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SOUTH AFRICA – Oct - 2006

215 Bird Species recorded

Checklist starts on Page 10

Leaders Viv Stratton & Johan Van Tonder

DAY 1 FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER 2006

We arrived at the airport safe and sound where we met our South African Guide Johan, and immediately set off to fill up with fuel seeing our first **Cape Wagtail**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, **House** and **Pied Crows**, and **Red-winged Starlings** of the tour.

We travelled a short distance to Varkensvlei which consists of a series of small lakes joined together with small dykes full of vegetation, and in this area had **Little** and **Great Crested Grebes**, a very large count of 150+ **Black-necked Grebes**, as well as **Purple**, **Grey** and **Black-headed Herons**. The shallow mud margins held an **Intermediate**, **Little** and **Cattle Egrets**, as well as large numbers of **Sacred** and **Glossy Ibises**, a few **Hadeda Ibises**, while **White-breasted** and **Reed Cormorants**, plus several **Darters** spent the afternoon preening amongst the egrets and ibises. Moving on to another lake we had large numbers of **Southern Pochard**, **Cape Shoveler**, **Cape Teal**, **Yellow-billed** and **Red-billed Ducks**, 30+ **Maccoa Ducks** which are a handsome stiff-tail duck with a chestnut back, black head and bright blue bill. Surprise finds here included 7 **South African Shelduck**, and several scarce **White-faced Whistling Ducks**, as well as 50+ **Greater Flamingo's**. A small pool with extensive reed cover held a single **Black Crake**, along with **Purple Swamphen**, **Red-knobbed Coot**, the noisy **Blacksmith Plovers** always made their presence known by their noisy call, which was somewhat oppressed by the call of **Hartlaub's** and **Cape Gulls**. Flying over the marsh was a **Black-shouldered Kite**, and we also had a fleeting view of a **Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk**.

We then moved a short distance to the Strandfontein Sewage Works, which consists of large pools with muddy edges and reedy edges, where we had all the species of ducks and grebes previously mentioned. Two majestic **African Spoonbills** were in the company of 30+ **Great White Pelicans**, while wading in the shallows were 200+ **Avocets**, and 60+ **Black-winged Stilts**. A speciality for the group was 6 lovely **Kittlitz's Plovers**, and the beautiful **Three-banded Plover**. More familiar European species were **Common Greenshank**, **Marsh** and **Curlew Sandpipers**, and **Ruff**. Amongst the **Hartlaub's Gulls** was a single **Grey-headed Gull**, while fishing on the sand banks were both **Sandwich** and **Swift Terns**. The shrubby dykes leading from one lake to another held **Helmeted Guinea-fowl**, **Laughing Doves**, **Cape Wagtails** were breeding along the dykes, **African Pipits** and 3 **Cape Sparrows** were feeding on the car tracks, very close views of the **Levaillant's Cisticolas**, while the noisy **Karoo Prinias** were very common, along with **Cape White-eyes**, a few **Cape Robin-chats** were found in the thick undergrowth, with **Cape Bulbuls**. The tall reeds held quite a few **Little Rush** and **African Reed Warblers**, whilst overhead **Black-shouldered Kite** and a **Rock Kestrel** were seen. **Speckled Pigeons**, and **Red-eyed Doves** strutted around on the roof tops, and there were several beautiful **Southern Double-collared Sunbirds** feeding on the Bottlebrush trees. Meanwhile, feeding over the pools were **Greater Striped**, **Pearl-breasted** and **White-throated Swallows**, and **Brown-throated Martin**, while high overhead were a few **Alpine**

Swifts. The trees and bushes nearby contained several **Cape Canaries**, as well as **Pin-tailed Whydah**, **Common Waxbills**, **Southern Masked Weavers**, and we watched **Cape Weavers** threading the grass into their hanging nests.

Moving on, we checked out some more large lakes with muddy and sandy lagoons interspersed with tall vegetation of trees and bushes, which turned out to be a very productive site. The pools held all the familiar ducks, egrets and ibises, along with **Greater Flamingo's** and **Black-winged Stilts**. A few **Purple Herons** were seen in the reeds and the surrounding vegetation held **Black-headed Heron**, **Black-crowned Night-heron**, and **Pied Kingfisher**. There were also **Little Rush** and **African Reed Warblers** which provided us with very good views, as well as another **Levaillant's Cisticola**. A **Southern Boubou**, a handsome bush-shrike, provided us with good views, as did **Cape Robin-chats**, with **Cape White-eyes** noisily feeding in the trees, as well as **Southern Double-collared Sunbirds**, more **Cape Weavers** and **Southern Masked Weavers** were nest building. The grassy edges contained 3 **Purple Swamphens**, and 2 **Water Dikkops** or **Water Thick-knees**. The well worn tracks contained **Laughing Doves** and **Helmeted Guineafowl**. We were on the way out of the site when Trish found a **Red-faced Mousebird** and a single **Brimstone (Bully) Canary**. So from here we headed to our destination in Noordhoek, and on arrival had a Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk, which was in pursuit of its prey over the garden. We put our bags in our rooms and took a walk in the beautiful gardens which produced **Cape White-eyes**, **Cape Canaries**, **Cape Robin-chat**, and **Southern Double-collared Sunbirds** feeding on the Bottlebrush trees.

DAY 2 SATURDAY 21ST OCTOBER

An early start was required today in order to prepare for the much-anticipated cape Pelagic. A quick walk around the extensive tree lined gardens produced **Cape Robin-chats**, several **Cape Canaries**, **Cape White-eyes**, and **Hadeda Ibises**. The trip to Simons Town Harbour produced a few **Speckled Pigeons**, **Cape Wagtails** and **Red-winged Starlings**. On arrival we were introduced to our Captain and crew of the boat, informed of the Safety at Sea Regulations, and were soon on our way out towards the Cape of Good Hope. Travelling out to the Cape we had several **Cape Fur Seals** rolling and playing around the rocks, while sitting on the rocks were **Cape** and **White-breasted Cormorants**, a single **Crowned** and some **Bank Cormorants**.

