

Namibia's Etosha Pan & Skeleton Coast

Naturetrek Tour Report

25th October – 10th November 2023



White Rhino



Red-necked Falcon



Cruiser in Etosha



Zebras

Tour report and images by Neil MacLeod



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Tour participants: Neil Macleod and Jakes de Jager (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek Clients.

Day 1

Wednesday 25th October

The group successfully assembled at Heathrow Airport for the long overnight flight to Johannesburg.

Day 2

Thursday 26th October

A short layover in Johannesburg was followed by the two-hour flight north to Windhoek, the capital of Namibia. The group met up with the leaders at Hosea Kutako International Airport, and we transferred to our first accommodation at Daan Viljoen Game Park, arriving at 3.00pm. On arrival we checked in to our rooms and met for a short wildlife walk, followed by dinner.

Mammals seen in this short session included Southern Giraffe, Chacma Baboon, Blue Wildebeest, Greater Kudu, Warthog, and Slender Mongoose. We also saw Black-winged Kite, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Egyptian Goose, South African Shelduck, African Jacana, Red Knobbed Coot, Red-billed Teal, Blacksmith Lapwing, Common Moorhen, Three-banded Plover, African Reed Warbler, Black-faced Waxbill, Pirit Batis, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Yellow-billed Hornbill, Grey Hornbill, Groundscraper Thrush, African Hoopoe, Cape Wagtail and Red-eyed Bulbul.

Day 3

Friday 27th October

We met at 6.15am and enjoyed a short walk before breakfast. We saw several bird species: Speckled Pigeon, Common Moorhen, Red-knobbed Coot, Red-billed Spurfowl, Helmeted Guineafowl, Egyptian Goose, South African Shelduck, Greater Striped Swallow, and the wonderful and distinctive Rockrunner. Mammals included Southern Giraffe, Blue Wildebeest, Chacma Baboon and Springbok, and we were also lucky enough to see an African Python swimming in the lake.

We loaded up and departed at 8.00am. En route to Sossusvlei we saw several new bird species: Rüppell's Korhaan, Black-chested Snake Eagle, Rock Kestrel, Verreaux's Eagle, Karoo Long-billed Lark, Sabota Lark, Spike-heeled Lark, Bokmakierie, Sociable Weaver, Pygmy Falcon, Cape Sparrow, Short-toed Rock Thrush. We stopped at Spreadshoogte Pass for a short photographic stop and to start looking for Herero Chat.

We had lunch en route and arrived at our final destination (Dead Valley Lodge) at 5.00pm. We met to do the checklist, followed by dinner.

Day 4

Saturday 28th October

We met at 5.00am for early morning coffee/tea and departed the lodge at 5.20am to drive to Deadvlei for dawn. After thoroughly enjoying this world-famous site, we drove the short distance to Sossusvlei. After a picnic breakfast and much-needed coffee/tea there, we slowly drove back to our lodge for lunch, seeing various mammals en route (such as Gemsbok, Springbok and Black-backed Jackal). We stopped and searched for Dune Lark, securing brilliant views (as well as photographs) of two. Other birds seen included Cape Sparrow, Rock Martin, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Chestnut-vented Tit-babbler, Ashy Tit, Familiar Chat and Common Ostrich.

We had lunch at 12.30pm, and met up again at 4.00pm for our afternoon activity: a visit to the Sesriem Canyon and the area around Elim Dune. It had been a day of amazing landscapes and some wonderful wildlife.

Day 5

Sunday 29th October

Breakfast was at 7.00am and we departed the lodge at 8.00am. We enjoyed a great day travelling through some dramatic and awe-inspiring landscapes, and we recorded several new bird and mammal species. Special bird highlights included Rüppell's Korhaan, and Karoo Long-billed, Stark's and Gray's Larks. We arrived at our hotel in Swakopmund at 5.00pm, in very good time for settling in, checklist, and dinner.

Day 6

Monday 30th October

Hansa Hotel

We departed the hotel at 7.20am, heading to nearby Walvis Bay for our morning activity: a pelagic boat trip setting out at 8.00am. It was a truly great day, with plenty to see. We saw several hundred Cape Fur Seals, tens of thousands of Greater Flamingoes, and many, many other wading birds. We also saw Southern Right Whales (a mother and calf), Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphins, Benguela Dolphins, and even a Black-backed Jackal along the shore. Birds at sea included (among others) Shy Albatross, White-chinned Petrel, Sooty Shearwater, Wilson's Storm-petrel, Cape Gannet, and the ever-popular African Penguin.

