

Senegal and Gambia

2019 Tour Report

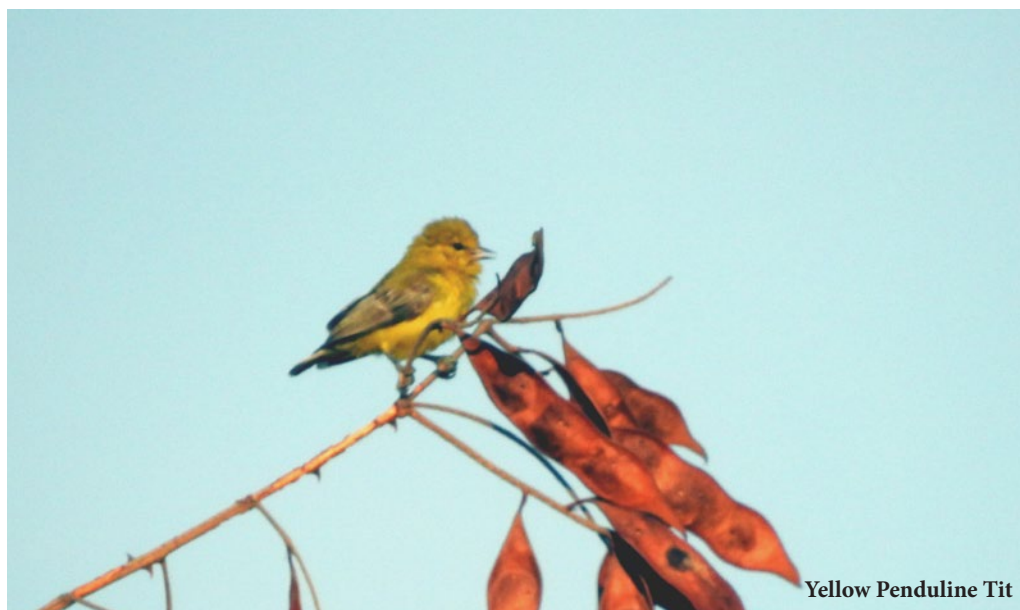
Vinaceous Black-faced Firefinch



*Text by tour leader Michael Mills
Photos by Gus Mills*

SUMMARY

Our first trip to Senegal and Gambia was highly successful and netted a good selection of localised and rarely-seen specials. For this private trip we ran a flexible itinerary to target a small selection of tricky species. In Senegal Savile's Bustard was the last African bustard for the entire party, and was seen well both at the Marigots and in the Kaolack area. Other Senegalese highlights included Western Red-billed Hornbill, Sahel Paradise Whydah in full breeding plumage, Little Grey Woodpecker, Mali Firefinch, Egyptian Plover and African Finfoot. Large numbers of waterbirds at Djoudj and the Marigots were memorable too.



Yellow Penduline Tit

In Gambia we started off in the Bansang area with full-plumage Exclamatory Paradise Whydah, before the Tendaba area rewarded us with Bronze-winged Courser, Yellow Penduline Tit, White-fronted Black Chat and Bronze-tailed Starling. Towards the coast we tracked down Spotted Honeyguide, Vinaceous Black-faced Firefinch, Ahanta Francolin, Brown-necked Parrot, White-backed Night Heron and Grey-headed Bristlebill in Pirang area, before finishing at the coast itself with Fanti Saw-wing and Pied-winged Swallow.

ESSENTIAL DETAILS

DATES

11-23 January 2019

LEADERS

Michael Mills assisted by Solomon Jallow

PARTICIPANTS

Julian Francis and Gus Mills

ITINERARY

11 Jan: Dakar to St Louis. Afternoon at the Marigots, hearing Savile's Bustard.

12 Jan: Morning at the Marigots seeing Savile's Bustard. Afternoon in the N'dial, looking for Kordofan Lark.

13 Jan: Morning in the Richard Toll area, seeing Little Grey Woodpecker and Cricket Warbler, and looking for Kordofan Lark. Afternoon in Djoudj.

14 Jan: Early departure from Djoudj. Quick visit to Langue du Barberie before long drive to Kaolack, with Savile's Bustard en route.

15 Jan: Early morning at Swallow-tailed Kite roost near Kaolack. Then drive to Wassadou Camp for lunch, with Sahel Paradise Whydah en route. Afternoon drive to Kedougou.

16 Jan: Full day in the Kedougou area seeing Mali Firefinch..

17 Jan: Early departure from Kedougou. Lunch at Wassadou Camp. Evening boat trip on Gambia River with Adamawa Turtle Dove and Egyptian Plover..

