

Zambia's South Luangwa National Park - Nkonzi Camp

Naturetrek Tour Report

12th – 21st October 2025



Martial Eagle



Leopards



African Wild Dogs



Lion

Tour report and photos by Mike Norman & Lesley Davies



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Tour participants: Gavin and Jabes (main guides) and other local leaders with ten Naturetrek clients

For the majority of our stay at Nkonzi Camp the group split into two parties, either in two vehicles or a group on foot and the other on wheels. This report is necessarily based on the experiences of the authors' drives and walks, but with highlights added from the other group's expeditions.

Day 1

Sunday 12th October

Our flights departed from Heathrow.

Day 2

Monday 13th October

Our flights from Heathrow to Lusaka (via Dubai or Johannesburg) passed largely uneventfully, though the flight from Dubai took off thirty minutes late. There was then a rush to get checked in for the onward flight to Mfuwe after a bag went astray, but all worked out OK with help from the airport staff. After the short hop in a twin-propeller plane, we put down in the late afternoon at the small airport in Mfuwe. Bags being safely collected, and there followed a hot 4x4 ride of about an hour and forty-five minutes to South Luangwa Park and Nkonzi camp, arriving after sunset at about 7.30pm. A couple of Large-spotted Genets were seen along the tracks as we drove through the park. On disembarking, we were welcomed and given an introduction from Gavin and Bev on the routines of the camp and the plans for the days ahead, then had a clean-up and dinner before bed.

Day 3

Tuesday 14th October

A wake-up call at 5.00am was followed by breakfast on the sandy dry bed of the Mushilashi river. We divided ourselves between two 4x4s (with Gavin or Jabes) for a morning game drive at 6.00am. We were told that the previous rainy season had been poor and late, so conditions were currently very dry. Animals were congregating around any sources of water: difficult for grazing animals but good conditions for predators and wildlife spotters! As our drive commenced, we were introduced to typical South Luangwa animals and birds: bee-eaters, hornbills, sparrow-weavers and starlings, plus lots of Impala, occasional Plains Zebras and Warthogs. We also found some female Greater Kudus. Reaching the banks of the Luangwa River, we saw Thornicroft's Giraffe and many waterbirds, including Black-headed Heron, African Spoonbill, African Sacred Ibis and Yellow-billed Stork. Waders included Black-winged Stilt, Greenshank, Wood Sandpiper and White-crowned Lapwing. We also saw our first Southern Carmine Bee-eaters.

Gavin's 4x4 swung by Mfuwe Lodge with its artificially topped-up pools, which were home to many Hippopotamuses and Nile Crocodiles. Here, we saw Spur-winged Goose, Saddle-billed Stork and African Jacana. A Nile Monitor lizard was spotted, which quickly hid away down the bank. A hawk perched nearby proved tricky to identify, but was eventually deduced to be a Western Banded Snake Eagle. On the journey back to camp, a Vervet Monkey mother with a suckling infant was seen. Approaching the dry river crossing back to camp, a small herd of Elephant was on the river bed. Positioning the 4x4 for a better view caused one young male to take offence, so we beat a hasty retreat and headed for lunch. Jabes' 4x4 had been particularly successful in spotting raptors, with Black-winged Kite, Wahlberg's and Martial Eagles and Dickinson's Kestrel all seen, as well as a Giant Kingfisher.

In the late afternoon, we set off in the same vehicles for the evening game drive. Gavin's 4x4 followed a route north towards the Lubi River, and at a waterhole not far from camp we spotted our first Hooded Vulture. Later on, the first of many Grey Go-away Birds made itself noisily obvious. At the river, a lioness was spotted walking towards the north bank, so we crossed over and obtained great views in the evening sunlight. Other members of her pride were located in the bushes nearby, while a male was relaxing out on the sand of the riverbed. A group of Yellow Baboons were clearly aware of both the Lions and us, as their sentinels looked on warily from nearby trees, though Egyptian Goose, White-crowned Lapwing and Water Thick-knee wandered around the pools unconcerned by the predator's presence. Gavin found a spot near a colony of Southern Carmine Bee-eaters for our first sundowners of the holiday. On the night drive back to camp, Dixon's expertly wielded spotlight located Scrub Hare, Four-toed Sengi, Sharpe's Grysbok and a probable Square-tailed Nightjar. Jabes' 4x4 managed to spot a Southern Lesser Galago (Bush Baby) and a Slender Mongoose on their night drive.