While we were watching the cormorants a large splash revealed 4 **Southern Right Whales** who were in the process of mating, providing us with very good views, whilst a short distance further out to sea produced a single **Bryde's Whale**, (pronounced Bruudes), this superb whale was very near the boats travelling parallel to us. The journey out to the trawlers produced large numbers of **Common** and **Sandwich Terns**, with smaller numbers of **Swift** and **Arctic Terns**. In attendance were plenty of **Arctic** and **Pomarine Skuas**, but the sighting of 4 **Humpback Whales** was a superb delight particularly where one individual was 'breaching' very near the boat. All the activity centred on the whales and the shoals of huge **Yellow-finned Tunas** created feeding frenzies for **Cape Gannets**, **Cape Gulls** and **White-chinned Petrels**, with a smattering of **Great** and **Sooty Shearwaters**, while a **Sub-Antarctic Skua** followed the boat for some considerable distance. Eventually we saw the trawlers in the distance and when approaching them we came across huge number of **Great Shearwaters**, **White-chinned** and **Pintado Petrels**, 6 **African Penguins**, plus a small pod of **Common Dolphins** that came alongside the boat providing very good views.

The large trawlers had phenomenal numbers of seabirds behind them consisting largely of **Great Shearwaters** numbering several thousand, **White-chinned Petrels** numbering several hundred, large numbers of **Wilson's Storm Petrels**, but it was the large numbers of albatrosses that are the real spectacle of this trip. The **Shy Albatross** being the most common of the four species that we had on this trip, with an estimate of 80+, and at one stage we had 14 take off from the sea in front of us in one flock. There were also at least 7 **Black-browed Albatross** sitting around the boat, while others fished for offal being thrown over the sides of the trawlers, and **Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross** and a single **Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross** were also present. Add to this several

Sabine's Gulls, 3 **Northern Giant Petrels** with the green tipped bill, and a single **Southern Giant Petrel** with the orange tipped bill, although there were fewer of these this year due to extremely fine weather. While watching this sea-bird extravaganza, a **Flesh-footed Shearwater** dropped onto the sea in front of us, similar to the **Sooty Shearwater** with a very pale bill and in flight pale flesh legs, whilst the sea was littered with the beautiful black and white **Pintado Petrels**. The sight of all these seabirds surely has to be one of THE birding spectacles anywhere on earth.

We made our way back to the Cape and while having lunch saw 4 more **Southern Right Whales**, again producing very good views, along with strings of several hundred **Cape Cormorants** and **Cape Gannets**. Leaving here we visited a beach where we were able to observe over 80 **African Penguins** sitting on the rocks. From here we headed to Simon's Town Quay where we saw **Bank Cormorants**, **Swift Terns**, **Black Oystercatcher**, **Cape Wagtails** and **Red-winged Starlings**, and **Greater Striped Swallows**. We met Johaan on the quay and proceeded to Jonkersdam, a beautiful part of the Finboss which is situated up in the mountains consisting of heathers and proteas. Here we had 2 **Grassbirds**, which is a Cape Speciality, along with **Orange-breasted**, **Malachite** and several **Southern Double-collared Sunbirds**, **Cape Robin-chats**, a beautiful male **Cape Rock Thrush**, and **Cape Rock Buntings**. The rocky outcrops contained **Familiar Chats**, and the Proteas bushes contained a **Bokmakerie** and several **Cape Sugarbirds**, while overhead we saw **White-necked Raven** and **Pied Crows**, plus a **Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk** hunting for prey. A scratchy song in the bushes provided us with a **Grey-backed Cisticola**, the monotonous song of the **Karoo (Spotted) Prinia**, along with **Cape Bulbuls**, and we heard an **African Hoopoe**. Overhead, **White-throated Swallows** and **African Black Swifts** were seen. We also added a few more animals to our list today, with **Rock Hyrax**, **Southern Rock Agama**, **Cape Skink**, and a bright red **Milkweed Locust**!

DAY 3 SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER

An early morning walk around the gardens produced a good selection of birds, with **Cape Robin-chats** feeding young, **Cape White-eyes**, a superb male **Pin-tailed Whydah** with the very long flowing tail, **Southern Double-collared Sunbirds**, **Laughing**, **Red-eyed** and **Cape Turtle Doves**, a few **Cape Canaries**, and a **Hadedda Ibis**. A nearby marshy area produced **Cape Reed Warblers**, and an **African Marsh Harrier**. Sadly it was time to leave Noordhoek and proceed to our next destination, stopping along the way at a small shady area beside the road side to look for **Victorin's Warbler**, but unfortunately the bird did not show, although we had **Cape Sugarbirds**, beautiful **Orange-breasted** and **Malachite Sunbirds**, an excellent view of **Cape Grassbird**, and a couple of **Familiar Chats** sitting on a telegraph pole. Leaving here, the winding route followed the base of the mountains with the sea on the other side of the road, and was quite productive with **Rock Martins**, **Greater Striped Swallows**, large numbers of **White-rumped Swifts**, **Familiar Chats**, and **White-necked Ravens**, while along the coastline we had a **Little Egret**, and an **African Spoonbill**, while sitting on the top of an electric pole was a **Black-shouldered Kite**. This area contained a huge rocky escarpment alongside the coast and we walked only a short distance before finding the very beautiful and much sought-after **Cape Rockjumper**, which gave superb views. While we observed them at our leisure, other species began appearing amidst the surrounding rocks with 4 **Cape Rock Thrushes**, and a very rare **Sentinel Rock Thrush**, the latter having a much paler mantle than **Cape Rock Thrush**, and we also had a few **Cape Rock Buntings**. The surrounding bushes contained **Fiscal Flycatcher**, and even more **Malachite** and **Orange-breasted Sunbirds**, while alongside the track we had **African Pipits**, and **Familiar Chats**. Overhead, **Greater Striped Swallows**, 8+ **Rock Martins**, 50+ **White-rumped Swifts**, and several **White-necked Ravens** were seen, and as we departed the site enjoyed the last view of **Cape Rockjumpers** and **Sentinel Rock Thrush**.

