



**BIRDING
AFRICA**
THE AFRICA SPECIALISTS

Ultimate Zambia

including Zambia Pitta

2019 Tour Report

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African Pitta

Text by tour leader Michael Mills
Photos by tour participants Yann Muzika, John Clark and Roger Holmberg

SUMMARY

Our first Ultimate Zambia Tour was a resounding success. It was divided into three more manageable sections, namely the North-East Extension, Main Zambia Tour and Zambia Pitta Tour, each with its own delights.

On the **North-East Pre-Tour** we started off driving north from Lusaka to the Bangweulu area, where we found good numbers of Katanga Masked Weaver coming into breeding plumage. Further north at Lake Mweru we enjoyed excellent views of Zambian Yellow Warbler (split from Papyrus Yellow Warbler) and more Katanga Masked Weavers not yet in breeding plumage. From here we headed east to the Mbala area we then visited the Saisi River near the Tanzanian border, where several lovely male Tanzanian Masked Weavers were seen in full breeding plumage. Returning south we paused at Shiwa Ng'andu with Laura's Woodland Warbler and Great Snipe.

We commenced the **Main Zambia Tour** at the spectacular Mutinondo Wilderness. It was apparent that the woodland and mushitu/gallery forest birds were finishing breeding, making it hard work to track down all the key targets, but we enjoyed good views of Bar-winged Weaver and Laura's Woodland Warbler and found a pair of Böhm's Flycatchers feeding young. Other highlights included African Barred Owllet, Miombo Rock Thrush and Spotted Creeper. However, the dambo grasslands were very productive and we flushed Black-rumped Button-Quail, five Blue Quail and good numbers of Locust Finch, and watched a lovely African Grass Owl hunting at dusk. On our last morning we



Rosy-throated Longclaw

finally connected with a pair of Whyte's Francolin, which we managed to flush. From Mutinondo we headed west with our ultimate destination as the Mwinilunga area in the far north-west of the country. We broke the journey with two nights en route, seeing a good number of new birds along the way, including Dickinson's Kestrel, Black-necked Eremomela, Red-throated Twinspot, Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Weaver, Pale-billed Hornbill, Bocage's Akalat and Bamboo Warbler, the latter treating us to superb views. In the Mwinilunga area we enjoyed specials such as Margaret's Batis, Grimwood's Longclaw and Dambo Cisticola alongside more widespread species like Southern White-faced Owl, Ovambo Sparrowhawk and Rosy-throated Longclaw. The long drive back to Lusaka brought Sharp-tailed Starling, Böhm's Bee-eater and, as our final new bird of the Main Zambia Tour, the endemic and localised Chaplin's Barbet.

This followed on immediately with our **Zambia Pitta Tour** which kicked off in Livingstone, as we travelled west along the Zambezi River to the Machile area to find the striking little Black-cheeked Lovebird, with Southern Carmine Bee-eater en route. Along the river we found Slaty Egret, African Skimmer, African Pygmy Goose, Southern Brown-throated Weaver and Lesser Jacana, and in the arid woodlands, Bennett's Woodpecker, a surprise pair of Dusky Lark and another Dickinson's Kestrel. From the Upper Zambezi River we headed for the Nkanga area to see Chaplin's Barbet, and other highlights here included Racket-tailed Roller, Shelley's Francolin, African Broadbill, Shelley's Sunbird, Miombo Pied Barbet, Greater Painted-Snipe, female Pennant-winged Nightjar, Red-throated Twinspot,

Miombo Tit, Bennett's Woodpecker, Amur Falcon, Cuckoo Finch, African Scops Owl, White-crested Helmetshrike and African Spotted Creeper. Next on our itinerary was the lower Zambezi Valley of the Siavonga/Chirundu area where we enjoyed spectacular views of African Pitta, our bird of the trip, on two consecutive mornings, and other highlights included Dwarf Bittern, Livingstone's Flycatcher, African Broadbill and Three-banded Courser. Our quick success with the pittas meant that we could spend some additional time in miombo at Lazy J Ranch on the outskirts of Lusaka, where a few hours produced an impressive list of birds including Pale-billed Hornbill, Souza's Shrike, Rufous-bellied Tit, Miombo Tit, African Spotted Creeper and Bushveld Pipit. A pair of Black-faced Canaries in Lusaka was one of the biggest surprises of the trip.

TOP 10 BIRDS SEEN

1. African Pitta
2. Black-cheeked Lovebird
3. Chaplin's Barbet
4. Bar-winged Weaver
5. Bamboo Warbler
6. Shelley's Sunbird
7. Grimwood's Longclaw
7. Dusky Lark
9. Blue Quail
9. Dickinson's Kestrel



Black-cheeked Lovebird

ESSENTIAL DETAILS

DATES

North-East Pre-Tour: 11-18 November

Main Zambia Tour: 17-28 November

Zambia Pitta Tour: 28 November to 6 December

ITINERARY

11 Nov: Lusaka to Serenje

12 Nov: Serenje to Nchelenge

13 Nov: Lake Mweru

14 Nov: Nchelenge to Mbala

15 Nov: Saisi River to Shiwa Ng'andu

16 Nov: Shiwa Ng'andu

17 Nov: Shiwa to Mutinondo //arrive Lusaka

18 Nov: Mutinondo //Lusaka to Mutinondo

19-20 Nov: Mutinondo

21 Nov: Mutinondo to Nsobe Camp

22 Nov: Nsobe Camp to Mutanda Nature Lodge

23 Nov: Mutanda to Kalwelwa (Mwinilunga)

24-25 Nov: Kalwelwa

26 Nov: Chitunta and Mayau

27 Nov: Mayau to Chingola

28 Nov: Chingola to Lusaka//arrive Livingstone

29 Nov: Lusaka to Livingstone to Upper Zambezi

30 Nov: Lovebird Day Trip

1 Dec: Upper Zambezi to Choma/Nkanga

2 Dec: Choma/Nkanga

3 Dec: Choma/Nkanga to Lower Zambezi

4 Dec: Lower Zambezi

5 Dec: Lower Zambezi to Lusaka

6 Dec: Pioneer Camp and Lazy J Ranch



© John Clark

Bamboo Warbler



© John Clark

LEADER

Michael Mills

PARTICIPANTS

Julian Francis

John Clark

Peter Maaskant

Jan-Joost Bouwman

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Per Ovin

Roger Holmberg

Tim Doran



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REPORT

The landlocked country of Zambia is one of south-central Africa's best-kept birding secrets. In November 2019 we ran our first Ultimate Zambia Tour to sample all of the country's best birds. The northern parts of the tour required a good deal of driving as we visited the Tanzanian border in the far north-east, the DR Congo border at various places in the north and the Angolan border in the north-west. Lasting almost four weeks, we divided the tour into three more manageable sections, each sampling an important and distinct area of the country.

Our **North-East Zambia Pre-Tour** commenced in Lusaka, but we wasted no time in heading north, pausing for our first overnight stop at Serenje. Continuing north the following day our first noteworthy stop was at the Luapula River that flows out of the Bangweulu system, accessed at Mukuku Bridge on the Kalasa Mukoso Flats with their spectacular spire-shaped termite mounds. Our first

Rosy-throated Longclaw was seen by the roadside, before some weaver nests on the floodplain brought us to a rapid stop. While they were the nests of Holub's Golden Weaver, nearby we spotted the much smaller nests of a colony of Katanga Masked Weaver. Several masked weavers were found feeding at the roadside, including a few males in near-full breeding plumage. A bit further on another colony was found and studied in detail. Other birds of note were Long-tailed Widowbird (in full breeding plumage), Chirping Cisticola and various waterbirds. After breakfast we continued north to Samfya, where we checked the Lake Bangweulu shore for more masked weavers without success. The first of hundreds of Brown Firefinch were seen here. In the afternoon we neared Nchelenge, pausing at some roadside swamps near town where Marsh Tchagra, Greater Swamp Warbler, Angola Swallow and Little Rush Warbler was found.

The following day our efforts were concentrated on the southern end of Lake Mweru and its papyrus swamps. After a bit of legwork we found a suitable boat to take us into the swamps and braved an approaching rain storm with umbrella and rain jacket. Once getting into a channel lined by papyrus on both sides it wasn't long before we could hear the calls of Zambian Yellow Warbler, although we had to wait for the rain to abate before we set eyes on the bird. The pale eye and smaller size that differentiate it from Papyrus Yellow Warbler were noted and differences in calls listened too over a couple of hours, by which time we had enjoyed close up views of at least five birds, one of which showed particularly well. Every now and again our attention was diverted by other birds, including Black-headed Weaver, Swamp Flycatcher, Lesser Jacana, African Pygmy Goose and African Swamphen. The song of Little Rush Warbler dominated the soundscape and a couple of very similar sounding White-winged Swamp Warbler were also heard (is this the only place the two species co-occur?), although they were always too far away to see. The rest of our time was spent back on shore where highlights included Black-faced Canary, Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu, Collared Palm Thrush, Dickinson's Kestrel, a flock of about 200 Katanga Masked Weavers that showed no sign of breeding plumage.

From Nchelenge we made our way north-east to the Mbala area, pausing every now and again in some good looking roadside miombo woodland or floodplain grassland and finding the likes of Black-necked Eremomela, Collared Flycatcher and Black Coucal. The roads were remarkably good and we made good progress, allowing us some time to do some exploring near Mbala in the afternoon. Our first stop at a rocky hillside for lunch turned up Miombo Pied Barbet, Rufous-bellied Tit and a fine male Oustalet's Sunbird. The second at sunset held Striped Pipit and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting.