Day 4

Wednesday 15th October

Six members of the group elected to go with Gavin on a morning game walk, while four set off with Jabes on another game drive. The game walk set out across the Mushilashi River, passing the waterhole on the far bank before crossing an area that had been deliberately burned in the spring, as a precaution against wildfires. Peter, an armed National Park officer, accompanied us, and we were given strict instructions on how to behave and what to do in the event of a threat. We were shown an Aardvark burrow and the shells of giant land snails, and spotted an African Barred Owlet. At morning teabreak (with splendid home-baked biscuits), a medium-sized raptor in the trees above proved to be a Lizard Buzzard. We had spotted groups of Impalas clustered beneath trees dangling elongated seed pods. Gavin explained that these were Sausage Trees, and that the Impalas were waiting for the tree's flowers, of which they were very fond, to drop to the ground. He explained that the seed pods were also nutritious, but very tough-skinned, and were the preserve of Baboons, Zebras and the like. On returning to the river, a group of Lillian's Lovebirds posed attractively. We also came across some Lichtenstein's Hartbeests and Zebras on the way back to camp.

Jabes' 4x4 group returned after a very productive drive, with Long-crested and Tawny Eagles, Saddle-billed Stork, Racket-tailed Roller and Trumpeter Hornbill. The birding highlight, confirmed through photographs, was an Olive (or Madagascar) Bee-eater, uncommon in South Luangwa and a write-in for the trip list! On the mammal side, they bagged the first Leopard sighting of the trip.

Over lunch, a group of Southern Reedbuck visited the camp's waterhole, followed later by the Hartbeest. The local name for these is Nkonzi, which is how the camp came to be named. To escape the heat of the midday sun, we all retreated to the shade of our tents for a couple of hours after lunch.

In the late afternoon, the two 4x4s set out again. Gavin's vehicle took a meandering course down towards the Luangwa River. At one point, what appeared to be a medium-sized mammal standing in the track turned its head and proved to be an adult Southern Ground Hornbill! We followed it cautiously along the track before it eventually met up with the rest of its family group. Shortly after we reached a waterhole, where a Spotted Hyena lounged lazily in the mud. Behind this, a White-browed Coucal sat above the water. Off on the mud to the left, inspection of a busy group of birds yielded Greater Blue-eared Glossy Starling, as well as several Meves's Starling, a number of Red-billed Buffalo Weavers and an African Green Pigeon. On the other side of the vehicle the action continued with a pair of Southern Red-billed Hornbills, some Blue Waxbills, Yellow-fronted Canary and a Three-banded

Courser. As we moved on towards the river, a mother Elephant with a very young infant crossed the track before us. As we skirted the scrub close to the river, a male Lion was spotted relaxing under a bush. When we reached our riverside spot for sundowners, the extensive pools were replete with Hippos and Nile Crocodiles. An African Fish Eagle surveyed the scene and egrets flew back and forth. On the night-time drive back to camp, things were fairly quiet until the spotlight picked up a Cape Porcupine, which we watched as it trundled back into the scrub. Later on, we came across an African Buffalo.

Jabes' 4x4 again did well with the nocturnal predators, finding another Slender Mongoose, and then an African Civet. Back at camp we all saw a Lesser Galago as we were being escorted back to our tents after dinner.

