Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica* Widespread.
Brimstone Canary *Crithagra sulphurata* Recorded at various locations.
Thick-billed Seedeater *Crithagra burtoni* Seen at Ruhija.
Streaky Seedeater *Crithagra striolata* Several birds seen at Bwindi.
Yellow-crowned Canary *Serinus flavivertex* Seen at Bwindi.
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting *Emberiza tahapisi* A pair on the Butiaba Scarpment.
Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris* Seen in Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth NP.
Brown-rumped Bunting *Emberiza affinis* Two birds bird gave great views at Murchison Falls.
Cabanis's Bunting *Emberiza cabanisi* 3 in Murchison Falls NP.

MAMMALS

Chimpanzee *Pan troglodytes* First seen briefly at Budongo and then great views in Kibale forest.

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

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

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

Olive Baboon *Papio anubis* Common and widespread.

Grey-cheeked Mangabey (White-c M) *Lophocebus albigena* Three seen in Kibale Forest.

Vervet Monkey *Cercopithecus pygerythrus* A couple of sightings.

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

Golden Monkey *Cercopithecus (mitis) kandti* One seen briefly at Mgahinga NP.

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

Gentle Monkey (Blue M) *Cercopithecus mitis* Seen in Bwindi Impenetrable Forests.

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

Straw-coloured Fruit Bat *Eidolon helvum* Plenty in Jinja.

Yellow-winged Bat *Lavia frons* Seen in at Queen Elizabeth NPs and Bisina.

Uganda Grass-Hare *Poelagus marjorita* Seen at night in Murchison Falls NP.

Striped Ground Squirrel (Geoffroy's G S) *Euxerus erythropus* Several seen in Murchison Falls NP.

Boehm's Squirrel (B Bush S) *Paraxerus boehmi* Seen in Kibale.

Alexander's Dwarf Squirrel (A Bush S) *Paraxerus alexandri* Seen in Bwindi.

Red-legged Sun Squirrel *Heliosciurus rufobrachium* Seen in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.

Unstriped Grass Rat *Arvicanthis niloticus* Seen in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Climbing Mouse sp *Dendromus sp* One seen on the trail at Mgahinga.

Side-striped Jackal *Canis adustus* Seen on our first day.

Spot-necked Otter *Lutra maculicollis* Seen very well on a pond in Budongo forest.

African Clawless Otter *Aonyx capensis* Seen well in the Soroti area.

Slender Mongoose *Herpestes sanguinea* One seen.

White-tailed Mongoose *Ichneumia albicauda* Seen at Mburo.

Banded Mongoose *Mungos mungo* A troop in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Spotted Hyaena *Crocuta crocuta* 1 in Queen Elizabeth NP.

African Civet *Civettictis civetta* One seen.

Common Genet *Genetta maculata* One in Mgahinga.

Leopard *Panthera pardus* A male and a female seen in Queen Elizabeth, and a further individual in Ishasha.

Lion *Panthera leo* Five "tree-climbing" individuals seen very well in the Ishasha sector of Queen Elizabeth NP.

Serval Cat *Leptailurus serva* One seen very well during a night drive in Murchison Falls NP.

Western Tree Hyrax *Dendrohyrax dorsalis* Heard at night at Kaniyo Pabidi.

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

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.

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.

Eland *Taurotragus oryx* Seen well in Lake Mburo.

Bush Duiker *Sylvicapra grimmia* 1 in Lake Mburo NP.

Black-fronted Duiker *Cephalophus nigrifrons* Three sightings in Bwindi NP.

Yellow-backed Duiker (Western Y-b D) *Cephalophus silvicultor* 1 seen in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.

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

Bohor Reedbuck *Redunca bohor* Two in Queen Elizabeth.

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 lelwel* Common in Murchison Falls NP.



Olive Baboon.



Lelwel Hartbeest (Kongoni) and Nile River Crocodile.



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.

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.



Breathtaking scenery at Murchison Falls.