

The Gambia in Style

Naturetrek Tour Report

15 - 22 November 2019



Long-tailed Blue (Pea) by Barbara Beckett



Baboon at Mandina Lodge by Barbara Beckett

Report by Phillip Thompson
Images courtesy of Barbara Beckett



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn Wolf's Lane Chawton Alton Hampshire GU34 3HJ UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: Philip Thompson (leader) with 11 Naturetrek clients.

Day 1

Friday 15th November

Having left a cold and wet UK, our arrival into the subtropical heat and bustle of The Gambia was a much-needed boost to the senses. Once we had negotiated the building works at the arrivals hall, we were then quickly onto our transfer coach with a cooling bottle of water clutched in our hands.

During the transfer drive to the lodge, keen group members were eagerly spotting the local birds as we went, comprising the soon to be familiar mix of Pied Crows, Hooded Vultures and a multitude of doves. On arrival at the lodge, over an introductory drink, our rooms were assigned and a few points of the trip were explained whilst we resisted the distractions of some of the colourful birds in the lodge grounds.

Meeting up later, we had an informal chat before the first tasty evening meal with a few fruit bats calling from nearby and periodically swooping overhead beneath the thatched dining lodge.

Day 2

Saturday 16th November

After rising at dawn's early light we met up for tea and biscuits as the light levels slowly improved. We then boarded the canoes for our first excursion along the tidal mangrove creek to Buffaloto jetty with its large oyster shell midden. Once we had safely negotiated our landfall from the canoes, we could start to enjoy the many species of birds of the area. We spent some time debating the ID of a Glossy Starling among a group of Long-tailed Glossy Starlings, eventually feeling satisfied as to its being a Lesser Blue-eared. A range of small finches and sunbirds were present on the ground and among the all trees by the track. Rather overlooked among the colourful resident birds was an unassuming Western Olivaceous Warbler quietly feeding among the branches above us. Moving slowly along the track we reached some flooded old quarry pits. Here most of the group obtained a fleeting glimpse of a Greater Painted Snipe that scurried along the edge of the fringing reeds on a couple of occasions. A little easier to pick out was a Black Crake behaving in a similar fashion. A Lanner Falcon made a rapid pass overhead to be seen, unfortunately, by only a few. We continued our slow pace among the old and new quarry workings adding bird species as we went. One highlight was a pair of courting Pin-tailed Whydahs, with the male 'dancing' about the female in an effort to win her affections. Among the thick reedy vegetation we picked out a Northern Red Bishop with a fair amount of scarlet breeding plumage. After this gentle walk, we needed to return to the canoes for our appointment at the dining table for our first full breakfast.

With the rising temperature during breakfast we were then able to return to our lodges to relax and, for some, to change in swimwear for a cooling swim in the lodge pool.

We met up once more for some to take the Sunset Cruise with most now taking our first walk. The walk led overland through the mixed tropical forest and more open savannah woodland back towards Buffaloto village and an area of exposed mud at the head of a tidal creek. We were to encounter a range of wonderful colourful sunbirds with the highlight being a scarce Western Violet-backed Sunbird. Reaching the creek we carefully crossed on the stepping-stones to another old quarry area alongside the villages fenced agricultural plots. Here we found several hornbills, Senegal Coucal and White-billed Buffalo Weaver. From here we retraced our steps back to the lodge in time to freshen up before dinner.

Those that went on the Sunset Cruise had travelled along the mangrove creeks out to the Gambia River itself seeing along the way several notable birds such as Yellow-billed Stork, Palm-nut Vulture, Pink-backed Pelican all of which were eclipsed by a sighting of the scarce and elusive White-crested Tiger-heron! The usual highlight of the trip is a stop among the mangroves alongside a large heron and egret roost in an isolated tree surrounded by water. Here they were able to watch the gathering of large numbers of birds build up as they flew in from all around to squabble over a prime roosting spot.