Day 5

Thursday 16th October

At breakfast, there was much discussion of nocturnal noises, and it transpired that a group of Elephant had passed through the camp, leaving broken branches and damaging one panel of the staff enclosure. Once again, we loaded up into two 4x4s for game drives. Gavin's vehicle, heading towards the Lubi River, had an enforced stop to clear the track of a small tree that had been pushed over by Elephant, a job that took Gavin and Bev rather longer than originally anticipated! Soon, it became apparent that this was a morning for Zebras, as they popped up in large herds on all sides. Further on, we spotted a fine male Greater Kudu, and then our first Blue Wildebeest of the trip. We thought it was odd to find one on its own and, sure enough, the rest of its herd soon appeared. Up near the river, things had been fairly quiet, when suddenly a male Warthog came charging across the track. Even better, there were three African Wild Dogs in hot pursuit! This was a spectacle we had hoped for, but knew we could not take for granted. Pretty soon, though, it was clear that only three dogs were chasing, and the Warthog turned at bay, which caused the dogs to lose interest.

Gavin pointed out that the remainder of the dogs' pack ought to be nearby and, as we followed them back to the river bank, we saw the pack stretched out in the shade near an artificial waterhole. A total of nineteen dogs was counted, and they looked to have full bellies; hence their lack of interest in the chase. Clearly, the Warthog had wanted to reach the water, only to find more than he bargained for! Gavin suggested that the pack would probably stay all day, and that we should come back on the evening drive when the pack would probably wake up and move on. The remainder of the drive featured a stand-off at a waterhole between a family of Elephants and a Hyena, a Pearl-spotted Owlet and a great view of a Roan Antelope, a species very rarely seen in the park!

Jabes' 4x4 spent time down near the Luangwa River, finding the typical animals and birds: Hippo and Nile Crocodile, Yellow-billed Stork, Hadada Ibis, African Spoonbill, Black-winged Stilt and Common Sandpiper. Once again, they did well with raptors, with another Wahlberg's Eagle, plus African Hawk-Eagle and Dark Chanting Goshawk. They also spotted another Leopard.

After another sumptuous lunch and a siesta to avoid the roasting heat, both 4x4s loaded up and set off in search of the Wild Dog pack. En route, Gavin's 4x4 spotted Bushbuck close to a fruiting fig tree, and had close views of an African Barred Owlet and a Water Thick-knee. Then we encountered a sleeping Leopard right beside the track, but before we could park up, it woke and sped off into the bush. Sure enough, the Wild Dogs were still beside their waterhole, and we watched patiently to see when the pack leaders would decide it was time to move. Individual dogs moved position as the shade shifted, and one adult went down onto the sand of the riverbed, as if expecting others to follow.

Eventually, it was the pups who kicked everything off, and we were charmed by their playing and yelping. Then the whole pack wandered down to the waterhole for a drink, with much social interaction. Suitably replenished, the pack moved up the riverbank and into the bush, presumably ready for a night's hunting. We celebrated this fabulous experience with sundowners beside the river, before making our respective routes back to camp, spotlighting along the way. Gavin's 4x4 spotted a Verreaux's Eagle Owl, followed by Sharpe's Grysbok and a Hyena, while Jabes' 4x4 found another Lesser Galago, an African Civet and a Large-spotted Genet. That evening we celebrated the sights of the day with a *braai* out on the sands of the Mushilashi river, under the starlight of the southern Milky Way.

Day 6

Friday 17th October

This morning, with Gavin attending to camp business, the driving team was augmented by Willy, an experienced park guide. Jabes' 4x4 headed back off towards the Lubi River by the usual route, spotting Black-crowned Tchagra and Double-banded Sandgrouse before coming across a Sausage Tree proving popular with a number of sunbird species, including Scarlet-chested, Amethyst, White-bellied and Variable. A small hawk in a dead tree was eventually determined to be a Shikra. We trundled on, watching casually as a family of Warthog with three piglets exited from their burrow. Suddenly, there was a crash and a flurry of motion and the Warthogs fled as a Leopard exploded from cover. Unfortunately, the rear-most piglet stood no chance of escape, and the Leopard snatched it and bounded up a nearby tree. For some reason, it dropped its prey and then jumped back down from the tree, and moved off through the bush. Jabes suggested it would soon return to reclaim its meal.