We continued along the winding road and eventually left the mountains behind and pretty soon, extensive pine trees lined the roads, where we had a brief view of an immature **Gabar Goshawk**. Shortly after we left the rough rugged terrain behind and came to agricultural land which produced 60+ **Blue Cranes** (the emblem of South Africa), a single **Crowned Lapwing**, **African Pipits**, and **Red-crowned Larks**, while two large distant raptors turned out to be **Cape Vultures**. Proceeding

on towards Hermanus we had 3 **Steppe Buzzards**, and 3 beautiful **Jackal Buzzards** with their black and white plumage and red tails, and further roadside birding produced **Fiscal Shrikes**, **Fork-tailed Drongo**, and **Rock Kestrel**. We paused beside a small roadside lagoon where a nice little selection of birds included **Avocet**, **Common Greenshank**, **Black-headed Heron**, both **Common** and **Sandwich Terns**, with a nice view of an **African Marsh Harrier** hunting over the fields, and overhead were **Greater Striped Swallows**, and both **White-rumped** and **Little Swifts**. Another stop a little further on produced 2 distant **African Fish-eagles**.

Hermanus is a fishing port at the top end of False Bay which is well known for the calving grounds of **Southern Right Whales**, and we were not disappointed as we had up to 8 whales, including many with young calves, as well as some mating couples. A **Cape Fur Seal** also put in an appearance, while out in the bay were **Cape Gannets**, **White-breasted** and **Cape Cormorants**, **Hartlaub's Gulls**, **Grey-headed** and **Cape Gulls**, and several **Swift Terns**. There was a good breeding colony of **White-rumped** and **Little Swifts**, and there were also a few **Sacred Ibises** on the shoreline. We left here after a very brief stop and headed out on the very long drive to the expansive wheat fields around Riviersonderend, and this provided us with a very different set of birds. There were many raptors on the roadside poles which included **Jackal** and **Steppe Buzzards**, and **Yellow-billed Kites**, and plenty of other brief stops would also produce **African Pipits**, **Red-capped Larks**, **Cape Sparrows**, **Cape Wagtails**, and **Karoo Prinias**. A small pool held **Cattle Egrets**, **African Darters**, an **African Spoonbill**, **Blacksmith Plovers**, and a flock of **Red Bishops** in their red and black finery, as well as **Yellow Bishops** in their yellow and black finery!

Continuing our journey we saw many **African Stonechats**, while hawking over the fields after insects were lots of **White-throated Swallows**, with 2 **Pearl-breasted Swallows** found amongst them, while overhead we had a superb **Booted Eagle**. In the fields were small flocks of **Helmeted Guineafowl**, as well as **Grey-backed**, **Levaillant's** and several **Zitting Cisticola's**, although a **Cloud Cisticola** was just heard singing, plus **Karoo Prinia** and a pair of very confiding **Orange-throated Longclaws**. We travelled on towards our destination and the roadside fences produced many more **Red** and **Yellow Bishops**, a small flocks of **Blue Cranes** numbering about 40 individuals, good numbers of **Fiscal Shrikes**, 3 **Fork-tailed Drongo's**, good numbers of **Cape Weavers**, and a single **African Hoopoe**. The wheat fields had large numbers of **Red-Eyed** and **Laughing Doves**, **Speckled Pigeons**, and 2 **Cape Turtle Doves**, plus a few grey **Rehbock**. We eventually arrived at Swellendam, the second oldest town in South Africa, and at a small but very productive pool we found 2 **White-backed Ducks** (a very rare bird in the Cape Province), and 4 **Yellow-billed Ducks**, as well as some **Cape Weavers**. The fields contained more **African Pipits**, and in the trees beside the road was a superb **Paradise Flycatcher**, and while observing this bird we found a **Hadeda Ibis** sitting on its nest, with a **Red-chested Cuckoo** calling continuously somewhere in the background. A **Black Sparrowhawk** created a commotion when it decided to chase a **Yellow-Billed Duck** but failed to catch it, and in the nearby bushes were **Cape Canaries**, the beautiful **Greater Double-collared Sunbird** (a much more striking bird than the **Southern Double Collared Sunbird**), and we also had 2 **Speckled Mousebirds** creeping as they do in the dense bushes. We then travelled a fair distance from here and eventually arrived at our destination, and while waiting for the keys to our bungalows saw **Dusky Flycatcher**, **Greater Double Collared Sunbird**, **Cape Canaries**, a single **Brimstone Canary (Bully Canary)**, **Fork-tailed Drongo**, and another **Red-chested Cuckoo** called from the forest behind us, with a fine **Black Harrier** flying over the farm completing the picture. We finally made our way back to the bungalow and heard a **Spotted Eagle Owl** calling in the nearby trees.

DAY 4 MONDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2006

An early morning walk around the farm produced plenty of commoner species, including **African Turtle Doves**, and in the trees an **African Olive Pigeon** showed well. **Cape Weavers** were busy building their nests, while **Cape Canaries** and **Brimstone Canaries** sang from the tree tops and **Cape White-eyes** "chattered" around the bushes. The Bottlebrush trees had **Greater Double Collared** and **Malachite Sunbirds** busy probing the flowers for nectar, while **Fork-tailed**