Day 3

Sunday 17th November

Today was the first of our excursions by bus away from the lodge environs with a visit to the Kartong Bird Observatory in the extreme southwest of Gambia close to the Senegal border. After our interesting journey, during which we could observe Gambian life occurring in its chaotic and makeshift fashion on the roadsides of the towns and villages, we soon arrived at our destination. Kartong is a series of abandoned and flooded sand pits that now are covered in lush reedbed vegetation; as a result we were soon spotting several new birds in this different habitat. Early highlights were a couple of African Purple Swamphens together with a few Squacco Herons. Perched on the fencing surrounding the small vegetable plots of the local villagers was a fine Abyssinian Roller that was very cooperative for the group. Sitting low in the lush wet vegetation were a couple of flocks of White-faced Whistling Ducks. We walked slowly around the perimeter picking out birds as we went with a rush of adrenalin provided by a couple of Four-banded Sandgrouse flushing from beneath our feet, followed by a Long-crested Eagle perched nearby. Scanning the surroundings we picked up a very distant prominently perched Palm-nut Vulture and several flocks of soaring Pink-backed Pelicans joined by a few Great White relatives.

At the far end of the main wetland we met up with the dirt road where we were collected by our bus after admiring a few Black Herons in the flooded pits opposite. Boarding the bus we then drove on down to the coast where we stopped for refreshments from a local 'bar' built by an enterprising local! We then walked along the shoreline towards Senegal spotting an interesting range of waders and terns as we went. Our main quarry was the small isolated population of White-fronted Plovers found here in which we obtained some excellent close views. Things were beginning to warm up considerably now as we headed back to the bus to move on to the Rainbow Beach Restaurant for lunch.

Once our meal was completed, we next drove on to visit Tanji fishing village. We made a quick stop shortly after leaving the restaurant to check through the large numbers of roosting gulls and terns at a tidal creek among which we picked out a Marsh Sandpiper.

At the village we walked down through the chaotic scenes of the fishing fleet landing place with the array of locals trading and preparing the fish catch in the sun. Among this loud and busy area, a flock of Bar-tailed Godwits fed undisturbed on the shore. The local gulls were sated from the abundance of fish guts and remains discarded on the beach among which we found a small number of Kelp Gulls. After this sensory overload, it was back to the bus and our homeward journey and dinner after having had a run through of the daily sightings.

Day 4

Monday 18th November

Our morning walk initially led through the tangled evergreen forest near the lodge before opening up to a more open savannah woodland and on towards the Bufalloto agricultural rice fields. An early highlight was a pair of

elusive Ahanta Francolins that were feeding among the leaf litter beneath the densest area of forest making them tricky to obtain a clear view even though they were unconcerned by the groups presence. A little further on the sharp eyes of the guides picked up a bright emerald green Klaas's Cuckoo perched quietly among the high canopy of the forest above us. In the more open savannah we were next fortunate in finding a Little Green Woodpecker that made a brief appearance before flitting off through the trees.

On reaching the rice fields we spent some time scanning the area picking up African Jacana, Yellow-billed Shrike and Grey Kestrel. On the return walk further highlights included Senegal Eremomela, African Paradise Flycatcher and a range of hornbills and sunbirds. Unfortunately both the Oriole Warbler and Grey-headed Bristlebill heard could not be picked out (although both species would be seen later in the trip).

After our brunch and period of relaxation we took a second canoe trip to the Kubuneh Village with its stunning grove of Kapok, Baobab and Fig trees. On the initial canoe ride we spotted the usual range of birds comprising Whimbrels, rollers, bee-eaters, cormorants and kingfishers. After safely disembarking the canoes onto the muddy shore, we slowly made our way through the outlying village compounds spotting a good range of birds. Arriving among the huge mature trees some time was spent admiring them while the guides endeavoured to find any roosting Pearl-spotted Owlets, having heard a couple of calls. Despite their best efforts we were unable to pick out these tiny birds among the dense canopy. We enjoyed our time here nonetheless before retracing our journey back to the river and the canoes and then on to the lodge.

Day 5

Tuesday 19th November

Our morning walk today concentrated on more open savannah and agricultural areas. A good start was provided by a covey of Stone Partridge scurrying through the dry grasses and across the path ahead of the group. As we made our customary slow progress we gradually amassed a fine array of bird sightings that included a number of typical birds of this more open habitat such as Yellow-fronted Canary, Purple Starling, Northern Crombec and Grey-backed Camaroptera. An encounter with a small party of White-crested Helmetshrikes proved popular with the group as all obtained good views of these attractive birds.

Having passed through savannah, our route led us alongside some peanut fields where we sampled a few freshly harvested 'nuts' straight from the pods. We were also able to witness other crops such as sorghum and Red Sorrel, *Hibiscus sabdariffa*. It was interesting to witness the local Village Weaver birds attempting to feed on the sorghum heads, as the local variety has long awns preventing the stubby-billed birds reaching the seeds. Another popular bird found here, was a Purple Roller using a couple of the isolated trees as feeding lookouts. Our furthest point of the walk led us within a splendid grove of stunning mature Baobab trees at which point we needed to head back for breakfast.

