

# SOUTH AFRICA

6-24 NOVEMBER 2019



# INTRODUCTION

This was a largely wildlife base trip focussed both on birds and mammals but not a full on wildlife trip we did plenty of other things, we flew with British Airways to Johannesburg and back from Cape Town. We hired a car with Tempest which was OK. Accommodation and all trips etc. were booked in advance and were all pretty good.

Our Birding guide from Birding Africa was very good and the communication, organisation and help from Birding Africa was excellent and I will highly recommend them. <http://www.birdingafrica.com/>

Cape Town Pelagics was also well organised with good communication, well recommended. <http://www.capetownpelagics.com/>

Photos are Hyperlinked to larger versions



**African Elephant**

# WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

We landed around lunch time and passed through the airport collected the car pretty smoothly and headed off to Secunda. We made a couple of roadside stops for birds and made it to Secunda late afternoon. We were picked up at 6pm by one of the conservation team at SASOL secunda. We drove into the massive Synth fuels plant stopping to see **ostrich**, **blesbok**, **springbok** and white rhino. These have been introduced into the massive protected area around the plant one of the largest area of high veld grassland left. But it was the servals which we were here to see, this protected area has the highest density of servals in the world and the team are studying them.

Marsh Owl



We drove through the grassland as night fell searching for wildlife and servals in particular. We had several false alarms with **steenbok** hiding in the grass looking like servals. We had a **marsh mongoose** and several **porcupines** as well and eventually we got a **serval**, a brief view on a track as it slunk off into the grass never to be seen again. We had some **nightjars**, a couple of **house bats** as well as marsh and grass owls. We were dropped back at our hotel after the drive and must thank our hosts for our visit and all their efforts.



# THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

Today we had a long drive to Madikwe arriving mid afternoon at River lodge, just in time for our first game drive. So after some quick refreshments we headed off into the reserve with nice views of **elephants, giraffes, kudu, white fronted bee eater, northern black korhaans** and a nice selection of **birds**. As darkness fell we got the spotlight out only for the bulb to blow and we only had the headlights for the dark part of the drive, but we did spot a **springhare**. A few **moths**, a **large spider**, some **beetles** and a **Moreau's Tropical House gecko** were around the lights at the chalet.



**Banded Mongoose**



**African Elephant**



**Sunset**

# FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

We were up early, two **bushbucks** outside the chalet as we left for an early morning game drive with **black backed jackal**, **waterbuck**, **spotted hyenas** and three **white rhinos** early on. We located the translocated **wild dog** pack briefly during the drive along with a **Kalahari springbok**. We stopped for a bird I can't remember what because two young male **lions** walked across the road right in front of us, we followed them for a bit until they sat under a tree for a rest. We left them and as we did a we spotted a large male **lion** following the same line as them maybe chasing them off but very nice to see him so close. The bird of the morning was a cracking **kori bustard** close to the car and we had a brief view of a **tree squirrel** as we drove back to camp.

South African Giraffe



After breakfast I explored the camp until lunch, plenty of small birds such as **long billed crombec**, **willow warbler** more **bushbuck** and some nice **dragonflies**. After lunch I watched the **golden tailed woodpeckers** that were using the tree next to our chalet **and red billed hornbills** visiting the veranda and we watched **pieb and great kingfishers** on the river.

White Fronted Bee-eater

African Lion



Mid afternoon we headed off for another game drive joined by three other people slightly less interested in wildlife than us. We had a tip off about some more **lions** and met another vehicle already there watching a mating pair. Dark fell and he had mostly **scrub hares** but we stopped randomly as the guide had spotted an **African chameleon**, and we had two more **lions** on the track just outside the camp.

Plains Zebra



# SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER

The morning drive was quiet mammal wise the usual species seen but there were loads of birds and we stopped for many species a nice Jacobin cuckoo another **kori bustard**, **lesser grey shrike**, and a whole selection of smaller birds mostly **larks** and **cisticolas**. I wandered the camp again after breakfast finally catching up with the water monitor and a few more bird species and a kudu was wandering about camp as well. I had a couple of hours on the veranda just watching and had a few common birds and a **marsh terrapin** on the river.

We headed to a new area on the afternoon game drive, the habitat was different and in the **rocks** we saw some **rock hyrax** and **Eland**. There were some **white rhino** and a couple of buffalo and we watched the sunset with a herd of **elephants**



Black Backed Jackal



White Rhino

.The night drive we had springhares lots of **fiery necked nightjars** a **spotted eagle owl** and an **African rock python**. We spotted an **African wildcat** and a probable **genet sp** to distant to be 100% on the drive back to camp.



African Rock Python

# SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

The morning game drive had nothing new but it would be the last time we saw many of these large species on this trip such as **giraffe, impala, wildebeest** so we enjoyed the drive but we did find a nice **African wildcat** and a few new small birds.

We left after breakfast and had the long drive to Bloemfontein our next destination; we made very few stops and only had a few birds along the way mainly **yellow billed kites** and **steppe buzzards** amongst the numerous **piecrows**.