18 Jan: Morning at Wassadou Camp, before driving to Gambia. Afternoon around Bansang with Exclamatory Paradise Whydah in full plumage.

19 Jan: Early departure from Bansang, driving to Tendaba for lunch via north bank. Afternoon at Tendaba seeing Bronze-winged Courser.

20 Jan: Early morning on the Bateling Track seeing Yellow Penduline Tit, White-fronted Black Chat, Brown-rumped Bunting and Bronze-tailed Starling. Then drive to Sita Joyeh/Baobab Island, stopping en route for Brown-necked Parrot. Afternoon around Farasuto Forest with Spotted Honeyguide and White-backed Night Heron.

21 Jan: Full day in the Sita Joyeh area, including at Pirang Forest, seeing Ahanta Francolin and Grey-headed Bristlebill..

22 Jan: Morning in the Faraba area, with superb views of Vinaceous Black-faced Firefinch. Afternoon drive to coastal Gambia, birding at Tanji.

23 Jan: Morning at Abuko seeing Fanti Saw-wing and Pied-winged Swallow.



Mali Firefinch

ANNOTATED SPECIES LIST

Anatidae

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* - Abundant at Djoudj; also one large flock in Gambia, on the north bank

Fulvous Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* - Two seen well at Marigots

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* - At least 20 at Djoudj

African Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus* - At least 10 at Marigots

Garganey *Spatula querquedula* - Abundant at Djoudj

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata* - Many at Djoudj

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* - Numerous at Djoudj

Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* - One big flock seen at Wassadou Camp (galeatus)

Odontophoridae

Stone Partridge *Ptilopachus petrosus* - Michael and Julian saw a pair superbly between Kedougou and Wassadou Camp (*petrosus*); heard in Gambia

Phasianidae

Ahanta Francolin *Pternistis achantensis* - Heard and seen briefly at Farasuto Forest, then seen well at Pirang Forest (but not by Gus)

Double-spurred Francolin *Pternistis bicalcaratus* - Seen widely in Senegal and Gambia, in small numbers (*bicalcaratus*)

Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix* - One at Djoudj and another at Kaolack (subspecies uncertain)

Podicipedidae

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* - About 10 at Djoudj (*capensis*)

Phoenicopteridae

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopus roseus* - Good numbers at Djoudj

Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* - Several hundred at Djoudj

Ciconiidae

Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis* - Several at Djoudj (not seen by Julian) and a few in Gambia

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* - At least 50 at Djoudj

Threskiornithidae

African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* - Seen a few times at Marigots and Djoudj

Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash* - A few at Wassadou Camp (*brevirostris*)

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* - Quite a few at Djoudj and Marigots, and also along the north bank in Senegal

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* - At least 20 at Djoudj (subspecies uncertain)

African Spoonbill *Platalea alba* - Seen at Marigots

Ardeidae

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* - One seen in flight in the Marigots (not by Julian; subspecies uncertain)

White-backed Night Heron *Gorsachius leuconotus* - One seen well at Farasuto Forest in Gambia

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* - Heard in the Marigots, seen at Wassadou Camp and Sita Joyeh/Baobab Island (*nycticorax*)

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* - Seen along the Gambia River in Senegal and Gambia (*atricapilla*)

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* - Seen in good numbers at Marigots and Djoudj, and also in Gambia

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* - Widespread in Senegal and Gambia

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* - Common in north-west Senegal; a few in Gambia (*cinerea*)

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* - Several at Marigots and Djoudj (*purpurea*)

Great Egret *Ardea alba* - Several at Marigots and Djoudj, and along the Gambia River in Senegal and Gambia (*melanorhynchos*)

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia* - Two in Gambia (*brachyrhyncha*)

Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca* - Seen at Marigots and Djoudj and one on the north bank in Gambia

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* - Widespread sightings (*garzetta*)

Western Reef Heron *Egretta gularis* - Common around St Louis and in Gambia (*gularis*)

Scopidae

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta* - Seen along the Gambia River in Senegal and Gambia (*umbretta*)

Pelecanidae

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* - Good numbers in north-western Senegal

Pink-backed Pelican *Pelecanus rufescens* - Good numbers in north-western Senegal; also two at Tendaba and one at Tanji beach

Phalacrocoracidae

Reed Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus* - Numerous in north-western Senegal and in Gambia (*africanus*)

White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax lucidus* - Good numbers at Djoudj; two off Tanji beach

Anhingidae

African Dart *Anhinga rufa* - Seen by Julian at Djoudj; also one in Gambia (*rufa*)

Pandionidae

Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* - Several seen in coastal areas of Senegal and Gambia (*haliaetus*)

Accipitridae

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* - Seen a few times, both in Senegal and Gambia (*caeruleus*)