We returned to our vehicles around 1.00pm for a short break before continuing our birding along the lagoon. Here we found a multitude of species, including White-fronted, Chestnut-banded and Ringed Plovers, Terek and Curlew Sandpipers, Little Stint, Sanderling. Further seabirds included Cape, Crowned and White-breasted Cormorants, Common, Caspian and Arctic Terns – and we also saw House Crow and Speckled Pigeon for good measure! We returned to our hotel just after 3.00pm, and later met up for checklist and dinner after 6.00pm.

Day 7

Tuesday 31st October

Hansa Hotel

Today we made a morning visit to Walvis Bay and its surroundings, enjoying a lovely morning seeing many different bird species. We returned to Swakopmund for lunch.

The afternoon was spent at leisure: several clients went off to explore the town. Birds seen today included: Cape Teal, Greater and Lesser Flamingoes, Little Stint, Sanderling, Bar-tailed Godwit, Curlew, Whimbrel, Grey Heron, Little Egret, African Oystercatcher, Crowned, Cape, and White-breasted Cormorants, White-fronted, Chestnut-banded and Ringed Plovers, Common Moorhen, Red-knobbed Koot, African Swampphen, Red-capped Lark, Orange River White-eye and Common Waxbill.

Day 8**Wednesday 1st November****Hansa Hotel – Camp Kipwe**

Departing Swakopmund at 8.00am, we drove north along the coastline visiting the famous saltworks, lichen fields and the *Zeila* shipwreck, before heading east towards Damaraland. Along the way we saw Greater and Lesser Flamingoes, White-breasted and Cape Cormorants, Chestnut-banded and White-fronted Plovers, Pied Avocet, Greenshank, African Oystercatcher, Orange River White-eye, Common Waxbill, Gray's, Stark's and Sabota Larks, Whimbrel, Rüppell's Parrot, Common Fiscal and Grey-backed Sparrow Lark. We arrived at our final destination (Camp Kipwe) at 6.00pm, and enjoyed our evening together.

Day 9**Thursday 2nd November****Camp Kipwe**

After breakfast from 6.00am, we met to depart at 8.00am. Today we were in search of the famous “desert-adapted” African Elephants of this area. We enjoyed a 4x4 drive into the Aba Huab Riverbed, and soon found our first Elephant: a lone bull. We eventually saw an impressive 13 elephants in total. It was not only elephants: some birds seen included Southern Yellow-billed, African Grey, Monteiro's and Damara Hornbills, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, White-backed Mousebird, Grey Go-away-bird, Rüppell's Korhaan, Tractrac Chat, Familiar Chat, Benguela Long-billed Lark and Rüppell's Parrot.

We returned to our lodge for lunch at 1.00pm. We had a short siesta and met at 5.00pm for a short walk around the premises. We did our checklist while enjoying a lovely sunset, with sundowners to hand, of course!

Day 10**Friday 3rd November****Camp Kipwe – Okaukuejo Resort**

After breakfast at 6.00am, we departed this stunning lodge at 8.00am for a visit to the Twyfelfontein rock art World Heritage Site. We spent almost two hours on foot here, observing and learning about the area and the rock art. We saw several good birds here, including Bokmakierie, Verreaux's Eagle, Lark-like and Cape Buntings, Rock Martin, Rock Kestrel, Red-eyed Bulbul and Dusky Sunbird. We also added two new mammals: Dassie Rat and Damara Ground Squirrel.

We stopped to have lunch en route to Etosha National Park, arriving at the park gate at 4.30pm. We saw two lionesses shortly after entering the park. We checked in to our rooms overlooking the famous waterhole at Okaukuejo, and immediately upon arrival we could see Elephants, Burchell's Zebra, Blue Wildebeest and Southern Giraffe drinking. After dinner the waterhole delivered Black Rhinoceros and more Elephants.