**Eland**



**Northern Black Korhaan**

We arrived mid afternoon and explored our accommodation which was just outside Bloemfontein in the countryside. The grounds had plenty of **South African ground squirrels** and a couple of **yellow mongooses**, a nice **African hoopoe** and a **Bibron's Blind Snake** along with plenty of common birds. We headed into Bloemfontein for dinner.



**South African Ground Squirrel**



**African Wildcat**



**Greater Kudu**



# MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Another long drive today, our destination Karoo National Park, we stopped at several road bridges to see colonies of **South African cliff swallows** and encountered the first **cape crows**. But a **secretary bird** and some **blue cranes** were the highlights. We arrived at Karoo National Park dodging the many **tortoises** before settling in. After some food we went on the night drive (just us no one else). **Jackal, cape hare, scrub hare** and **cape mountain zebra** the highlights.



Common Ostrich



South African Springbok (White Form)

# TUESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

We were out as soon as the gates opened and did a long drive up Kilpispringer pass and round Potlekkertjie loop until mid morning. **Jackal, red hartebeest, cape mountain zebra, gemsbok, springbok, steenbok** along with **baboons** were all seen on the drive along with some cracking birds such as **mountain wheatear**. We spent the rest of the day driving round the Lammertijes loop stopping for several **larks** and an **African pipit**. There were no people at the picnic site but it was packed with birds, **white backed mousebirds, malachite** and **dusky sunbird, fairy flycatcher** to name just a few. We spent some time in the camp and the bird hide with **marsh terrapins** in the waterhole and **red bishops** in the reedbed. A **short toed rock thrush** and **cape robin chat** were around the swimming pool and there were plenty of common birds in the camp during my walk.



Gemsbok



Malachite Sunbird



White Backed Mousebird



Leopard Tortoise



Southern Red Bishop

After dinner we went on the night drive which was full we spotted lots of **bats** over the water hole, we were stopped by a ranger who had just seen **lions** and we quickly caught up with a lioness and two cubs just down the road. We watched them for a while before continuing. We flushed a **Ludwig's bustard** as we headed off. The highlight of the drive was a **black rhino** and we had a few **grey rhebok** before we headed back to camp stopping again for the **lions** that were now much closer to the road.

# WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

We were out early and took the Lammertijes loop here we located two **warthogs**, warthogs are not present on the reserve mammal list (apparently they do break in from time to time but the lions usually get them pretty quickly) a **black rhino** was spotted along with a group of **Eland**. We stopped at the picnic site where we rescued a **southern pygmy toad** from the swimming pool. Plenty of small birds round the site including **chestnut vented tit babbler** and **black throated canary** and a brief view of a **Saunders' vlei** rat in the BBQ area. We headed back to camp for breakfast spotting a **cape grey mongoose** from the restaurant.

We headed up Klipspringer pass finally finding some **klipspringer** here, we had a brief **Verreaux eagle** and an **African harrier hawk**. the rest of the drive was aimed at birding stopping for every small bird struggling with the **lark** ID but seeing a good number of species, **ground woodpecker** and **karoo korhaan** the highlights.

I went to the waterhole before the night drive to see the bats and confirm them as **Cape Serotine** by sonogram and also photographs. The night drive was only 4 people and we had some **common duikers**, **cape** and **scrub hares**, and a distant **genet sp** and a couple of bats the guide suggested **slit faced bats** clearly not serotines by their flight.



African Lion



Hairy nipple vygie



Rock Martin

# THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

Common Waxbill



We drove the Lammertijes loop before breakfast and had a **cracking Ludwig's bustard, long billed pipit, African rock pipit** and a nice selection of other small birds. We took some snacks for lunch so after breakfast we headed out on the Potlekkertjie loop and the 4x4 Afsaai loop for the rest of the day. We found some **Karoo korhaan's** and plenty of small birds but nothing new large mammal wise. We headed back to camp mid afternoon locating the **spotted eagle owl** nesting nearby. We explored the camp a bit a nice **African hoopoe** and some common birds and I managed to photograph the **Bibron's gecko** at the swimming pool. After dinner we went on the night drive, it was just 4 people and we had the usual species several **Jackals** and two **bat eared foxes**.

Common Fiscal



Cape Robin Chat



King Copper



# FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

Ludwig's Bustard



Red Capped Lark



Meiringspoort Waterfall

We drove the Lammertijes loop one last time, a pair of **Ludwig's bustards** the highlight before breakfast. We headed south stopping at Meiringspoort Waterfall where we had some **rock hyrax** and **cape bulbuls** in the car park. We stopped at some viewpoints through the mountains **orange breasted sunbird** of note. We stopped near Swellendam for food and fuel. From here it was an hour on dirt roads to our accommodation but it took much longer as there were birds everywhere and we kept stopping for **blue cranes**, **capped wheaters**, **rufous eared warbler**, **red capped lark** to name a few. There were ponds and small lakes which held **ducks** and **reed cormorants**, **spur winged geese** and **waders**. We settled into our excellent accommodation by the river watching **night herons**, **red knobbed coots** and **yellow billed ducks**. As dark fell some **bats** started feeding possibly coming from the cliffs behind our accommodation identified as **Melck's serotine** along with **cape horseshoe** and I tracked down a calling **wood owl** with my spotlight after dark.