Drongo's were fly-catching from the lower branches of the trees. Overhead were **African Black Swifts** and small groups of **Hadeda Ibises** flew over, while **White-throated** and **Pearl-breasted Swallows** were nesting in the barns. The gardens held **Fiscal Flycatchers**, **Cape Robin-chats**, a **Southern Boubou**, and 2 male **Pin-tailed Whydahs**. In the forest were up to 4 calling **Red-chested Cuckoo's**, with one individual eventually providing good views. This very old forest has been left to the Government as a Reserve by the owners of the farm, and is in a very deep valley surrounded by mountains which are forested and often has a dense mist which rolls into the valley and forest, producing a thick veil. A very interesting walk here produced several beautiful **Paradise Flycatchers** with long flowing tails, as well as **Fiscal**, **Dusky**, and **Blue-mantled Flycatchers**, **Cape Batis**, several **Cape White-eyes**, and even more **Red-chested Cuckoo's**. We crossed the ravine at the bottom of the valley and heard some **Knysna Warblers** trilling away but having spent some time here we could not see this very skulking bird. A walk further along the track produced a hide from which we saw **Olive Thrushes** and **African Olive Pigeons**, along with all the species of commoner doves. Once out of the forest we came across the very secretive and shy **Terrestrial Bulbul**, as well as **Bar-throated Apalis**, **Black Saw-wing**, **Forest Canary**, and a **Cape Francolin** that scurried away into the undergrowth. Overhead we were fortunate to observe a **Forest Buzzard** which is only found in this section of forest, and there was also a pair of **Peregrine Falcons**, **Booted Eagle**, several **White-necked Ravens** and **Cape Crows**, and **Red-winged Starlings**. The well manicured lawns produced **Sweet Waxbills** and **Hadada Ibises**, whilst the nearby area consists of very large and extensive wheat-fields interspersed with rough roads, producing very large numbers of birds both in the fields and also on the roads, including 20+ magnificent **Blue Cranes**, large numbers of **Helmeted Guineafowl**, **Egyptian Geese**, a single **Grey-winged Francolin**, and 2 **Common Quail**. The wheat fields were full of birds as well, including the very large **Alghulhas Long-billed**, **Red-capped** and **Large-billed Larks**, **Grey-backed Sparrow-lark**, whilst the number of pipits included 100+ **African Pipits**, a single **Long-billed Pipit**, and a single **Cape (Orange-throated) Longclaw** - a superb very large pipit-like bird that just sat by the fence, and several **Cape Wagtails**. There was also a superb male **Denham's Bustard**, 5 **Karoo Korhaan**, and 2 **Spotted Dikkops** which were well 'spotted' by Catharine sitting in a ploughed field, large numbers of **Blacksmith** and 3 **Crowned Plovers**. Some small irrigation ponds contained a **Reed Cormorant** and 2 **Hammerkop**, a very unusual heron with a distinctive head profile, and 3 very large **Spur-winged Geese** also put in an appearance.

The shrubby hedgerows contained **Sombre Bultuls** which decided to be difficult to see, but much easier to observe were 50+ **Fiscal Shrikes**, and 2 shy **Bokmakierie**, a very handsome bush-shrike with yellow and black throat markings, and there was also a **Speckled Mousebird** and an **African Hoopoe** as well. A new trip bird was a **Sickle-winged Chat** which provided very good views for the whole group, a single **Neddiky** sang its dreary song, and 5 tiny **Cloud Cisticolla's** performed their dipping song display flight. The bushes also contained many **Karoo Prinias**, a single **Karoo Chat**, and **Cape Batis**, whilst **African Stonechats** were very common indeed. There were also loads of doves present, including **Cape Turtle Doves**, **Laughing** and **African Olive Doves**, as well as 4 **Namaqua Doves** sitting on the wires. The electric pylons were always worth checking, and had up to 6 **Jackal** and 4 **Steppe Buzzards** sitting on them eyeing up their prey. Carrying on, we came across a little wooded valley where a **Diderick Cuckoo** came and sat on the electric wires, and further along we had to cross the Breede River where a little manual car ferry takes you across the river. Out in the farmland areas were Ostrich farms with 100+ **Ostrich** on the farms. Once across we would make frequent stops by some river beds where the commoner bishops were nesting amongst the reeds with their untidy nests made of grass, while **Cape Weavers** made their immaculate woven nests. **White-throated** and **Brimstone Canaries**, and **Cape Buntings** were seen feeding on the roadsides, hopping up onto the wires when dodging the cars and lorries.

We made our way back to the farm when we came across a **Puff Adder** which had been recently killed on the road, so we stopped took some photos unaware that Viv would have a live one crossing the path in front of him a short while later. Puff Adders kill more people in Africa than any other species of snake, being the fastest striking of its kind – so a cautionary tale indeed.

On our return, we decided to walk around the farm when Johaan heard a **Greater Honeyguide** calling from the nearby forest. It turned out this bird had been coming to the bees wax taken from the hives, and we observed the bird flying over us and landing in some nearby trees providing us all with excellent views. While watching this bird a couple of **Lesser Honeyguides** came into the same trees again providing excellent views, and there was also an **Olive Thrush** in full song, as well as **Brimstone, Cape, White-throated** and **Streaky-headed Canaries** present, allowing us all to observe the differences in the identification details. We also had all species of dove, as well as **Cape Weavers** at their nests, **Cape White-eyes** in the trees, while around the Bottlebrush trees there were **Amethyst, Greater Double-collared** and **Malachite Sunbirds**, providing a dash of colour to proceedings. Further scrutiny of the gardens gave us **Common Waxbills, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow**, whilst a **Cape Grassbird** was singing in the nearby hedge. We eventually made our way back to the bungalows late at night, when we heard 2 **Fiery-necked Nightjars** singing in the nearby forest clearings. Apart from all the good birds today we also recorded some mammals including **Bushbuck, Springbok, Yellow Mongoose** and **Vervet Monkey**.