Scissor-tailed Kite *Chelictinia riocourii* - Distant views of more than 1000 near Kaolack

African Harrier-Hawk *Polyboroides typus* - Quite a few in south-east Senegal and Gambia (*pectoralis*)

Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis* - Seen at Wassadou Camp and in Gambia

Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus* - Good numbers between Dakar and St Louis; abundant in Gambia

White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* - Quite a few widespread sightings in Senegal and Gambia

Rüppell's Vulture *Gyps rueppelli* - Several seen between Dakar and St Louis (*rueppelli*)

Griffon Vulture *Gyps fulvus* - One in flight in Gambia (*fulvus*)

Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos* - Seen in flight between St Louis and Kaolack (*tracheliotos*)

Short-toed Snake Eagle *Circaetus gallicus* - Three seen well in the Richard-Toll area (*gallicus*)

Beaudouin's Snake Eagle *Circaetus beaudouini* - One seen by Michael and Gus on return to Dakar

Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus* - Quite common in Gambia and also seen in south-east Senegal

Western Banded Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens* - One en route to Kedougou seen by Michael

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* - Seen in Gambia and Senegal, with normal and white-backed birds seen sitting on the road in Senegal

Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis* - One in Gambia seen briefly

Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraetus wahlbergi* - Seen in south-east Senegal and Gambia

Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus* - One pale phase bird between St Louis and Kaolack, and one in Gambia

Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus* - Seen in south-east Senegal and Gambia (*monogrammicus*)

Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* - One seen briefly near Djoudj by Michael (*niger*)

Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates* - A couple in south-east Senegal, and rather common in Gambia (*metabates*)

Red-chested Goshawk *Accipiter toussenelii* - One perched at Pirang Forest (*macroscelides*)

Shikra *Accipiter badius* - Several sightings in Gambia (*sphenurus*)

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* - Very common in the north-west of Senegal, less so elsewhere (*aeruginosus*)

Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus* - One male near Richard-Toll and one between Kaolack and Wassadouyou, and a female in Gambia

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* - One seen on the mudflats at St Louis among the many kites which may all have been this species (*migrans*)

Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius* - Regular in towns and villages throughout Senegal and Gambia (*parasitus*)

African Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer* - A small number seen in Senegal and Gambia

Grasshopper Buzzard *Butastur rufipennis* - One en route to Kedougou

Otididae

Savile's Bustard *Lophotis savilei* - One seen well at Marigots and one seen very well near Kaolack

Heliornithidae

African Finfoot *Podica senegalensis* - Incredible views of a female eating on the bank at Wassadou Camp (*senegalensis*)

Rallidae

Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra* - Common in the Marigots and Djoudj; also seen in Gambia

African Swampphen *Porphyrio madagascariensis* - Common in the Marigots

Allen's Gallinule *Porphyrio alleni* - Good views of one at the Marigots

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* - Common in the Marigots; one in Gambia (*meridionalis*)

Gruidae

Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina* - About 15 at Djoudj

Burhinidae

Senegal Thick-knee *Burhinus senegalensis* - One at Djoudj and common along the Gambia River in Senegal and Gambia

Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus capensis* - Seen at Marigots (heard only by Michael) (*maculosus*)

Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* - Numerous in the north-western wetlands; also seen in Gambia

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avoetia* - Quite a few at Djoudj

Charadriidae

Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus* - Seen throughout

Black-headed Lapwing *Vanellus tectus* - Seen at Richard-Toll and Kaolack; also near Banjul in Gambia (*tectus*)

African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus* - Seen near Kedougou and in Gambia (*senegallus*)

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* - One at Langue du Barberie (*squatarola*)

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* - Seen along the coast in Senegal and Gambia

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* - Gus photographed one at Djoudj

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* - Quite a few at Djoudj

Pluvianidae

Egyptian Plover *Pluvianus aegyptius* - Two seen very well at Wassadou Camp

Jacaniidae

African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* - Scattered sightings in Senegal and Gambia

Scolopacidae

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* - A few in coastal areas of Senegal and Gambia

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* - One at Langue du Barberie

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* - A few at Langue du Barberie and one at Tanji beach

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* - Several at Djoudj

Ruff *Calidris pugnax* - Common at Djoudj

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* - A few at Djoudj

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* - A few at Djoudj

Sanderling *Calidris alba* - One at Langue du Barberie (*alba*)

Dunlin *Calidris alpina* - Quite a few at Djoudj

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* - One at Djoudj

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* - A few scattered sightings

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* - A few scattered sightings

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* - A few at Djoudj and one at Sita Joyeh

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* - Several at Djoudj

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* - A few scattered sightings