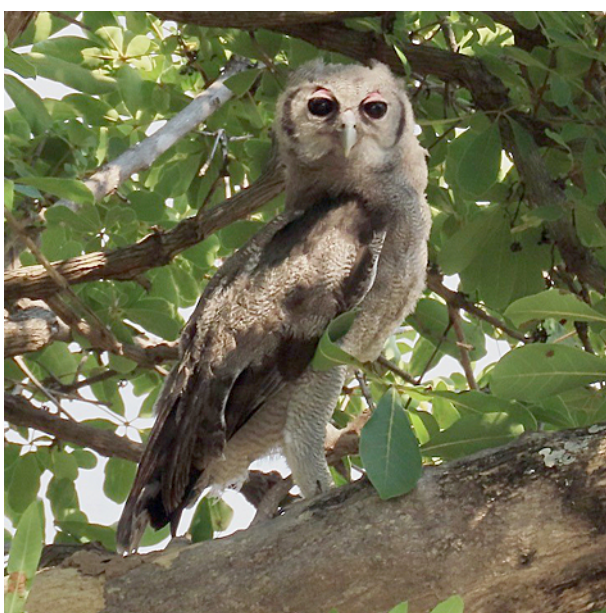
Feeling somewhat breathless, we left the scene, finding a herd of Wildebeests and then a family of Elephants, before Jabes spotted vultures circling not far away. Suspecting a recent kill, Jabes navigated the vehicle towards the spot, and eventually we found the remains of an Impala, with Hooded and White-backed Vultures in attendance. A Lappet-faced Vulture was circling nearby, and a Yellow-billed Kite managed to get away with some scraps. We watched the scene for a while, noting how the different species adhered to their pecking order, dictated by strength and bill size. Jabes said the kill was most likely made by Wild Dogs, as the skeleton was relatively intact. On the way back to camp, we encountered a bachelor herd of Zebras, and were entertained by jousting between two of them. Another tree-bound raptor this time proved to be a Dark Chanting Goshawk. Willy's 4x4 also found Lappet-faced Vulture, plus a Shikra and a Tawny Eagle, followed by a White-browed Robin-Chat and a Yellow Canary.

Over the midday break, we arranged Gavin to place a trail camera for a couple of nights by the waterhole across the river. In the late afternoon, the vehicles loaded up again for another game drive. Willy's 4x4 headed out on the usual route towards the Lubi River, spotting another Bushbuck in the forest, then a nice Crowned Hornbill and a flock of Southern Black Tits. An ensemble of Bateleur, White-backed and White-headed Vultures in the same tree provided a great photo opportunity. Up by the river, we came across a male Lion feasting on a baby Hippo carcass, while a young cub watched on expectantly. Following sundowners and another close look at the Lion and cub, we headed for camp, with Dixon operating the spotlight. As we crossed the streambed, the beam picked up a White-tailed Mongoose, and further on another pair of eyes proved to belong to a Side-striped Jackal, quite a rare occurrence in the South Luangwa Park! Closer to the camp, a Lesser Galago was tracked for a while in the treetops. Jabes' 4x4 also saw the jackal and a White-tailed Mongoose on their way back to camp.