Day 11**Saturday 4th November****Okaukuejo Resort**

We enjoyed a great early morning game drive, watching/photographing a pride of nine young lions, and seeing a second pride consisting of a large male together with five females. We also saw Springbok, Gemsbok, Blue Wildebeest, Black-backed Jackal and Burchell's Zebra. Birds seen included: Kori Bustard, Ostrich, Greater Kestrel, Spike-heeled, Stark's, Red-capped and Sabota Larks, Grey-backed Sparrow-lark, Rufous-eared Warbler, and Southern White-crowned and Crimson-breasted Shrikes. After breakfast we had some time to relax, freshen up and meet back at the waterhole at 10.30am. There were several animals (and birds) at the waterhole: Burchell's Zebra, Greater Kudu, Springbok, Gemsbok, Black-faced Impala (and Black-headed Heron, Little Egret, Little Grebe, Blacksmith Lapwing, Egyptian Goose, Kori Bustard and Pied Crow).

On a short pre-lunch drive we found Pink-billed, Stark's, Sabota, Spike-heeled and Red-capped Larks, Greater Kestrel and Red-necked Falcon. The rest of the afternoon was spent around the world-class Okaukuejo waterhole, watching all sorts of mammals and birds coming in for their share of the water. After dinner some Elephants and Black Rhinoceroses showed up at the waterhole, as well as Square-tailed and Rufous-cheeked Nightjars.

Day 12**Sunday 5th November****Okaukuejo Resort – Mokuti Etosha Lodge**

After breakfast, we loaded up and moved on east towards our next destination, Mokuti Etosha Lodge. We had a truly incredibly morning wildlife-watching with Lions, Elephants, Blue Wildebeest, Springbok, Gemsbok, Steenbok, Spotted Hyena, Giraffe, two sightings of White Rhinoceros, Greater Kudu, Burchell's Zebra, Ostrich, Steppe Eagle, Tawny Eagle, Bateleur, Marabou Stork, Pale Chanting, Gabar and Little Banded Goshawks, and Stark's, Spike-heeled, Sabota and Red-capped Larks.

We stopped at Halali for lunch and to take a short walk to the waterhole. There was a breeding herd of Elephants (plus Zebra, Impala and Kudu) at the waterhole. We also saw Damara, Monteiro's, Southern Yellow-billed, African Grey and Red-billed Hornbills, Violet Wood-hoopoe, Southern White-crowned Shrike, African Paradise Flycatcher, Golden-breasted, Cinnamon-breasted and Lark-like Buntings, and Black Cheeked Waxbill. After lunch we continued our drive across the park, visiting several waterholes and seeing many more mammals and birds.

Day 13**Monday 6th November****Mokuti Etosha Lodge**

Breakfast starts at 06:00 and we depart on our morning game-drive at 07:00. WeOn our early morning game drive we first bumped into a Black Rhino, and then visited several more waterholes. Here, we found yet more Elephants, Southern Giraffe, Greater Kudu, Springbok, Steenbok, Common Duiker, Damara Dik-Dik, Gemsbok and Blue Wildebeest. We also saw a lot of new birds such as White-backed, White-headed and Hooded Vultures, Burchell's and Namaqua Sandgrouse, and Violet-eared Waxbill. We also saw Brubru, Red-backed Shrike, White-bellied and Marico Sunbirds, Blue and Black-cheeked Waxbills, Grey Go-away-bird, Blacksmith and Crowned Lapwings,

Yellow-breasted Apalis, and Laughing, Ring-necked and Emerald-spotted Wood Doves. This had been an absolutely stunning morning, with many excellent photo opportunities.

We had a short siesta and met again at 4.00pm for our afternoon game drive. The afternoon was very hot, and the animals were scarce. We did see three Cheetah resting under a tree, and while not perfect for photos, it was great to connect with this much-wanted species. We did later get some good photo opportunities with excellent light on various animals (including Spotted Hyena) and eventually exited the park at 7.00pm. After dinner, we had a special treat with fellow client Dr Qiling Xu giving us an expert presentation on the lichens of Namibia.

Day 14

Tuesday 7th November

Mokuti Etosha Lodge – Okonjima Plains Camp

We did a pre-breakfast walk in the gardens, starting at 6.45am after a quick coffee. We found Common Duiker, Grey Go-away-bird, Crimson-breasted Shrike, White-bellied and Marico Sunbirds, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Black-faced Babbler and Grey-backed Camaroptera.