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus* - One at Djoudj

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* - A few scattered sightings

Glareolidae

Temminck's Courser *Cursorius temminckii* - One near Djoudj (*temminckii*)

Bronze-winged Courser *Rhinoptilus chalcopterus* - Cracking views during the day at Tendaba

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* - A few near Richard-Toll (*fuelleborni*)

Laridae

Slender-billed Gull *Chroicocephalus genei* - Good views at Djoudj

Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* - Common around St Louis and Tanji beach (*poiocephalus*)

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* - A couple of Tanji beach and several at Banjul ferry (*vetula*)

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis* - One at Langue du Barberie (*atlantis*)

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus* - Seen at Langue du Barberie and near Kaolack; many at Banjul ferry

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* - Seen regularly around wetlands (*nilotica*)

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* - Seen at Djoudj and Tanji beach

Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus* - Seen at Tanji beach (*albididorsalis*)

Lesser Crested Tern *Thalasseus bengalensis* - One at Tanji beach (*emigratus*)

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis* - Seen in north-west Senegal and at Banjul ferry

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* - A couple at Banjul ferry (*hirundo*)

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* - A few at Djoudj (*hybrida*)

Stercorariidae

Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus* - One at Banjul ferry

Parasitic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus* - Several at Banjul ferry

Pteroclididae

Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles exustus* - Quite a few in the Richard-Toll area and one flock in Gambia (*exustus*)

Four-banded Sandgrouse *Pterocles quadricinctus* - A few seen at night, briefly, at Wassadou Camp, and two flushed in the day at Bateling near Tendaba

Columbidae

Feral Pigeon *Columba livia* - Seen around towns and villages

Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea* - Common and widespread (*guinea*)

European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* - One near Mbacke

Adamawa Turtle Dove *Streptopelia hypopyrrha* - Heard near Kedougou and good views at Wassadou Camp

African Collared Dove *Streptopelia roseogrisea* - Seen once near Richard-Toll and once at Mbacke (*roseogrisea*)

Mourning Collared Dove *Streptopelia decipiens* - Seen near Richard-Toll and common along the Gambia River (*shellei*)

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* - Seen in south-east Senegal and in Gambia

Vinaceous Dove *Streptopelia vinacea* - Numerous throughout

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis* - Common throughout (*senegalensis*)

Black-billed Wood Dove *Turtur abyssinicus* - A few scattered sightings in Senegal; many drinking at hides in Gambia

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer* - Seen in coastal Gambia, including drinking alongside Black-billed Wood Dove

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* - Common and widespread (*capensis*)

Bruce's Green Pigeon *Treron waalia* - Seen in flight near Kaolack and a few times in Gambia

African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus* - Julian saw then once in Gambia (*nudirostris*)

Musophagidae

Guinea Turaco *Tauraco persa* - Superb views at Pirang Forest; heard at Abuko (*buffoni*)

Violet Turaco *Musophaga violacea* - Seen at Wassadou, Pirang Forest, Tanji and Abuko

Western Plantain-eater *Crinifer piscator* - Widespread sightings

Cuculidae

Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis* - Seen a few times in Senegal; common in in Gambia (*senegalensis*)

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* - Two males at Wassadou Camp

Tytonidae

Western Barn Owl *Tyto alba* - Grown chicks seen at the nest at Djoudj (*affinis*)

Strigidae

African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis* - Brilliant views for Michael and Julian at Sita Joyeh (*senegalensis*)

Northern White-faced Owl *Ptilopsis leucotis* - One on a day roost near Farasuto Forest

Greyish Eagle-Owl *Bubo cinerascens* - One on a day roost near Farasuto Forest

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl *Bubo lacteus* - Good views of one near Kaolack

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii* - One on a day roost in Farasuto Forest (*nuchalis*)

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum* - Seen at Kedougou and in Gambia (*perlatum*)

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus* - One flushed several times at Marigots (*flammeus*)

Caprimulgidae

Long-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus climacurus* - Seen at Marigots and Kaolack (*climacurus*)

Standard-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus longipennis* - Male and female roosting near Farasuto Forest

Apodidae

Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura ussheri* - Seen distantly near Mbacke (*ussheri*)

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* - Common and widespread (*parvus*)

Little Swift *Apus affinis* - Seen a few times in Senegal and at Banjul in Gambia (*aerobates*)

Coliidae

Blue-naped Mousebird *Urocolius macrourus* - Several widespread sightings (*macrourus*)

Coraciidae

Purple Roller *Coracias naevius* - Several widespread sightings in Senegal and Gambia (*naevius*)