Cape Bulbul



**Blue Crane**



# SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

Grey Rhebok



Jackal Buzzard



Four Striped Grass Mouse



We were up early and drove to De Hoop a **Denham's bustard** and a group of 50 displaying **blue cranes** the highlights. We also had a **cape grysbok** and a rather damp **Jackal buzzard** as the rain started to fall. We entered De Hoop as conditions worsened and wildlife watching was quite tricky but we drove the roads anyway, **bontebok** were numerous including plenty of calves. The viewpoint for whale watching had zero visibility, strong wind and driving rain made it impossible to whale watch so we gave up and drove round some more finding some **Cape mountain zebras**. We found some **flamingos** both **lesser** and **greater** along with **Great white pelicans** and a selection of **gulls** and **terns**. We had some lunch and during a brief break in the rain had a walk round the restaurant area where a selection of **swallows** were feeding, we had a few **four striped grass mice** and a **bokmakierie**. The rain fell again so we jumped back in the car and drove round some more another **Denham's bustard** of note but with conditions getting worse and we decided to head back. We made plenty of stops on the way back including for a **Namaqua rock mouse**, **grey rhebok** and more **cape grysbok**.



# SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

**Yellow Mongoose**



**Bronze Whaler**



**African Penguin**



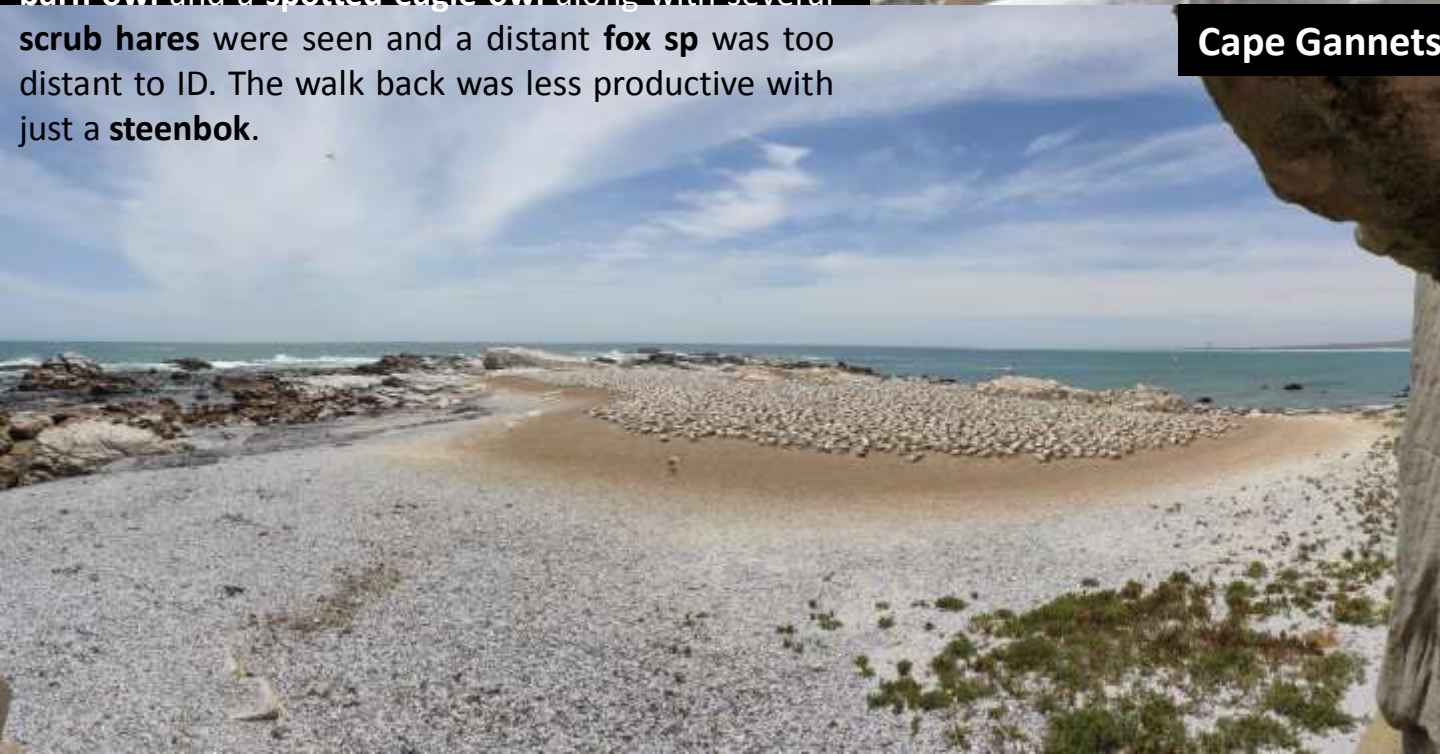
We were up early heading to the coast at Gansbaai, we stopped for a **yellow mongoose**, a **Denham's bustard** and a small lake packed with birds such as **little stint**, **black winged stilt** and several **ducks**. We arrived at Gansbaai to go do cage diving, the great white sharks are no longer present but plenty of other species are present. Our dive was in quite rough conditions but I went into the cage first and had some close views of **Bronze whaler sharks** to get the best before any sea sickness set in, but I was not too bad. It was a pleasure to get back on dry land for a cup of tea and we **had cape sugarbird** and **cape white eye** at the dive café. We headed to Stoney point here is a colony of **African penguins**, along the board walk get you very close to them along with the **rock hyrax** complete with babies. Four **cormorant** species nest here **white bellied**, **cape**, **bank** and **crowned**, the last took some finding amongst the commoner species. There were some **black oystercatchers** present as well a very nice stop. We slowly went to Gordon's bay for the night.

# MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

We had a leisurely breakfast then drove to Bird Island at Lambert's bay here is a colony of 13,000 **Cape Gannets** which we were here to see. Some cormorants also breed here, offshore a **northern giant petrel** cruised up and down along with several **tern** species. We headed to West Coast National Park stopping for some shopping on the way and good job we did as the restaurant closes at 5pm! And park reception closes at 4pm (we did not know this and gate reception did not bother to tell us) so after entering the park at 4pm we made a quick stop at the most northern hide where we had some **flamingos** and **whimbrel**. A cracking **black harrier** was seen on the way to reception which we found was closed and we had no idea where our accommodation or keys were. We searched ourselves for a bit and found the cottage which was unlocked with keys inside (if only they told us this in advance). We had something to eat (good job we stopped for supplies as the restaurant was closed.) I went for a torch light walk, a **barn owl** and a **spotted eagle owl** along with several **scrub hares** were seen and a distant **fox sp** was too distant to ID. The walk back was less productive with just a **steenbok**.



Cape Gannets



# TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

We were at the furthest visitor centre hide first thing, the tide was quite high so the waders were close to the hide and some on the saltmarsh giving good views. There was a nice selection whimbrel, lots of curlew sandpipers, turnstones, greater and lesser flamingos and several plover species. The waterhole hide was next and a nice selection of birds was present here , African purple swamphen of note. We headed to the Atlantic viewpoint for some whale watching we had a southern right whale but nothing else. We stopped at the Preekstoel picnic site for a wander I had a brief view of a Karoo bush rat. And a nice male orange breasted sunbird. At Tsaarbank we did more seawatching two dusky dolphins close in and several humpback whales were seen over a 3 hour watch. We headed back to Atlantic viewpoint for a few more hours of sea watching a small pod of heavside's dolphins passed and a large number of humpback whales (quite distant so could not be 100% sure). We stopped in at the waterhole hide just before dusk with a brief view of a black crane the only addition to the previous visit.

**Levaillant's cisticola**



**Cape Grey Mongoose**


**Namaqua Dwarf Chameleon**



# WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER



Citrus Swallowtail



I took a short walk shortly after dawn I flushed a spotted eagle owl from a bush, it only flying when I was 1m away pity I did not spot it before and a cape hare of note.

We drove up to the Tsaarbank viewpoint but saw nothing on the seas but did see plenty of **karoo rats** and some distant **mountain zebra**. We headed out of the park and went to Darling. From here we birded a gravel road for several miles a juvenile **Verreaux eagle** the highlight but nothing else of note. We drove to Cape Town heading to Kirstenbosh botanical gardens for the afternoon. This a lovely place and was full of wildlife. Highlights were  **dusky flycatcher**, **orange breasted sunbird**, **cape skink**, **cape river frog** and a few **butterflies** the spectacular **citrus swallowtail** the pick. We went to our accommodation nearby and after dinner we settled down on the sofa. Outside on the veranda we spotted movement in the tree a **large spotted genet** climbed up looked briefly at the food I had put out and disappeared.

Black Harrier

# THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER



Cape Sugarbird

The **genet** had left some food and a **grey squirrel** was happily feeding on it first thing. We had arranged a day trip with a bird guide, Seth from Birding Africa, we headed to the Bettys Bay area for the day. The first stop was for the main target of the day **Cape rock jumper**, first we had **cape siskins**, **cape rock thrush**, **cape grassbird**, **neddicky** and **ground woodpeckers** before finding a pair of **rock jumpers**.