DAY 5 TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2006

An early morning walk around the farm complex produced all the regular species, whilst a quick look in the forest produced **Dusky** and up to 4 **Fiscal Flycatchers**, 2 **Red-chested Cuckoo's** which gave good views, and a single **Bar-throated Apalis**. After breakfast we were putting our cases into the vehicles when we had a **Peregrine Falcon** flying over and a distant **Black Harrier** eventually flew directly above the farm flying over our heads providing absolutely fantastic views of this very beautiful raptor. Over the forest we had 2 **Forest Buzzards** displaying, while out in the distant fields were 3 **Denham's Bustards**, with the males displaying to the females by puffing out their pure white chest feathers, making themselves twice the size. We made our way to the Bontebok Reserve where we crossed the large wheat fields which produced another couple of distant **Black Harriers**, while sharp-eyed Trish found 2 **Spotted Dikkops**. We continued along the dirt roads and as we approached the Reserve, 10 magnificent **Denham's Bustards** were seen with most of the males in full display pouting their huge white breasts, as well as some **Cape (Orange-throated) Longclaw's**. The bushy hedgerows held **Zitting, Grey-backed**, and 2 **Nedickky Cisticola's**, but the reserve was a little disappointing although the mammals were good with **Bonteboks, Hartebeest, Grey Rhebok, Cape Mountain Zebra, Springbok, Southern Scrub Hare, a Cape Grey Mongoose**, and 2 **Angulate Tortoise**.

We then had a rather long drive from the Bontebok National Park to our next site, which took us through more wheat fields with some irrigation pools that had amongst other things **Sacred Ibis**, 2 **African Spoonbills**, several **Spur-winged Geese**, **Red-capped Larks**, **Grey-backed Sparrow-larks**, and **Cape Wagtails**. The symbol of South Africa, the **Blue Cranes** were observed throughout our journey with a total of 60 birds in all, with **Black-shouldered Kites** sitting on the electric poles and **Yellow-billed Kites** patrolling the area for road kills, and we also had **Steppe** and **Jackal Buzzards**, as well as a single **Rock Kestrel**. Good numbers of **Helmeted Guineafowl** and a few **Denham's Bustards** were seen out in the fields, while the hedgerows and fence wires enticed quite a few **Pin-tailed Whydahs, Cape Sparrows, Karoo Prinias** and **Fiscal Shrikes** to perch up nicely for us. We continued our journey until Trish spotted a large bird of prey which turned out to be a juvenile **Martial Eagle**, this huge bird provided us all with excellent views and when a pair of **Cape Crows** tried to move the bird on it became apparent how big this bird actually is. Upon arrival at the next reserve, which consisted of large tidal pools and an inlet with muddy shores it was apparent that the area acted like a magnet to a good selection of European and Asiatic waders, such as **Curlew Sandpipers, Little Stints, Ruff, Grey Plovers, Common Greenshank**, a single **Marsh Sandpiper, Whimbrel, Eurasian Curlew**, a single **Knot**, and 2 **Bar-tailed Godwits**, with good numbers of **Black-winged Stilts** as well. Of more interest to us were the African waders that included the beautiful **Kittlitz's Plover**, as well as **White-fronted** and **Blacksmith Plovers, Crowned Lapwings**, and **Black Oystercatchers**. Further out on the sandy spits were **Crowned Cormorants**, large numbers of **Cape** and **Hartlaub's Gulls**, and next to them

were 3 **Caspian Terns**, which were equal in size to the **Cape Gulls**. Another good observation was a pair of **Damara Terns** fishing in the shallow lagoons, these diminutive birds are very rare in the Cape and we were very lucky to see them. The inland pools covered with rushes and sedges held a selection of herons, but we were more interested in the hirundines breeding in the nearby sandbanks and included quite a few **Brown-throated** and **Banded Martins**, along with **Pied Kingfishers** who were busy feeding their young in a much larger hole. The surrounding fields and hedgerows contained **Southern Boubou**, and **Bokmakierie**, the latter is a handsome bush shrike with a black and yellow marked breast, and there was also several **Grassbirds** and **Speckled Mousebirds**. So we drove on, seeing **Cape Buntings**, **Cape Weavers** and a single **Southern Masked Weaver**. This journey took us over the mountains in very thick fog and therefore birding was not possible in these conditions, but we finally arrived at our beautiful lodge in the centre of the Cape Wine District at Stellenbosch.

DAY 6 WEDNESDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2006

An early morning walk around the hotel complex produced large numbers of **Sacred** and **Hadeda Ibises**, and **Little Egrets**, most of which were emerging from the night roost in the nearby conifer trees, whilst flying over the hotel was an **Intermediate Egret**, **Reed Cormorants**, large numbers of **Cattle Egrets**, **African Spoonbills**, and good numbers of **Egyptian Geese**. There were several raptors flying over the lodge as well including **Yellow-billed Kites**, **Booted Eagle**, and **Steppe Buzzard**, with a **Black Sparrowhawk** sitting in the conifer trees nearby. After breakfast we headed over to a sewage works, where a series of large pools was intersected with dykes, thick reedy edges, large trees and bushes, and some exposed mud as well. Birds were numerous and included 20+ **Little Grebes**, 40+ **White-breasted Cormorants**, 30+ **Reed Cormorants**, and 20+ **African Darters**, all of which were breeding in the trees and feeding their young. The trees also contained nesting **Cattle Egrets** (100+), and **Little Egrets** (20+), a single **Great White Egret**, 4 **Grey Herons**, 4 **Black-headed Herons**, 100+ **Sacred Ibises** and 10 **Hadeda Ibises**. There was also 50+ **Egyptian Geese** which all added to deafening noise of all the breeding birds. The periphery of the pools held **Black-crowned Night-herons**, **African Spoonbills**, and several **Purple Herons**. Waterfowl included the rare **African Black Ducks**, which are unusual in this part of the Cape, along with **Mallard**, a single **Cape Teal**, **Red-billed Ducks**, **Cape Shovelers**, and **Southern Pochard**. The reeds held a **Purple Swamphen**, several **Moorhen** and **Red-knobbed Coot**, as well as a couple of **African Jacana's** which are very rare birds here in the Cape with only a few records. There was also a very brief view of an **African Rail** which failed to re-appear. The muddy areas produced 4 breeding **Black-winged Stilts**, 25+ **Blacksmith Plovers** with several juvenile birds and young nestlings, and some superb **Three-banded Plovers**. The Reticulation Plant produced large numbers of **Cape Gulls**, with smaller numbers of **Grey-headed Gulls**, and 150 **Hartlaub's Gulls**, which were also nesting. Perched on the side of the dyke was a superb female **Giant Kingfisher**, while in a small lagoon nearby was a single **Malachite Kingfisher** and 2 **Pied Kingfishers**. Hawking for insects over the pools were **Greater Striped**, **Pearl-breasted**, and **White-throated Swallows**, as well as **Brown-throated Martins**, while high overhead were **African Black** and **White-rumped Swifts**. The surrounding reeds contained **Little Rush** and **African Reed Warblers**, and these rather shy warblers eventually gave us all very good views, where all the small plumage details could be seen. Tearing ourselves away from this excellent site, we moved on to a reserve in the mountains with large gardens full of prime Proteas and in this beautiful place we had amongst other things an **African Fish Eagle** calling in the distance, and there were also several **Jackal Buzzards**, whilst 8 **Cape Francolins** with young hid amongst the herbage. The Proteas held lots of the usual sunbirds, a single **Bar-throated Apalis**, whilst a couple of unusual sightings on the Reserve were a single **African Paradise Flycatcher**, and 3 **Karoo Scrub-robins**. Meanwhile on the boulder strewn rocks were 2 **Familiar Chats**, both birds rather plain dull coloured and blend in well with the surrounding boulders. Our main target here was the rare **Protea Canary**, and whilst looking for this we also saw **Southern Boubou**, **Cape Sparrows**, **Southern Masked Weavers** and **Cape Buntings**, most of which were feeding on the Protea seeds and around the giant boulders in the hillsides. Overhead we had **Pied Crows**, **White-necked Ravens**, **Alpine** and **African Black Swifts**, a single **Little Swift**, and **Rock Martins**, whilst **Black Saw-wings** were breeding in their