Abyssinian Roller *Coracias abyssinicus* - Common and widespread

Blue-bellied Roller *Coracias cyanogaster* - Seen at Wassadou Camp and in Gambia

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* - Seen at Wassadou Camp and Tanji (*afer*)

Alcedinidae

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* - Seen near Richard-Toll by Michael and at Tendaba by all (*chelicuti*)

Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica* - Seen at Kedougou, Wassadou Camp and in Gambia (*torquata*)

Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis* - One at Wassadou Camp (*senegalensis*)

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus* - Seen at Djoudj, heard in Gambia (*galeritus*)

Shining-blue Kingfisher *Alcedo quadribrachys* - Very brief views at Wassadou Camp (*quadribrachys*)

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima* - Seen at Wassadou Camp, heard in Gambia (*maxima*)

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* - Seen regularly around wetlands (*rudis*)

Meropidae

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus* - Seen at Tanji and Abuko (*chrysolaimus*)

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus* - Common in the Marigots; also in Gambia (*pusillus*)

Red-throated Bee-eater *Merops bulocki* - Seen at Wassadou and Bansang (*bulocki*)

Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis* - Seen near Richard-Toll and near Mbacke (*viridissimus*)

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus* - A few at the Marigots and Tanji (*chrysoercus*)

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* - Seen at Tendaba

Northern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicus* - Seen at Wassadou Camp

Upupidae

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops* - Fairly common and widespread; *epops* at Richard Toll, *senegalensis* in Gambia

Phoeniculidae

Green Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus* - Widespread sightings (*senegalensis*)

Bucerotidae

Western Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus kempii* - Several very good sightings; widespread

African Pied Hornbill *Lophoceros fasciatus* - Four at Sita Joyeh (*semifasciatus*)

African Grey Hornbill *Lophoceros nasutus* - Seen widely in southern Senegal and Gambia (*nasutus*)

Lybiidae

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* - Heard a couple of times in Senegal and seen well in Gambia (*chrysoconus*)

Vieillot's Barbet *Lybius vieilloti* - Several good sightings (*rubescens*)

Bearded Barbet *Lybius dubius* - First seen between Kaolack and Wassadou, and again in southern Senegal and Gambia

Indicatoridae

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* - One in Gambia and one at Wassadou Camp in Senegal (*senegalensis*)

Spotted Honeyguide *Indicator maculatus* - Incredible views of one drinking near Farasuto Forest, on two days (*maculatus*)

Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator* - Quite a few drinking near Farasuto Forest and also at Wassadou Camp

Picidae

Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* - One seen at Marigots and one briefly in Gambia

Fine-spotted Woodpecker *Campethera punctuligera* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*punctuligera*)

Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni* - Brief views at Sita Joyeh (*chrysur*)

Little Grey Woodpecker *Dendropicos elachus* - Fantastic views of a pair at Richard-Toll

Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens* - Seen at Kedougou and in Gambia (*lafresnayi*)

African Grey Woodpecker *Dendropicos goertae* - A few good sightings in Senegal and Gambia (*goertae*)

Falconidae

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* - Good numbers near Richard-Toll

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* - Seen a few times in the north-west of Senegal; one in Gambia

Grey Kestrel *Falco ardosiaceus* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia

Red-necked Falcon *Falco chicquera* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*ruficollis*)

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*abyssinicus*)

Psittacidae

Brown-necked Parrot *Poicephalus fuscicollis* - About 12 near Pirang; very good views (*fuscicollis*)

Senegal Parrot *Poicephalus senegalus* - Seen many times (*senegalus*)

Psittaculidae

Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* - Seen a few times in Senegal and many times in Gambia (*krameri*)

Platysteiridae

Senegal Batis *Batis senegalensis* - Seen a few times

Brown-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira cyanea* - Seen a few times (*cyanea*)

Malaconotidae

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti* - Seen at Wassadou Camp, heard in Gambia (*blanchoti*)

Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus* - Seen near Kedougou (*sulfureopectus*)

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* - A few sightings in Senegal and Gambia (*senegalus*)

Northern Puffback *Dryoscopus gambensis* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*gambensis*)

Yellow-crowned Gonolek *Laniarius barbarus* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*barbarus*)

Brubru *Nilaus afer* - A pair seen at Richard Toll (*afer*) and heard in Gambia

Vangidae

White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*plumatus*)

Laniidae

Yellow-billed Shrike *Corvinella corvina* - Several widespread sightings (*corvina*)

Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor* - Quite a few in northern Senegal (*leucopygos*)

Oriolidae

African Golden Oriole *Oriolus auratus* - Seen at Tendaba/Bateling (*auratus*)

Dicruridae

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis* - Widespread sightings (*divaricatus*)