We explored a nearby area which had been burnt the year before in a fire and located a couple of orchids **Cape town Acrolophia** and **Shield Orchid**. Time for some lunch then we looked for the Beautiful Bonatea orchid which had been seen recently near the restaurant we located one in good condition. We spent a little time in the Kogelberg reserve there were some amazing **king proteas** in flower along with many other species with many attendant **cape sugarbirds** and some nice **southern rock agamas**. Next stop was the Harold Porter botanical gardens where we found some **cape river frogs**, **dragonflies** and a nice **amethyst sunbird**, **cape grassbird**, **black saw winged swallow**, a **red legged skink** and a selection of **canaries** and plenty of other birds.



Cape Rockjumper



Cape Siskin

We made a stop for **Victorin's warbler** locating two and a flyby **Peregrine**, our last stop was a very steep slope and here is the very rare endemic **Erica amidae** only found on this slope! We found a couple of the tiny plants in flower.

We were back at our accommodation at dusk and after a quick visit to the restaurant we settled in on the sofa for **Genet** watch but after a couple of hours nothing and just as I was heading to be it appeared and fed for a while allowing me to get some photos through the patio doors.



**King Protea**

# FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

We are at the Table mountain cable car early and got one of the first cars up, the views were spectacular with amazing visibility we could see a very long way. We took a wander, a few **agamas** and **girdled lizards** and plenty of **plants** of note but not much else apart from some confiding **orange breasted sunbirds**, but we enjoyed the walk and the views. It started to get busy so headed down for lunch then headed to Cape point via the scenic Chapmans peak drive. There were quite a few **baboons** and we saw one of the baboon patrols ushering them away from buildings. We explored Cape point via the funicular, the **cormorant** colony could be smelt from quite a way off but apart from a few **girdled lizards** not much else to be seen. We popped to the Cape of Good Hope for a quick look before exploring the routes through the park where we found some **Bontebok**, **Eland**, **mountain zebra** and plenty of **ostrich**. The fynbos was blooming with **Cape everlasting** the dominant flower looking spectacular. We left the park just before it closed and headed to Simon's Town for some food. The **Genet** made another visit during the evening.



Cape Point Lighthouse



Eland

# SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

Our Pelagic scheduled for today was cancelled so we had a touristy day in Cape Town, a few **South African fur seals** by the waterfront but not much else. We ended up in Hout bay for fish and chips before having a lazy evening at our accommodation, no sign of the Genet though.



**Clock Tower**



**South African Fur Seal**



**Cape Wagtail**



**Cape Sparrow**



**Hartlaub's Gull**



# SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER



**Cory's Shearwater**

Our last day, it was also the pelagic backup day and it was on, we met in Simon's town at 7am and took a small boat out past Cape point and the Cape of Good Hope, the current here made the sea rather rough. We encountered **white fronted petrels** and **sooty shearwaters** fairly quickly as we searched for any fishing boats without luck. We cruised round searching for birds a **great-winged petrel** and then an **Atlantic Yellow nosed albatross**, **Cory's shearwater** and **sub Antarctic skua** all turned up. We headed roughly back to port catching up with a few **Shy Albatross** a **Black Browed Albatross** but the highlight was a **Bulwer's petrel** that passed us briefly but we could not relocate it. We stopped for some refreshments in a calm bay to recover from the poor sea conditions. We made a stop at a **bank cormorant** colony and a **fur seal** haul out before making dry land. We had a cup of tea to recover from the trip, and I was one of the least ill people on board.

We headed to the airport making a few stops for birds along the way and we got the flight home without any issues.



**White Chinned Petrel**



**Subantarctic Skua**



**Atlantic Yellow Nosed Albatross**

# CHECKLISTS

Blacksmiths Plover



## BIRDS - 302

African Penguin  
Atlantic Yellow Nosed  
Albatross

Sooty Shearwater  
Great Winged Petrel  
Cape Gannet

Lesser Flamingo  
Cape Cormorant  
African Darter

Hadedda Ibis  
Grey Heron  
Intermediate Egret

Black Crowned Night Heron  
Spur Winged Goose  
Yellow Billed Duck

Cape teal  
Yellow Billed Kite

Forest Buzzard  
Black Shouldered Kite  
Peregrine Falcon

Helmeted Guineafowl  
Natal Spurfowl  
African Swamphen

Secretarybird  
Ludwigs Bustard  
Black Winged stilt

Spotted Thicknee  
Crowned Lapwing

Shy Albatross  
Southern Giant Petrel

Flesh Footed Shearwater  
Bulwer's Petrel  
Great White Pelican  
White Breasted Cormorant