Our afternoon canoe trip took us to Kembujeh rice fields, heading upstream along the mangrove creek. During our time here we failed to find anything new for the trip but nevertheless enjoyed reacquainting ourselves with a number of birds seen previously with the stars of the show being a couple of Blue-bellied Rollers.

Day 6

Wednesday 20th November

Our second coach excursion took us first to the Lamin Rice Fields where we walked along the earthen embankments surrounding the wet agricultural plots growing a range of local foodstuffs as well as rice. In this busy environment of hardworking locals, the birds have become very accustomed and unconcerned by human activity allowing us to enjoy the birds at close range, these included Squacco, Black and Striated Herons, African Jacana, Black Crake, Senegal Thick-knee and Woodland Kingfisher.

Our next destination was Abuko National Park that lay on the opposite side of the busy main road that we reached after a short walk. Once there, we entered the very different habitat of tall, dense tropical forest. Not far into our walk a very confiding Levaillant's Cuckoo was found close by in the thick tangled lower forest branches that hung around long enough for everyone to get a good view. Walking on, birding was tricky with a strung-out group on the narrow path, especially given the skulking and flighty nature of some of the forest species we encountered. Highlights that all members got to see included the beautiful Guinea Turaco, African Pygmy Kingfisher and Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat. Birding highlights that proved trickier for everyone due to dense vegetation and brief appearance included the rather sought-after Western Bluebill and Grey-headed Bristlebill! A mixed party of Sunbirds feeding among the canopy of a flowering tree included a couple of Copper Sunbirds that due to their constant rapid movements took some patience to connect with. Our search for the endangered and isolated population of Western Red Colobus drew a blank this time, despite our constant vigilant scanning.

The day was moving on now, marked by a rise in temperatures, so we left the forest and drove on through the busy backstreets of Serekunda to take a quick stop at Kotu Bridge where we scanned the tidal mud where a range of waders and herons were feeding. We soon had to move on to reach the Calypso Restaurant at Cape Point where we had our lunch booked. We were then able to relax with a delicious meal overlooking a freshwater pool close to the sea and beach under the shade of a large thatched seating area. The pool held several large West African Crocodiles basking on the banks while a fine mix of birds carefully crept around them as they hunted for food. An unexpected bonus was a Little Bittern that chose to fly in and show itself clearly on a couple of occasions before flying off into the thick reed bed alongside the pool.

Having enjoyed our meal we returned to Kotu Bridge where we met up with a local bird-guide who had tipped us off to the presence of an Egyptian Plover that had been present in the area for some time. We took a walk to reach some water treatment settling tanks around which was found a rich array of birds, but due to the disturbance from local people walking through the area we failed to find the plover. With everyone feeling pretty hot and sweaty by now we returned to the bus for our return journey to the lodge.

Day 7

Thursday 21st November

Our walk this morning took us to the Paul area through a mix of dense thicket woodland, savannah and ending overlooking the fenced agricultural smallholdings of the area. After a quiet start the sun began to warm up and the birds with it. We hit a rich vein of sightings upon reaching the fence line of the agricultural area. The main highlight was picking out a White-crowned Robin-Chat among the thick screening vegetation that gave decent views for most. A small flock of finches feeding on the spilt grain and straw contained a few Village Indigobirds and our first Orange-cheeked Waxbills. Elsewhere among the plots Yellow-billed Shrike, Northern Black Flycatcher and Long-crested Eagle were all picked out. On the return leg of our walk we stopped in at the

Makasuto Cultural Centre to have a look at the local arts and crafts on display for sale but also to peer up into the treetops nearby where we finally found a pair of roosting Northern White-faced Owls. There followed a spell of getting the best angle to show the group whilst craning our necks upwards!

For the afternoon, the group were keen to have a further canoe ride (who can blame them, it's not bad letting someone else take the strain at the paddling!), so we returned to the Bufaloto jetty. Along the way, a careful scan was made into the fringing mangroves that ultimately bore fruit with the detection of a White-backed Night Heron, which then required a spell of patient and careful boat handling to line up each member of the group with the correct angle to view this secretive bird! With our arrival at the jetty, we made our way back to the flooded quarry to then witness the rather distressing sight of a local Shikra make off with the stripy Greater Painted Snipe chick and then proceed to pluck and devour it in a nearby tree! We next walked a new area heading across some scrubby ground towards a marsh where we found another African Pygmy Kingfisher and Purple Roller.

