

The Gambia in Style

Naturetrek Tour Report

3rd – 10th November 2023



Western Plantain-eater



Shining-blue Kingfisher



Palm-nut Vulture



Abyssinian Roller

Tour report and photos by Dave Jackson



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Summary

This was the first Gambia in Style tour of the new season with the local guides returning from their villages to Mandina Lodges for the first time since April.

We enjoyed many sightings of colourful birds including six sunbird, four bee-eater, four roller and seven kingfisher species including the scarce Shining-blue Kingfisher, during our 8-day stay.

We visited Kartong, near to the Senegal border and the bustling Tanji Fishing Village and Pirang where hundreds of herons, egrets, storks and flamingoes filled the abandoned shrimp farm and familiar waders including Sanderling, Dunlin, Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints had found a home for the winter.

Highlights included the Guinea Baboon troupe that carried their babies into the lodge complex and relaxed along the boardwalk one afternoon and the attentive staff who served us freshly cooked food throughout our stay.

Day 1

Friday 3rd November

10°C Gatwick, 34°C Banjul

We departed Gatwick on our early morning flight to Banjul an hour late but caught up time, landing at Banjul around 3.20pm. We waited for a bus to take us the short distance to Arrivals as Little Swifts circled over the terminal building and the first of many Hooded Vultures & Speckled Pigeons started off our bird list.

We changed money and negotiated a route through the luggage porters and boarded the bus to Mandina where a troupe of Guinea Baboons fed by the road through Makasutu Cultural Forest. On arrival, we were met by Linda and the local bird guides who were eager to show us some Gambian wildlife after their wet season break. Refreshing soft drinks and beers were served as a variety of doves called all around, and Senegal Thick-knees, Wire-tailed Swallows and Yellow-fronted Canaries gave us a taste of things to come.

Day 2

Saturday 4th November

28 - 34°C sunny with a slight breeze. Bafuloto - Mandina Bolon – Mudflats

The seven-whistle call of Whimbrel could be heard as the sun rose to greet another day. Some of these birds have been tracked using geolocators and have been found to have made non-stop flights from Iceland taking 4 to 5 days to reach their wintering grounds in west Africa.

Noisy Giant Kingfishers, Senegal parrots and Ring-necked Parakeets were seen as we set off along the bolon in canoes. Kingfishers including Blue-breasted, Malachite and the scarce Shining-blue with its distinctive black bill and darker colouration were seen among the mangroves while a Broad-billed Roller perched in full view as we slipped silently past.

Distant monkeys patrolling at low tide included Green Vervets and a surprise Patas Monkey which disappeared into the mangroves as we approached.

A Gambian Sun Squirrel raced across the path as we moored our canoes and strolled past the discarded oyster shells harvested by the locals. Birds were everywhere; it was difficult to know which way to look! Swallow-tailed Bee-eaters, African Grey Hornbills and Levillant's Cuckoo were all on view as a pair of Blue-bellied Rollers chased off Yellow-billed Kites. A dazzling male Northern Red Bishop popped up in front of us as an African Grey Woodpecker scurried up a tree.

A Dark Chanting Goshawk perched on a distant wall was a great find by A.J. as we realised we'd been out for three hours and it was time to return for breakfast. Where did the time go?

Back on the boats, African Darter, Grey Plover, Greenshank and Common Sandpipers all showed as we made our way back for breakfast while Beaudouin's Snake Eagle soared with the vultures overhead.

A relaxing afternoon was spent in and around the pool or bar area watching the antics of the mudskippers and crabs before meeting up for our late afternoon walk to the mudflats.

A Green Wood Hoopoe explored a hole in a dead palm as an African Paradise Flycatcher darted around the mangroves and an immature Malachite Kingfisher with its black bill was educational. We decided to walk back the way we came - the unstable blocks across the stream just didn't seem that inviting.

Butterflies and dragonflies were everywhere as a Hamerkop performed a fly-past before we reached the road back to the lodge in time for our al-fresco dinner.

