

# South Africa - The Cape & Kalahari

Naturetrek Tour Report

27 August - 9 September 2017

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African Lion



Swallow-tailed Bee-eater



Augrabies Flat Lizard



Meerkat

Report & Images compiled by Marc Cronje



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Tour participants: Gavin Sims and Marc Cronje (leaders) together with ten Naturetrek clients

## Summary

During the tour the temperature ranged from 3 to 38°C. We recorded 37 mammal species, 238 species of birds and 13 species of reptiles. The species mentioned in the daily summaries are only some of those seen. A detailed list can be found at the end of the report.

### Day 1

**Sunday 27th August**

In flight UK to South Africa

The tour started at London Heathrow Airport with an overnight flight to Johannesburg

### Day 2

**Monday 28th August**

Arrival in South Africa; travel to Kalahari Lodge

Our overnight flight arrived in Johannesburg and we caught an onward flight to Upington. On landing at Upington airport we met our tour leaders Gavin and Marc, and then headed to Kalahari Lodge on the edge of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. The weather was hot and windy. We were in a cheerful mood and spotted some good birds en route including Northern Black Korhaan, White-backed Vulture, Namaqua Sandgrouse and Kori Bustard. Other species seen en route included Ground Squirrels, Gemsbok, Meerkats and Yellow Mongoose. After the long trip we were all happy to get to the lodge and unwind, have a drink and get ready for dinner.

### Day 3

**Tuesday 29th August**

Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park

The day started nice and early for us to enter our first game park of the trip, the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, where we would be staying at !Xaus Lodge. The weather was warm and most of us were in shorts by 10am when we had breakfast. On the drive up the dry Auob River we encountered all the typical Kgalagadi antelope including Gemsbok, Springbok, Red Hartebeest and Steenbok. We also encountered some other good mammals including Four-striped Grass Mouse, Whistling Rat, Yellow Mongoose, Ground Squirrel and Meerkat. On the carnivore side it was fairly quiet and we only spotted a single Black-backed Jackal. The birding made up for it with some great birds including Burchell's Sandgrouse, Black-faced Waxbill, Secretarybird, Martial Eagle and Kori Bastard.

During lunch at Kamqua picnic spot we met our guides, Koos and Mans from !Xaus Lodge. It was the bumpy ride to the lodge and we connected with Fawn-coloured Lark and the western race of Sabota Lark en route. On arrival we were happy to settle in, have a drink and get ready for dinner. Distractions before dinner included a Barn Owl flying around the lodge and a Bibron's Thick-toed Gecko.

Our night drive was a success with us seeing a Caracal with its young. These felines are formidable hunters and are able to take down prey two to three times their size; however, it is their ability to leap over three metres into

the air and snatch a bird as it is flying by that is truly amazing! Other highlights included African Wild Cat and Small Spotted Genet. We all went to bed with the sounds of the Barn Owls calling on our roofs. Mammal sightings for the day: 17

## Day 4

**Wednesday 30th August**

### Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park

The morning started with coffee, tea and rusks, and then a guided walk to learn about the local plants in the area. It was fascinating to learn about the use of Three-thorn Bush as an egg beater and that a decoction of the leaves boiled in water can be used for stomach ailments. We also got to experience reading a Kalahari newspaper. This involves reading and interpreting the tracks and signs left in the sand from the night before and this tells a story of what happened in the area during the night. Birding highlights included a Lanner Falcon, and we also encountered a herd of Red Hartebeest.

Next we enjoyed a visit to a tradition craft village and enjoyed learning and seeing how the Bushmen live and make use of the desert's fauna and flora. The rest of the day was at leisure around the lodge with a sunset drive, which included a stunning sunset over the Red Dunes of Kalahari Desert, and a friendly Desert Pygmy Mouse that joined us for sundowners. Mammal sightings for the day: 8

## Day 5

**Thursday 31st August**

### Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park

The day started with coffee, tea and rusks at sunrise before heading down to the Auob River in the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. There is a big advantage in spending time driving in the river beds of the Kgalagadi as, generally speaking, this is the only place that animals can find drinking water. While having coffee and tea the resident African Wild Cat came by, and this must have been our lucky charm because as we arrived at the river we encountered three massive male Kalahari Lions on a territorial patrol. They proceeded to roar and advertise their territory, and met with two females.