Crowned Cormorant  
African Spoonbill  
Glossy Ibis

Black Headed Heron  
Little Egret

Green Backed Heron  
Knob Billed Duck  
Cape Shoveler

Verreaux Eagle  
Jackal Buzzard

African Marsh Harrier  
Pale Chanting Goshawk  
Rock Kestrel

Grey Winged Francolin  
Red Knobbed Coot  
Black Crane

Kori Bustard  
Northern Black Korhaan  
Pied Avocet

Water thicknee  
Grey Plover

Black Browed Albatross  
White Chinned Petrel

Cory's Shearwater  
European Storm Petrel  
Greater Flamingo

Bank Cormorant  
Reed Cormorant  
African Sacred Ibis

Goliath Heron  
Great Egret  
Western Cattle Egret

Little grebe  
South African Shelduck  
Southern Pochard

Booted Eagle  
Steppe Buzzard

Black Harrier  
Gabar Goshawk  
Ostrich

Cape Spurfowl  
Common Moorhem  
Blue Crane

Denham's Bustard  
Karoo Korhaan  
Black Oystercatcher

Blacksmiths Plover  
Kittlitz's Plover

White Fronted Plover  
Three Banded Plover  
Greenshank  
Common Sandpiper  
Curlew Sandpiper  
Arctic Skua  
Grey Headed Gull  
Swift Tern  
Arctic Tern  
Rock Dove  
Laughing Dove  
Jacobin Cuckoo  
Pearl Spotted Owlet  
Barn Owl  
Alpine Swift  
Horus Swift  
White Backed Mousebird  
Pied Kingfisher  
White Fronted Bee-eater

Chestnut Banded Plover  
Whimbrel  
Marsh Sandpiper  
Ruddy Turnstone  
Little Stint  
Kelp Gull  
Hartlaub's Gull  
Sandwich Tern  
White Winged Tern  
Red Eyed Dove  
Namaqua Dove  
African Wood Owl  
Cape Eagle Owl  
African Grass Owl  
Common Swift  
White Rumped Swift  
Red faced Mousebird  
Malachite Kingfisher  
Swallow tailed bee-eater

Ringed Plover  
Bar Tailed Godwit  
Wood Sandpiper  
Sanderling  
Subantarctic Skua  
Sabine's Gull  
Caspian Tern  
Common Tern  
Speckled Pigeon  
Cape Turtle Dove  
Grey Go Away Bird  
Marsh Owl  
Spotted Eagle Owl  
Fiery Necked Nightjar  
Little Swift  
Speckled Mousebird  
Giant Kingfisher  
European Bee eater  
Little Bee-eater



**Crimson Breasted Shrike**

Lilac Breasted roller  
Southern Yellowed Billed  
Hornbill  
African Hoopoe  
Golden Tailed Woodpecker  
Large Billed Thick Lark  
Eastern Clapper Lark  
Cape Long billed Lark  
Pearl Breasted Swallow  
Black Saw Wing Swallow  
Brown Throated Martin  
White Necked Raven  
Ashy Tit  
Red eyed Bulbul  
Olive thrush  
Short Toed Rock Thrush  
Familiar Chat  
Ant Eating Chat  
African Stonechat  
Cape Robin Chat  
Long Billed Crombec

Purple roller  
Southern Red Billed Hornbill  
  
Crested Barbet  
Ground Woodpecker  
Spike Heeled Lark  
Cape Clapper Lark  
Bank Swallow  
Greater Striped Swallow  
House Martin  
Rock Martin  
Pied Crow  
Arrow Marked babbler  
Cape Bulbul  
Karoo Thrush  
Sentinel Rock Thrush  
Sickle Winged Chat  
Mountain Wheatear  
Karoo Scrub Robin  
Cape Grassbird  
Cape Penduline Tit

African Grey Hornbill  
Common Scimitarbill  
  
Acacia Pied Barbet  
Red Capped Lark  
Sabota Lark  
Karoo Long Billed Lark  
Wire Tailed Swallow  
South African Cliff Swallow  
Banded Martin  
Fork Tailed Drongo  
Cape Crow  
Southern Pied babbler  
Sombre Greenbul  
Cape Rock Thrush  
Cape Rockjumper  
Karoo Chat  
Capped Wheatear  
Kalahari Scrub Robin  
Victorin's Warbler  
Yellow Bellied Eremomela