Day 3

Sunday 5th November

Kartong - Sanyang – Tanji 28 - 34°C sunny

A Double-spurred Francolin rested in the shade as the bus navigated the bumpy road from Mandina for our first day out. We progressed slowly through the bustling Brikama on market day before heading south along a quiet road punctuated by speed bumps as we passed through villages taking in the sights of everyday Gambian life as we went.

Roadside birds included Greater Blue-eared and Purple Glossy Starlings and Piapiacs while a quarry before our destination was teeming with birds - Little Bee-eaters, Orange-cheeked Waxbills and Yellow-throated Leafloves called from the vegetation while a Singing Cisticola announced its presence from deep within a bush. So many great birds though Pin-tailed Whydah in full breeding plumage was a firm favourite.

As we disembarked at Kartong, a Northern Red Bishop displayed above our heads while an active Tawny-flanked Prinia was well caught on camera. Migrants included Willow Warbler, Chiffchaff and Western Olivaceous Warbler but the lily-covered pools were of more interest to the group with African Jacana, White-faced Whistling Duck,

African Darter and Black-headed Heron among the numerous water birds. Familiar waders included Greenshank and Wood Sandpiper, whilst on the beach a single White-fronted Plover kept a close eye on us.

Northern Grey-headed Sparrows called around the juice bar as some of the group took shelter from the sun, while others observed Hooded Vultures squabbling over a rancid fish and the flocks of terns including West African Crested, Sandwich, Gull-billed and Caspian flying along the shoreline. Yellow-billed Oxpeckers clung onto the only black cow in the herd as it moved off through vegetation.

It was time to leave for lunch with a thirty-minute drive to Sanyang although the sighting of Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters on top of a bush temporarily halted progress.

Village Weavers were busy nest building in trees surrounding the restaurant at Sanyang where some of the group enjoyed a beer with their prepared buffet while others chose from the menu. After lunch, a short walk along the beach where a policeman was bemused by one of the group taking photos of a recumbent cow while two adventurous ladies were pleased to see Dave approaching to 'rescue' them from a local lad hoping to attract a wife or two with the offer of a conch shell as enticement.

A pair of Nile Monitor Lizards crossed the road on our way out of Sanyang and two Black-winged Stilts fed in the salt pans with an Osprey looking on.

At Tanji our senses were filled with the colours and aromas of this vibrant fishing village where locals caught and smoked their catch as Grey-headed Gulls and Caspian Terns took advantage of the spills. Young beach vendors were overjoyed when we purchased their fresh herbs, possibly gaining a week's takings in just a few minutes.

Lizard Buzzard and Purple Roller were seen along Serrekunda Highway as we made our way back to base after a fulfilling day out.

Lucky observers witnessed a pair of African Golden Orioles drinking from the water bowls, a very unusual record for Mandina although they do occur locally and are always a delight to see.

Day 4

Monday 6th November

Kembujeh Rice Fields - Makasutu – Paul area. Cooler overnight rising to 34°C with a pleasant breeze

A Shining-blue Kingfisher darted between the canoes and disappeared into the mangroves as we started out on our canoe trip to Kembujeh. More obliging were the Giant Kingfisher that alighted on the balcony of the stilted lodge, and remained as we cruised by, and a Blue-breasted Kingfisher that called from the shade.

A large flock of White-throated Bee-eaters fed high above the mangroves as we cruised past a pair of Senegal Thick-knees. Long-tailed Glossy Starlings and a pair of Fine-spotted Woodpeckers were the first birds seen as we approached Kembujeh while a Blue-bellied Roller posed, sunning itself, unconcerned by the admirers and the lenses pointed in its direction. A black and white butterfly was later identified as a Variable Eggfly, a scarce visitor from Senegal and beyond.