The next morning we set off pre-dawn for the Saisi River on the Tanzanian border. Not seconds after stepping out of the car could we hear a male Tanzanian Masked Weaver in song, and it wasn't long before we had a full plumaged male in our scopes. The strong orange across the chest made it a very smart bird indeed, and we spent several hours

here studying them, mostly in the riverside thickets where they fed. Water-associated birds very active along the river and we saw Western Yellow Wagtail, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Rosy-throated Longclaw, Rufous-bellied Heron and various other herons, ducks and waders. Landbirds included Miombo Wren-Warbler, Marico Sunbird and Square-tailed Nightjar, and we heard Bare-faced Go-away-bird.

Leaving the Saisi River we paused in some great roadside miombo where Arnott's Chat fed around a road construction compound; we had to make sure that they were not Ruaha Chats. Here too we made a close study of Reichard's Seedeater, and at the adjacent cliffs we found both Rock Martin and Red-rumped Swallow, before turning south for the Shiwa Ng'andu area where we over-nighted at the comfortable Kaphisha Hot Springs. Our time at Shiwa was focussed on the dambo and swamps around the lake, with the hope of finding the very difficult Chestnut-headed Flufftail. I set out alone to do some reconnaissance in the swamps, searching for suitable habitat and trawling with the call of the flufftail as I went. To my surprise a male flufftail flew up beside me and gave good flight views, but regrettably I was alone at that point. We quickly returned and although we spent some time here trying to re-find the bird we failed to see any and could not even get one to utter a sound. Although it had been quite dry several patches of dambo seemed to offer good conditions for the flufftails, but despite a considerable amount of effort over two mornings no other birds were seen, and none at all were heard. But there was plenty else to keep us entertained. Swamp forests gave great views of Laura's Woodland Warbler, and here we also saw Ross's Turaco, Splendid Starling, White-headed Saw-wing, Purple-throated Cuckooshrike, Brown-headed Apalis, Bar-throated Apalis and Black-fronted Bushshrike, and heard Bocage's Akalat and Evergreen Forest Warbler. In miombo we found Yellow-bellied Hyliota, and in the swamps, Great Snipe.

Finally we headed to the spectacular Mutinondo Wilderness where we had a day to scout the area before being joined by newcomers for the Main Zambia Tour.



Black-necked Eremomela

At the start of the **Zambia Main Tour** we had two full days to get to grips with the best birds of Mutinondo Wilderness. It was to Bar-winged Weaver that we first turned our attention, but our first outing drew a blank and we had to content ourselves with a smart Anchieta's Sunbird, Miombo Scrub Robin and a male Pennant-winged Nightjar. After a hearty breakfast we first spent some time in one of the larger dambos, where we enjoyed good flushed views of a female Black-rumped Buttonquail and Coppery-tailed Coucal, before refocussing on the woodlands. This time we struck gold in no time, and spent a while watching and following a Bar-winged Weaver through the woodlands. At the end of our walk we also came across a pair of Böhm's Flycatcher feeding young to round off a great morning.

With the two key miombo birds under the belt we could now turn our attention to other birds. The dambos were very productive, and on the first evening we enjoyed very good views of an African Grass Owl hunting over the grasslands. Good numbers of Locust Finch were seen too and we flushed five Blue Quail, one male giving particularly

good flight views. Many Marsh Widowbirds were now in full breeding plumage, we saw our first Fülleborn's Longclaws, Fawn-breasted Waxbill, Pale-crowned Cisticola and Stout Cisticola. But from Chestnut-headed Flufftail there was not a peep. Mushitu forests gave superb views of Laura's Woodland Warbler and here we also found White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Grey-olive Greenbul, Brown-headed Apalis, Narina Trogon, Ross's Turaco and Bocage's Akalat. Other miombo species seen included Cabanis's Bunting, Miombo Rock Thrush, Miombo Scrub Robin, African Spotted Creeper, Southern Hyliota, Retz's Helmetshrike, Grey Penduline Tit, Wood Pipit, Southern Ground Hornbill, Western Miombo Sunbird, Miombo Tit, African Barred Owlet and (briefly) Black-eared Seedeater. Our greatest tussle was with the recently-split (from Shelley's Francolin) Whyte's Francolin, which we managed to flush on the final morning.

From Mutinondo we commenced our long journey westwards the Mwinilunga area, pausing for two overnight stops. On the first day we travelled to Nsoke Camp via the beautiful forests of North Swaka. Birding was slow but we had a little flurry in



Bar-winged Weaver



Angola Lark



the late afternoon with great views of Black-necked Eremomela and the only Dickinson's Kestrel of the tour. At Nsoke itself good views of Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark were our main success, and we also saw a lovely pair of Red-throated Twinspot, Stout Cisticola, Lesser Swamp Warbler, Little Rush Warbler, Fülleborn's Longclaw, Blue-mantled Crested-Flycatcher and Half-collared Kingfisher. Our second night was spent at Mutanda Nature Lodge, where afternoon birding was cancelled by a big rain storm, but the next morning produced African Thrush, great views of Bocage's Akalat, Schalow's Turaco, Moustached Grass Warbler, Grey-olive Greenbul, White-chinned Prinia, and best of all, unbeatable views of a very friendly Bamboo Warbler. We were then on the road to

Mwinilunga with Red-throated Cliff Swallow and another Bamboo Warbler heard en route, before arriving at our camp at Kalwelwa, north-east of Mwinilunga, in the late afternoon.

Two full days in the Kalwelwa area were a real treat. Our first morning started off in the dambo grasslands, and it was here that we enjoyed views of Grimwood's Longclaw (seen later again too), a species that just creeps over the border from Angola where most of the population is confined to the remote eastern part of the country. They were joined by Fülleborn's Longclaw, Blue-breasted Bee-eater, Sooty Chat, Swamp Nightjar, Stout Cisticola, Marsh Widowbird, Pale-crowned Cisticola and a breeding-plumaged Black Coucal. Flocks of Afep Pigeon fed at the forest edge. Drier grasslands

explored after breakfast held a different suite of grassland birds, with Dambo Cisticola and Wing-snapping Cisticola joined by some shimmering Rosy-throated Longclaws and Angola Lark. The rest of our time at Kalwelwa was rather hard work, as the forests were very quiet, but we did glimpse Black-bellied Seedcracker and see Black-collared Bulbul, Honeyguide Greenbul, Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Western Banded Snake Eagle, Southern White-faced Owl (rather distantly), Bannerman's Sunbird and Souza's Shrike. Some larger pipits seen appeared to be Long-legged Pipits.

Upon leaving Kalwelwa our first port of call was the Chitunta Plains, with a perched Ovambo Sparrowhawk en route. Two pairs of displaying Short-tailed Pipit were found rather quickly and studied in detail, before we headed for the Mayau area for the afternoon. Initially some confusion with the calls of the *pinto* race of Chinspot Batis had us running in the wrong direction, but eventually we

found and saw a Margaret's Batis in the mid-storey. Other birds seen here were a Gorgeous Bushshrike and Retz's Helmetshrike, before we returned to Mwinilunga for an overnight stay.

All that was left now of the Main Zambia Tour was to drive back to Lusaka, but there were still some good birds to be seen. En route to Chingola we enjoyed great views of African Cuckoo-Hawk and some miombo birding produced Red-capped Crombec, Miombo Wren-Warbler, Cabanis's Bunting and Sharp-tailed Starling, at Mutanda we saw Grey Waxbill, and near Kitwe we found the sought-after Böhm's Bee-eater and Black-backed Barbet. Our final target for the trip was the endemic Chaplin's Barbet, which called for a small detour from the main road to Chisamba. It took some time, but in the afternoon we found a trio of the localised barbet in their fig-dominated grasslands and enjoyed some good views, before rolling into Pioneer Camp in the evening.



Those continuing on with the **Zambian Pitta Tour** now had a longish drive to Livingstone to meet up with the rest of the Pitta Tour group, from where we continued west, upstream along the Upper Zambezi River. It was a steamy afternoon but bee-eaters were out in full force and we enjoyed great views of Southern Carmine Bee-eater and Blue-cheeked Bee-eater on the roadside wires. A walk near our lodge in the late afternoon produced Swamp Boubou alongside Tropical Boubou, White-fronted Bee-eater and African Mourning Dove.

Our main reason for coming to this part of Zambia was to look for the localised, now-endemic Black-cheeked Lovebird, and for this purpose we set off early the next morning to the Machile area. It was apparent that the rains had not yet properly arrived, although the landscape was greening up quite nicely. After about two hours down a narrow, sandy

track (and already having seen a female Double-banded Sandgrouse besides the track) the first shrieks of these delightful little parrots brought us to a rapid halt and we were soon enjoying the bright colours of a pair of Black-cheeked Lovebird through the scope. Later they descended to the ground, and were joined by another pair, and more were seen later in the morning too. After we'd had our fill of the lovebird we turned our attention to the other varied birdlife around us, and racked up a good list of birds in the mopane woodland including Bennett's Woodpecker, Great Spotted Cuckoo, Levillant's Cuckoo, Magpie Shrike, Red-necked Falcon, Burn-necked Eremomela, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, African Hawk-Eagle, melanistic Gabar Goshawk, Jameson's Firefinch, Burchell's Starling, Meves's Starling, African Emerald Cuckoo and non-breeding Shaft-tailed Whydah. However, the



Southern Carmine Bee-eater



Bennett's Woodpecker

best was still to come and it was on the drive back to the main road that we found a roadside-perched Dickinson's Kestrel and spotted to Dusky Larks beside the track. Back near the main road we added a few dry-country species to our lists, such as Black-cheeked Waxbill, Marico Flycatcher and Lesser Grey Shrike, before spending the later afternoon on the Zambezi River near our lodge. Here the undoubted highlight was finding a single Slaty Egret feeding along the shoreline, but other good birds included African Skimmer, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Long-toed Lapwing, Giant Kingfisher, African Pygmy Goose, Saddle-billed Stork, White-fronted Plover, Lesser Jacana and African Swampphen. Red-billed Spurfowl was seen briefly. It had been the most productive day of the trip and we logged a total of 172 species on what was the South African annual bird race, Birding Big Day.

