

The Gambia - In Style!

Naturetrek Tour Report

1 – 8 January 2016



White-throated Bee-eaters



Violet Turaco by Kim Taylor



African Wattled Lapwing



Blue-bellied Roller

Report compiled by Marcus John
Images courtesy of Kim Taylor & Marcus John



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Summary

The Gambia is an ideal destination for a relaxed holiday and offers a great introduction to the diverse and colourful birdlife of Africa. We spent the week at the stunning Mandina Lodges, a unique place that lies on a secluded mangrove-lined tributary of the mighty River Gambia. The lodges are situated next to the creek and within the Makasuto Forest, which comprises over a thousand acres of pristine, protected forest. Daily walks took us out through the woodland and into the rice fields and farmland beyond, where a great range of birds and butterflies can be found. It was sometimes hard to know where to look as parrots, turacos, rollers and bee-eaters all vied for our attention! Guinea Baboons are resident in the forest and were very approachable; Green Vervet Monkeys were seen nearly every day and we also found a group of long-limbed Patas Monkeys, the fastest primates in the world! Boat trips along the creek revealed a diverse selection of waders, kingfishers and other waterbirds; fourteen species of raptor were also seen during the week. Crocodiles inhabit these waters but our best sighting was during our excursion to the coastal Kartong Reserve, with its freshwater pools and unspoilt beach. Early morning and late afternoon walks and canoe rides left plenty of time to relax in the lodges or around the pool, enjoying the tranquillity of the unspoilt African bush.

Day 1

Friday 1st January

After a comfortable flight from Gatwick to Banjul, we met our driver and left the airport without delay. We drove along the busy main road for thirty minutes before taking the turning for Makasuto Forest. After another fifteen minutes we arrived at our secluded destination, to be greeted by Lawrence and Linda, who run Mandina Lodges. We sat on the terrace overlooking the creek, enjoyed a cold drink with Linda and met some of the staff. We were quickly acquainted with the Red-eyed and Laughing Doves that were to become so familiar during the week, as Pied Kingfishers flew low over the water.

We were shown along the boardwalks to our individual lodges and had a short time to unpack while the sun set over the mangroves. We met up again in the elegant dining area where we enjoyed our first delicious three course dinner. Gambian Epauletted Fruit Bats flew in and out of their roost high above our heads; these large bats are very appealing with their long snouts and big eyes. We returned to our lodges with expectations high for the week ahead.

Day 2

Saturday 2nd January

We met at 7am for pre-dawn tea and biscuits before setting off on our first walk with the two guides who were to accompany us all week, Lamin and Alagie (known as AJ). Walking through the thick forest, it was hard to see many birds but we were able to differentiate Blue-spotted from Black-billed Wood Doves. Soon we came across a mixed group of noisy babblers and perched in a distant tree was a Levillant's Cuckoo with its obvious crest and long tail. Much harder to see was a skulking Yellow-crowned Gonolek, but we did get a hint of its gaudy colours.

When we arrived at the open mud-flats, there was such an abundance of birdlife that it was hard to know where to look next; as someone said, you needed eight eyes! There were Spur-winged and Wattled Plovers standing in

shallow pools; Blue-bellied Rollers displaying at low level; Senegal Parrots and African Pigeons perched in the higher branches, and a variety of raptors. A Grey Kestrel was perched in the same tree as a Long-crested Eagle, until the latter flew out to copulate with its mate! A pair of Lanner Falcons flew into sight as a Shikra perched in full view. It really was an enthralling experience.

We returned for a late cooked breakfast before relaxing in our lodges during the middle of the day. We met up again at 4pm to take a canoe ride along the creek to Buffulotto. From the canoe we saw our first Broad-billed Rollers and White-throated Bee-eaters, and were able to paddle very close to an impressive Giant Kingfisher. When we reached our destination, we walked for an hour, past a quarry and into an open area where we found several new bird species and some fascinating invertebrates. We photographed dragonflies and found our first Small Orange Acraea butterflies (which were numerous throughout the week); we even tried to entice an ant-lion larva out of its burrow but without success!