**Kori Bustard**



**Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk**

Chestnut Vented Tit  
Babbler

Lesser swamp Warbler  
Desert Cisticola

Levaillant's Cisticola  
Karoo Prinia

Bar Throated Apalis  
Grey Backed Cisticola

Pirit Batis  
African Pied Wagtail

Plain Backed Pipit  
Long Billed Pipit

Common Fiscal  
Bokmakierie

Red Winged Starling  
Wattled Starling

Malachite Sunbird  
Southern Double Collared  
Sunbird

Cape Sparrow

White Browed Sparrow  
Weaver

Southern Masked Weaver  
Yellow Bishop

Layard's Tit Babbler

African Reed Warbler  
Neddicky

Wailing Cisticola  
Namaqua Warbler

Fiscal Flycatcher  
Fairy Flycatcher

Cape White Eye  
Cape Longclaw

African Rock pipit  
Magpie Shrike

Southern Boubou  
Cape Glossy Starling

Pale Winged Starling  
Red Billed Oxpecker

Orange Breasted Sunbird  
Dusky Sunbird

House Sparrow

Red Billed Buffalo Weaver

Red Billed Quelea  
Scaly Feathered Finch

Little Rush Warbler

Zitting Cisticola  
Lazy Cisticola

Black Chested Prinia  
Rufous Eared Warbler

African Dusky Flycatcher  
Cape Batis

Cape Wagtail  
Buffy Pipit

African Pipit  
Lesser grey Shrike

Crimson Breasted Shrike  
Pied Starling

Common Myna  
Cape Sugarbird

Amethyst Sunbird  
Great Sparrow

Southern Grey Headed  
Sparrow

Cape Weaver

Southern Red Bishop  
Blue Waxbill



**Pied Kingfisher**

White Throated canary  
Black Throated Canary  
Black Headed Canary  
Cape Bunting  
Black Duck  
Violet Backed Starling  
Monotonous Lark

Yellow Crowned Bishop  
Grey Tit  
Grey backed Camaroptera  
Violet Eared Waxbill  
Short Clawed Lark  
Rattling Cisticola

Streaky Headed Seedeater  
Yellow Canary  
Cape Siskin  
Northern Giant Petrel  
Swinson's Spurfowl  
Burchell's Starling  
Marico Flycatcher

Egyptian Goose  
Lark Like Bunting  
African Harrier Hawk  
Protea Canary  
Spotted Flycatcher  
Dusky Lark

Brimstone Canary  
Cape canary  
Cinnamon Breasted Bunting  
Shaft Tailed Whydah  
Brown Crowned Tchagra  
Green Winged Pytilla  
Chestnut Backed  
Sparrowlark  
Rufous Cheeked Nightjar  
Whiskered Tern  
Red Backed Shrike  
Lesser Striped Swallow  
Willow Warbler



**Southern Rock Agama**

## **HERPS - 25**

Leopard Tortoise

Cape Dwarf Chameleon

African Chameleon

South African Rock Python

Southern Rock Agama

Angulate Tortoise

Cape Crag Lizard

Cape Skink

Variegated Skink

Water Monitor

Cape River Frog

Bibron's Blind Snake

Western Rock Skink

Black Girdled Lizard

Variable Skink

Cape Dwarf Gecko

Cape Cliff Lizard

Namaqua Dwarf Chameleon

Southern Pygmy Toad

Marsh terrapin

Red Legged Skink

Bibrons Gecko

Cape Skink

Moreau's Tropical House Gecko

Speckled Rock Skink



# SELECTED PLANTS



**Ground Lily**

*Ceratandra atrata*

Shield Orchid

*Erica coccinea*

*Erica nana*

*Hydnora africana*

Common Pagoda

Pink Watsonia

Red Crassula

Common Butterfly Lily

Camphor Storksbill

Firelover Tulp

Flatpine Lobelia

African lily

Golden ball lead tree

*Geigeria burkei*

*Erythrina lysistemon*

Mopane Yellowthorn

Fringe Cape Gorse

*Acrolophia capensis*

Cape Snow

*Erica multumbellifera*

*Erica corifolia*

The Beautiful Bonatea

Table Mountain Pine

Arum Lily

Purple vipers Bugloss

Wild Dagga

Marsh Pagoda

Yellow Black Reedpipe

Cape Everlasting

Lobster flower

Cape honeysuckle

*Mesembryanthemum*

*subnodosum*

Proliferous Pink

Lemon Yellow Rosemallow

Tall Capeblue

King Protea

South African Weed Orchid

*Erica plukenetii*

*Erica Mammosa*

Ground Lily

Grass Lily

*Ornithogalum thyrsoides*

*Drosera pauciflora*

*Roella ciliate*

Prune Bush

Rocket Capeblue

*Muraltia vulpine*

*Portulaca gilliesii*

Bloodflower

Nodding Pincushion

Lion's ear

*Plumbago auriculata*

Prince-of-Wales Heath



**Common Pagoda**



**The Beautiful Bonatea**

# SELECTED INSECTS



**Koppie Foam Grasshopper**

Dotted Border

Water Bronze

King Copper

Silver Spotted Grey

African Monarch

African Grass Blue

Meadow White

Sooty Threadtail

Banded Groundling

Two Striped Skimmer

Red Veined Darter

Koppie Foam Grasshopper

Tropical Bluetail

Red Copper

Silver Spotted grey

Garden Acraea

Citrus Swallowtail

Brown-veined White

African Migrant

Large White

Abbott's Skimmer

Emperor Dragonfly

Common Threadtail

Epaulet Skimmer

Bold Skimmer

Southern Blue

Pea Blue

Midas Opal

Painted Lady

Red Tip

Geranium Bronze

Orange Tip

Trimen's Blue

Jaunty Dropwing

Scarlet Darter

Palmiet Sprite

Orange-winged Dropwing

Broad Scarlet

# ANNOTATED MAMMAL CHECKLIST

- |   |                |  |
|---|----------------|--|
| 1 | Cape Porcupine | At least 5 on the night drive at SASOL |
| 2 | Steenbok       | Common at most sites                   |