Before leaving the Upper Zambezi River the next day we had some time for some bushveld birding near our lodge and managed to find Red-crested Korhaan, Black Cuckoo, Narina Trogon, Crested Barbet, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Grey Tit-Flycatcher and various other widespread savanna birds. Returning to Livingstone we paused for lunch,

before making our way to the Choma/Nkanga area where we checked in at our comfortable lodge before dashing out to the fig-dotted grasslands to an active nest of Chaplin's Barbet, which was watched at length. Once done there was still time to visit the now empty Ross's Dam, but the reed beds were still full of birds and we enjoyed the late afternoon (plus the next evening) studying several hundred Cuckoo Finches coming into roost, including some bright males. Rufous-bellied Heron, Luapula Cisticola, African Black Duck and a male Greater Painted-Snipe were popular finds too.

The rest of our time at Nkanga was focussed on the miombo woodlands, which produced a good list of species. Racket-tailed Roller was a bit of a struggle, but in the end we enjoyed superb views of these scarce birds. Another major success was seeing Shelley's Francolin on the ground before flushing a pair for good flight views. Other woodland birds included African Spotted Creeper, Wood Pipit, Black-eared Seedeater, Cabanis's Bunting, Green-capped Eremomela, Arnott's Chat, Miombo Tit, Miombo Blue-eared Starling, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, Miombo Pied Barbet, Grey Penduline Tit, Bearded Woodpecker and Bennett's Woodpecker. Thickets

were home to Schalow's Turaco, Red-throated Twinspot, Bearded Scrub Robin and African Broadbill. And other birds seen included Martial Eagle, Amur Falcon hunting termites at dusk, Collared Palm Thrush, Natal Spurfowl, Red-necked Spurfowl, Swainson's Spurfowl, Yellow-mantled Widowbird, Abdim's Stork and Rufous-naped Lark. Upon leaving the Choma area we made one final detour, a very successful one to find a pair of Shelley's Sunbird feeding young.

Next on our agenda was the Lower Zambezi Valley, in search for the star bird of the trip. Our timing was perfect and the first African Pittas had been seen about 10 days previously. We quickly scouted the site before continuing on the shore of Kariba Dam where there was Cut-throated Finch and Collared Palm Thrush in the garden of our lodge. Early the next morning we were out before first light, and it wasn't long before the odd croak of the pitta could be heard nearby. However, it didn't last long and then it went quiet. Completely quiet. Eventually I left the group and did a loop through the thorny thickets. After some searching the pitta started to display again, so I rushed back to the group and quickly brought everyone to the spot where we could hear the much-desired bird in display. However, the thicket was very dense and it was sitting in a difficult spot. We crept around and almost everyone got good views before it flew off! Fortunately it didn't go far and was soon displaying again, and this time it a much better position where everyone could enjoy good views. It moved a few more times with us in tow, and after about half an hour we'd all enjoyed superb views of this great bird! By now our tummies were rumbling, so we returned to the vehicle for a picnic breakfast before taking a longer walk through the thickets to find Livingstone Flycatcher and Eastern Nicator.

Once we were done it was heating up rather rapidly so we retreated to the coolness of our new lodge, resting out the middle of the day. In the afternoon we explore parts of the Zambezi River, with a juvenile White-backed Night Heron as the main prize. After dark a trio of Three-banded Courser were seen exceptionally well. The next morning we repeated our pitta quest, this time at a more relaxed pace and with a much shorter commute, and the views of the birds were even better. It was simply incredible watching African Pitta displaying at ten

metres distance. From the same spot we saw Red-capped Robin-Chat, and after breakfast (Black-throated Wattle-eye at the lodge) a nearby outing to some floodplain grassland turned up Dwarf Bittern, before we headed for Lusaka, pausing at the Kafue River where African Yellow Warbler and Long-crested Eagle were seen.

Our final day had arrived and after some birding around Pioneer Lodge (Brown-necked Parrot and Grey-headed Bushshrike) we visited the nearby Lazy J Ranch for what turned out to be the most productive miombo birding of the trip. We hadn't gone far from the car when Pale-billed Hornbill calls were heard and we were soon watching three birds at close range. Continuing our loop through the beautiful woodlands, next up was Souza's Shrike, followed shortly by Miombo Rock Thrush, Rufous-bellied Tit, Tree Pipit, African Spotted Creeper, Miombo Pied Barbet and Miombo Tit. Finally, at the end of our walk we connected with the very scarce and unobtrusive Bushveld Pipit, which gave great views in the scope. Returning to Pioneer Lodge for lunch we stopped at a small river crossing where African Firefinch was feeding in the road, and to our great surprise a pair of Black-faced Canaries flew out from the riverside and perched in a nearby tree where the male showed well. This constituted a significant range extension for the species and was a fitting way to end a great trip.

In total we logged 488 bird species, 252 species on the North-East Pre-Tour, 277 species on the Main Zambia Tour and 325 species on the Zambia Pitta Tour.

Besides the birds we logged a good selection of mammals, and some nice reptiles and amphibians. Highlights included Black Lechwe, Sitatunga, Southern Reedbuck, Serval, Hippopotamus, Sykes's Monkey, Thick-tailed Bushbaby, Power's Rain Frog, Giant Bullfrog, Eastern Tiger Snake, Puff adder, Black-shouldered Tree Agama, Turner's Gecko, Zambian Hinged Terrapin and Dwarf Hinged Terrapin.

As always there are people to thank for their help, and I'm especially grateful to Frank Willems, Errol de Beer, Gabriel Jamie and Rory MacDougall for their assistance in making the trip such a successful one.



ANNOTATED SPECIES LIST

The values in parentheses after species' scientific names indicate seeing (1) or not seeing (0) each species on the three parts (Pre-Tour - Main Tour - Pitta Tour) of the trip. H = heard. LO = leader only.

Ducks, Geese & Swans Family Anatidae

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* (1-H-1) -- Seen several times

Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis* (1-1-1) -- Impressive numbers along the Zambezi River, but seen widely (subspecies not determined)

Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos* (0-0-1) -- Impressive numbers along the Zambezi River

Egyptian Goose *Aloochen aegyptiaca* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River

African Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus* (1-0-1) -- Seen on Lake Mweru and along the Upper Zambezi River

African Black Duck *Anas sparsa* (0-0-1) -- Three seen well in flight at Nkanga (*leucostigma*)

Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Lake Mweru (*undulata*)

Red-billed Teal *Anas erythrorhyncha* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Upper Zambezi River

Hottentot Teal *Anas hottentota* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Lake Mweru and along the Upper Zambezi River

Guineafowl Family Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* (1-1-1) -- Seen widely, with *marungensis* in the north and *mitratus* in the south

Pheasants, Fowl & Allies Family Phasianidae

Coqui Francolin *Peliperdix coqui* (H-0-H) -- Heard at Mutinondo and Nkanga (*coqui*)

Shelley's Francolin *Scleroptila shelleyi* (0-1-1) -- Seen in flight at Mutinondo (*whytei* **Whyte's Francolin**) and on the ground and in flight at Nkanga (*shelleyi*)

Crested Francolin *Dendroperdix sephaena* (0-0-1) -- Seen well at our lodge on the Upper Zambezi (*zambesiae*)

Red-billed Spurfowl *Pternistis adspersus* (0-0-1) -- Seen briefly at our lodge on the Upper Zambezi (*mesicus*)

Natal Spurfowl *Pternistis natalensis* (0-H-1) -- Seen at Nkanga and heard at Pioneer Lodge and along the Lower Zambezi (*neavei*)

Red-necked Spurfowl *Pternistis afer* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo and at Nkanga (*cranchii* Cranch's Spurfowl)

Swainson's Spurfowl *Pternistis swainsonii* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Chisamba and widely in the south (*swainsonii*)

Blue Quail *Excalfactoria adansonii* (0-1-0) -- Five birds flushed at Mutinondo, including one male that was seen well in flight

Storks Family Ciconiidae

Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River

African Openbill *Anastomus lamelligerus* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River (*lamelligerus*)

Abdim's Stork *Ciconia abdimii* (1-0-1) -- Seen north of Lusaka and four seen on the deck at Nkanga

Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu (*microscelis*)

Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and along the Zambezi River

Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumenifer* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu

Ibises, Spoonbills Family Threskiornithidae

African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River

Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash* (1-H-H) -- Recorded widely in small numbers (*brevirostris*)

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (1-0-1) -- Seen at the Saisi River and along the Zambezi River

African Spoonbill *Platalea alba* (0-0-1) -- Just one along the Upper Zambezi River

Hérons, Bitterns Family Ardeidae

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus* (H-0-LO) -- Heard at Lake Mweru and Michael saw one along the Upper Zambezi River (*payesii*)

Dwarf Bittern *Ixobrychus sturmii* (0-0-1) -- One flushed several times for good flight views along the Lower Zambezi

White-backed Night Heron *Gorsachius leuconotus* (0-0-1) -- One juvenile seen during the day on the Lower Zambezi

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* (0-0-1) -- Several recorded along the Zambezi River (*nycticorax*)

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* (1-H-1) -- Recorded widely in small numbers (*atricapilla*)

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Lake Mweru and the Saisi River, and almost daily on the Pitta Tour

Rufous-bellied Heron *Ardeola rufiventris* (1-0-1) -- Fantastic views at the Saisi River and Ross's Dam at Nkanga

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*cinerea*)

Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala* (0-1-1) -- Seen on three dates