We arrived back at Mandina just before sunset and later gathered to go through the checklist and enjoy another of Chef Lamin's carefully prepared dinners.

Day 3

Sunday 3rd January

Our early morning walk took us through an area of more open woodland to Nambikala fields; Kim and Gill again found some interesting butterflies including African Tiger and Elegant Acraea. Two birds of prey perched prominently, allowing us great views in the telescope: an adult Lizard Buzzard and an immature African Harrier-Hawk. We saw all three regular species of hornbill and after some searching, we had a good look at both Guinea and Violet Turacos. This family is endemic to Africa and they are always sought-after due to their distinctive and colourful appearance. Guinea Turaco is a lovely grass green with purplish wings and tail; Violet Turaco is mainly violet-blue but with a bright red bill, yellow frontal shield and crimson crown. Both species show red wings when they fly; they are wonderful birds!

AJ and Lamin were determined in their pursuit of key species and they followed a Greater Honeyguide from tree to tree until everyone eventually had a good view. More obliging was a flock of White-crested Helmetshrikes, our only sighting of this distinctive species. As we entered a denser area of forest we came across a group of Stone Partridges rustling around in the dry leaf litter. They were accompanied by an Ahanta Francolin, which is a very scarce species in The Gambia. Just before we arrived back for breakfast, we found both Yellow-crowned Gonoleks and Grey-headed Bristlebills, which are never easy to see in the dense understorey.

It remained overcast as some of us set off on a motorboat for the sunset cruise. We enjoyed a memorable two hours cruising the Mandina creek, including a visit to a huge roost. Here we saw thousands of birds flying into a few tall trees on an island hidden in a sheltered backwater. Packed together were Cattle Egrets, Great Egrets, Western Reef Herons and African Darters. We spent a magical half hour in their company before heading back through the darkening mangroves. Everyone felt this to be one of the highlights of the whole tour. As we arrived back at our jetty, AJ used a torch to find a pair of elusive White-backed Night Herons, another Gambian speciality.

Day 4

Monday 4th January

Today we left Mandina to travel down the Gambian coast to the reserve at Kartong, which was set up after the closure of a sand mining operation. The lagoons are inundated during the rainy season and support a lot of emergent vegetation, providing habitat for a different range of birds to those found at Mandina. Colin Cross runs the observatory, with regular ringing activity and visits from British birders. He made us very welcome, serving cold drinks in the garden of his house that overlooks the reserve and helping us to find the secretive Greater Painted Snipe.

We walked out along a path past the main freshwater lagoons where hundreds of White-faced Whistling Ducks were joined by breeding Purple Swamphens, African Jacanas, and Squacco and Purple Herons. In the scrub, we found new birds like Purple Starling, Piapiac and Yellow-billed Shrike. On the last pool before the beach were five lovely African Pygmy Geese.

When we walked out onto the beach, the sweep of white sand was almost deserted. Sanderlings and Turnstones fed close to the breaking waves as big Caspian Terns and smart Grey-headed Gulls flew past. We had quite a long walk to find the localised White-fronted Plovers and to view a big roost that held a variety of gulls and terns, as well as Pink-backed Pelicans.

We drove back up the coast for lunch at Tanji, where we enjoyed watching small birds coming in to bathe and drink at the little pools just across from our table. The proximity of the forest edge ensured a steady stream of weavers and finches, a lovely African Paradise Flycatcher and our first Little Greenbul. We enjoyed our buffet lunch and some of us then went for a walk through dunes and onto the beach; we found some interesting invertebrates including Scarlet-tip butterflies. After a relaxed couple of hours we said goodbye to the friendly staff and drove back along the busy coast road, through Brikama and back to Mandina, enjoying a glimpse of Gambian street life.