After breakfast, in the river bed we spotted some good birds including Stark's Lark, Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, Violet-eared Waxbill and Purple Roller to name a few. Just before lunch we had a treat with two Bat-eared Foxes outside a burrow close to the road; a special sighting as this is not a species seen often in broad daylight.

It had been an exciting day and we looked forward to a shower and cold refreshment after a rewarding day in the Kgalagadi. After dinner we enjoyed the beautiful night sky in the desert on a clear night, and the various constellations were pointed out. Mammal sightings for the day: 11

## Day 6

**Friday 1st September**

### AuGrabies Falls National Park

Once again, the morning started nice and early with coffee, tea and rusks, before we departed !Xaus Lodge to head on to AuGrabies Falls, the 'place of great noise'. We were treated to a sighting of mating Lions as we joined the public road in the Kgalagadi Transfontier Park from the lodge's access road. This mating pair was the same

lions we had seen the day before, and we learned from our guide Koos that the males had recently taken over territory in the area and joined up with the females, and this was the first time he had seen them mating. Watching mating lions in the wild a few metres from the vehicle was very exciting. Another mammal highlight here was Cape Fox in the open, and birding highlights included Red-necked Falcon, Red-headed Finch, Short-toed Rock Thrush and African Grey Hornbill.

We enjoyed a slow drive out of the park and made our way to Augrabies Falls National Park via Upington. We enjoyed a nice lunch at a winery just outside Upington and saw some good birds including Cape Robin Chat, White-backed Mousebird, Karoo Thrush, Orange River White-eye and an out-of-range Crested Barbet. We arrived at Augrabies in time to watch sunset over the falls. The resident Augrabies Flat Lizards and the Rock Hyrax made for some new records for the trip, and dinner was enjoyed with the sound of the falls in the background. Another tough day in Africa! Mammal sightings for the day: 15

## Day 7

## Saturday 2nd September

### Augrabies Falls National Park.

The day began nice and early as we headed off to explore the lunar landscape that is the Augrabies Falls National Park. There is more to the park than just the incredible falls and the scenery is breathtaking. A highlight of the morning was Giraffe crossing the road. An interesting observation noted in the Giraffe of Augrabies is that they are lighter in colour compared with the Giraffe in the east: this is a countermeasure against the extreme heat. We also encountered a herd of Eland, Africa's largest antelope. Birding highlights included Karoo Long-billed Lark, Black-throated Canary, Bradfield's Swift, White-throated Canary and an out-of-range White-fronted Bee-eater.

While enjoying coffee at Oranje-kom, at one of the viewpoints we were treated to Cape Clawless Otters swimming and playing in the Orange River below, and a fly over from the resident Verreaux's Eagles. We had a late brunch and in the afternoon a walk around camp to the various viewpoints was enjoyed. At the falls we enjoyed views of resident lizard species such as Augrabies Flat Lizard and Southern Rock Agama. Birding highlights included Verreaux's Eagle, Black Stork nesting, African Hoopoe, Common Waxbill and an out-of-range Crested Barbet.

We had an early dinner before a night drive from the camp. The drive was rather quiet with multiple Spotted Eagle-Owls being seen, and a great sighting of a Striped Polecat right at the end of the drive. This is not a common sighting and both Gavin and Marc enjoyed seeing this species relatively close to the vehicle. Mammal sightings for the day: 9

## Day 8

## Sunday 3rd September

### Fly to Cape Town; drive to Simon's Town via Standfontein

We had a slightly later start this morning and a relaxed breakfast before leaving Augrabies Falls to drive to Upington to catch a flight to Cape Town. Birding was done en route and highlights included Little Grebe, Pied Kingfisher, South African Cliff Swallow, White-rumped Swift and Lanner Falcon.

After a short flight we landed at Cape Town and headed off to Standfontein for some birding. In typical Strandfontein fashion the birding was incredible, with highlights being African Marsh Harrier, South African Shelduck, Great White Pelican, White Stork, Cape Teal, Red-billed Teal and Pied Avocet to name a few. As we drove along the Cape Peninsula we enjoyed views of the ocean and had a stunning sunset over the sea as we approached Fish Hoek.