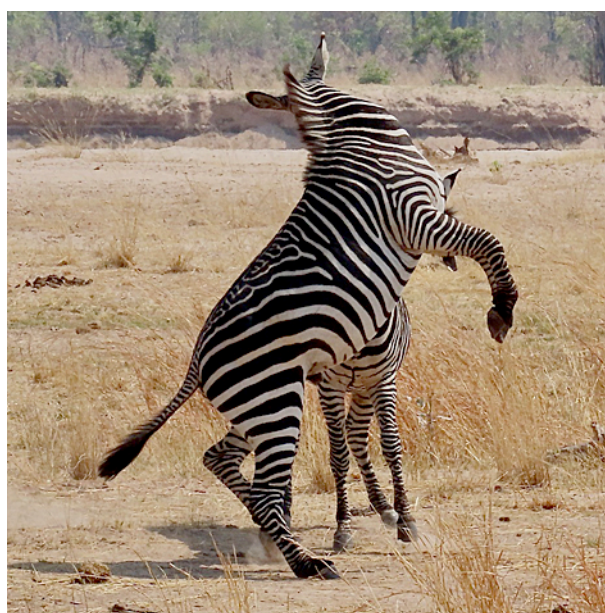
Day 7

Saturday 18th October

Today, the plan was for an all-day game drive to explore some areas further from Nkonzi Camp, so both vehicles loaded up and headed out in broadly the same direction, as we were due to meet for lunch. Jabes' 4x4 soon spotted a Common Duikers, then a small flock of White-crested Helmetshrikes, and later an African Grey Hornbill. Up by the Lubi River, some male Greater Kudus patrolled the far bank. After a number of fleeting encounters, we finally found a Sharpe's Grysbok that was relaxed enough to allow close views and photos. A nice close Crowned Lapwing followed, and then Jabes spotted a splendid Verreaux's Eagle Owl roosting in a tree. As we neared the confluence of the Lubi and the Luangwa we came across a group of Giraffes, and not long after that a group of sleeping Elephants, some using the slope of a termite mound as a pillow. It had been explained to us previously that Elephant would choose to sleep with their head upslope to ensure comfortable breathing, so it was fascinating to see this for real.



Verreaux's Eagle-Owl



Plains Zebras

On reaching the banks of the Luangwa, we stopped for a drinks break, looking out upon Marabou and Yellow-billed Storks, Sacred and Hadada Ibises, White-crowned Lapwing and African Fish Eagle. Groups of Hippos wallowed in the shallows, and male Puku grazed on the shore. Moving up the Luangwa, we paused at various points, finding Great White Pelican, Marabou Stork, Greenshank and Wood Sandpiper. A diversion inland yielded Giraffe, Blue Wildebeest, Bearded Woodpecker, Holub's Golden Weaver and Terrestrial Brownbul. Another interesting find was an Egyptian Goose occupying an old Hamerkop nest. It was fascinating to pass through the different habitats, from open grassland to Ebony woodland, and clearings which are inundated in the rainy season. A large area of fallen Mopane trees was evidence of Elephants feeding on the trees over many years.

Finally, we arrived back at the river where the other 4x4 was already in position, preparing for a picnic lunch. While waiting, there was plenty to see, including more Hippos, Goliath Heron, African Fish Eagle and various waders. Above flew Wire-tailed Swallow, Brown-throated Martin and what was subsequently identified from photographs as a Grey-headed Gull. We all enjoyed the splendid lunch prepared by Willy, Jabes and Dixon, enlivened by a sudden whirlwind that swept in from the river and had us all scurrying to try and keep the dust out of our food! We were expecting to settle down for a post-prandial break, when we were told that Peter had spotted a large group of Elephants headed in our direction, and that we needed to pack up and leave. The two vehicles swiftly

loaded up and departed in different directions back to camp. Highlights along the way for Jabes' 4x4 included a pair of Laughing Doves, which had so far been inexplicably hard to find, herds of Waterbucks, a female Puku nursing her maybe only hours-old calf and a very relaxed male Lion. Willy's 4x4 struck lucky again with another Leopard, while on the birding side they saw Green-winged Ptylia, Black-collared Barbet, Crowned Hornbill, Giant Kingfisher, African Harrier-Hawk and African Wattled Lapwing.

Back at camp, we were once again treated to a splendid *braai* out on the sand, but not before Peter, checking the surroundings with his light, had picked out an African Civet wandering across the river bed.

Day 8

Sunday 19th October

This morning, three people opted for another walk, while the other seven went for a drive with Jabes. The walk, led by Willy, headed out across the river, and made a loop before returning close to the access track. Immediately, we came across four Greater Honeyguides by the waterhole, closely followed by Arrow-marked Babbler, and Scarlet-chested and White-bellied Sunbirds. A nearby perched raptor proved to be a Martial Eagle. The call of a Long-billed Crombec was heard, but we were unable to catch up with it. Examining the tracks and signs, Willy showed us that a male Leopard had passed through very recently. Pausing for the usual delicious refreshments by a dried-out waterhole, we spotted a Broad-billed Roller, and then a Greater Blue-eared Glossy Starling. Returning to the river, we planned to cross and walk up a small gully. As we crossed, Willy picked out a European Bee-eater by its call among an overhead flock of White-fronted Bee-eaters. At the far bank, Peter was keeping a wary eye on a herd of Elephants passing nearby, so we changed our route back to camp, keeping nearer to the access track. Along the way we found Tawny-flanked Prinia and then a Cinnamon-breasted Rock Bunting, while in the dust Willy showed us the tracks of a Honey Badger.