Day 5

Tuesday 5th January

After tea and coffee, we set off on our early morning walk through the forest to Basecamp, which is the place where day visitors are welcomed to the Makasuto Forest. Here we spent time watching and photographing the resident troop of Guinea Baboons in the early morning sunlight. It was fascinating to stand so close to these primates and watch their social interactions; they are quite used to visitors and seemed almost oblivious to our presence. We also paid a brief visit to the Baobab Cultural Centre, where local craftsmen sell a range of hand-made artefacts, mainly carved from wood.

Walking back on a different route through the forest, we found a Green Vervet monkey sat right in the crown of a tall palm tree. A few minutes later, we were pleased to see our first Gambian Sun Squirrel, which gazed down at us from the top of another palm tree. Lamin and AJ worked hard to find birds in the dense foliage and we saw a lovely Fine-spotted Woodpecker and our first Fork-tailed Drongo.

After relaxing during the middle of the day, it was time for those who had not yet gone to experience the sunset cruise with Lamin, while the rest of us went for a walk with AJ. After enjoying a close encounter with a Blue-breasted Kingfisher, we walked through the forest to the open mud flats, where a group of Wattled Plovers

stood in the shallows as flocks of weavers and mannikins flew through the trees. We spotted a small raptor perched in full view - our first Red-necked Falcon. As we made our way across recently-harvested rice fields, Yellow-billed Shrikes and Western Red-billed Hornbills perched up in full view. On an old fence, a Senegal Coucal sat right next to a Striated Heron. Best of all, we found three Bearded Barbets, which was arguably the most striking species of the entire trip! We shared our sightings over dinner and those who had gone on the cruise agreed that it was a truly impressive wildlife spectacle.

Day 6

Wednesday 6th January

We ate our cooked breakfast as dawn was breaking, in order to leave early for our excursion to Farasuto Community Forest. We were met by local guide Ibrahim, who first led us through the open fields around the forest. Almost immediately we found a Rufous-crowned Roller, and as a juvenile African Harrier-hawk called to its parent, a Shikra flew through. Senegal Parrots fed in the trees along with small parties of Green Wood Hoopoes; we also had our first proper look at an African Grey Woodpecker.

We took a detour into an area of managed plantation where Ibrahim showed us a roosting Greyish Eagle Owl. When we entered Farasuto Forest proper, he took us to see a nesting Northern White-faced Owl and then, after a search, he rounded off a memorable morning with a shy Wood Owl. Before leaving, we sat down for cold drinks and to watch small birds visiting two water containers. Amongst the commoner species, we had great views of our first Spotted Honeyguide, a difficult species to find in The Gambia.

In the late afternoon, we set off in the canoe to Kenbujeh rice fields, where we were greeted by a group of small children on a swimming trip from a nearby village; they were very excited to see us! We made our way through a patchwork of tiny fields, walking on raised banks that are used to manage water during the rainy season. The fields were recently tilled, ready for the planting of vegetables during the dry season. Birds were numerous in the evening sunlight; we found two new species, Cardinal Woodpecker and Pearl-Spotted Owlet - our fourth owl species of the day! We were greeted by groups of local women as they made their way home from working in the fields and we paused to watch a palm tapper working high in a tall palm tree. The sun was setting over the mangroves as we took the canoe back to Mandina.

Day 7

Thursday 7th January

First thing in the morning, we left on our final canoe trip, heading along the creek to Buffulotto. We stopped to admire a Giant Kingfisher perched on the mast of a tall catamaran as Pied Kingfishers flew alongside. More unusual was a clear view of a Blue-breasted Kingfisher and a flash of electric blue alerted us to the presence of a tiny Malachite Kingfisher which zipped across the front of the canoe. Hooded Vultures soared in the clear blue sky, while a Palm-nut Vulture flew low over the mangroves, being mobbed by Pied Crows.

Walking out through the open farmland of Buffulotto, the first interesting sight was a Lizard Buzzard, a very smart raptor that sat long enough for everyone to appreciate through the telescope. Violet Turacos were easy to pick out with their vibrant colours; more difficult to locate were two migrants from Europe, a Willow Warbler and a Common Redstart. Two Cardinal Woodpeckers showed well near their nesthole in a palm tree as a Piapiac sat up on a post nearby. After a relaxed stroll, we boarded our canoe to head back for our cooked breakfast.