Variable, Splendid and Beautiful Sunbirds hovered around flowering shrubs as our attention was drawn to the commotion further along the trail. Two Pearl-spotted Owlets were the cause for the disturbance. A pair of Bearded Barbets alighted at the top of a fig tree although there was further commotion coming from the rice fields, the Pied Crows weren't happy about something in their presence and as we approached for clearer views a Verreaux's Eagle Owl flew from cover followed by the scolding crows. The tide was turning and the river is very shallow along this length so we reluctantly dragged ourselves away for the return journey.

As we approached the lodge the Shining-blue Kingfisher gave incredible views as it fished around the mangroves and exceptional photos were obtained of this scarce wet season visitor.

A Red-billed Firefinch perched close by with a feather to line its nest while we were having brunch while Bronze Mannikins pulled straw from the thatch for nesting material.

The Guinea Baboon troop had infiltrated the grounds and staff trying to prevent them causing damage to the lodges and furniture were hampered by our group of eco-tourists wanting photos of the baboons. Many of the females had babies riding on their backs or clinging on below while the younger males taunted each other as we watched on.

We met to complete the checklist before the afternoon walk as waves of Village and Olive-naped Weavers were joined by Yellow-fronted Canaries and a family of Brown-throated Wattle-eyes. Western Osprey, African Harrier-hawk and Beudouin's Snake Eagle soared over the bolon as the group split with some taking a leisurely walk and others joining the sunset cruise. Those on the walk had fine views of Pied Hornbill while those on the cruise had good sightings of Goliath and Purple Herons.

Day 5

Tuesday 7th November

Paul area – Nambikala. Hazy sunshine 32-34°C

This morning's walk was to the 'Paul' area, a narrow track leading to a cleared area of scrub rich in wildlife. Little Greenbul rested in shadows around the water tanks and butterflies including acraeas, blues and swallowtails were in abundance. A pair of Lizard Buzzards called to each other in perfect light showing the dark throat stripe and pink legs.

Yellow-throated Leaflove, Western Red and African Grey Hornbills, Senegal Coucal, Vieillot's and Bearded Barbet - birds were everywhere! A tiny Cardinal woodpecker remained motionless on a dead branch as did a raptor which was identified by photos later as an immature Shikra. A Black-crowned Tchagra gave 'scope views as the heat rose and we returned to the lodge for a late breakfast.

Those who ventured out again observed several species around the water tanks including Green-headed Sunbird, which often appears blue-headed and the delightful Lavender Waxbill. Bathers were joined in the pool by plunging Pied Kingfishers and White-throated Bee-eaters.

Wattle-eyes and other birds descended as we completed the checklist and a troupe of baboons walked casually along the boardwalk to drink from the water drums as we respected each others' company. The bigger males walking up close to us and diverting off into the mangrove roots while babies clung to their mothers.

The sunset cruise embarked from the jetty at 5pm and it wasn't long before an Osprey was sighted on a dead tree before flying around and diving right in front of the boat. An unsuccessful dive but spectacular nonetheless. Goliath Herons stood tall in the mangroves while White-fronted and Blue-cheeked Beaeaters made sorties from the branches.

Gull-billed and Caspian Terns patrolled the river and a West African Crocodile slithered off the mud bank as we approached. Drinks were offered as the sun set and the sky filled with swifts and hirundines. Pied-winged, Barn and Red-chested Swallows mixed with Palm and Little Swifts as we returned to the lodge.

Those on the woodland walk were treated to prolonged views of a Violet Turaco as it consumed its fruit supper.

Day 6

Wednesday 8th November

Pirang Bonto - Mandina – Marrakissa. Hot, rising to 36°C

We boarded the bus at 7.30am for our second trip out to a disused shrimp farm at Pirang. Fork-tailed (Glossy-backed) Drongo and a flock of White-crested Helmetshrikes flew past the bus before we picked up our guide, Amadou.