Day 8

Friday 22nd November

For our final day we still had ample time before our return flight allowing for a full morning of birding. Since we failed to find the Pearl-spotted Owlets on our previous afternoon visit, it was decided to return for a second attempt, this required boarding the canoes one last time to head to Kubuneh Village. As previously, our slow and silent progress in the canoes allowed us some wonderful sightings on the outward journey culminating in the major highlight of a White-crested Tiger-heron being disturbed from the mangroves to fly a short distance further ahead of us where we were able to then obtain some fantastic views of this stunning bird just within the outer edge of the trees! Elated by this lucky chance encounter we landed at the village shoreline to continue walking towards the large fig tree favoured by the owlets. Once more good fortune favoured us with the discovery of a pair of Pearl-spotted Owlets within the dense foliage. After finding a favourable spot we were then able to set the scope up for each group member to have a good 'eyeful'. Other notable birds included a further White-crowned Robin-chat and Green Wood Hoopoe. This brought to a close our time in Gambia for us to think on as we made the return canoe ride to the lodge.

During our time over the week we had also spent considerable effort admiring and identifying the various butterflies and flowers found in the mix of habitats visited that added to the enjoyment of the trip, not to mention the mammals, reptiles and dragonflies!!

With time to freshen up and change we then relaxed a while before being shuttled to the airport and our return flight.

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Species Lists

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

	Common name	Scientific name	November								
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
1	Stone Partridge	<i>Ptilopachus petrosus</i>		H				✓		✓	
2	Double-spurred Francolin	<i>Pternistis bicalcaratus</i>		✓	H	✓	✓			✓	✓
3	Ahanta Francolin	<i>Francolinus achantensis</i>				✓					✓
4	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	
5	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>			✓						
6	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>							✓		
7	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>		✓							
8	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓			
9	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>							✓		
10	White-backed Night Heron	<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>								✓	
11	White-crested Tiger-heron	<i>Tigriornis leucolopha</i>		✓							✓
12	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
13	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>			✓				✓		
14	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓	
17	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓	
18	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓	
19	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
20	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>		✓	✓						
21	Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓		
22	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓	✓					
23	Western Reef Heron	<i>Egretta gularis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
24	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
25	Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
26	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>			✓						
27	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
28	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>		✓		✓	✓				
29	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
30	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
31	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
32	Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				
33	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
34	Beaudouin's Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus beaudouini</i>								✓	
35	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>						✓			✓
36	African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓	
37	Red-chested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter toussenelii</i>								✓	
38	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>		✓		✓			✓		
39	Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓	
40	Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>			✓					✓	
41	Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>				✓	✓	✓			
42	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>								✓	✓
43	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>		✓		✓					
44	Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>		✓					✓		
45	African Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>			✓						
46	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>							✓		
47	Senegal Thick-Knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>		✓	H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	November							
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>			✓					
49	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>						✓		
50	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
51	African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	
52	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>			✓				✓	
53	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>			✓			✓		
54	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>			✓					
55	Greater Painted Snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>		✓						
56	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>			✓	✓		✓		
57	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>			✓					
58	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>			✓					
60	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>			✓					
61	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
62	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>			✓					
63	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	✓	✓	✓					
64	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		✓					✓	
65	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>							✓	
66	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
67	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			✓					
68	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>			✓					
69	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>			✓					
70	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>			✓					
71	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>			✓					
72	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>			✓					
73	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
74	West African Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus albididorsalis</i>			✓					
75	Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>			✓					
76	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			✓					
77	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>			✓					
78	Four-banded Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles quadricinctus</i>			✓					
79	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
80	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	Vinaceous Dove	<i>Streptopelia vinacea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
85	Black-billed Wood Dove	<i>Turtur abyssinicus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	
86	Blue-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
87	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>						✓		
88	African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
89	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
90	Senegal Parrot	<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
91	Guinea Turaco	<i>Tauraco persa</i>			✓			✓		
92	Violet Turaco	<i>Musophaga violacea</i>				✓		✓	✓	
93	Western Plantain-Eater	<i>Crinifer piscator</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
94	Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
95	Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>				✓				
96	Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Oxylophus levaillantii</i>						✓	✓	
97	Northern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis leucotis</i>							✓	
98	Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>					H			✓