After departure from our lodge, we birded along the roadside and some ponds, finding Dark and Pale Chanting Goshawks, White-backed Vulture, African Swamphen, Common Moorhen, Black-crowned Night-heron, Grey and Black-headed Herons, Black Crake, Ruff, Three-banded Plover, Augur Buzzard, Hamerkop, and both Lesser and Greater Striped Swallows.

We had lunch and continued to our final destination, Okonjima Plains Camp, arriving about 4.00pm. arrive around 16:00. After dinner, we all enjoyed a very exciting night drive, with great views of Brown Hyena and Cape Porcupine.

Day 15

Wednesday 8th November

Okonjima Plains Camp

After early morning coffee/tea (and a freshly made muffin), we departed the lodge at 6.30am and go in search of leopard. And we succeeded, with some great photo opportunities thrown in. We continued our morning game drive and saw Mountain Zebra, Greater Kudu, Springbok, Southern Giraffe, Steenbok, Slender and Banded Mongooses, Black-backed Jackal, Scrub Hare, Gemsbok, and Sable Antelope. We also managed to add several new bird species, including White-tailed Shrike, Yellow Canary, Burnt-necked Eremomela, Shaft-tailed Whydah, Lappet-faced Vulture, Black-chested Snake Eagle and Tawny Eagle.

After a lengthy lunch break and tea time at 3.30pm, our afternoon activity departed at 4.00pm, returning in time for dinner at 7.00pm.

Day 16

Thursday 9th November

Okonjima Plains Camp – Hosea Kutako International airport

After a fairly late night yesterday, we met for a coffee and to do the checklist at 6.30am, followed by breakfast. Final highlights around the lodge grounds included Crimson-breasted Shrike, Helmeted Guineafowl, Red-billed Spurfowl, Little Swift, Rock Martin, Marico Flycatcher, Southern Masked Weaver, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow.

It was soon time to pack and get ready to leave this amazing lodge, heading for the airport for the return flights. Our flight left Windhoek around lunchtime, connecting in Johannesburg with another overnight journey back to London, a world away from the sunny, hot, bird- and mammal-filled world of Namibia.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	✓	✓				✓					✓			
Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>						✓					✓			
Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	✓	✓				✓					✓			✓
Maccoa Duck	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>	✓	✓												
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crested Francolin	<i>Ortygornis sephaena</i>											✓			
Red-billed Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis adspersus</i>	✓	✓						✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Swainson's Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis swainsonii</i>														✓
Rufous-cheeked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus rufigena</i>											✓		✓	✓
Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>													✓	✓
Square-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus fossii</i>											✓			
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarpis melba</i>		✓												
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>						✓					✓		✓	✓
White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>													✓	✓
Grey Go-away-bird	<i>Crinifer concolor</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rüppell's Korhaan - N	<i>Heterotetrax rueppelii</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓					
Red-crested Korhaan	<i>Lophotis ruficrista</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Northern Black Korhaan	<i>Afrotis afraoides</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
African Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus gularis</i>									✓		✓			
Namaqua Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>				✓								✓		✓
Double-banded Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles bicinctus</i>								✓	✓		✓	✓		✓

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Burchell's Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles burchelli</i>												✓		
Rock Dove - I	<i>Columba livia</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>											✓	✓	✓	
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>							✓	✓	✓			✓		✓
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓	✓				✓							✓	
Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	✓	✓				✓								
African Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>						✓							✓	
Black Crake	<i>Zapornia flavirostra</i>	✓										✓		✓	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓		✓	
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>						✓							✓	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>					✓	✓								
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>					✓	✓								
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>														✓
African Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓						
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>									✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					✓	✓					✓			
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>						✓								
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	✓	✓									✓		✓	✓
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>					✓	✓								
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	✓												✓	

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Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>					✓	✓	✓						✓	
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>						✓	✓							
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>					✓	✓								
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>											✓		✓	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>					✓									
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>											✓	✓		
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>											✓	✓	✓	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					✓	✓	✓				✓			
Double-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>											✓			
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>					✓	✓								
Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓							
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					✓	✓								
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>						✓	✓							
Damara Tern	<i>Sternula balaenarum</i>					✓		✓							
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>					✓	✓	✓							
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>					✓	✓								
African Penguin	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>					✓									
Shy Albatross	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>					✓									
Wilson's Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>					✓									
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>					✓									
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>					✓									
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>											✓			