After checking in at our accommodation overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, we enjoyed dinner with the sound of the waves in the background, and we even had the African Penguins coming to say hi. From our accommodation we fell asleep to the sound of the waves crashing on the rocks just in front of our rooms.

## Day 9

## Monday 4th September

### Cape Point

The morning got off to a relaxed start with breakfast overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. We then headed to Cape Point and had a lovely drive along the Peninsula, managing to see Southern Right Whales en route. Other highlights included Bontebok, an endemic antelope of the area, and Eland feeding close together. Birding highlights included Malachite Sunbird, Orange-breasted Sunbird, Cape Bunting and Cape White-eye. The wind picked up as the morning progressed, which was expected with a cold front approaching. We enjoyed a walk to the lighthouse and got good views of the nesting Cape Cormorants, and the resident Chacma Baboons kept us on our toes. As we enjoyed lunch we saw more whales breaching.

After lunch we made our way to Boulder's Beach to see one of only two mainland colonies of African Penguins. The penguins are thriving at Boulder's Beach and we were treated to multiple close views of these endangered birds. We also enjoyed views of African Oystercatcher, Swift Tern, Crowned Cormorant, Southern Double-collared Sunbird and Karoo Prinia. The trip to Boulder's Beach sheltered us from the wind and some good birding was enjoyed. We also enjoyed the walk along the beach back to the hotel.

Dinner was enjoyed at a local sea food restaurant on the beachfront. Mammal sightings for the day: 8

## Day 10

## Tuesday 5th September

### Cape Town

The day started off with a relaxed breakfast overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. While at breakfast we were treated to a whale breaching in front of the guest house very close to the shoreline. Unfortunately a cold front had come in and it was raining heavily, so we spent some time at the Victoria and Albert (V&A) Waterfront in Cape Town.

The forecast said the rain would lift and this indeed happened and we had a fantastic afternoon in the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Birding highlights included Cape Sugarbird, Malachite Sunbird, Sweet Waxbill, Orange-breasted Sunbird, Common Chaffinch, Cape Spurfowl, and Yellow, Cape and Forest Canaries. We also saw Cape Grey Mongoose in the gardens. We loved the gardens and a day that started overcast and miserable ended with fantastic views and a sunset over the Atlantic Ocean and Hout Bay as we drove over the famous Chapman's Peak towards Simon's Town. Dinner was enjoyed at small restaurant in the bay of Simon's Town.

## Day 11

## Wednesday 6th September

### West Coast National Park; Langebaan.

After a relaxed breakfast we managed to get a gap in the weather and head to the top of the world famous Table Mountain, a new addition to the Seven Wonders of Nature. Although it was really cold at the top we still got good views from the mountain and could see Robin Island, Hout Bay and the 12 Apostles. We then headed towards the West Coast National Park. En route we had views of African Marsh Harrier, community nesting spiders, Eland and Bontebok.

After lunch in the park in a Dutch-themed restaurant, it was on to some birding with highlights being African Spoonbill, Greenshank, Bar-tailed Godwit, Grey-backed Cisticola and Glossy Ibis. As we drove through the park toward the coastal town of Langebaan we spotted a nice herd of Eland close to the road as well as Black Harrier flying close by.

Dinner was enjoyed along the lagoon and a few adventurous members enjoyed the local craft beer, while most of us enjoyed our fine South African wine. All in, all a tough day in Africa!

## Day 12

## Thursday 7th September

### West Coast National Park; Langebaan.

We began with an early breakfast and then headed into West Coast National Park. The weather was not too good, being cold and wet. We still managed to get some good birding in before lunch and highlights included Grey Plover, Lesser Flamingo, Greater Flamingo, Red Bishop, Brimstone Canary, Curlew Sandpiper and Whimbrel. The birding was tough in the wind.

In a gap in the weather we headed into the Postberg section of the park to view the wild flowers. Wow! It was so amazing and the flowers were in abundance. We were treated to a wide array of flowers and colours with herds of Eland, Mountain Zebra, Springbok and Bontebok amongst the flowers which added to the photographic opportunities. Birding highlights included Great White Pelican, Large-billed Lark, Black Harrier, Bokmakerie and Jackal Buzzard.