Monarchidae

Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone rufiventer* - Seen at Farasuto and Pirang Forest (*rufiventer*)

African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*viridis*)

Corvidae

Piapiac *Ptilostomus afer* - Seen at Wassadou Camp and in Gambia

Pied Crow *Corvus albus* - Widespread

Stenostiridae

African Blue Flycatcher *Elminia longicauda* - Seen at Kedougou (*longicauda*)

Paridae

White-shouldered Black Tit *Melaniparus guineensis* - Seen at Bateling/Tendaba

Remizidae

Yellow Penduline Tit *Anthoscopus parvulus* - Seen well at Bateling near Tendaba

Alaudidae

Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix nigriceps* - Quite common in northern Senegal (*albifrons*)

Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix leucotis* - Seen in Gambia and Senegal (*melanocephalus*)

Singing Bush Lark *Mirafr* *cantillans* - Seen near Richard Toll and Kaolack (*chadensis*)

Sun Lark *Galerida modesta* - Brief views east of Kedougou (*nigrita*)

Crested Lark *Galerida cristata* - Many in northern Senegal, one at Tanji (*senegallensis*)

Greater Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla* - Seen in the Kaolack area

Pycnonotidae

Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus* - Widespread (*inornatus*)

Little Greenbul *Eurillas virens* - Seen at Farasuto Forest (*erythroptera*)

Yellow-throated Leaflove *Atimastillas flavicollis* - Seen at Bansang (*flavicollis*)

Red-tailed Leaflove *Phyllastrephus scandens* - Heard in Senegal and Gambia (*scandens*)

Grey-headed Bristlebill *Bleda canicapillus* - Incredible views at Pirang Forest (*morelorum*)

Hirundinidae

Fanti Saw-wing *Psaldiprocne obscura* - One at Tanji, quite a few at Abuko

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* - Very common at St Louis and Djoudj (*riparia*)

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* - Richard Toll

Red-chested Swallow *Hirundo lucida* - Regular in the north-west and Gambia (*lucida*)

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii* - Seen in both Senegal and Gambia (*smithii*)

Pied-winged Swallow *Hirundo leucosoma* - Good flight views of one at Abuko

West African Swallow *Cecropis domicella* - Seen well (perched) at Kaur in Gambia

Macrosphenidae

Moustached Grass Warbler *Melocichla mentalis* - Heard near Kedougou

Northern Crombec *Sylvietta brachyura* - Several seen in Senegal and a couple in Gambia (*brachyura*)

Incertae Sedis

Green Hylia *Hylia prasina* - Seen at Pirang Forest (*prasina*)

Phylloscopidae

Western Bonelli's Warbler *Phylloscopus bonelli* - Several in the Richard Toll area and a few in Gambia

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* - One at Wassadou Camp

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* - Several in Djoudj, although we could not rule out Iberian Chiffchaff and none were heard

Acrocephalidae

Greater Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus rufescens* - Heard at Marigots

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* - Several in the Marigots and a couple near Abuko

Eurasian Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* - Several at Djoudj sounded like this and not African Reed (based on contact calls)

Western Olivaceous Warbler *Iduna opaca* - Several widespread sightings in Senegal and Gambia

Melodious Warbler *Hippolais polyglotta* - One near Farasuto Forest, one at Tanji

Cisticolidae

Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans* - Seen near Kedougou; heard in Gambia (*swanzii*)

Winding Cisticola *Cisticola marginatus* - Seen in the Marigots (*amphilectus*)

Short-winged Cisticola *Cisticola brachypterus* - Seen near Kedougou and Tendaba (*brachypterus*)

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* - Seen at Djoudj (*uropygialis*)

Desert Cisticola *Cisticola aridulus* - Seen near Richard Toll (*aridulus*)

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*subflava*)

River Prinia *Prinia fluviatilis* - Seen well at Marigots and Djoudj

Red-winged Warbler *Heliolais erythropterus* - Nice views at Tendaba/Bateling (*erythropterus*)

Cricket Warbler *Spiloptila clamans* - Great views at Richard Toll

Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis flavida* - Seen at Pirang Forest (*caniceps*)

Oriole Warbler *Hypergerus atriceps* - Seen at Abuko, heard elsewhere

Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brevicaudata* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*brevicaudata*)

Yellow-bellied Eremomela *Eremomela icteropygialis* - Several in northern Senegal (*alexanderi*)

Senegal Eremomela *Eremomela pusilla* - Widespread

Leiothrichidae

Fulvous Babbler *Turdoides fulva* - One seen near Richard Toll (*buchanani*)

Blackcap Babbler *Turdoides reinwardtii* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*reinwardtii*)