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* (1-0-1) -- Scattered sightings

Great Egret *Ardea alba* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*melanorhynchos*)

Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and the Lower Zambezi (*brachyrhyncha* Yellow-billed Egret)

Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu

Slaty Egret *Egretta vinaceigula* (0-0-1) -- The main success of our boat trip on the Upper Zambezi River was seen one of these rare herons quite well

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*garzetta*)

Hamerkop Family Scopidae

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*umbretta*)

Cormorants, shags Family Phalacrocoracidae

Reed Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax lucidus* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Nsoke Camp

Ospreys Family Pandionidae

Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Upper Zambezi River (*haliaetus*)

Kites, Hawks & Eagles Family Accipitridae

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*caeruleus*)

African Harrier-Hawk *Polyboroides typus* (1-0-0) -- A few in the north (*typus*)

Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis* (1-0-0) -- Good views at Shiwa Ng'andu

African Cuckoo-Hawk *Aviceda cuculoides* (0-1-0) -- Excellent flight views on the drive from Mwinilunga to Mutanda (*verreauxii*)

Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus* (1-0-1) -- One at Shiwa Ng'andu and one at Upper Zambezi

White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* (0-0-1) -- A few at Nkanga

Black-chested Snake Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis* (1-1-0) -- Scattered sightings except in the south

Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

Western Banded Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens* (0-1-0) -- One seen well at Kalwelwa

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo and Chitunta Plain

Crowned Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Nsoke Camp

Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* (0-0-1) -- Good flight views at Nkanga

Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis* (0-1-1) -- Just two sightings, the best at the Kafue River

Lesser Spotted Eagle *Clanga pomarina* (0-0-1)
-- Some very distant eagles in the Machile area appeared to be this species

Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraaetus wahlbergi* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax* (1-0-0) -- One on the entrance road to Mutinondo (*rapax*)

Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis* (0-0-1) -- One eating termites at sunset at Nkanga (*orientalis*)

African Hawk-Eagle *Aquila spilogaster* (0-0-1) -- Flight views at Machile

Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus* (1-1-1) -- Regular sightings (*meridionalis*)

Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* (1-0-1) -- Our best views were of a melanistic bird at Machile (*gabar*)

Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates* (0-LO-0) -- Seen by Michael during the drive from Chingola to Lusaka (*mechowi*)

African Goshawk *Accipiter tachiro* (0-1-0) -- Three sightings in the north-west (*sparsimfasciatus*)

Shikra *Accipiter badius* (1-1-1) -- Three scattered sightings (*polyzonoides*)

Black Sparrowhawk *Accipiter melanoleucus* (0-1-0) -- One at Kalwelwa (*melanoleucus*)

Ovambo Sparrowhawk *Accipiter ovampensis* (0-1-0) -- One perched bird near Kalwelwa was seen well for about 30 seconds, before it flew

African Marsh Harrier *Circus ranivorus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* (1-0-0) -- One at the Saisi River

Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius* (1-1-1) -- Seen almost daily (*parasitus*)

African Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer* (1-H-1) -- Seen mostly on the Pitta Tour

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*vulpinus* Steppe Buzzard)

Bustards Family Otididae

Red-crested Korhaan *Lophotis ruficrista* (0-0-1) -- One seen well in flight on the Upper Zambezi

Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis melanogaster* (1-1-H) -- Seen at Mutinondo and Kalwelwa and heard at Nkanga (*melanogaster*)

Flufftails Family Sarothruridae

Red-chested Flufftail *Sarothrura rufa* (0-H-H) -- Heard at Kalwelwa and Nkanga (*rufa*)

Chestnut-headed Flufftail *Sarothrura lugens* (LO-0-0) -- Michael saw a male in flight at Shiwa Ng'andu (*lynesi*)

White-spotted Flufftail *Sarothrura pulchra* (0-H-0) -- Heard at Kalwelwa (*centralis*)

Rails, Crakes & Coots Family Rallidae

African Rail *Rallus caerulescens* (H-0-H) -- Heard at Lake Mweru, Shiwa Ng'andu and Nkanga

Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

African Swamphen *Porphyrio madagascariensis* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Lake Mweru, the Saisi River and along the Upper Zambezi River

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Lake Mweru (*meridionalis*)

Buttonquail Family Turnicidae

Common Buttonquail *Turnix sylvaticus* (0-1-1) -- Good flight views at Mutinondo and poor flight views along the Lower Zambezi (*lepurana*)

Black-rumped Buttonquail *Turnix nanus* (0-1-1) -- Good, repeated flight views of a female at Mutinondo

Stone-curlews, Thick-knees Family Burhinidae

Water Thick-knee *Burhinus vermiculatus* (0-0-1) -- Seen well along the Lower Zambezi River (*vermiculatus*)

Stilts, Avocets Family Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Nsobe Camp and along the Zambezi River

Plovers Family Charadriidae

Long-toed Lapwing *Vanellus crassirostris* (0-0-1) -- Seen at our lodge on the Upper Zambezi River (*leucopterus*)

Blacksmith Lapwing *Vanellus armatus* (1-0-1) -- Seen at the Saisi River and almost daily in the south

White-crowned Lapwing *Vanellus albiceps* (0-0-1) -- Seen well along the Zambezi River

Crowned Lapwing *Vanellus coronatus* (0-1-1) -- Seen from Chisamba southwards (*coronatus*)

African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*lateralis*)

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* (0-0-1) -- A few along the Lower Zambezi River

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and several times in the south (*tricollaris*)

White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River (*mechowi*)

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu

Painted-snipes Family Rostratulidae

Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula benghalensis* (0-0-1) -- A pair seen very well at Ross's Dam at Nkanga, and flight views at the Lower Zambezi

Jacanas Family Jacanidae

Lesser Jacana *Microparra capensis* (1-0-1) -- Very good views at Lake Mweru and along the Upper Zambezi River

African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Sandpipers, Snipes Family Scolopacidae

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* (1-0-1) -- Widespread sightings

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* (0-1-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and almost daily in the south

Great Snipe *Gallinago media* (1-0-0) -- Good flight views of one at Shiwa Ng'andu

Courasers, Pratincoles Family Glareolidae

Three-banded Courser *Rhinoptilus cinctus* (0-0-1) -- Fantastic views of a trio at the Lower Zambezi (seebohmi)

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* (H-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River (*riparia*)

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Family Laridae

African Skimmer *Rynchops flavirostris* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River

Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Lake Kariba (*poiocephalus*)

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* (1-0-1) -- Seen at the Saisi River and in breeding plumage along the Upper Zambezi River (*delalandii*)

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* (0-0-1) -- Seen on the Upper Zambezi River

Sandgrouse Family Pteroclididae

Double-banded Sandgrouse *Pterocles bicinctus* (0-0-1) -- A female seen well on the deck in the Machile area (*multicolor*)

Pigeons, Doves Family Columbidae

Rock Dove *Columba livia* (1-1-1) -- Feral Pigeon was widespread

Afep Pigeon *Columba uncinata* (0-1-0) -- Great views of quite a few at Kalwelwa

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques* (0-H-0) -- Heard at Kalwelwa

Mourning Collared Dove *Streptopelia decipiens* (H-0-1) -- Heard at Lake Mweru, seen along the Upper Zambezi River (*ambigua*)

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola* (1-1-1)
-- Widespread sightings generally of tropica, but perhaps with damarensis in the Upper Zambezi area

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis* (0-0-1) --
Just a couple seen in the south (*senegalensis*)

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos*
(1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer* (1-1-0) --
Seen at Lake Mweru and once in the north-west

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria* (0-1-1) --
Seen at Nsobe and in the Siavonga area

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* (0-0-1) -- A few
seen in the south (*capensis*)

African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus* (1-1-1) --
Widespread sightings (mostly or all *schalowi*)

Turacos Family Musophagidae

Schalow's Turaco *Tauraco schalowi* (1-1-1) --
Widespread sightings

Purple-crested Turaco *Tauraco porphyreolophus*

Ross's Turaco *Musophaga rossae* (1-1-0) -- Quite a
few sightings in the north

Grey Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides concolor* (0-0-1)
-- Several sightings in the south (*bechuanae*)

Bare-faced Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides personatus*
(1-0-0) -- Heard at the Saisi River, but we were too busy watching Tanzania Masked Weavers to look for it (*leopardi*)

Cuckoos Family Cuculidae

Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis* (0-0-1) --
Seen at Nkanga (*flecki*)

Coppery-tailed Coucal *Centropus cupreicaudus*
(1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

White-browed Coucal *Centropus superciliosus* (1-
H-1) -- Scattered sightings (*loandae*)

Black Coucal *Centropus grillii* (1-1-0) -- One
non-breeding bird on the drive from Nchelenge to Mbala, and one breeding-plumaged bird at Kalwelwa

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* (0-0-1)
-- One seen at Machile

Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii* (0-0-1)
-- Several at Upper Zambezi

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus* (0-0-1) --
Several at Upper Zambezi (probably *serratus*)

Thick-billed Cuckoo *Pachycoccyx audeberti* (0-H-0)
-- Heard distantly at Mutinondo

Diederik Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius* (0-1-1) --
Scattered sightings

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* (H-H-1) --
Seen once at the Upper Zambezi

African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus*
(H-0-1) -- Seen at Machile

Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx olivinus*
(0-H-0) -- Heard at Kalwelwa

Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* (1-1-1) --
Scattered sightings (*clamosus*)

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius* (1-1-1) --
Scattered sightings, with superb views at Nkanga

African Cuckoo *Cuculus gularis* (H-H-1) --
Recorded widely, but seen only on at Pioneer Camp

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* (1-1-0) -- Two
sightings

Barn Owls Family Tytonidae

Western Barn Owl *Tyto alba* (0-H-H) -- Heard a
few times (*affinis*)