Our final group dinner was enjoyed on the shores of the Langebaan Lagoon and it was enjoyable to relive the highlights of a most satisfactory trip.

## Day 13

## Friday 8th September

### Langebaan to Cape Town airport

The last full day of the tour started off with a slightly later and relaxed breakfast. En route to the airport we made a slight detour to the Salt Works in Velddrif as we had news that a Red-necked Phalarope had been seen in the area. We missed the phalarope but enjoyed views of Karoo Lark, Caspian Tern, Chestnut-banded Plover and Black-necked Grebe.

We had an enjoyable lunch looking on to Table Mountain before arriving at the airport, where we said our thanks and goodbyes to Gavin and Marc before boarding our overnight flight back to the UK.

## Day 14

Friday 9th September

### Arrive back in the UK

Our flight landed back at Heathrow Airport, where another Naturetrek adventure came to an end.

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Crimson-breasted Shrike



Cape Cobra

## Species Lists

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
2	White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>							✓					
3	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>							✓					✓
4	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>							✓					
6	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>							✓			✓	✓	
7	Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulate</i>							✓			✓	✓	✓
8	Cape Shoveler	<i>Anas smithii</i>							✓				✓	✓
9	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>							✓					
10	Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>							✓					
11	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila afra</i>											✓	
13	Cape Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis capensis</i>							✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
14	African Penguin	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>							✓	✓				
15	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>							✓					
16	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>												✓
17	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>							✓			✓	✓	✓
18	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>										✓	✓	✓
19	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>					✓	✓						
20	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>							✓					
21	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>					✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
22	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
23	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>							✓				✓	✓
24	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>										✓	✓	
25	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>							✓			✓		
26	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>					✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
27	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>							✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
28	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>						✓	✓					
29	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>							✓					