Pukus



Swallow-tailed Bee-eater



Thornicroft's Giraffes



Roan Antelope

Meanwhile, the 4x4 expedition with Jabes had had very productive morning, focussing on the area nearer the park entrance which receives more visitors and where, as a result, most of the mammals are more relaxed around vehicles. The group enjoyed close-up views of a family of Warthogs snuffling in the grass and a variety of antelopes quietly grazing on a large area of open grassland. The highlight of the morning was finding a female Leopard and her two sub-adult cubs, which very obligingly walked through a group of tourist 4x4s. Jabes explained that the park rules restrict the number of vehicles around animals at any one time, and that he needed to move off. The group were thrilled to have had such wonderful close-up views of the Leopards, but we soon discovered that Jabes' understanding of these big cats and their behaviour meant that when we stopped again, we were perfectly positioned to watch the Leopards reappear, and were treated to more wonderful views.

After another delicious lunch and a rest, the two vehicles set off back out for the evening drive. Heading up towards the Lubi river once more, Jabes' 4x4 had a run of success with raptors, seeing an immature Martial Eagle, then adult and immature Tawny Eagles, before we spotted what proved to be a Gabar Goshawk perched up. For sundowners, Jabes found a spot by a fine colony of Southern Carmine and White-fronted Bee-eaters, flying out of their nest holes in the river bank and circling around before landing on the river bed. The night drive back to camp proved busy, with Slender and Banded Mongoose, Four-toed Sengi and Large-spotted Genet, among others. Back at camp, we heard that Willy's 4x4 had also had success, with White-tailed, Slender and Banded Mongooses, and earlier Southern Masked Weaver, Trumpeter Hornbill and Striped Kingfisher. We had our final dinner together, and thanked the Gavin, Bev, the guides and the camp staff for their wonderful hospitality and expert guiding.

Day 9

Monday 20th October

After a final breakfast on the sand, the group split up, as two clients departed for Mfuwe for flights to Malawi, while two others transferred by 4x4 for a couple of nights at the nearby Lion Camp. The rest of us loaded up for a last game drive with Jabes. Once more, up by the Lubi River, we found a male Lion stretched out in the shade by the river bank. Another herd of Wildebeests came past us and then, as we searched for a refreshment stop site, we came across what was probably the same Wild Dog pack as before. Relaxing in dense shade, they allowed us some great, close views. Bird highlights of the morning included a fine adult Martial Eagle, African Hawk-Eagle, African Barred Owlet, Brown-hooded Kingfisher and Three-banded Plover. Heading back to camp, we enjoyed views of Greater Kudu and Plains Zebra, while the bed of the Mushilashi was occupied by Elephants, Impalas and a large group of Hartebeests.

After a final lunch, it was time to pack up and head for the airport at Mfuwe, stopping for shopping and refreshment at the Tribal Textiles store, and managing along the way to add Pied Crow and Common Myna to the bird list for the trip. We were able to reflect on the many highlights of our wonderful week in South Luangwa and Nkonzi Camp.