nest holes which were made in the sandy banks and were feeding with **White-throated** and **Greater Striped Swallows**. The beautiful King Proteas had 30 **Cape Sugarbirds** feeding on them, but unfortunately we did not have the **Protea Canary** at this Reserve. In the car park we had a superb view of a **Klaas's Cuckoo**, a very bright green cuckoo which provided prolonged and very good views in the tree tops, while on the ground we had 8 **Sweet Waxbills**, as well as 4 **Pin-tailed Whydahs**. However, we had to tear ourselves away from this beautiful area and head for Noordhoek. The long drive produced a single **Ostrich** and a single **Rock Kestrel** and on arrival at a large pool at the Silver Mine Estuary produced a few **Malachite Kingfishers**, and **Yellow-billed Ducks**.

DAY 7 THURSDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2006

An early morning walk around the grounds produced all the usual suspects, while a nearby marsh held **Levaillant's Cisticola**, **Red-knobbed Coot**, **Little Rush** and an **African Reed Warbler**, while a **Black Sparrowhawk** flew overhead, and nearby we saw **Crowned Lapwings** and a **Burchell's Coucal**, while an **African Marsh Harrier** quartered the marsh looking for prey. After breakfast we visited a small rocky bay with a coastal area near a small promontory and lighthouse, where lots of terns fed in company with large numbers of **Hartlaub's Gulls**. Of interest were several **Sandwich Terns** that had metal rings on their legs and probably were of English origin. The rocky shoreline also held several species of cormorant which included 20 **White-breasted Cormorants**, 1,000+ **Cape Cormorants** which were travelling offshore in huge feeding parties, 20 **Bank Cormorants**, and 20 **Crowned Cormorants**. The rocky pools held 2 **Grey Herons** and 3 **Little Egrets**, while 2 **Pied Kingfishers** dipped into the pools after small fish, and the rocky shoreline held 15 **African Black Oystercatchers**, several **Blacksmith** and 2 **White-fronted Plovers**, with a single **Whimbrel** being a surprise to us all. The scrubby areas around this little cove provided us with **Cape Wagtails**, a **Southern Boubou** calling, and **Karoo Prinias**. A **Black Sparrowhawk** dashed overhead towards the Lighthouse obviously after prey, whilst offshore were large numbers of **Cape Gannets**.

While travelling along the road we stopped on several occasions to look at some **Southern Right Whales**, which provided very close views, as well as some **Cape Fur Seals** and **Chacma Baboons**. We travelled further along the coast making our way to Cape Point when we stopped at Oliphantsbosch, which is a small sandy bay covered largely with wracks of seaweed, while the surrounding vegetation consists of bushes and open grassy areas. The bushy areas produced 2 **Grey-backed Cisticolas**, a superb view of **Grassbird** which can sometimes be very difficult to see and can be missed on the Cape Trip, **Karoo Prinias**, 3 **Speckled Mousebirds**, and 4 **Cape Sugarbirds**. The bushy area around the shoreline had 5 **Bonteboks**, a rare antelope which is fully protected and found only in the Cape as it is able to cope with the vegetation in the Feinbos.

Cape of Good Hope is a famous rocky promontory where many boats came to grief while rounding the Cape of Good Hope in the stormy seas, and a well known tourist attraction. A large number of the group went up to the lighthouse while others walked around Cape Point itself which consists of high cliffs and thick vegetation dwarfed by the continuous winds. This area produced superb views of **Cape Rock Buntings** in full song, as well as **Cape Bulbuls**, and at least 4 **Cape Siskin** feeding on the seed heads of the Proteas. Passing the Cape Point were 4,000 **Cape Cormorants** and 100+ **Cape Gannets**, and we were able to observe the huge colony of cormorants sitting on their nests where the stench of the dropping wafted in our direction. We eventually gathered together to have a photo-shoot at the Cape Point, where there were a few **Cape Fur Seals**, and 6 **Ostriches** which breed here, and then proceeded to Simons Town. The Boulder Beach area contains huge smooth rounded boulders, hence the name Boulder Beach and contained 100+ **African Penguins**, which allowed a very close approach, and there were many full grown young ready to move out to sea. Moving on, we checked out another area where **Cape Rock Thrush**, **Neddicky**, **Orange-breasted Sunbird**, **Common Waxbills** and **Cape Turtle Doves** were seen. Other animals of interest included **Southern Rock Agama** and **Cape Girdled Lizards**.