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Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Cape Gannet	<i>Morus capensis</i>					✓									
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	✓												✓	
Crowned Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo coronatus</i>					✓	✓								
Cape Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>														
White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>					✓	✓	✓							
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	✓												✓	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>													✓	
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>													✓	
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>										✓	✓		✓	
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>					✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>													✓	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>					✓	✓								
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	✓	✓												
African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>										✓				
Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>												✓		
White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>												✓		
White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonocephalus occipitalis</i>												✓		
Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotus</i>												✓		✓
Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>		✓												✓
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>											✓	✓		
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>									✓			✓		
Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>											✓			
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>											✓	✓		✓
Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>		✓							✓					
Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>										✓	✓			
Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>													✓	
Pale Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓

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Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Little Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter minullus</i>												✓		
Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>													✓	
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatus</i>	✓												✓	
White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>							✓					✓		
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	✓	H							✓	✓	✓			
Violet Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus damarensis</i>											✓			
Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>								✓						✓
Damara Red-billed Hornbill - N	<i>Tockus damarensis</i>								✓	✓		✓			
Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus rufirostris</i>								✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Monteiro's Hornbill - N	<i>Tockus monteiri</i>								✓	✓		✓		✓	
Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>	✓										✓	✓		
Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>											✓	✓	✓	
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>		✓												
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>												✓	✓	✓
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>									✓		✓	✓		✓
Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>							✓			✓	✓		H	✓
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>											✓	✓		
Pygmy Falcon	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>		✓												
Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>		✓					✓	✓						
Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>									✓					
Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>										✓	✓			
Rüppell's Parrot - N	<i>Poicephalus rueppellii</i>							✓	✓					✓	✓
Rosy-faced Lovebird	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	✓					✓								
Pirit Batis	<i>Batis pirit</i>	✓											✓	✓	✓
White-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanioturdus torquatus</i>														✓

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>		✓							✓					
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>												✓	✓	
Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>		✓						✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>												✓	✓	
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>												✓	✓	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>													✓	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>												✓		
Southern White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus anguitimens</i>								✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>							✓		✓					
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>													✓	
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>					✓									
Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>			✓						✓	✓	✓			
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Ashy Tit	<i>Melaniparus cinerascens</i>			✓											
Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>			✓							✓	✓			
Gray's Lark - N	<i>Ammomanopsis grayi</i>				✓			✓							
Karoo Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda subcoronata</i>		✓		✓										
Benguela Long-billed Lark - N	<i>Certhilauda benguelensis</i>								✓						
Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix leucotis</i>												✓		
Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>							✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Sabota Lark	<i>Calendulauda sabota</i>		✓					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Dune Lark - N	<i>Calendulauda erythrochlamys</i>			✓											
Stark's Lark	<i>Spizocorys starki</i>				✓			✓			✓	✓	✓		
Pink-billed Lark	<i>Spizocorys conirostris</i>										✓				
Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>						✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
Yellow-bellied Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>												✓		

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
African Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Banded Martin	<i>Neophedina cincta</i>										✓			✓	
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>														✓
Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Pearl-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>	✓	✓												
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓					✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Cecropis semirufa</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>													✓	
Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>	✓	✓											✓	
Rockrunner	<i>Achaetops pycnopygius</i>		✓												
Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>												✓		✓
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>										✓	✓	✓		
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>													✓	
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>													✓	
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	✓	✓												
Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>												✓		
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>												✓	✓	
Tinkling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola rufilatus</i>	✓													
Desert Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aridulus</i>		✓									✓			
Black-chested Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flava</i>												✓		
Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>										✓	✓			
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>								✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-bellied Eremomela	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>		✓								✓				
Burnt-necked Eremomela	<i>Eremomela usticollis</i>														✓
Chestnut-vented Warbler	<i>Curruca subcoerulea</i>			✓						✓	✓			✓	✓
Orange River White-eye	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>				✓	✓	✓								