Birds on arrival included several Striated Herons in flight, mixed flocks of hirundines including the first African (Red-rumped) Swallows and a Northern Crombec, a small, nuthatch-like bird made its way up a spindly shrub. Two Wire-tailed Swallows rested on a concrete sluice and allowed close approach while numbers of Senegal Thick-knees steadily grew as they became recognizable against their surroundings.

Large numbers of waders included Sanderling, Dunlin, Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stints and Pied Avocets and Black-winged Stilts filled the basins while Greater Flamingoes, Yellow-billed Stork, African and Eurasian Spoonbills and many herons provided a supporting cast. A Crested Lark sang and several Yellow Wagtails caught insects as we made our way along the raised bank.

Sacred Ibis, Black Herons, Western Reef Herons and Black-tailed Godwits took flight with the flamingoes as a Western Marsh Harrier drifted by searching for prey.

The bus had driven down to meet us and as we drove along the track we stopped to observe an Abyssinian Roller that had caught a large locust and was struggling to swallow it whole. We left it with its prey as we said our goodbyes to local guide Osman for the short journey to Bonto Forest where several birders were watching a Northern White-faced Owl perched close to the entrance.

An African Paradise Flycatcher showed high in the canopy with spectacular flashes of orange as the sun caught its tail. Movement of a Green Crombec could be followed but the bird remained hidden in the foliage although an African Paradise Flycatcher was more obliging.

We struggled to get clear views of the Verreaux's Eagle Owl up high in a mature mahogany tree before making our way back to the path where half the group returned to the entrance and watched as Red-cheeked Cordon-bleus and Blue-spotted Wood Doves came down to the drinking pool, whilst others went in search of Western Red Colobus Monkeys. We eventually saw movement high in the forest canopy and faces looking down at us, but they were in no mood to hang around for photographs.

We arrived back at Mandina for a late lunch and enough time to freshen up before venturing out to Marakissa. African Green Pigeons were seen on arrival and a Violet Turaco was partially hidden in a distant tree. The area was overgrown making viewing difficult though plenty of Cattle Egrets were flying by and a Black Crake was too secretive to show itself for more than spit second unlike the Striated Heron that sat out in full view albeit camouflaged against the reeds.

Just as we were boarding the bus, Amadou noticed a Long-crested Eagle with its distinctive silhouette taking the award for 'last new bird of the day'.

Day 7

Thursday 9th November

Kubeneh – Mudflats. 28- 36°C

We awoke to a cooling breeze and the local guides added another layer of clothing as we boarded the canoes to Kubeneh. Whimbrels and Broad-billed Rollers were the first birds to show as we headed along the creek and the ever-present Mangrove Sunbirds darted in and out of view. A pair of Northern Puffbacks were new to the bird list and a Senegal Parrot sang in full view as we walked the village path.

All seemed quiet until we reached a small area alive with birds; Senegal Coucal, Northern and Black-winged Bishops, Village Weavers and Little Weavers feeding young. Bronze Mannikins, Black-rumped Waxbills and a flock of White-billed Buffalo Weavers (with black bills!) landed briefly before we made our way back to the canoes for a late breakfast.

We returned to the mudflats for our afternoon walk where a Malachite Kingfisher preened above the tidal stream. The calls of African Wattled Lapwing had us returning to the stream where four of these unmistakable waders with their long, bright yellow legs landed amongst the doves.

We watched them for a while before cautiously navigating the blocks over the stream as the tide was rising.

We returned to base for our final evening meal before saying goodbyes to the lucky couples who were leaving early the next morning for their extension into Senegal.