Day 10

Tuesday 21st October

We returned safely home to the UK.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Scientific name	October 2025							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>		✓						✓
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Red-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis afer</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Swainson's Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis swainsonii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>						✓		
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>		✓		✓		✓		
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>			✓			✓	✓	
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		✓						
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>		✓						
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>						✓		
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>						✓		
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</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>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>				✓	✓	✓		
Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>					✓	✓		
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>			✓	✓		✓		✓
Western Banded Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>		✓						
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>			✓					
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>		✓		✓		✓	✓	
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>			✓		✓		✓	
African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>				✓		✓		✓
Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>			✓		✓		✓	
Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>							✓	
Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>				✓	✓			
Shikra	<i>Tachyspiza badia</i>					✓			
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
African Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga vocifer</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
White-crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>						✓		
African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>			✓			✓		
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>						✓		
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>		✓				✓		✓
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓

Common name	Scientific name	October 2025							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>						✓		
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		✓				✓		
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Three-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus cinctus</i>			✓	✓				
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>						✓		
Double-banded Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles bicinctus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>						✓		
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
Grey Go-away-bird	<i>Crinifer concolor</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>			✓	✓		✓		
White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>					✓		✓	✓
African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>					H			
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Ketupa lactea</i>		✓		✓		✓		
Southern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis granti</i>					✓			
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatus</i>				✓				
African Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium capense</i>			✓	✓				✓
Square-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus fossii</i>		✓		✓			✓	
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓						
Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>			✓			✓		
Racket-tailed Roller	<i>Coracias spatulatus</i>			✓		H			
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>				H	✓	✓	✓	✓
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>							✓	
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>		✓						
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>		✓				✓		
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Olive Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>			✓					
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>							✓	
Southern Carmine Bee-eater	<i>Merops nubicoides</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus rufirostris</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crowned Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros alboterminatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>			✓			✓	✓	
Trumpeter Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes bucinator</i>			✓				✓	
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>						✓		
Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>					H		✓	
Bennett's Woodpecker	<i>Campethera bennettii</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓
Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Chloropicus namaquus</i>				✓	✓	✓		
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>			✓		✓			
Dickinson's Kestrel	<i>Falco dickinsoni</i>		✓						
Brown-necked Parrot	<i>Poicephalus fuscicollis</i>				✓			✓	
Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lilian's Lovebird	<i>Agapornis lilianae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
Orange-breasted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>		H	✓					

Common name	Scientific name	October 2025							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>					✓			
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius major</i>		H	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>							H	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>								✓
Southern Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus niger</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		
Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Yellow-bellied Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>			✓			✓	✓	
Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>						✓		
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>						✓		
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓						
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>			✓					
Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>							H	
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>		✓		✓	✓			
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>			✓		✓			
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>					✓		✓	
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>						✓		
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>								✓
Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprolornis chalybaeus</i>			✓				✓	
Meves's Starling	<i>Lamprolornis mevesii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>		✓						
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>			✓					
White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>			H		✓			
Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>					✓			
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>					✓	✓		
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓							
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>		✓	✓					✓
Holub's Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthops</i>						✓		
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>							✓	
Dark-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus bicolor</i>		✓						
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>						✓		
Red-throated Twinspot	<i>Hypargos niveoguttatus</i>			✓					
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Jameson's Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rhodopareia</i>			✓			✓		
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Village Indigobird	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>					✓			
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Yellow Canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>					✓			
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>							✓	

Mammals

Common name	Scientific name	October 2025							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Four-toed Sengi	<i>Petrodromus tetradactylus</i>		✓		✓		✓		
African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Southern Lesser Galago	<i>Galago moholi</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow Baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
Cape Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>			✓					
Smith's Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>		✓	✓				✓	
White-tailed Mongoose	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>					✓		✓	
Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>							✓	
Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	H	✓	
African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>			✓	✓		✓		
Central African Large-spotted Genet	<i>Genetta maculata</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓	
African Wild Dog	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>				✓	✓			✓
Side-striped Jackal	<i>Lupulella adusta</i>					✓			
Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Puku	<i>Kobus vardonii</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Southern Reedbuck	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
Sharpe's Grysbok	<i>Raphicerus sharpei</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>		✓				✓		
African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer caffer</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓
Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
(Lichtenstein's) Hartebeest	<i>Alcephalus buselaphus lichtensteinii</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Roan Antelope	<i>Hippotragus equinus</i>				✓				

Reptiles

Common name	Scientific name	October 2025							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Nile Monitor Lizard	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>		✓		✓			✓	
Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodilus niloticus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Flap-necked Chameleon	<i>Chamaeleo dilepis</i>			✓					
Common House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>		✓						