DAY 8 FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2006

An early morning walk around the gardens and surrounding marshland produced an **African Reed Warbler**, a single **Little Rush Warbler**, and **Levaillant's Cisticola**, while flying over the garden was a **Reed Cormorant** and 2 **Sacred Ibis**. Unfortunately it was time to pack our bags and head for home, but stopped off at a little wooded valley on the outskirts of Cape Town where we had excellent views of **African Black Sparrowhawk**, **Booted Eagle**, **Cape Batis**, **Olive Thrushes**, **Cape Robin-chat**, **Cape Canaries**, **Cape White-eye**, **Cape Bulbuls**, **Sombre Greenbuls**, and **Dusky Flycatcher**. One of the most difficult birds to see is the **Knysna Warblers** and although we had two of these warblers we still could not see them although they were very close. We finished our Cape birding experience at the world famous Kirstenbosch Gardens, where we saw **Southern Double-collared** and **Orange-breasted Sunbirds**, **Olive Thrush**, **Cape Batis**, and several **Sombre Greenbuls** that gave good views. A large tree contained 2 **Spotted Eagle Owls** which gave us all excellent close views and was a fine way to finish our birding.

I would like to thank Johaan and the rest of the group for making this a superb trip producing many excellent sightings of both birds and mammals

Vivian Stratton

Checklist starts on next page -

SOUTH AFRICA 20th - 27th / Oct - 2006

SPECIES	<i>Scientific Name</i>	No of days out of 8 recorded	Highest daily count C.= Common LC = Locally Common H or h.= Heard only N/C.= No count E = Endemic	
1.	Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus australis</i>	5	10+
2.	African Penguin	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>	2	100
3.	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	3	40+
4.	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	1	4
5.	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	1	150
6.	Shy Albatross	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>	1	40+
7.	Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	1	3+
8.	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche chlororhynchos</i>	1	1
9.	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche carteri</i>	1	1
10.	Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	1	1
11.	Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	1	4
12.	Pintado Petrel	<i>Daption capense</i>	1	40+
13.	White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	1	200+
14.	Flesh-footed Shearwater	<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	1	1
15.	Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>	1	2000+_
16.	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	1	60+
17.	Wilson's Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanites Oceanicus</i>	1	40+
18.	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	1	40+
19.	Cape Gannet	<i>Morus capensis</i>	3	600
20.	White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo lucidus</i>	5	100+
21.	Cape Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>	3	1400
22.	Bank Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax neglectus</i>	2	30+
23.	Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>	5	80
24.	Crowned Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>	4	25
25.	African Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster rufa</i>	5	70+
26.	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	6	22
27.	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	7	21+
28.	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	2	8
29.	Yellow-billed(Intermediate) Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	2	3
30.	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	4	44
31.	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	5	130+
32.	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	3	14
33.	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	6	380
34.	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	7	120+
35.	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	1	50+
36.	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>	4	10
37.	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	1	300
38.	White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>	1	2
39.	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>	8	270
40.	South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	1	7
41.	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	2	15
42.	White-faced Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	1	10
43.	African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>	1	3
44.	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	1	3
45.	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	2	63
46.	Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>	3	35
47.	Red-billed Duck	<i>Anas erythrorhynchos</i>	2	60+
48.	Cape Shoveler	<i>Anas smithii</i>	2	40+
49.	Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>	2	24+
50.	Maccoa Duck	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>	1	34
51.	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	4	10
52.	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus migrans aegyptius</i>	5	31+
53.	African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	2	2 +1h
54.	Cape Griffon	<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>	1	2
55.	Black Harrier	<i>Circus maurus</i>	2	4
56.	African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	3	4

57.	Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	2	3
58.	Black Goshawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	4	6
59.	Steppe Buzzard	<i>Buteo vulpinus</i>	5	14+
60.	Forest Buzzard	<i>Buteo oreophilus trizonatus</i>	2	3
61.	Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>	4	14
62.	Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennatus</i>	4	4
63.	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	1	1
64.	Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolis</i>	5	7
65.	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	3	5
66.	Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Francolinus africanus</i>	1	1
67.	Cape Spurfowl (Francolin)	<i>Francolinus capensis</i>	5	31
68.	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	2	2+1h
69.	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	6	53+
70.	Blue Crane	<i>Anthropoides paradisea</i>	3	160+
71.	Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostris</i>	1	1
72.	African Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>	2	10
73.	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	3	10+
74.	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	6	50+
75.	Denham's (Stanley's) Bustard	<i>Neotis denhami</i>	2	19
76.	Karoo Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis vigorsii</i>	1	6
77.	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	1	2
78.	African Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>	4	10+
79.	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	3	65
80.	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	3	212
81.	Water Thick-knee (Dikkop)	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	1	2
82.	Spotted Thick-knee (Dikkop)	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>	2	4
83.	Grey (Black-bellied) Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1	35
84.	Blacksmith Lapwing (Plover)	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	6	150+
85.	Crowned Lapwing (Plover)	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	4	15+
86.	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	2	11
87.	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	2	5
88.	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	2	8
89.	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	1	2
90.	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	1	4
91.	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	2	13
92.	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	3	22
93.	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	2	2
94.	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	2	3
95.	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	1	1
96.	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	2	36
97.	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1	4
98.	Subantarctic Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>	1	4
99.	Pomarine Jaeger (Skua)	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	1	3
100.	Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua)	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	1	15
101.	Cape Gull	<i>Larus vetula</i>	6	800+
102.	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>	4	25
103.	Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Larus novaehollandiae</i>	6	700+
104.	Sabine's Gull	<i>Larus sabini</i>	1	22
105.	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	1	3
106.	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	5	320+
107.	Swift (Great Crested) Tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>	3	260
108.	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	1	12
109.	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	4	1300+
110.	Damara Tern	<i>Sterna balaenarum</i>	1	2
111.	Feral Pigeon (Rock Dove)	<i>Columba livia</i>	8	120+
112.	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	8	310+
113.	Rameron Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>	5	27
114.	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	8	112+
115.	Cape Turtle (Ring-necked) Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	7	90+
116.	Laughing (Palm) Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	8	64+
117.	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	2	5
118.	Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	3	13 + 3h
119.	Klaas' Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	1	1 + 1h