Day 8

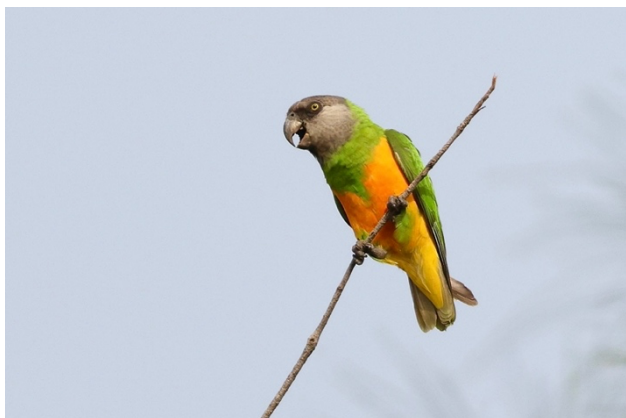
Friday 10th November

Mandina – UK

The remainder of the group gathered at 7am for tea and biscuits before taking a slow walk to the Makasutu Cultural Forest craft market for last-minute gifts. On the way, Greater Honeyguide, Senegal Eremomela and a bird that had

eluded most of the group, Yellow-crowned Gonolek appeared in full view in a distant tree while a pair of Violet Turacos gave unobstructed views. A great way to finish our birding bonanza.

We had plenty of time after breakfast to prepare for our homeward journey and thank the guides and staff at Mandina for making our stay so pleasurable. We headed to the airport where another lucky couple met their transport for an extended stay on the coast while the remainder of the group enjoyed the comfort of the air-conditioned airport lounge before boarding the plane back to Gatwick.



Senegal Parrot and Guinea Baboon

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	November 2023							
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>			✓			✓		
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>						2		
Mottled Spinetail	<i>Telacanthura ussheri</i>		✓	✓		✓	1		
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Western Plantain-eater	<i>Crinifer piscator</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Violet Turaco	<i>Tauraco violaceus</i>					✓	✓		2
Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>		1						
Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>			2	✓	✓		✓	
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>		1			1			
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vinaceous Dove	<i>Streptopelia vinacea</i>		2		2	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black-billed Wood Dove	<i>Turtur abyssinicus</i>		1	1		1	1	2	
Blue-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>		1				1		1
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>						3		
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>			2			5		
Senegal Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>						✓		
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>			2	✓		✓		
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>		✓	✓			✓		
African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>						4		
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						✓		
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	✓					✓		
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>			1					
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>			✓					
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>						✓		
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>						✓		
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>						2		
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			✓			✓		
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>						✓		
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>						✓		
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>						✓		
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>		1			1			
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>			2			✓		
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		3	2			✓		
Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>						✓		
Cape Gull	<i>Larus (dominicanus) vetula</i>			1					

Common name	Scientific name	November 2023							
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>			✓			✓		
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>			1					
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>			✓			✓		
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	✓		
West African Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus albidorsalis</i>			✓					
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			✓					
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>						✓		
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>						1		
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>						2		
African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	
White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>			✓			✓		
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>						✓		
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>		1		1		✓	1	
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		1		1		✓		
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>						3		
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>		1	✓					
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>				✓	5			
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>		1	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>			✓			✓		
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>						✓		
Western Reef Heron	<i>Egretta gularis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>		✓	✓			✓	1	
Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>			✓			✓		
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>						1		
African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>		1	✓	✓	1			1
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>					1			
Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Beaudouin's Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus beaudouini</i>		1	1	2				
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>						1		
Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>			1		2	1		✓
Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>		1						
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>		1					2	
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>						1		
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>							1	
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatus</i>				2				
Northern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis leucotis</i>						1		
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>				1		1		
Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>		1		✓				
Black Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus aterrimus</i>		1						
Western Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus kempii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
African Pied Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros fasciatus</i>				✓	✓		✓	