	Common name	Scientific name	November								
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
99	Mottled Spinetail	<i>Telacanthura ussheri</i>		✓							
100	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
101	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>		✓					✓		
102	Purple Roller/Rufous-crowned Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>						✓		✓	
103	Abyssinian Roller	<i>Coracias abyssinicus</i>			✓				✓		
104	Blue-bellied Roller	<i>Coracias cyanogaster</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
105	Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
106	Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>			H						
107	Blue-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon malimbica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
108	Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>			✓			✓	✓		
109	African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>							✓	✓	
110	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
111	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
112	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	Swallow-tailed Bee-Eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>		✓		✓	✓				
114	Little Bee-Eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
115	White-throated Bee-Eater	<i>Merops albicollis</i>		✓			✓	✓		✓	
116	Blue-cheeked Bee-Eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>						✓	✓		
117	Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
118	Black Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus aterrimus</i>				H					
119	African Pied Hornbill	<i>Tockus fasciatus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
120	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
121	Western Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus kempii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>		H	✓	✓			✓	✓	
123	Bearded Barbet	<i>Lybius dubius</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	H	✓	✓
124	Spotted Honeyguide	<i>Indicator maculatus</i>						✓			
125	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>		✓			✓		✓		
126	Fine-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Campethera punctuligera</i>		✓							
127	Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>								✓	
128	Little Green Woodpecker	<i>Campethera maculosa</i>				✓					
129	African Grey Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicops goertae</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
130	Brown-throated Wattle-Eye	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>		✓	✓	✓	H	H	✓	✓	
131	White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>						✓			
132	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>						H			
133	Northern Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>					✓				
134	Yellow-crowned Gonolek	<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>		✓	H	H	✓	✓	✓		
135	Yellow-billed Shrike	<i>Corvinella corvina</i>				✓	✓			✓	
136	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>		✓		✓	✓				✓
137	Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		
138	African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>				✓				✓	
139	Piapiac	<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>			✓	✓			✓		
140	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
141	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
142	Little Greenbul	<i>Eurillas virens</i>		✓				✓	✓	H	
143	Grey-headed Bristlebill	<i>Bleda canicapillus</i>				H		✓			
144	Yellow-throated Leaflove	<i>Chlorocichla flavicollis</i>								✓	
145	Fanti Saw-Wing	<i>Psalidoprocne obscura</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
146	Red-chested Swallow	<i>Hirundo lucida</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
147	Pied-winged Swallow	<i>Hirundo leucosoma</i>			✓	✓					
148	Northern Crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>						✓			
149	Western Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna opaca</i>		✓							

	Common name	Scientific name	November								
			15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
150	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>						✓			
151	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>			H						
152	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>								✓	
153	Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>			✓						
154	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
155	Oriole Warbler	<i>Hypergerus atriceps</i>				H				✓	
156	Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>		✓		✓	✓				
157	Senegal Eremomela	<i>Eremomela pusilla</i>				✓					
158	Blackcap Babbler	<i>Turdoides reinwardtii</i>			✓						
159	Brown Babbler	<i>Turdoides plebejus</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓	
160	Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓		
161	Lesser Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chloropterus</i>		✓							
162	Purple Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>					✓	✓			
163	Long-tailed Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis caudatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
164	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>			✓						
165	African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
166	Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
167	White-crowned Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha albicapillus</i>								✓	✓
168	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>					✓				
169	Northern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis edolioides</i>								✓	
170	Mangrove Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes gabonicus</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
171	Western Violet-backed Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes longuemarei</i>		✓							
172	Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>				✓				✓	
173	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓		
174	Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
175	Splendid Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris coccinigastrus</i>		✓			✓			✓	✓
176	Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
177	Copper Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris cupreus</i>							✓		
178	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			✓						
179	Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
180	White-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis albirostris</i>		✓					✓		
181	Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
182	Vitelline Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>			✓	✓	✓			✓	
183	Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
184	Northern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes franciscanus</i>		✓			✓			✓	
185	Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
186	Red-cheeked Cordon-Bleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
187	Lavender Waxbill	<i>Estrilda caerulescens</i>		✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
188	Orange-cheeked Waxbill	<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>								✓	
189	Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
190	Village Indigobird	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>			✓					✓	✓
191	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>		✓						✓	
192	Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>					✓				