120.	Dideric Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	1	1+ 1h
121.	Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchelli</i>	1	1
122.	Spotted Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	2	2 +1h
	Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis fervidus</i>	2	H
123.	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	4	50+
124.	African (Black) Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	7	120+
125.	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	3	42+
126.	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	6	310+
127.	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	4	7
128.	Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>	1	1
129.	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo cristata</i>	1	3
130.	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	1	1
131.	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	4	11
132.	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	5	4+3h
133.	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	1	1
134.	Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	1	2
135.	Algulhas Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda brevirostris</i>	1	5
136.	Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>	2	15
137.	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	3	55+
138.	Large-billed Lark	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>	1	15+
139.	Brown-throated (Plain) Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	3	17
140.	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>	1	6
141.	Rock Martin	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>	4	40+
142.	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	2	155
143.	White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	8	70+
144.	Greater Striped-swallow	<i>Hirundo cucullata</i>	4	12+
145.	Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristoptera</i>	2	4
146.	Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	8	80+
147.	Cape (Orange-throated) Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>	3	7
148.	African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	4	100+
149.	Cape Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>	6	50+
150.	Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>	2	4+6 h
151.	Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>	1	6
152.	Cape Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>	3	6
153.	Sentinel Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola explorator</i>	1	1
154.	Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	5	15+
155.	Karoo Scrub-Robin	<i>Cercotrichas coryphaeus</i>	2	4
156.	Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Cercomela sinuata</i>	1	1
157.	Cape Rock-jumper	<i>Chaetops frenatus</i>	1	4
158.	Grey-backed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola subruficapillus</i>	4	8+
159.	Levaillant's (Tinkling) Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	5	25+
160.	Neddicky (Piping Cisticola)	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>	3	6
161.	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	5	34
162.	Cloud Cisticola	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>	2	6
163.	Karoo (Spotted) Prinia	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>	8	90+
164.	Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>	3	8
165.	Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>	4	32+
	Knysna Warbler	<i>Bradypterus sylvaticus</i>	2	H
166.	Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>	5	6
167.	African Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>	5	23+
168.	Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	3	15+
169.	Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Sigelus silens</i>	5	30
170.	African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>	4	12
171.	African Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	4	7
172.	Blue-mantled Crested-Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>	1	4
173.	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>	8	45+
174.	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	3	40+
175.	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>	1	50+
176.	Familiar Chat	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>	4	11+
177.	Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>	2	7+
178.	Orange-breasted Sunbird	<i>Anthobaphes violacea</i>	5	19+
179.	Amethyst (Black) Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>	2	4
180.	Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>	6	35+

181.	Southern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chalybea</i>	6	80+
182.	Greater Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris afra</i>	3	21+
183.	Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops pallidus capensis</i>	8	100+
184.	Cape Sugarbird	<i>Promerops cafer</i>	4	40+
185.	Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	6	131+
186.	Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>	6	10
187.	Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>	3	5
188.	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	4	25
189.	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	2	24+
190.	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	3	50+
191.	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	7	80+
192.	White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>	7	46+
193.	European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	8	300+
194.	African Pied Starling	<i>Spreo bicolor</i>	3	110
195.	Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	8	250+
196.	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	8	60+
197.	Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	5	100+
198.	Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>	7	235+
199.	Southern (Vitelline) Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	4	22+
200.	Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	4	160+
201.	Yellow Bishop (Cape Widow)	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	5	82+
202.	Sweet Waxbill (Black-faced Sweet)	<i>Estrilda melanotis</i>	2	11+
203.	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	3	16+
204.	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	6	21+
205.	Forest Canary	<i>Serinus scotops</i>	1	2
206.	Yellow Canary	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>	1	40
207.	Brimstone (Bully) Canary	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>	5	18
208.	White-throated Canary	<i>Serinus albogularis</i>	2	6
209.	Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Serinus gularis</i>	1	2
210.	Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>	8	136
211.	Cape Siskin	<i>Serinus totta</i>	1	4
212.	Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>	6	35
213.	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	3	6

	MAMMAL SPECIES	Scientific Name		
1.	Bontebok	<i>Damaliscus pygargus</i>	2	21+
2.	Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera brydei</i>	1	2
3.	Cape Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>	3	100+
4.	Cape Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes pulverulentus</i>	3	3+
5.	Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus capensis</i>	1	15
6.	Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	1	15
7.	Grey Rherok	<i>Pelea capreolus</i>	2	11+
8.	Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	1	2
9.	Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>	2	5
10.	Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	3	10+
11.	Southern Right Whale	<i>Balaena australis</i>	3	25
12.	Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	2	2+
13.	Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	1	8
14.	Yellow Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ochracea</i>	1	1

	OTHER SIGHTINGS	Scientific Name		
1.	Angulate Tortoise	<i>Chersina angulate</i>	2	10+
2.	Leopard Tortoise	<i>Geochelone pardalis</i>	1	1
3.	Puff Adder	<i>Bitis arietans</i>	1	1
4.	Southern Rock Agama	<i>Agama atra</i>	4	7
5.	Cape Skink	<i>Mabuya capensis</i>	2	3

Please note that our checklists do not include species seen by leaders only.

We also do not include single observer sightings or very poor views.

We do not count heard only or subspecies, although they are noted.

This we believe gives us a very honest accurate group total.

With this in mind we welcome you to compare our lists with other companies, check out our high standards and above all our prices which offer the very best value for money.