Before setting out on our final afternoon walk, we watched two Little Bee-eaters dropping down to plunge-bathe in the swimming pool. Two Northern Crombecs were flitting around the trees and, high in the sky, three Beaudouin's Snake-Eagles flew over. We stopped by the water tanks near the entrance to watch finches and sunbirds coming to drink, including our first Green-headed Sunbird. We walked on to Nambikala fields where we found a Grey Kestrel and three lovely African Green Parrots. Thankfully for those who had missed them before, we had our second sighting of Bearded Barbets. As we headed back in the twilight, we finally saw Abyssinian Roller, a species that only our guides had seen earlier in the week. Better still, we found a pair of Striped Kingfishers sat together on a low branch; a great end to another enjoyable day.

Day 8

Friday 8th January

We started our last day with an early breakfast. As we ate, something spooked the fruit bats and they all flew out of the roof space above us and settled briefly in the mangroves, giving us our best views of the trip. We then set off on our final walk through Makasuto Forest, almost immediately hearing the slightly mournful whistle of Snowy-capped Robin-chat but yet again failing to see this skulking bird, which habitually stays hidden in low cover. Thankfully, we soon found a pair of showy Common Wattle-eyes, a new species for most of us. When we emerged into a clearing, we had only our second look at Guinea Turaco and also found another stunning Bearded Barbet.

As we headed back to Mandina, we saw two more new species, a rather plain Singing Cisticola and in complete contrast, a brightly coloured Fork-tailed Bee-eater; for some, this was the best bird of the tour. And finally, just before we walked back into Mandina, we finally managed to see not one but two Snowy-capped Robin-chats - a great way to finish the week!

We packed our bags and met together for a leisurely lunch before bidding farewell to the wonderful staff, who had worked very hard all week. Everyone had been welcoming and helpful throughout our stay but special mention must go to the guides, Lamin and AJ. They were tireless in their efforts to ensure that we saw as much wildlife as possible, and always with real energy and enthusiasm! The whole group agreed that it had been a perfect mixture of great company, beautiful surroundings, relaxing accommodation and fantastic wildlife.