African Grass Owl *Tyto capensis* (0-1-0) --
Wonderful views in the evening of a bird hunting over a dambo at Mutinondo

Owls Family Strigidae

African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis* (0-0-1)
-- Heard by all and seen well by some at Nkanga (*senegalensis*)

Spotted Eagle-Owl *Bubo africanus* (0-1-1) -- Seen
at Mutinondo and Pioneer Camp (*africanus*)

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii* (H-1-1) --
Recorded widely and seen well at Pioneer Camp (*woodfordii*)

African Barred Owl *Glaucidium capense* (H-1-0)
-- Good views at Mutinondo (*ngamiense*)

Southern White-faced Owl *Ptilopsis granti* (0-1-0)
-- Distant views of a calling bird at Kalwelwa, and heard briefly at Pioneer Camp

Nightjars Family Caprimulgidae

European Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* (0-1-1)
-- Seen by some near Mutinondo, and one at Nkanga

Fiery-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus pectoralis*
(0-0-1) -- Seen at Nkanga and Pioneer Camp (*fervidus*)

Swamp Nightjar *Caprimulgus natalensis* (0-1-0)
-- Very good views in the day and at night at Kalwelwa (*natalensis*)

Square-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus fossii* (1-0-H)
-- One flushed in the day at Saisi River and heard along the Upper Zambezi River (*welwitschii*)

Pennant-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus vexillarius*
(1-1-1) -- Good views of males during the day and at night at Mutinondo, and a female seen at Nkanga

Swifts Family Apodidae

Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura ussheri* (0-0-1) -- A
few along the Upper Zambezi River (*benguellensis*)

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* (1-0-1) --
Seen in the north-east and south (subspecies not identified)

Common Swift *Apus apus* (0-1-1) -- Widespread
sightings

Little Swift *Apus affinis* (1-1-1) -- Widespread
sightings

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* (1-1-0) --
Widespread sightings

Mousebirds Family Coliidae

Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus* (1-1-H) --
Seen in the central and northern areas (subspecies not identified)

Red-faced Mousebird *Urocolius indicus* (0-1-1) --
Seen almost daily from the Lusaka area southwards (subspecies not determined)

Trogon Family Trogonidae

Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina* (0-1-1) -- Seen
at Mutinondo, along the Zambezi River and at Nkanga (*narina*)

Rollers Family Coraciidae

Racket-tailed Roller *Coracias spatulatus* (0-0-1)
-- Superb views at Nkanga

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus* (1-1-1)
-- Widespread sightings (*caudatus*)

European Roller *Coracias garrulus* (0-0-1) -- One
at Nkanga and one at Pioneer Camp

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* (1-1-1)
-- Widespread sightings (*suahelicus*)

Kingfishers Family Alcedinidae

Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala* (0-0-1)
-- One at Lazy J Ranch (*pallidiventris*)

Brown-hooded Kingfisher *Halcyon albiventris* (1-1-1)
-- Widespread sightings (*prentissgrayi*)

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* (1-H-1)
-- Recorded just three times, including at Nkanga (*chelicuti*)

Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica* (0-1-0)
-- Seen by some at Kalwelwa (*malimbica*)

Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis* (0-0-1)
-- Seen well in the south (*cyanoleuca*)

African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ispidina picta* (1-0-0)
-- Seen briefly at Shiwa Ng'andu

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus* (1-1-1)
-- Seen at Kalwelwa, Lake Mweru and widely in the south (*cristatus*)

Half-collared Kingfisher *Alcedo semitorquata* (0-1-0)
-- Fantastic views at Nsobe Camp

Shining-blue Kingfisher *Alcedo quadribrachys*
(0-H-0) -- Heard and seen briefly by Michael at Kalwelwa (*guentheri*)

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima* (0-0-1) --
Seen along the Upper Zambezi River

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* (1-1-1) -- Widespread
sightings

Bee-eaters Family Meropidae

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus* (H-1-1) -- Our best views were in the Machile area (subspecies not identified)

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, especially in the south (subspecies not identified)

Böhm's Bee-eater *Merops boehmi* (0-1-0) -- Good views near Kitwe

Blue-breasted Bee-eater *Merops variegatus* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Lake Mweru and Kalwelwa (*bangweoloensis*)

White-fronted Bee-eater *Merops bullockoides* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus* (1-H-1) -- Widespread sightings, especially in the south (*persicus*)

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Southern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicoides* (0-0-1) -- Good views along the Upper Zambezi River

Hoopoes Family Upupidae

African Hoopoe *Upupa africana* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, especially in the south

Wood Hoopoes Family Phoeniculidae

Green Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus* (1-0-1) -- Seen mainly in the south (subspecies not determined)

Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas* (0-0-1) -- Seen a few times in the south (*schalowi*)

Ground Hornbills Family Bucorvidae

Southern Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus leadbeateri* (H-1-0) -- Seen flying high in the sky at Mutinondo -- an odd sighting

Hornbills Family Bucerotidae

Southern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus rufirostris* (0-0-1) -- One seen well in the Machile area

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus leucomelas* (0-0-1) -- One seen well in the Machile area (*leucomelas*)

Crowned Hornbill *Lophoceros alboterminatus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (subspecies not determined)

African Grey Hornbill *Lophoceros nasutus* (0-0-1) -- Seen regularly in the south (*epirhinus*)

Pale-billed Hornbill *Lophoceros pallidirostris* (1-1-1) -- Seen in good numbers in the central areas, and also at Lazy J Ranch

Trumpeter Hornbill *Bycanistes bucinator* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Chisamba and widely in the south

African barbets Family Lybiidae

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus bilineatus* (1-1-0) -- Seen regularly in central areas (*mfumbiri*)

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*extoni* Miombo Tinkerbird)

Miombo Pied Barbet *Tricholaema frontata* (1-0-1) -- Seen well near Mbala and at Nkanga, and briefly at Lazy J Ranch

Acacia Pied Barbet *Tricholaema leucomelas* (0-0-1) -- Seen well on the Upper Zambezi (probably *centralis*)

Chaplin's Barbet *Lybius chaplini* (0-1-1) -- Excellent views at Chisamba and Nkanga

Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (subspecies not determined)

Black-backed Barbet *Lybius minor* (1-1-0) -- Seen quite a few times, although our best views were at Shiwa Ng'andu and west of Chingola (*macclounii* White-faced Barbet)

Crested Barbet *Trachyphonus vaillantii* (0-1-1) -- Seen at the Fig Tree Restaurant and on the Upper Zambezi (subspecies not identified)

Honeyguides Family Indicatoridae

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* (0-0-1) -- Our best views were at the Kafue River (subspecies not determined)

Scaly-throated Honeyguide *Indicator variegatus* (1-0-0) -- Good views at Mutinondo

Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator* (0-1-1) -- Seen well at Mutinondo and Nkanga

Woodpeckers Family Picidae

Bennett's Woodpecker *Campethera bennettii* (0-0-1) -- Seen well at Machile (*capricorni*) and Nkanga (*bennettii*)

Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni* (H-H-1) -- Seen along the Upper Zambezi River (abingoni)

Green-backed Woodpecker *Campethera cailliautii* (0-H-0) -- Heard at Mutanda (*nyasae*)

Bearded Woodpecker *Chloropicus namaquus* (0-1-1) -- Seen on the drive from Mwinilunga to Chingola, and at Nkanga (*namaquus*)

Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*centralis*)

Falcons Family Falconidae

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* (1-0-0) -- One female on the drive from Nchelenge to Mbala

Dickinson's Kestrel *Falco dickinsoni* (1-1-1) -- Good sightings on all three segments of the tour, including near Nsobe Camp and at Machile

Red-necked Falcon *Falco chicquera* (0-0-1) -- Good views at Machile (*ruficollis*)

Amur Falcon *Falco amurensis* (0-0-1) -- A good showing of 20 birds hunting termites at dusk at Nkanga, and seen again at Pioneer Camp

Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo* (1-1-1) -- Regular sightings

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* (1-1-0) -- Seen twice (*biarmicus*)

African & New World Parrots Family Psittacidae

Brown-necked Parrot *Poicephalus fuscicollis* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and Pioneer Camp (*suahelicus*)

Meyer's Parrot *Poicephalus meyeri* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, with *matschiei* in the north and *transvaalensis* in the south

Old World Parrots Family Psittaculidae

Black-cheeked Lovebird *Agapornis nigrigenis* (0-0-1) -- Fantastic views in the Machile area

Broadbills Family Eurylaimidae

African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis* (H-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo, Nkanga and Siavonga (*albigularis*)

Pittas Family Pittidae

African Pitta *Pitta angolensis* (0-0-1) -- Incredible views of up to four birds at two sites along the Lower Zambezi (longipennis East African Pitta)

Wattle-eyes, Batises Family Platysteiridae

Margaret's Batis *Batis margaritae* (0-1-0) -- One bird seen by all near Mayau, after a bit of a struggle (*kathleenae*)

Chin-spot Batis *Batis molitor* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, with *pintoii* at Mayau and *palliditergum* elsewhere

Black-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira peltata* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, including on the Lower Zambezi (*mentalis*)

Helmetsrikes Family Prionopidae

White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*poliocephalus*)

Retz's Helmetshrike *Prionops retzii* (H-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo (*tricolor*) and Mayau (*nigricans*)

Bushshrikes Family Malaconotidae

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti* (H-1-1) -- Seen en route to Chingola (*interpositus*) and at Pioneer Camp (*hypopyrrhus*)

Black-fronted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus nigrifrons* (1-H-0) -- Good views at Shiwa Ng'andu and heard at Mutanda and Mayau (*manningi*)

Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*similis*)