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		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>			1					
Abyssinian Roller	<i>Coracias abyssinicus</i>						1		
Blue-bellied Roller	<i>Coracias cyanogaster</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>		✓	✓	✓			1	
Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>	1	1						
Blue-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon malimbica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>					1	1		
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>		2		1	1		1	
Shining-blue Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo quadribrachys</i>		1		1				
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>		4		2	2			
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
White-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops albicollis</i>		20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>			5	✓	2			
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>		1	H	H	H	H	H	
Vieillot's Barbet	<i>Lybius vieillotii</i>					1			
Bearded Barbet	<i>Lybius dubius</i>				2	2		1	
Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>				1	1		1	
Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>		1					1	
Fine-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Campethera punctuligera</i>				2				
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicops fuscescens</i>					1			
African Grey Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicops goertae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>			1					
Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>						1	1	
Senegal Parrot	<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Brown-throated Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>		1	1	✓	✓		2	
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>					1			
Northern Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>							2	
Yellow-crowned Gonolek	<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>		1	1	1	H	H	H	2
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>						8		
Yellow-billed Shrike	<i>Corvinella corvina</i>			2				1	
African Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus auratus</i>			2	2				
Glossy-backed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus divaricatus</i>			1			1	2	
Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>		1				1		
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	1	1	1			2	2	
Piapiac	<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>			✓				✓	
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>						2		
Little Greenbul	<i>Eurillas virens</i>					1		1	
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fanti Saw-wing	<i>Psolidoprocne obscura</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Pied-winged Swallow	<i>Hirundo leucosoma</i>					2			
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>		✓				✓	✓	

Common name	Scientific name	November 2023							
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	
Red-chested Swallow	<i>Hirundo lucida</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>						✓		
Northern Crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>						3		
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>		2				✓		
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>		3				✓		
Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>						1		
Singing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cantans</i>			H					
Short-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola brachypterus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>			1	1				
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>					1			
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>		1			1	1		
Senegal Eremomela	<i>Eremomela pusilla</i>				1			2	2
Brown Babbler	<i>Turdoides plebejus</i>				✓	✓			
Blackcap Babbler	<i>Turdoides reinwardtii</i>		1	1					
Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>			6	1	✓	✓		
Purple Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>			1					
Long-tailed Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis caudatus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>			2					
African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>		H	2	H	H	H	H	H
Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>						1	1	
Mangrove Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes gabonicus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>				1	1	1	1	
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>				1				
Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Splendid Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris coccinigastrus</i>		2		1		✓		
Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>		✓	2	✓	✓		1	
White-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis albirostris</i>			✓				✓	
Little Weaver	<i>Ploceus luteolus</i>		2					3	
Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>		1		1		1		
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black-headed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>							1	
Black-winged Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes hordeaceus</i>							1	
Northern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes franciscanus</i>		1	✓		1	1	1	
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Spermestes cucullata</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lavender Waxbill	<i>Glaucostrelda caerulea</i>		1			2	✓	2	
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>			✓			2	2	
Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Village Indigobird	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>						1		
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>			1					
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>						2		
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>		2	✓	✓	✓			

Mammals

Common name	Scientific name	November 2023							
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Western Red Colobus Monkey	<i>Procolobus badius</i>						3		
Guinea Baboon	<i>Papio papio</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓		
Green Vervet/Callithrix Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus sabaeus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Patas Monkey	<i>Erythrocebus patas</i>		1						
Gambian Epauletted Fruit Bat	<i>Epomophorus gambianus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Peter's Dwarf Epauletted Fruit Bat	<i>Micropteropus pusillus</i>			✓		✓			
Gambian Sun Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus gambianus</i>		1		1	1	1	1	

Invertebrates, Reptiles, Amphibians and Fish

Common name	Scientific name
REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS	
Nile Monitor Lizard	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>
Agama Lizard	<i>Agama agama</i>
Brook's House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus brooki angulatus</i>
Uganda Dwarf Gecko	<i>Lygodactylus gutturalis</i>
West African Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus suchus</i>
African Common Toad	<i>Sclerophrys regularis</i>
FISH	
Atlantic Mudskipper	<i>Periophthalmus papillo</i>
BUTTERFLIES	
<i>Papilionidae</i>	
Citrus Swallowtail	<i>Papilio demodocus</i>
<i>Pieridae</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>
Caper White	<i>Belenois aurota</i>
African Caper White	<i>Belenois creona</i>
<i>Lycaenidae</i>	
Pea Blue/Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>
Lang's Short-tailed Blue/Common Zebra Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>
African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>
<i>Nymphalidae</i>	
African Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>
Cream-bordered Charaxes	<i>Charaxes epijasius</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Dark Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia oenone</i>
Large Spotted Acraea	<i>Acraea zetes</i>
Elegant Acraea	<i>Acraea egina</i>
Small Orange Acraea	<i>Acraea serena</i>
Variable Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas antheodon</i>