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Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	January							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				4				
2	Stone Partridge	<i>Ptilopachus petrosus</i>			4		5			
3	Double-spurred Francolin	<i>Pternistis bicalcaratus</i>			1				1	
4	Ahanta Francolin	<i>Pternistis achantensis</i>			1					
5	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>				500				
6	African Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>				5				
7	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>		6		3	1			
8	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>			1					
9	White-backed Night Heron	<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>			2			1	1	
10	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>			1		1	1	1	
11	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>				4	6			
12	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
13	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		2	1	3	1		1	
14	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>		1	1	1		2	1	
15	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>				2	2	1		
16	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>		1	5	2	2	1	1	
17	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			✓		✓			
18	Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>		1	3	1				
19	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				1				
20	Western Reef Heron	<i>Egretta gularis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
21	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>				1		3		
22	Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>				15				
23	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
24	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>		1	4	1	10	4	1	
25	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		1	3	2	2	2	2	
26	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>		1						
27	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
28	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>				✓	✓		✓	
29	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>				1				
30	Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>		2	1		1		1	
31	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
32	Beaudouin's Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus beaudouini</i>					1		3	
33	African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>			3		2	2		
34	Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>			1					
35	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>		1			1	2		
36	Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>			1				1	
37	Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>		2						
38	Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>		2					1	
39	Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>					1			
40	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>		2		1				
41	Black Crake	<i>Amauornis flavirostra</i>				1				
42	Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>				5				
43	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>				1				
44	Senegal Thick-Knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>		6	8	2	16	30	10	
45	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>				2				
46	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>				6				
47	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	January							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
48	African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>		20	4		16	10		
49	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>		2	1	2	2	1		
50	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>				4				
51	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>				6				
52	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>				10	1			
53	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>				6	1			
54	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				25				
56	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
57	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			2	2	2	1		
58	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				4				
59	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		3	40	6	12	6	4	
60	Painted Snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>				5				
61	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				10				
62	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>				2				
63	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>				100				
64	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>				100				
65	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>			2	150	6		2	
66	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>				30	1			
67	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			1	10				
68	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>				20				
69	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>				1				
70	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>				✓		✓		
71	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
72	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
73	Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
75	Vinaceous Dove	<i>Streptopelia vinacea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Black-billed Wood Dove	<i>Turtur abyssinicus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
77	Blue-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
78	African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>		3					3	
79	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
80	Senegal Parrot	<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>		6	6		1	6	4	2
81	Guinea Turaco	<i>Tauraco persa</i>			2					1
82	Violet Turaco	<i>Musophaga violacea</i>			1		4	4	4	
83	Western Plantain-Eater	<i>Crinifer piscator</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>				3	2	4	1	
85	Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>		1						
86	Verreaux's Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>		1						
87	Northern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis leucotis</i>						1		
88	Greyish Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo cinerascens</i>						1		
89	African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>						1		
90	Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatus</i>						1		
91	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>							✓	1
93	Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>						3		
94	Abyssinian Roller	<i>Coracias abyssinicus</i>							2	
95	Blue-bellied Roller	<i>Coracias cyanogaster</i>		6	1		3	3	2	
96	Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>		6	10		10	1	2	
97	Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>							2	
98	Blue-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon malimbica</i>		1		1	2	1	2	

	Common name	Scientific name	January							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
99	African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>			1	1			2	
100	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>		3	2			2	2	
101	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>		5			2		1	
102	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
103	Swallow-tailed Bee-Eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>								1
104	Little Bee-Eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>							2	2
105	White-throated Bee-Eater	<i>Merops albicollis</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		
106	Blue-cheeked Bee-Eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>				10				
107	European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		✓						
108	Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>			3	3		6	2	
109	African Pied Hornbill	<i>Tockus fasciatus</i>			4		2	2		
110	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>		2	2					
111	Western Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus kemp</i>		5	6	2	3	7	6	4
112	Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>				H		H	1	
113	Bearded Barbet	<i>Lybius dubius</i>					3		3	1
114	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>			1					
115	Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>						1		
116	Spotted Honeyguide	<i>Indicator maculatus</i>						1		
117	Fine-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Campethera punctuligera</i>					1			
118	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>						1	2	2
119	African Grey Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos goertae</i>						1		
120	Brown-throated Wattle-Eye	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>								2
121	White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>			6					
122	Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>		1			1			
123	African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>			2	1	2	4	1	
124	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>					1		1	
125	Northern Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>								2
126	Yellow-crowned Gonolek	<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>		1	3	1	1	1	H	H
127	Yellow-billed Shrike	<i>Corvinella corvina</i>				1	2	1	8	
128	African Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus auratus</i>			2	1				
129	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>					1			1
130	Piapiac	<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>				5			1	
131	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
132	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
133	Little Greenbul	<i>Eurillas virens</i>				1			1	
134	Grey-headed Bristlebill	<i>Bleda canicapillus</i>			2					
135	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
136	Red-chested Swallow	<i>Hirundo lucida</i>			✓		✓		✓	
137	Pied-winged Swallow	<i>Hirundo leucosoma</i>		✓	✓		✓			✓
138	Northern Crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>		2					2	
139	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>				1				
140	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>						1	1	
141	Singing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cantans</i>								2
142	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>		1			2		2	
143	Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>		1			1	1		1
144	Senegal Eremomela	<i>Eremomela pusilla</i>		1					1	
145	Blackcap Babbler	<i>Turdoides reinwardtii</i>		4		3				2
146	Brown Babbler	<i>Turdoides plebejus</i>		6	4	4	9	4		
147	Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>			1					
148	Purple Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>				1				
149	Long-tailed Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis caudatus</i>		2	2	10	3	8	2	