Mammals

Guinea Baboon, *Papio papio*

Patas Monkey, *Erythrocebus patas*

Peter's Dwarf Epauletted Fruit Bat, *Micropteropus pusillus*

Marsh Mongoose, *Atilax paludinosus*

Green Vervet/Callithrix Monkey, *Chlorocebus sabaeus*

Gambian Epauletted Fruit Bat, *Epomophorus gambianus*

Gambian Sun Squirrel, *Heliosciurus gambianus*

Butterflies

Green-banded Swallowtail, <i>Papilio nireus</i>	Citrus Swallowtail, <i>Papilio demodocus</i>
White Lady, <i>Graphium angolanus baronis</i>	Small Grass Yellow, <i>Eurema brigatta</i>
Common Grass Yellow, <i>Eurema hecabe</i>	African Emigrant, <i>Catopsilia florella</i>
Tiny Orange Tip, <i>Colotis evagore antigone</i>	African Spirit, <i>Leptosia alcesta</i>
African Albatross, <i>Appias epaphia epaphia</i>	Common Dotted Border, <i>Mylothris chloris</i>
Caper White, <i>Belenois aurota</i>	African Caper White, <i>Belenois creona</i>
Creamy Small White, <i>Dixeia orbona</i>	Blue Savannah Sapphire, <i>Iolaua menas</i>
Leaden Ciliate Blue, <i>Anthene amarah</i>	Common Ciliate Blue, <i>Anthene larydas</i>
Pea Blue/Long-tailed Blue, <i>Lampides boeticus</i>	Common Bush Blue, <i>Cacyreus lingeus</i>
Lang's Short-tailed Blue/Common Zebra Blue, <i>Leptotes pirithous</i>	African Grass Blue, <i>Zizeeria knysna</i>
Sky-blue Cupid, <i>Chilades eleusis</i>	Untailed Blue Giant Cupid, <i>Lepidochrysops synchrematiza</i>
African Tiger, <i>Danaus chrysippus</i>	Common Evening Brown, <i>Melanitis leda</i>
African Ringlet, <i>Ypthima asterope</i>	Pearl Charaxes, <i>Charaxes varanes</i>
Painted Lady, <i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Dark Blue Pansy, <i>Junonia oenone</i>
River Sailor, <i>Neptis serena</i>	Large Spotted Acraea, <i>Acraea zetes</i>
Elegant Acraea, <i>Acraea egina</i>	Small Orange Acraea, <i>Acraea serena</i>
Pink Acraea, <i>Acraea caecilia</i>	Grey Elfin, <i>Sarangesa laelius</i>
Water Watchman, <i>Parnara monasi</i>	

Dragonflies

Widow Dragonfly/Portia Widow, <i>Palpopleura portia</i>	Black Percher, <i>Diplacodes lefebvrei</i>
Broad Scarlet, <i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Strong Skimmer, <i>Orthetrum brachiale</i>
Woodland Skimmer, <i>Orthetrum monardi</i>	Red Basker, <i>Urothemis assignata</i>

Miscellaneous

African Giant Snail, <i>Achatina sp.</i>	West African Mangrove Oyster, <i>Crassostrea tulipa</i>
Antlion, <i>Myrmeleon sp.</i>	Giant Millipede, Diplopoda: family Odontopygidae
Driver Ants, <i>Dorylus sp.</i>	West African Fiddler Crab, <i>Uca tangeri</i>
Stick Grasshopper,	

Reptiles

Sand Snake, <i>Psammophis philipsii</i>	Nile Monitor Lizard, <i>Varanus niloticus</i>
Agama Lizard, <i>Agama agama</i>	Brook's House Gecko, <i>Hemidactylus brooki angulatus</i>
West African Crocodile, <i>Crocodylus suchus</i>	

Fish

Atlantic Mudskipper, <i>Periophthalmus papillo</i>	Guinean Tilapia, <i>Tilapia guineensis</i>
Common Guitarfish, <i>Rhinobatos rhinobatos</i>	