Gorgeous Bushshrike *Telophorus viridis* (0-1-0) -- Good looks at one at Mayau (*viridis*)

Marsh Tchagra *Bocagia minuta* (1-H-0) -- Seen well at Lake Mweru and heard at Kalwelwa (*anchietae*; Anchieta's Tchagra)

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (subspecies not determined)

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (probably *armenus*)

Black-backed Puffback *Dryoscopus cubla* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, with *fin* in the north and *okavangensis* in the south

Tropical Boubou *Laniarius major* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, *mossambicus* in the south and east and *major* in the Lake Mweru to Mwinilunga area in the north and west

Swamp Boubou *Laniarius bicolor* (0-0-1) -- Seen on the Upper Zambezi River, alongside Tropical Boubou (*sticturus*)

Brubru *Nilaus afer* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, with *brubru* in the south and *nigritemporalis* in the north

Cuckooshrikes Family Campephagidae

White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Coracina pectoralis* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, including at Nkanga

Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, especially in the south

Purple-throated Cuckooshrike *Campephaga quisqualina* (1-H-0) -- A male seen well at Shiwa Ng'andu, and heard at Nsobe Camp (*martini*)

Shrikes Family Laniidae

Magpie Shrike *Urolestes melanoleucus* (0-0-1) -- Seen in the Machile and Nkanga areas (*melanoleucus*)

Souza's Shrike *Lanius souzae* (0-1-1) -- Good sightings at Kalwelwa and Lazy J Ranch (*souzae*)

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (subspecies not determined)

Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor* (1-0-1) -- Most numerous along the Upper Zambezi

Northern Fiscal *Lanius humeralis* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, although absent in the southern lowlands (*capelli*)

Orioles Family Oriolidae

Eurasian Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Nkanga

African Golden Oriole *Oriolus auratus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings but most common at Nkanga (*notatus*)

Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*angolensis*)

Drongos Family Dicruridae

Square-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus ludwigii* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Nsobe Camp and heard at Mutanda and Mayau (*saturnus*)

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*fugax*)

Monarchs Family Monarchidae

Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher *Trochocercus cyanomelas* (0-1-0) -- Excellent views at Nsobe Camp (*vivax* Eastern Crested Flycatcher)

African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (mostly or all *plumbeiceps*)

Crows Family Corvidae

Pied Crow *Corvus albus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

White-necked Raven *Corvus albicollis* (1-1-0) -- Conspicuous at Mutinondo

Fairy Flycatchers Family Stenostiridae

White-tailed Blue Flycatcher *Elminia albicauda* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Kapishya and Mutinondo

White-tailed Crested Flycatcher *Elminia albonotata* (0-H-0) -- Heard at Mutinondo

Tits Family Paridae

White-winged Black Tit *Melaniparus leucomelas* (1-0-0) -- Seen on the drive to Nchelenge (*insignis*)

Southern Black Tit *Melaniparus niger* (0-0-1) -- Seen almost daily in the south (*xanthostomus*)

Rufous-bellied Tit *Melaniparus rufiventris* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo, Lazy J Ranch and in the Mbala area (*masukuensis*)

Miombo Tit *Melaniparus griseiventris* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu, Mutinondo, Nkanga and Lazy J Ranch

Penduline Tits Family Remizidae

Grey Penduline Tit *Anthoscopus caroli* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, with *rhodesiae* at Mutinondo and *caroli* at Nkanga

Nicator Family Nicatoridae

Eastern Nicator *Nicator gularis* (0-0-1) -- Seen in the Lower Zambezi area

Larks Family Alaudidae

Rufous-naped Lark *Mirafra africana* (H-H-1) -- Seen at Nkanga, heard elsewhere (subspecies not identified)

Flappet Lark *Mirafra rufocinnamomea* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo and Nkanga (subspecies not identified)

Angolan Lark *Mirafra angolensis* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Kalwelwa (*antonii*)

Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea* (1-0-0) -- Seen on the Kalasa Mukoso Flats (*saturation*)

Dusky Lark *Pinarocorys nigricans* (0-0-1) -- The bonus bird of the Pitta Tour, two were seen well on the Machile day trip (*nigricans*)

Bulbuls Family Pycnonotidae

Dark-capped Bulbul *Pycnonotus tricolor* (1-1-1) -- Widespread, *layardi* in the south and east and *tricolor* in the north and west

Little Greenbul *Eurillas virens* (1-1-0) -- Regular in forest areas in the north, with *virens* at Kalwelwa and *zombensis* elsewhere

Sombre Greenbul *Andropadus importunus* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Lower Zambezi River (*hypoxanthus*)

Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator* (0-1-0) -- Heard and seen by some at Kalwelwa (*indicator*)

Yellow-bellied Greenbul *Chlorocichla flaviventris* (0-1-1) -- Seen near Kitwe1, and regularly in the Zambezi Valley (*occidentalis*)

Yellow-throated Leaflove *Atimastillas flavicollis* (1-1-0) -- Regular in the north (*flavigula* Pale-throated Leaflove)

Terrestrial Brownbul *Phyllastrephus terrestris* (1-1-0) -- Seen near Kitwe, and regularly in the south (*intermedius*)

Grey-olive Greenbul *Phyllastrephus cerviniventris* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo and Mutanda

Cabanis's Greenbul *Phyllastrephus cabanisi* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo and Kalwelwa (*cabanisi*)

Black-collared Bulbul *Neolestes torquatus* (0-1-0) -- Good views at Kalwelwa

Swallows, martins Family Hirundinidae

White-headed Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne albiceps* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu (*albiceps*)

Black Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne pristoptera* (0-1-0) -- Seen regularly on the Main Tour, from Mutinondo to Kalwelwa (*reichenowi*)

Grey-rumped Swallow *Pseudhirundo griseopyga* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*griseopyga*)

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* (1-0-1) -- Common in the north-east, and seen once along the Lower Zambezi River (*riparia*)

Banded Martin *Riparia cincta* (1-1-0) -- Seen at the Saisi River and at Kalwelwa (subspecies not identified)

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* (1-1-1) -- Seen regularly

Angolan Swallow *Hirundo angolensis* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Lake Mweru

White-throated Swallow *Hirundo albigularis* (1-0-0) -- Seen once in the north-east

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Lake Mweru and regularly in the south (*smithii*)

Rock Martin *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* (1-0-0) -- Seen in the Mbala area (*fusciventris*)

Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

Lesser Striped Swallow *Cecropis abyssinica* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (subspecies not determined)

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* (1-0-0) -- Seen in the Mbala area (*emini*)

Red-breasted Swallow *Cecropis semirufa* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*semirufa*)

Mosque Swallow *Cecropis senegalensis* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*monteiri*)

Red-throated Cliff Swallow *Petrochelidon rufigula* (0-1-0) -- Seen between Mutanda and Mwinilunga

Crombecs, African warblers Family Macrosphenidae

Moustached Grass Warbler *Melocichla mentalis* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Lake Mweru and Mutanda, and heard elsewhere in the north (*mentalis*)

Long-billed Crombec *Sylvietta rufescens* (H-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, including Nsoke (*flecki*), but most common in the south (*pallida*)

Red-capped Crombec *Sylvietta ruficapilla* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo (*chubbi*) and between Mwinilunga and Mutanda (*gephyra*)

Yellow Flycatchers Family Erythroceridae

Livingstone's Flycatcher *Erythrocerus livingstonei* (0-0-1) -- Good views in the Siavonga area (*livingstonei*)

Leaf warblers and allies Family Phylloscopidae

Laura's Woodland Warbler *Phylloscopus laurae* (1-1-0) -- Good views at Shiwa Ng'andu and Mutinondo, and heard at Kalwelwa (*eustacei*)

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Reed warblers and allies Family Acrocephalidae

Greater Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus rufescens* (1-0-H) -- Seen at Lake Mweru and heard at the Kafue River (*ansorgei*)

Lesser Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus gracilirostris* (1-1-1) -- Seen at the Saisi River (*winterbottomi*), Nsoke Camp (possibly *leptorhynchus*) and Nkanga (*cunensis*)

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* (0-0-1) -- One seen by some on the Lower Zambezi

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* (H-0-0) -- Heard near Lake Mweru

African Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus baeticatus* (0-0-H) -- One bird singing in the Lower Zambezi Valley was most likely this species and not Eurasian Reed Warbler

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris* (H-0-0) -- Heard near Lake Mweru

African Yellow Warbler *Iduna natalensis* (H-1-1) -- Seen at Kalwelwa (*major*) and the Kafue River (*natalensis*)

Papyrus Yellow Warbler *Calamonastides gracilirostris* (1-0-0) -- Super views of five birds, including a dark-eyed juvenile, on Lake Mweru (*benoni* Zambian Yellow Warbler)

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Upper Zambezi

Grassbirds and allies Family Locustellidae

Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus baboecala* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Lake Mweru, Nsoke Camp and Nkanga (*msiri*)

White-winged Swamp Warbler *Bradypterus carpalis* (H-0-0) -- Heard at Lake Mweru

Evergreen Forest Warbler *Bradypterus lopezi* (H-0-0) -- Heard at Shiwa Ng'andu (*ufipae*)

Bamboo Warbler *Bradypterus alfredi* (0-1-0) -- Absolutely incredible views at Mutanda, a highlight of the tour (*kungwensis*)

Fan-tailed Grassbird *Schoenicola brevirostris* (1-1-0) -- Seen between Nchelenge and Mbala, at Mutinondo and at Kalwelwa (*alexinae*)

Cisticolas and allies Family Cisticolidae

Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops* (1-1-1) -- Recorded widely (*nyasa*)

Whistling Cisticola *Cisticola lateralis* (0-1-0) -- Seen briefly near Kalwelwa (*modestus*)