- |   |                          |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| 3 | Serval                   | One on the night drive at SASOL                                     |
| 4 | Common Duiker            | A few seen on the night drives at SASOL and at Karoo                |
| 5 | Marsh Mongoose           | One on the night drive at SASOL                                     |
| 6 | African yellow house bat | Several seen on the night drive at SASOL were probably this species |

7

Plains Zebra

Common at Madikwe and SASOL



8

White Rhino

Seven seen at Madikwe





10

Bontebok

Seen in good numbers at SASOL, De Hoop, Cape Point, West Coast National Park and several road side sightings



11

South African Springbok

Common at Karoo, De Hoop and SASOL



12

Elephant

Common at Madikwe



13

South African Giraffe

Common at Madikwe



14

Scrub hare

Common at most sites



15

Spring Hare

Common on the dusk drives at Madikwe



16

Warthog

Common at Madikwe and two seen at Karoo





17

Blue Wildebeest

Common at Madikwe



18

Banded Mongoose

A family seen at Madikwe



19

South African Ground Squirrel

Common at Bloemfontain and Madikwe



20

Green Vervet Monkey

Common at most sites



21

Chacama Baboon

Seen at most sites



22

Impala

Common at Madikwe



23

Kudu

Common at Madikwe and Karoo



24

Kalahari Springbok

One Seen at Madikwe



25

Wild Dog

Translocated pack seen briefly at Madikwe



26

African lion

Three males and s mating pair seen at Madikwe and a lioness and two cubs seen on night drive at Karoo



27

Tree Squirrel

One Seen at Madikwe



28

Bushbuck

Seen at Madikwe and several roadside sightings



29

Waterbuck

Common at Madikwe



30

Rock Hyrax

Seen at Madikwe, Stony Point, DeHoop



31

Buffalo

Two seen at Madikwe



32

Eland

Common at Madikwe, Karoo, De Hoop, West Coast National park and Cape Point





33

African Wildcat

Seen on Night drive and on a morning drive  
at Madikwe



34

Black Backed Jackal

Several seen at Madikwe and Karoo



35

Cape Mountain Zebra

Several seen at Karoo, WCNP, De Hoop and Cape Point



36

Cape Hare

Several seen at Karoo and West Coast National Park



37

Gemsbok

Plentiful at Karoo



38

Grey Rhebok

Small numbers at Karoo, farmland outside De Hoop and at Cape Point





40

Melck's serotine bat

Several detected at Tides river lodge

41

Black Rhino

Singles seen on night drive and morning drive at Karoo



42

Klipspringer

Several seen at Karoo



43

Cape Grey Mongoose

Seen at Karoo,



- |    |                 |   |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 44 | Bat Eared Fox   | Two seen on Karoo night drive   |
| 45 | Slit faced bat  | Two seen on Karoo night drive   |
| 46 | Yellow Mongoose | Singles seen at several sites Bloemfontein,<br>farmland round De Hoop |



- |    |                          |   |
|----|--------------------------|---|
| 47 | Four Grass Striped Mouse | Several seen at Tsaarbank and Preekstoel<br>picnic sites in West Coast National Park and<br>round the restaurant at De Hoop |
|----|--------------------------|---|





49

Namaqua Rock Mouse

One seen at De Hoop

50

Cape Fur Seal

Plentiful at West Coast NP, Cape point and in Cape Town



- |    |                      |   |
|----|----------------------|---|
| 51 | Cape Fox             | Brief view of one at West Coast National park during a night walk |
| 52 | Southern Right Whale | One seen from Atlantic viewpoint in West Coast National Park      |
| 53 | Humpback Whale       | Several seen from Tsaarbank viewpoint at West Coast National Park |



- |    |                     |   |
|----|---------------------|---|
| 54 | Dusky Dolphin       | Two seen close in from Tsaarbank viewpoint at West Coast National Park                      |
| 55 | Heavysides Dolphin  | A small group seen from Atlantic viewpoint in West Coast National Park                      |
| 56 | Cape Horseshoe bat  | Several detected at Tides river lodge   |
| 57 | Large Spotted Genet | One visiting bird table at Silvermist on several nights and one on a night drive at Madikwe |





58

Eastern Grey Squirrel

Several at Silvermist and its environs



59

Spotted Hyena

Several seen at Madikwe



|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 60 | Meerkat  | Two at a roadside stop south of Bloemfontein on the N1                            |
| 61 | Smiths Red Rock Hare                                     | One seen on Karoo night drive   |
| 62 | Saunders' Vlei Rat                                       | One seen on Karoo picnic area   |
| 63 | Southern African vlei rat<br>( <i>Otomys irroratus</i> ) | Several seen on SASOL night drive   |
| 64 | Cape Horseshoe bat                                       | Several detected at Tides river lodge   |
| 64 | Karoo Bush Rat   | Several seen at Tsaarbank and Preekstoel picnic sites in West Coast National Park |



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