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Black-faced Babbler	<i>Turdoides melanops</i>												✓	✓	
Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>		✓										✓	✓	
Cape Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meves's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis mevesii</i>											✓			
Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>	✓													
Karoo Scrub Robin - N	<i>Cercotrichas coryphoeus</i>													✓	✓
White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>												✓	✓	✓
Chat Flycatcher	<i>Agricola infuscatus</i>				✓			✓				✓			
Marico Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis mariquensis</i>		✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>												✓		
Short-toed Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola brevipes</i>	✓	✓											✓	✓
Karoo Chat	<i>Emarginata schlegelii</i>				✓										
Tractrac Chat	<i>Emarginata tractrac</i>							✓	✓						
Mountain Wheatear	<i>Myrmecocichla monticola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓					
Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>											✓			
Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓			
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>	✓													
Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>													✓	✓
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fuscus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great Sparrow	<i>Passer motitensis</i>										✓	✓	✓		✓
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>								✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
House Sparrow - I	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		
Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>											✓	✓	✓	
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sociable Weaver	<i>Philetairus socius</i>		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓			
Scaly-feathered Weaver	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>			✓	✓								✓	✓	✓
Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>												✓	✓	
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>												✓	✓	✓
Black-faced Waxbill	<i>Brunhilda erythronotos</i>	✓										✓	✓		
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓							
Red-headed Finch	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>		✓		✓										
Violet-eared Waxbill	<i>Granatina granatina</i>												✓		✓
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>												✓	✓	
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>														✓
Shaft-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua regia</i>														✓
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓							
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>											✓	✓		
Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>	✓	✓												
Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>													✓	
Black-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>										✓	✓	✓		✓
Yellow Canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>														✓
White-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra albogularis</i>							✓		✓					
Lark-like Bunting	<i>Emberiza impetواني</i>	✓	✓							✓		✓			
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>											✓			
Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>									✓		✓			
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>											✓	✓		

Mammals

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
African Savanna Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>								P	P	P	P	P		
Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓				✓	✓
Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>												✓	✓	✓
Black-tailed Tree rat	<i>Thallomys nigricauda</i>									✓	✓				
Xeric Four-striped Grass Rat	<i>Rhabdomys pumilio</i>														✓
Cape Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>														
South African Ground Squirrel	<i>Geosciurus inauris</i>		✓		✓						✓	✓			
Damara Ground Squirrel - N	<i>Geosciurus princeps</i>									✓					
Smith's Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>											✓	✓	✓	
Angolan Epauletted Fruit Bat	<i>Epomophorus angolensis</i>											✓	✓	✓	
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>					✓									
Heaviside's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus heavisidii</i>					✓									
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>					✓									
Southern Giraffe	<i>Giraffa giraffa</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Zambezi Kudu	<i>Strepsiceros zambesiensis</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>													✓	✓
Black faced Impala	<i>Aepyceros petersi</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	✓	✓									✓	✓	✓	✓
Kalahari Springbok	<i>Antidorcas hofmeyri</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Damara Dik-dik	<i>Madoqua damarensis</i>											✓	✓		✓
Southern Sable Antelope	<i>Hippotragus niger</i>													✓	✓
Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazella</i>		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus caama</i>														✓
Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bush Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓
Angolan Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus tyleri</i>		✓												
Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	✓	✓											✓	✓
Burchell's zebra	<i>Equus quagga burchellii</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mountain Zebra	<i>Equus zebra</i>									✓					
White Rhinoceros	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>											✓			

N=Near-endemic		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Black Rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>									✓	✓			✓	✓
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>														✓
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>									✓	✓	✓			
Caracal	<i>Caracal caracal</i>												✓		
Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>												3		
Yellow Mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>		✓								✓	✓			
Common Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>	✓											✓		✓
Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>									✓	✓	✓	✓		
Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>											✓	✓		
Brown Hyena	<i>Hyaena brunnea</i>														✓
Black-backed Jackal	<i>Lupulella mesomelas</i>			✓		✓									
Cape Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>					✓	✓								

Reptiles

		October – November 2023													
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	31	12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Rock Python	<i>Python sebae</i>		✓												
Western three Striped Skink	<i>Trachylepis occidentalis</i>		✓												
Kalahari Tree Skink	<i>Trachylepis spilogaster</i>			✓							✓				
Striped Skink	<i>Trachylepis striata</i>		✓												
Namibia Rock Agama	<i>Agama planiceps</i>							✓			✓	✓			
Ground Agama	<i>Agama aculeata</i>				✓			✓							
Anchieta's Agama	<i>Agama anchietae</i>		✓												
Etosha Agama	<i>Agama etoshae</i>											✓			
Shovel-snouted Lizard	<i>Meroles anchietae</i>			✓											
Plain Sand Lizard	<i>Pedioplanis inornata</i>			✓											
Barking Gecko	<i>Ptenopus sp.</i>		✓	✓											