Brown Babbler *Turdoides plebejus* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*platycirca*)

Sylviidae

Western Orphean Warbler *Sylvia hortensis* - Richard Toll area (*hortensis*)

Common Whitethroat *Sylvia communis* - One in the Kaolack area

Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans* - Several in the Richard Toll area (*inornata* or *iberiae*)

Zosteropidae

African Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis* - Seen in southern Senegal (*senegalensis*)

Sturnidae

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* - Seen in Senegal (*chalybaeus*)

Lesser Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chloropterus* - Seen at Tendaba

Bronze-tailed Starling *Lamprotornis chalcurus* - One seen very well at Tendaba/Bateling (*chalcurus*)

Purple Starling *Lamprotornis purpureus* - Common in southern Senegal and Gambia

Long-tailed Glossy Starling *Lamprotornis caudatus* - Common and widespread

Neumann's Starling *Onychognathus neumanni* - Brief views in the Kedougou area for Michael (*modicus*)

Buphagidae

Yellow-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus africanus* - Seen in Gambia (*africanus*)

Turdidae

African Thrush *Turdus pelios* - Seen a few times in coastal Gambia (*chiguancooides*)

Muscicapidae

Black Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas podobe* - Some good views in the north-west of Senegal

Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas galactotes* - Seen at Djoudj (*minor*)

Grey Tit-Flycatcher *Myioparus plumbeus* - Heard in southern Senegal

Northern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*edolioides*)

Swamp Flycatcher *Muscicapa aquatica* - Seen along the Gambia River in Senegal and Gambia (*aquatica*)

Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat *Cossypha niveicapilla* - Seen well at Abuko

White-crowned Robin-Chat *Cossypha albicapillus* - Excellent views in Gambia, and also in Senegal (*albicapillus*)

Common Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos* - Heard at Tanji

European Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca* - Seen at Kedougou and Wassadou Camp

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* - Seen in Gambia (*phoenicurus*)

Common Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis* - One female seen at Richard Toll

White-crowned Cliff Chat *Thamnolaea coronata* - Michael saw one briefly near Kedougou (*bambara*)

Anteater Chat *Myrmecocichla aethiops* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* - Several in northern Senegal, including a full plumage male

White-fronted Black Chat *Oenanthe albifrons* - One at Tendaba/Bateling (*frontalis*)

Familiar Chat *Oenanthe familiaris* - Michael saw some at Kedougou (*falkensteini*)

Nectariniidae

Western Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes longuemarei* - A pair seen at Wassadou Camp (*longuemarei*)

Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris* - Heard at Wassadou Camp

Pygmy Sunbird *Hedydipna platura* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia

Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra verticalis* - One juvenile seen drinking near Farasuto Forest (*verticalis*)

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*senegalensis*)

Beautiful Sunbird *Cinnyris pulchellus* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*pulchellus*)

Splendid Sunbird *Cinnyris coccinigastrus* - Good views in coastal Gambia

Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus* - Good views in coastal Gambia (*venustus*)

Passeridae

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* - Seen in coastal Senegal and in Gambia

Northern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus* - Widespread and common (*griseus*)

Sudan Golden Sparrow *Passer luteus* - Great views in northern Senegal

Bush Petronia *Gymnoris dentata* - Common in southern Senegal and Gambia

Ploceidae

White-billed Buffalo Weaver *Bubalornis albirostris* - Widespread and common

Speckle-fronted Weaver *Sporopipes frontalis* - Seen at Richard Toll (*frontalis*)

Little Weaver *Ploceus luteolus* - Seen a few times in Senegal and Gambia (*luteolus*)

Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus nigricollis* - Seen in coastal Gambia (*brachypterus*)

Heuglin's Masked Weaver *Ploceus heuglini* - A few seen at Tanji

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*cucullatus*)

Black-headed Weaver *Ploceus melanocephalus* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*melanocephalus*)

Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps* - One female seen near Kedougou (*leuconotos*)

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*quelea*)

Black-winged Red Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus* - A couple seen drinking in Gambia (*hordeaceus*)

Northern Red Bishop *Euplectes franciscanus* - Common in north-west Senegal and Gambia (*franciscanus*)

Estrildidae

Cut-throat Finch *Amadina fasciata* - Seen in Senegal and Gambia (*fasciata*)

Western Bluebill *Spermophaga haematina* - Glimpses at Abuko (*haematina*)

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala* - Common and widespread (*senegala*)

Mali Firefinch *Lagonosticta virata* - Four seen well near Kedougou

Black-faced Firefinch *Lagonosticta larvata* - Cracking views at the drinking hide on the Faraba-Banta track; both female and male seen (*vinacea*)

Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus bengalus* - Common and widespread (*bengalus*)