	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>										✓		
31	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>						✓	✓					
32	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>							✓					✓
33	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>						✓						
34	Crowned Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo coronatus</i>								✓				
35	White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
36	Cape Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	
37	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>						✓						
38	Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>		✓		✓								
39	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>			✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	
40	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	✓				✓							
41	Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>				✓								
42	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>				✓								
43	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>		✓		✓								
44	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>		✓		✓	✓							
45	Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>						✓						
46	Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓							
47	Pale Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
48	Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter rufiventris</i>									✓			
49	African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>							✓			✓	✓	
50	Black Harrier	<i>Circus maurus</i>										✓	✓	✓
51	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	✓									✓	✓	
52	African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>					✓							
53	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>												✓
54	Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>							✓	✓				✓
55	Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓							
56	Southern Black Korhaan	<i>Afrotis afra</i>										✓	✓	✓
57	Northern Black Korhaan	<i>Afrotis afraoides</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
58	Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>							✓					
59	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						✓	✓					
60	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>							✓			✓		✓
61	Blue Crane	<i>Grus paradise</i>											✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
62	Water Thick-Knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>							✓					
63	Spotted Thick-Knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>		✓										
64	African Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>								✓			✓	✓
65	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>							✓			✓	✓	✓
66	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>							✓				✓	✓
67	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
68	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓	
69	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>											✓	
70	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>							✓			✓	✓	✓
71	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>						✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
72	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>											✓	
73	Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>												✓
74	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>											✓	
75	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>											✓	
76	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>										✓	✓	
77	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>							✓					
78	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>												✓
79	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>											✓	✓
80	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>										✓		
81	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>							✓				✓	✓
82	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>											✓	✓
83	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>												✓
84	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>												✓
85	Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
86	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>							✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
87	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>											✓	✓
88	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>											✓	
89	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>											✓	
90	Namaqua Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles Namaqua</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓							
91	Burchell's Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles burchelli</i>		✓			✓							
92	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓		
93	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
94	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>							✓		✓	✓	✓	
95	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
96	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	✓					✓				✓	✓	
97	Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>									✓			
98	Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>		✓	✓		✓							
99	Southern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis granti</i>		✓		✓								
100	Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>				✓								
101	Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>				✓	✓							
102	Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>		✓										
103	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	✓						✓					
104	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>						✓	✓					
105	Bradfield's Swift	<i>Apus bradfieldi</i>						✓						
106	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>							✓					
107	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>							✓					
108	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>					✓			✓	✓			
109	White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
110	Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>				✓								
111	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>		✓		✓	✓							
112	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>							✓					✓
113	Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓					
114	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa Africana</i>		✓		✓		✓						
115	Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>												
116	Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>	✓	✓		✓								
117	Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
118	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>				✓	✓							
119	Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>	✓	✓				✓	✓					
120	Pygmy Falcon	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>		✓		✓	✓							
121	Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>						✓		✓		✓	✓	
122	Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓								
123	Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>					✓							
124	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>		✓					✓					
125	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrines</i>											✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
126	Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>									✓			
127	Pririt Batis	<i>Batis pririt</i>		✓			✓	✓						
128	Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>									✓	✓	✓	
129	Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>			✓									
130	Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>										✓	✓	
131	Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>		✓		✓	✓							
132	Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>						✓						
133	Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>		✓		✓	✓							
134	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>				✓	✓							
135	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>							✓					
136	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
137	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
138	White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>							✓					
139	Ashy Tit	<i>Melaniparus cinerascens</i>		✓				✓						
140	Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>					✓							
141	Karoo Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda subcoronata</i>						✓						
142	Black-eared Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix australis</i>	✓											
143	Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>	✓				✓							
144	Sabota Lark	<i>Calendulauda sabota</i>				✓	✓	✓						
145	Fawn-colored Lark	<i>Calendulauda africanoides</i>			✓	✓	✓							
146	Karoo Lark	<i>Calendulauda albescens</i>												✓
147	Stark's Lark	<i>Spizocorys starki</i>				✓								
148	Large-billed Lark	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>											✓	
149	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>												✓
150	African Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
151	Cape Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	
152	Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>								✓				
153	Black Saw-Wing	<i>Psolidoprocne pristoptera</i>									✓			
154	Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>						✓	✓					
155	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>											✓	
156	White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albicularis</i>						✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
157	Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
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158	South African Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon spilodera</i>							✓					
159	Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>								✓				
160	Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>			✓									
161	Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>							✓					
162	African Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>						✓	✓					
163	Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>							✓				✓	
164	Grey-backed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola subruficapilla</i>							✓			✓		✓
165	Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>							✓	✓				✓
166	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>							✓					
167	Cloud Cisticola	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>										✓		
168	Black-chested Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
169	Karoo Prinia	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>								✓	✓	✓		✓
170	Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>											✓	
171	Yellow-bellied Eremomela	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>				✓								
172	Chestnut-vented Warbler	<i>Sylvia subcaerulea</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓							
173	Cape White-Eye	<i>Zosterops virens</i>								✓	✓			
174	Orange River White-Eye	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>					✓	✓	✓					
175	Cape Sugarbird	<i>Promerops cafer</i>									✓			
176	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>							✓			✓	✓	✓
177	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>											✓	
178	Cape Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓						
179	Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>											✓	✓
180	Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>								✓	✓	✓		
181	Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>					✓	✓	✓					
182	Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>	✓			✓	✓							
183	Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>									✓			
184	Karoo Thrush	<i>Turdus smithi</i>					✓	✓	✓					
185	Karoo Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas coryphoeus</i>						✓	✓			✓	✓	
186	Kalahari Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas paeon</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓								
187	Chat Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis infuscatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓							
188	Marico Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis mariquensis</i>		✓		✓	✓							
189	Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis silens</i>							✓			✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
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190	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
191	Cape Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>												✓
192	Short-toed Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola brevipes</i>					✓							
193	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>												✓
194	Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
195	Mountain Wheatear	<i>Myrmecocichla monticola</i>						✓						
196	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>												✓
197	Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
198	Orange-breasted Sunbird	<i>Anthobaphes violacea</i>								✓		✓		✓
199	Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>								✓	✓		✓	
200	Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fuscus</i>		✓			✓	✓	✓					
201	White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓							
202	Sociable Weaver	<i>Philetairus socius</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓							
203	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓					✓	✓			✓		
204	Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
205	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffuses</i>				✓		✓		✓		✓		
206	Scaly-feathered Weaver	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
207	Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>							✓				✓	✓
208	Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>						✓	✓					
209	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea Quelea</i>	✓											
210	Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>											✓	✓
211	Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>										✓		✓
212	Red-headed Finch	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>	✓				✓							
213	Violet-eared Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus granatinus</i>	✓			✓								
214	Swee Waxbill	<i>Coccothraupis melanotis</i>									✓			
215	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>						✓			✓			
216	Black-faced Waxbill	<i>Estrilda erythronotos</i>		✓										
217	Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
218	Cape Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>										✓		
219	African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>				✓			✓					
220	Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>						✓						
221	Buffy Pipit	<i>Anthus vaalensis</i>			✓									