	Common name	Scientific name	January							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
150	African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>			5	2	1	2	1	
151	Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>								2
152	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>							1	
153	Northern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis edolioides</i>					2	1		
154	Mangrove Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes gabonicus</i>		✓						
155	Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>							1	
156	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>		1			1		3	1
157	Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
158	Splendid Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris coccinigastrus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
159	Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
160	Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>				2			2	
161	White-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis albirostris</i>					6	5		
162	Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>				10		3		
163	Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
164	Northern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes franciscanus</i>							✓	
165	African Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>				10				
166	Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
167	Red-cheeked Cordon-Bleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
168	Lavender Waxbill	<i>Estrilda caerulescens</i>		10		5		1	10	
169	Orange-cheeked Waxbill	<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>		6					8	
170	Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
171	Village Indigobird	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>					1		2	
172	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>							2	
173	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>				3				

Mammals

1	Gambian Epauletted Fruit Bat	<i>Epomophorus gambianus</i>	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
2	Patas Monkey	<i>Erythrocebus patas</i>							4	
3	Guinea Baboon	<i>Papio papio</i>				80		80		
4	Gambian Sun Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus gambianus</i>				1				
5	Green Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus sabaeus</i>		5	5	5		1	3	

Reptiles

1	West African Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus suchus</i>			2	1	3			
2	Agama Lizard	<i>Agama agama</i>			1	4		1		
3	African Toad	<i>Bufo regularis</i>								
4	Diurnal Dwarf Gecko	<i>Lygodactylus gutturalis</i>			2		1	1	1	
5	Reed Frog sp.					1				

Butterflies

Citrus Swallowtail, *Papilio demodocus*

Small Grass Yellow, *Eurema brigatta*

African Caper White, *Belenois creona*

Common Dotted Border, *Mylothris chloris*

Pearl Charaxes, *Charaxes varanes*

Small Orange Acraea, *Acraea serena*

African Emigrant, *Catopsilia florella*

Common Grass Yellow, *Eurema hecabe*

African Spirit, *Leptosia alcesta*

African Tiger, *Danaus chrysippus*

River Sailor, *Neptis serena*

Zebra White, *Pinacopteryx eriphia*

Tiny Orange Tip, *Colotis evagore antigone*

African Grass Blue, *Zizeeria knysna*

Pea Blue, *Lampides boeticus*

Elegant Acraea, *Acraea egina*

Common Scarlet, *Axiocerses harpax*

Scarlet-tip, *Colotis danae eupompe*

Lesser Millet Skipper, *Pelopidas mathias*

African Spirit, *Leptosia alcesta*

Dark Blue Pansy, *Junonia oenone*

Grey Elfin, *Sarangesa laelius*

Savannah Pied Pierrot, *Tuxentius cretosus nodieri*

African Painted Lady, *Vanessa cardui cardui*

Blue Pansy, *Junonia orithya*

Grizzled Skipper sp.,

Moths

Crimson-speckled Footman, *Utethesia lotrix*

Hornet Moth, *Euchromia formosa*

Dragonflies

Widow Dragonfly, *Palpopleura portia*

Black Percher, *Diplacodes lefebvrei*

Red Basker, *Crocothemis erythraea*

Other Insects

Antlion, *Myrmeleon* sp.

Driver Ants, *Dorylus* sp.

Water bug sp., *Nepomorpha* sp.

Large centipede sp.,

Bag Moth caterpillar,

Other Taxa

West African Fiddler Crab, *Uca tangeri*

Stick Grasshopper sp.,

Mangrove Oysters, *Grassostrea tulipa*

Atlantic Mudskipper, *Periophthalmus papillo*

Trees

Baobab, *Adansonia digitata*

Red Mangrove, *Rhizophora mangle*

African Oil Palm, *Elaeis guineensis*

White Mangrove, *Laguncularia racemosa*

Mango, *Mangifera* sp.

Cashew, *Anacardium occidentale*