Trilling Cisticola *Cisticola woosnami* (1-1-0) -- First seen at Mutinondo (*lufira*)

Lazy Cisticola *Cisticola aberrans* (1-0-0) -- Seen in the Mbala area (*nyika*)

Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana* (0-H-1) -- Seen in the Machile area (*chiniana*) and heard elsewhere

Tinkling Cisticola *Cisticola rufilatus* (0-H-0) -- Heard at Kalwelwa

Luapula Cisticola *Cisticola luapula* (0-0-1) -- Seen well at Nkanga

Chirping Cisticola *Cisticola pipiens* (1-1-0) -- Many sightings in the north (*congo*)

Levaillant's Cisticola *Cisticola tinniens* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu (*shiwae*) and Kalwelwa (*perpullus*)

Stout Cisticola *Cisticola robustus* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo (*awemba*) and Kalwelwa (*angolensis*)

Croaking Cisticola *Cisticola natalensis* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo (*natalensis*), Kalwelwa (*katanga*) and Nkanga (*holubii*)

Short-winged Cisticola *Cisticola brachypterus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, with *loanda* in the north-west and *isabellinus* in the south and east

Neddicky *Cisticola fulvicapilla* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Nkanga (*halla*)

Long-tailed Cisticola *Cisticola angusticauda* (0-H-0) -- Heard between Mwinilunga and Mutanda

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* (1-1-H) -- Scattered records (*terrestris*)

Dambo Cisticola *Cisticola dambo* (0-1-0) -- Excellent views at Kalwelwa and Chitunta Plain (*dambo*)

Pale-crowned Cisticola *Cisticola cinnamomeus* (1-1-0) -- Good views at Mutinondo and Kalwelwa (*cinnamomeus*)

Wing-snapping Cisticola *Cisticola ayresii* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Kalwelwa (*ayresii*)

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (subspecies not determined)

White-chinned Prinia *Schistolais leucopogon* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Mutanda and Kalwelwa (*leucopogon*)

Bar-throated Apalis *Apalis thoracica* (1-H-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and heard at Mutinondo (*whitei*)

Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis flavida* (H-1-1) -- Scattered records (subspecies not determined)

Brown-headed Apalis *Apalis alticola* (H-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo and heard elsewhere (*alticola*)

Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brevicaudata* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (subspecies not determined)

Miombo Wren-Warbler *Calamonastes undosus* (1-1-0) -- Seen between Mwinilunga and Mutanda (*cinereus*) and recorded several times in the north-east, including at the Saisi River (*katangae*)

Stierling's Wren-Warbler *Calamonastes stierlingi* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo and near Mutinondo (*irwini*) and at Nkanga (*stierlingi*)

Yellow-bellied Eremomela *Eremomela icteropygialis* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu, Nkanga and Lazy J Ranch (*polioxantha*)

Green-capped Eremomela *Eremomela scotops* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*pulchra*)

Burnt-necked Eremomela *Eremomela usticollis* (0-0-1) -- Good views at Machile (*rensi*)

Black-necked Eremomela *Eremomela atricollis* (1-1-0) -- Seen between Nchelenge and Mbala, and near Nsoke Camp

Typical Babblers Family Leiothrichidae

Arrow-marked Babbler *Turdoides jardineii* (H-1-1) -- Heard at Mutinondo, seen at Chisamba and in the south (subspecies not determined)

Hartlaub's Babbler *Turdoides hartlaubii* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Saisi River (*hartlaubii*) and along the Upper Zambezi River (*griseosquamata*)

Sylviid Babblers Family Sylviidae

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings

White-eyes Family Zosteropidae

African Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis* (1-1-1) -- Recorded widely (*anderssoni* Southern Yellow White-eye); birds at Kalwelwa may be a different subspecies

Hyliotas Family Hyliotidae

Yellow-bellied Hyliota *Hyliota flavigaster* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo and between Mwinilunga and Mutanda (*barbozae*)

Southern Hyliota *Hyliota australis* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu, Mayau, Nkanga and Lazy J Ranch (*pallidipectus*)

Treecreepers Family Certhiidae

African Spotted Creeper *Salpornis salvadori* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo, Nkanga and Lazy J Ranch (*salvadori*)

Starlings Family Sturnidae

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Chirundu, Livingstone and west of Chingola (the latter not confirmed)

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprolornis chalybaeus* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Nkanga (*nordmanni*)

Miombo Blue-eared Starling *Lamprolornis elisabeth* (0-0-1) -- Good numbers at Nkanga

Splendid Starling *Lamprolornis splendidus* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and Kalwelwa (*bailundensis*)

Meves's Starling *Lamprolornis mevesii* (0-0-1) -- Good views in the Machile area (*mevesii*)

Burchell's Starling *Lamprolornis australis* (0-0-1) -- Seen in the Machile area

Sharp-tailed Starling *Lamprolornis acuticaudus* (0-1-0) -- A large flock seen well west of Chingola

Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*verreauxi*)

Red-winged Starling *Onychognathus morio* (0-H-1) -- Heard at Mutinondo and seen at Lake Kariba (*morio*)

Oxpeckers Family Buphagidae

Red-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Upper Zambezi

Thrushes Family Turdidae

Groundscraper Thrush *Turdus litsitsirupa* (0-1-1) -- Seen briefly near Kalwelwa (*stierlingi*) and at Nkanga (*pauciguttatus*)

African Thrush *Turdus pelios* (0-1-0) -- Seen well at Mutanda and again at Kalwelwa (*stormsi*)

Kurrichane Thrush *Turdus libonyana* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, *verreauxii* in the south and *tropicalis* elsewhere

Chats, Old World Flycatchers Family Muscipidae

Bearded Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas quadrivirgata* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Nkanga (*quadrivirgata*)

Miombo Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas barbata* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo

White-browed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, including at Kalwelwa (*munda*) and Siavonga (*zambesiana*)

Grey Tit-Flycatcher *Myioparus plumbeus* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Upper Zambezi (*catoleucus*)

Southern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis pammelaina* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings but common in the south (*diabolicus*), with *pammelaina* in the north

Pale Flycatcher *Melaenornis pallidus* (1-1-0) -- Seen three times in the north (*griseus*)

Marico Flycatcher *Melaenornis mariquensis* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Upper Zambezi (*mariquensis*)

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (subspecies not determined)

Ashy Flycatcher *Muscicapa caerulescens* (0-H-1) -- Seen along the Upper Zambezi River (*impavida*)

Swamp Flycatcher *Muscicapa aquatica* (1-0-0) -- Good views at Lake Mweru (*infulata*)

African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and Mutinondo (*subadusta*)

Böhm's Flycatcher *Muscicapa boehmi* (0-1-0) -- A pair feeding young seen at Mutinondo

Grey-winged Robin-Chat *Cossypha polioptera* (0-1-0) -- Seen briefly at Kalwelwa (*polioptera*)

White-browed Robin-Chat *Cossypha heuglini* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*heuglini*)

Red-capped Robin-Chat *Cossypha natalensis* (0-H-1) -- Seen at Lower Zambezi and heard elsewhere (*intensa*)

Bocage's Akalat *Sheppardia bocagei* (H-1-0) -- Seen well at Mutanda and briefly at Mutinondo (*chapini*)

Collared Palm Thrush *Cichladusa arquata* (1-0-1) -- Seen at Lake Mweru, Nkanga, Lake Kariba and Lusaka

Collared Flycatcher *Ficedula albicollis* (1-1-1) -- Rather numerous at Mutinondo and seen at Nkanga and elsewhere, but all but one seen were female-plumaged birds

Miombo Rock Thrush *Monticola angolensis* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo (*angolensis*) and Lazy J Ranch (probably *hylophilus*)

African Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*stonei*)

Sooty Chat *Myrmecocichla nigra* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Kalwelwa, Nkanga and en route to Lake Mweru

Arnott's Chat *Myrmecocichla arnotti* (1-1-1) -- Seen near Mbala and at Mutinondo, Nkanga and Lazy J Ranch (*arnotti*)

Familiar Chat *Oenanthe familiaris* (1-1-0) -- Seen near Mbala and at Mutinondo (*falkensteini*)

Capped Wheatear *Oenanthe pileata* (1-0-0) -- Seen on the Kalasa Mukoso Flats (*livingstonii*)

Sunbirds Family Nectariniidae

Anchieta's Sunbird *Anthreptes anchietae* (1-1-0) -- Nice looks at Mutinondo

Western Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes longuemarei* (0-1-0) -- Just one male at Mutinondo (*angolensis*)

Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, mostly *garguensis* but with *zambesiana* in the south

Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra verticalis* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and Mutinondo (*viridiplendens*)

Bannerman's Sunbird *Cyanomitra bannermani* (0-1-0) -- Very good views at Kalwelwa

Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea* (1-1-0) -- Seen in the north (*lowei*)

Amethyst Sunbird *Chalcomitra amethystina* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, with *deminuta* in the north and *kirkii* in the south

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Nkanga (*gutturialis*)

Miombo Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris manoensis* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Mutinondo and between Mwinilunga and Mutanda (*pintoii* Western Miombo Sunbird)

Marico Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis* (1-0-1) -- Seen at the Saisi River (*suahelicus*) and Machile (*ovamboensis*)

Shelley's Sunbird *Cinnyris shelleyi* (0-0-1) -- Super views of a pair feeding young near Choma

Purple-banded Sunbird *Cinnyris bifasciatus* (0-0-1) -- Seen regularly in the south (*microrhynchus*)

Oustalet's Sunbird *Cinnyris oustaleti* (1-0-0) -- Very good views near Mbala (*rhodesiae*)

White-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris talatala* (0-H-1) -- Seen in the south (*talatala*)

Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus* (1-H-1) -- Scattered sightings from Lusaka northwards (*falkensteini*)

Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cupreus* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings including at Machile (*chalcus*)

Old World Sparrows Family Passeridae

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River (probably *pectoralis*)

Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser rufoscapulatus* (0-1-0) -- Good views at Nsobe Camp after a bit of a struggle

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*indicus*)

Northern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus* (1-1-1) -- Seen from Lusaka northwards (*ugandae*)

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer diffusus* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Upper Zambezi River (*diffusus*)

Yellow-throated Petronia *Gymnoris superciliaris* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings in the east and south (subspecies not determined)

Weavers, Widowbirds Family Ploceidae

Red-billed Buffalo Weaver *Bubalornis niger* (0-0-1) -- Seen in the Machile area (*niger*)

Thick-billed Weaver *Amblyospiza albifrons* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Upper Zambezi River (*maxima*) and at Kafue River and Lusaka (*montana*)

Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo and Kafue River (*suahelicus*)

Holub's Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops* (1-1-1) -- Scattered records

Southern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus xanthopterus* (0-0-1) -- Seen well along the Upper Zambezi River (*castaneigula*)

Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius* (0-0-1) -- Seen along the Zambezi River (*cabanisii*)

Southern Masked Weaver *Ploceus velatus* (0-1-1) -- Especially common in the south (*velatus*)

Katanga Masked Weaver *Ploceus katangae* (1-0-0) -- Seen in good numbers in breeding plumage in the Bangweulu area and in non-breeding plumage at Lake Mweru (*katangae*)

Tanzanian Masked Weaver *Ploceus reichardi* (1-0-0) -- Fantastic views of quite a few in breeding plumage at the Saisi River

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Nsobe (*paroptus*), and Nkanga and Lower Zambezi Valley (*nigriceps*)

Black-headed Weaver *Ploceus melanocephalus* (1-0-0) -- Seen at Lake Mweru (*duboisii*)

Dark-backed Weaver *Ploceus bicolor* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Kalwelwa, heard at Mutinondo and near Kitwe (*kigomaensis*)

Bar-winged Weaver *Ploceus angolensis* (0-1-0) -- Seen well at Mutinondo and very briefly at North Swaka forest

Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo and in the south (*rubriceps*)

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* (1-0-1) -- Seen in the Bangweulu area (*aethiopica*) and in the south (*lathamii*)

Yellow-crowned Bishop *Euplectes afer* (0-0-1) -- Non-breeding birds seen along the Lower Zambezi River (*taha*)

Southern Red Bishop *Euplectes orix* (0-0-1) -- Non-breeding birds seen in the south (*orix*)

Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis* (0-1-0) -- Seen at Kalwelwa and Nkanga (*crassirostris*)

Fan-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes axillaris* (1-1-1) -- Seen at the Saisi River (*phoeniceus*), Kalwelwa (*bocagei*) and the Kafue River (*axillaris*)

Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes macroura* (1-0-1) -- Seen north of Lusaka and at Nkanga (*macroura*)

Marsh Widowbird *Euplectes hartlaubi* (1-1-0) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu, Mutinondo and Kalwelwa (*hartlaubi*)

White-winged Widowbird *Euplectes albonotatus* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Nkanga (*albonotatus*)

Red-collared Widowbird *Euplectes ardens* (1-1-0) -- Scattered records in central areas (*ardens*)

Long-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes progne* (1-0-0) -- Seen on the Kalasa Mukoso Flats, in full plumage (*progne*)

Waxbills, Munias & Allies Family Estrildidae

Orange-winged Pytilia *Pytilia afra* (1-1-0) -- Brief views at Shiwa Ng'andu and Mutanda

Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba* (H-0-1) -- Seen a few times in the south (*melba*)

Cut-throat Finch *Amadina fasciata* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Lake Kariba (*meridionalis*)

Black-bellied Seedcracker *Pyrenestes ostrinus* (0-1-0) -- Very brief views of three flying into a thicket at Kalwelwa

Red-throated Twinspot *Hypargos niveoguttatus* (0-1-1) -- A pair seen very well at Nsobe and a female very well at Nkanga (*macrospilotus*)

Brown Firefinch *Lagonosticta nitidula* (1-1-0) -- Incredible numbers in the north-east, and seen again near Mpika and at Mutanda

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala* (1-1-1) -- Scattered records, *ruberrima* in the west and *rendalli* in the east

African Firefinch *Lagonosticta rubricata* (1-1-1) -- Scattered records, including in Lusaka (*haematocephala*)

Jameson's Firefinch *Lagonosticta rhodopareia* (0-0-1) -- Seen at Machile and in the Siavonga area (*jamesoni*)

Blue Waxbill *Uraeginthus angolensis* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (mostly or all *niassensis*)

Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus bengalus* (1-0-0) -- A couple at Lake Mweru (*katangae*)

Violet-eared Waxbill *Uraeginthus granatinus* (0-0-H) -- Heard at Upper Zambezi (*granatinus*)

Black-faced Waxbill *Estrilda erythronotos* (0-0-1) -- Seen in the Machile area (*soligena*)

Grey Waxbill *Estrilda perreini* (0-1-0) -- Good views at Mutanda (*perreini*)

Fawn-breasted Waxbill *Estrilda paludicola* (1-1-0) -- Scattered sightings in the north (*benguellensis*)

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, with *niediecki* in the west and *cavendishi* in the east

Orange-breasted Waxbill *Amandava subflava* (1-0-0) -- Seen at the Saisi River and Lake Mweru (*clarkei*)

Quailfinch *Ortygospiza atricollis* (1-H-0) -- Seen in flight on the Kalasa Mukoso Flats and heard at Mutinondo (either *fuscata* or *muelleri*) and heard at Kalwelwa (*fuscata*)

Locust Finch *Paludipasser locustella* (1-1-0) -- Good views at Mutinondo and brief views at Kalwelwa (*uelensis*)

Bronze Mannikin *Lonchura cucullata* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*scutata*)

Red-backed Mannikin *Lonchura nigriceps* (1-1-H) -- Seen at Shiwa Ng'andu and Nsobe (*nigriceps*)

Indigobirds, Whydahs Family Viduidae

Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings

Shaft-tailed Whydah *Vidua regia* (0-0-1) -- A non-breeding bird at Machile

Long-tailed Paradise Whydah *Vidua paradisaea* (0-0-1) -- Seen in non-breeding plumage at Upper Zambezi

Cuckoo-finch *Anomalospiza imberbis* (0-0-1) -- Spectacular views of several hundred roosting at Ross's Dam at Nkanga, including many fine males

Wagtails, Pipits Family Motacillidae

Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* (1-0-1) -- Seen at the Saisi River and along the Upper Zambezi River (including male *lutea*)

Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis* (1-1-0) -- Widespread in the north-east and also seen at Nsobe Camp (*simplicissima*)

African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings (*vidua*)

Fülleborn's Longclaw *Macronyx fuelleborni* (1-1-0) -- Seen well at Nsobe and Kalwelwa, and elsewhere in the north (*ascensi*)

Rosy-throated Longclaw *Macronyx ameliae* (1-1-0) -- Superb views at Kalwelwa and also seen at the Saisi River and Kalasa Mukoso Flats

Grimwood's Longclaw *Macronyx grimwoodi* (0-1-0) -- Several pairs seen at Kalwelwa, where we eventually found a pair on the ground

African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus* (1-0-H) -- Seen at the Saisi River and heard at Nkanga

Wood Pipit *Anthus nyassae* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo, Nkanga, Lazy J Ranch and between Nchelenge and Mbala

Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo and Kalwelwa (*bohndorffi*), and Nkanga (*tephridorsus*)

Long-legged Pipit *Anthus pallidiventris* (0-1-0) -- A pair of birds in the Kalwelwa area seemed to match this species best, including for the flight calls

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings, but most common at Lazy J Ranch (*trivialis*)

Striped Pipit *Anthus lineiventris* (1-0-0) -- Seen near Mbala and at Mutinondo

Short-tailed Pipit *Anthus brachyurus* (0-1-0) -- Great views of two pairs displaying on the Chitunta Plain (*brachyurus*)

Bushveld Pipit *Anthus caffer* (0-0-1) -- Very good views at Lazy J Ranch (*mzimbaensis*)

Finches Family Fringillidae

Black-faced Canary *Crithagra capistrata* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Lake Mweru, Mutanda, Kalwelwa and, very surprisingly, in Lusaka! (*capistrata*)

Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica* (1-1-1) -- Widespread sightings, including *samaliyae* at the Saisi River, *vansoni* at Nkanga and *mozambica* in the central areas

Black-throated Canary *Crithagra atrogularis* (0-1-1) -- Seen at Kalwelwa (Iwenarum) and at Upper Zambezi (*semideserti*)

Brimstone Canary *Crithagra sulphurata* (1-1-0) -- Scattered sightings in the north (*sharpii*)

Reichard's Seedeater *Crithagra reichardi* (1-0-0) -- Very good views in the Mbala area but surprisingly not seen at Mutinondo (*reichardi*)

Black-eared Seedeater *Crithagra mennelli* (0-1-1) -- Very good views of several at Nkanga, and seen briefly at Mutinondo

Buntings Family Emberizidae

Cinnamon-breasted Bunting *Emberiza tahapisi* (1-0-0) -- Seen near Mbala (*tahapisi*)

Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris* (1-1-1) -- Scattered sightings (*kalaharica*)

Cabanis's Bunting *Emberiza cabanisi* (1-1-1) -- Seen at Mutinondo, near Chingola, at Nkanga and at Lazy J Ranch (*orientalis*)



Dusky Lark



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Laura's Woodland Warbler



© Roger Holmberg

Pale-billed Hornbill



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Three-banded Courser