Lavender Waxbill *Estrilda caerulescens* - Seen well in southern Senegal and Gambia

Orange-cheeked Waxbill *Estrilda melpoda* - Seen well in southern Senegal and Gambia (*melpoda*)

Black-rumped Waxbill *Estrilda troglodytes* - Seen well in southern Senegal and Gambia

Quailfinch *Ortygospiza atricollis* - Several flew over at Bansang but were no more than specks (*ansorgei*)

African Silverbill *Euodice cantans* - Seen in northern Senegal and one in Gambia (*cantans*)

Bronze Mannikin *Lonchura cucullata* - Widespread sightings (*cucullata*)

Viduidae

Village Indigobird *Vidua chalybeata* - Widespread sightings (*chalybeata*)

Sahel Paradise Whydah *Vidua orientalis* - Two cracking males seen between Kaolack and Wassadou Camp (*aucupum*)

Exclamatory Paradise Whydah *Vidua interjecta* - Excellent views at Bansang, one male with a full tail

Motacillidae

Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* - Seen in coastal Senegal and Gambia

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* - Seen in coastal Senegal and Gambia (*alba*)

African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* - Seen at Wassadou Camp (*vidua*)

Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris* - Seen in the Richard Toll area

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* - One seen near Pirang (*trivialis*)

Fringillidae

White-rumped Seedeater *Crithagra leucopygia* - Seen in northern Senegal (*riggenbachi*)

Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica* - Seen in southern Senegal and Gambia (*caniceps*)

Emberizidae

Gosling's Bunting *Emberiza goslingi* - Good views at Bansang

Brown-rumped Bunting *Emberiza affinis* - Good views at Tendaba/Bateling (*nigeriae*)



Bronze-winged Courser, finally!



Spotted Honeyguide



Brown-necked Parrot



Ducks at Djoudj

Western Red-billed Hornbill



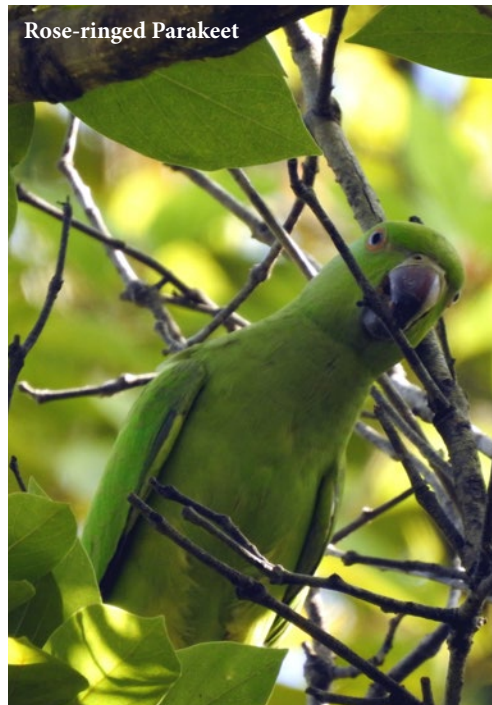
Egyptian Plover



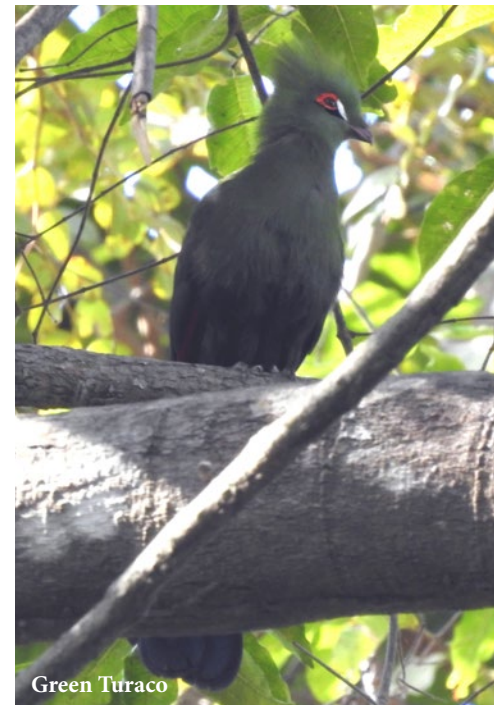
Little Grey Woodpecker



Greyish Eagle-Owl



Rose-ringed Parakeet



Green Turaco



Western Red Colobus



Orange-cheeked Waxbill



Black-necked Weaver



Sahel Paradise Whydah



Swamp Flycatcher



Black-billed Wood Dove



Grey-headed Bristlebill



White-crowned Robin-Chat



Violet Turaco