Plants

Common name	Scientific name
FLOWERING PLANTS	ANGIOSPERMS
	Magnoliidae (Dicotyledons)
Acanthus Family	Acanthaceae
Black Mangrove	<i>Avicennia germinans</i>
Blue Pussyleaf/Rice Farm Grass	<i>Nelsonia canescens</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Amaranth Family Monkey Grass	Amaranthaceae <i>Blutaparon vermiculare</i>
Cashew Family Cashew Tree Creeping Foxglove Mango	Anacardiaceae <i>Anacardium occidentale</i> <i>Asystasia gangetica</i> <i>Mngifera indica</i>
Dogbane Family Sodom Apple Senegal Saba/Kaba Monkey's Shuttle	Apocynaceae <i>Calotropis procera</i> <i>Saba senegalensis</i> <i>Strophanthus samentosus</i>
Daisy Family Goatweed a Knapweed Coatbuttons	Asteraceae <i>Ageratum conyzoides</i> <i>Centaurea perrottetii</i> <i>Grangea maderaspatana</i> <i>Sphaeranthus senegalensis</i> <i>Tridax procumbens</i>
Catalpa Family Akoko Tree/Kunjunborong	Bignoniaceae <i>Newbouldia laevis</i>
Caper Family Crocodile's Tooth/Woolly Caper Bush	Capparaceae <i>Capparis tomentosa</i>
Cocoplum Family Gingerbread Plum	Chrysobalanaceae <i>Neocarya macrophylla</i>
Bushwillow Family Burning Bush	Combretaceae <i>Combretum paniculatum</i>
Spiderwort Family Tropical Spiderwort	Commelinaceae <i>Commelina benghalensis</i>
Bindweed Family Beach Morning Glory Makumbu Hairy Morning Glory	Convolvulaceae <i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i> <i>Ipomoea pileata</i> <i>Ipomoea setifera</i> <i>Merremia aegyptia</i> <i>Merremia tridentata</i>
Gourd Family Loofah Gourd	Cucubitaceae <i>Luffa cylindrica</i>
Pea Family Groundnut/Peanut Camel's-foot Tree/Napoleon's Plume West African Laburnum/Drumstick Tree Butterfly Pea Rattlepod Velvet Tamarind	Fabaceae <i>Arachis hypogaea</i> <i>Bauhinia monandra</i> <i>Cassia sieberiana</i> <i>Clitoria ternatea</i> <i>Crotalaria comosa</i> <i>Crotalaria retusa</i> <i>Dialium guineense</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Bell-flowered Mimosa	<i>Dichrostachys cinerea</i>
Coral Tree	<i>Erythrina senegalensis</i>
Winter Thorn	<i>Faidherbia albida</i>
African Locust Bean Tree	<i>Parkia biglobosa</i>
Coffee Senna	<i>Senna occidentalis</i>
Cowpea	<i>Vigna unguiculata</i>
Deadnettle Family	Lamiaceae
Gumbar Tree/Gamhar	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>
Bird Gooseberry	<i>Hoslundia opposita</i>
Bushmint	<i>Hyptis suaveolens</i>
Christmas Candlestick	<i>Leonotis nepetifolia</i>
Mistletoe Family	Loranthaceae
Wes African Mistletoe	<i>Tapinanthus globiferus</i>
Mallow Family	Malvaceae
Baobab	<i>Adansia digitata</i>
Kapok Tree	<i>Ceiba petandra</i>
Levant Cotton	<i>Gossypium herbaceum?</i>
Hemp-leaved Hibiscus/Kenaf	<i>Hibiscus cannabinus</i>
Red Sorrel	<i>Hibiscus sabdariffa</i>
Arrowleaf Sida	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i>
Congo Jute	<i>Urena lobata</i>
Mulberry Family	Moraceae
Strangler Fig	<i>Ficus craterostema?</i>
Sycamore Fig	<i>Ficus sycamorus</i>
Leadwort Family	Plumbaginaceae
Ceylon Leadwort	<i>Plumbago zeylanica</i>
Four O'Clock Family	Nyctaginaceae
Bourganvillia	<i>Bourganvillea spectabilis</i>
Water-lily Family	Nymphaeaceae
Egyptian Lotus	<i>Nymphaea lotus</i>
White Water-lily	<i>Nymphaea micrantha</i>
Willowherb Family	Onograceae
Mexican Primrose-willow	<i>Ludwigia octovalvis</i>
Bedstraw Family	Rubiaceae
Little Girl's Cloth	<i>Kohauia grandiflora</i>
Shrubby False Buttonweed	<i>Spermacoce verticillata</i>
Mangrove Family	Rhizophoraceae
Red Mangrove	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>
Vervain Family	Verbenaceae
Indian Snakeweed	<i>Stachytarpheta indica</i>

Common name	Scientific name
	<i>Liliidae (Monocotyledons)</i>
Arum Family	<i>Araceae</i>
	<i>Amorphophallus consimilis</i>

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