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
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222	Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>												
223	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>									✓			
224	Forest Canary	<i>Crithagra scotops</i>									✓			
225	Black-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>						✓				✓		
226	Yellow Canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	
227	Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>											✓	
228	White-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra albogularis</i>						✓				✓	✓	
229	Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>							✓	✓	✓			
230	Black-headed Canary	<i>Serinus alario</i>											✓	
231	Lark-like Bunting	<i>Emberiza impetuani</i>		✓										
232	Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>						✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
233	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
234	Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>					✓							
235	White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>						✓	✓					
236	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>							✓					
237	Swift Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>							✓	✓			✓	✓
238	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>							✓					
239	Southern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chalybeus</i>								✓	✓	✓	✓	

## Mammals

1	Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓				
2	Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>								✓				
3	Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>					✓							
4	Cape Ground Squirrel	<i>Xerus inauris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					
5	Desert Pygmy Mouse	<i>Mus indutus</i>			✓									
6	Four-striped Grass Mouse	<i>Rhabdomys pumilio</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓							
7	Brant's Whistling Rat	<i>Parotomys brantsii</i>		✓										
8	Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>						✓						
9	Roberts's Flat-headed Bat	<i>Sauromys petrophilus</i>						✓						
10	Egyptian Free-tailed Bat	<i>Tadarida aegyptiaca</i>		✓				✓						
11	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>		✓		✓	✓							
12	Cape Fox	<i>Vulpes chama</i>				✓	✓							

	Common name	Scientific name	August/September											
			28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13	Bat-eared Fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>				✓								
14	Cape Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>								✓	✓			
15	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>				✓	✓							
16	Caracal	<i>Caracal caracal</i>		✓										
17	Wildcat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>		✓		✓								
18	Common (Small-spotted) Genet	<i>Genetta genetta</i>		✓										
19	Cape Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes pulverulentus</i>									✓		✓	
20	Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>		✓			✓			✓				
21	Yellow Mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓					
22	Meerkat (Suricate)	<i>Suricata suricata</i>	✓	✓			✓							
23	Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>		✓										
24	Southern Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis giraffe</i>						✓						
25	Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>					✓							
26	Common Eland	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>						✓		✓		✓	✓	
27	Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>										✓		
28	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
29	Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>											✓	
30	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>						✓		✓				
31	Bontebok	<i>Damaliscus pygargus pygargus</i>											✓	
32	Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus caama</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
33	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus taurinus</i>		✓		✓	✓						✓	
34	Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazelle</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
35	Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalena australis</i>								✓	✓			
36	Cape Serotine Bat	<i>Neoromicia helios</i>	✓	✓	✓									
37	Cape Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>						✓						

## Reptiles & Amphibians

Leopard Tortoise, *Stigmochelys pardalis*  
 Cape Gecko, *Pachydactylus capensis*  
 Augrabies Flat Lizard, *Platysaurus broadleyi*  
 Variegated Skink, *Trachylepis variegata*

Bibron's Gecko, *Chondrodactylus bibronii*  
 Kalahari tree skink, *Trachylepis spilogaster*  
 Karasburg Tree Skink, *Trachylepis sparsa*  
 Western Ground Agama, *Agama aculeata aculeata*

Tent Tortoise, *Psammobates tentorius verroxii*  
 Southern Karusa Lizard, *Karusasaurus polyzonus*  
 Western Rock Skink, *Trachylepis sulcata sulcata*  
 Anchieta's Agama, *Agama anchietae*



Southern Rock Agama, *Agama atra atra*

## Naturetrek Facebook

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Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The Naturetrek Facebook page is now live; do please pay us a visit!



Mountain Zebra amongst the Wild Flowers in West Coast National Park- Postberg Section