Common name	Scientific name
DRAGONFLIES	
Widow Dragonfly	<i>Palpopleura portia</i>
Black Percher	<i>Diplacodes lefebvrei</i>
Red Basker	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>
OTHER INVERTEBRATES	
African Giant Snail	<i>Achatina sp.</i>
West African Mangrove Oyster	<i>Crassostrea tulipa</i>
West African Fiddler Crab	<i>Uca tangeri</i>
Brown Paper Wasp	<i>Polistes sp.</i>
Antlion	<i>Myrmeleon sp.</i>
Giant Millipede	Diplopoda: family Odontopygidae
Driver Ants	<i>Dorylus sp.</i>

Plants

Common name	Scientific name
FLOWERING PLANTS	ANGIOSPERMS
<i>Magnoliidae (Dicotyledons)</i>	
Acanthus Family	Acanthaceae
Black Mangrove	<i>Avicennia germinans</i>
Blue Pussyleaf/Rice Farm Grass	<i>Nelsonia canescens</i>
Cashew Family	Anacardiaceae
Cashew Tree	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>
Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i>
Dogbane Family	Apocynaceae
Sodom Apple	<i>Calotropis procera</i>
Senegal Saba/Kaba	<i>Saba senegalensis</i>
Monkey's Shuttle	<i>Strophanthus samentosus</i>
Daisy Family	Asteraceae
Goatweed	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>
a Knapweed	<i>Centaurea perrottetii</i>
	<i>Grangea maderaspatana</i>
	<i>Sphaeranthus senegalensis</i>
Catalpa Family	Bignoniaceae
Akoko Tree/Kunjunborong	<i>Newbouldia laevis</i>
Caper Family	Capparaceae
Crocodile's Tooth/Woolly Caper Bush	<i>Capparis tomentosa</i>
Cocoplum Family	Chrysobalanaceae
Gingerbread Plum	<i>Neocarya macrophylla</i>
Bushwillow Family	Combretaceae
Burning Bush	<i>Combretum paniculatum</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Bindweed Family	Convolvulaceae
Beach Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i>
Pea Family	Fabaceae
Groundnut/Peanut	<i>Arachis hypogaea</i>
Camel's-foot Tree/Napoleon's Plume	<i>Bauhinia monandra</i>
West African Laburnum/Drumstick Tree	<i>Cassia sieberiana</i>
Rattlepod	<i>Crotalaria retusa</i>
Velvet Tamarind	<i>Dialium guineense</i>
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>
Deadnettle Family	Lamiaceae
Gumbar Tree/Gamhar	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>
Bushmint	<i>Hyptis suaveolens</i>
Mallow Family	Malvaceae
Baobab	<i>Adansia digitata</i>
Kapok Tree	<i>Ceiba petandra</i>
Mulberry Family	Moraceae
Strangler Fig	<i>Ficus craterostema?</i>
Sycamore Fig	<i>Ficus sycamorus</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
Shrubby False Buttonweed	<i>Spermacoce verticillata</i>
Mangrove Family	Rhizophoraceae
Red Mangrove	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>
Liliidae (Monocotyledons)	
Arum Family	Araceae
-	<i>Amorphophallus aphyllus</i>
-	<i>Amorphophallus consimilis</i>
Palm Family	Areaceae

Common name	Scientific name
Black Rhun Palm/African Fan Palm	<i>Borassus aethiopium</i>
Coconut	<i>Cocos nucifera</i>
African Oil Palm	<i>Elaeis guineensis</i>
Senegal Date Palm	<i>Phoenix reclinata</i>