



# August 2 – 15, 2019 Uganda: Fabulous Birds & Mammals w/ Murchison Falls Extension

With guides Herbert Byaruhanga, Judith Mirembe and Peg Abbott, and 10 participants: Anabelle, Bev, Linda, Kim, Brenda, Elaine, Roger, Donna, Ann, and Patrick

**SUMMARY:** Just an amazing trip covering the major central and western national parks of Uganda, with an extension to Murchison Falls. Conditions were green and lush, with tall grass at all savanna locations. Five boat trips gave us a lot of contact with water-associated species such as Goliath Heron and fine viewing of 8 species of kingfisher and myriad waders. Sightings of Lion, Leopard, many Elephant groups, Uganda Kob and other mammals were a bonus to over 350 species of birds. Fabulous sighting of a Shoebill actively feeding was top of the list for all. We also found 25 raptors, including views of African Harrier Hawks raiding the nest of weavers and a Lizard Buzzard killing a snake. Finding eleven members of the outrageous cuckoo clan was notable but it was the 7 species of colorful bee-eaters that charmed us – jewelry on wings. Ten barbets, six woodpeckers showed off our time in lush forests, and a visit by the Red-headed Bluebill at close range off our lodge veranda at Bwindi was a thrill. Sunbirds were with us throughout the journey, 17 species in total. Rarer sightings were two we were well familiar with but exciting for our African hosts, Ruddy Turnstone and Glossy Ibis. And finally none of us will EVER forget our memorable, nine hour gorilla trek or time with those magnificent animals (no legs for the broadbill after that!).

#### KEY:

HO = Heard only
QENP = Queen Elisabeth National Park
MENP = Murchison Falls National Park

#### LOCATIONS:

August 2 – Entebbe Botanical Gardens | Bouma Hotel

August 3 – Mabamba Swamp | Travel | Lake Mburo NP

August 4 - Lake Mburo NP | Boat Trip on Lake Mburo

August 5 – Travel day Lake Mburo to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP

August 6 - Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP

August 7 - Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP | Queen Elizabeth NP | Buhoma Haven Lodge

August 8 - Buhoma Haven Lodge | Queen Elizabeth NP | Kazinga Channel Boat Trip

August 9 - Queen Elizabeth NP | Equator Crossing | Fort Portal | Chimpanzee Guest House

August 10 - Kibale Forest NP

August 11 - Kasese Airstrip | Murchison Falls NP

August 12, 13 and 14 – Murchison Falls NP August 15 – Travel day MFNP to Entebbe for departures

## **BIRDS (355 SPECIES)**

### **ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae (5)**

White-faced Whistling-Duck Dendrocygna viduata —(1) Seen on our boat trip to the Delta, groups of 5 − 12 resting on banks along the shoreline.

**Comb Duck** *Sarkidiornis melanotos* —(1) One individual gave us good views on the boat trip to Kazinga Channel in QENP.

**Egyptian Goose** Alopochen aegyptiaca —(5) A common species around water everywhere.

**Spur-winged Goose** *Plectropterus gambensis* -(2) One individual seen as a flyover as we navigated through the channels of Mabambe Swamp.

**Yellow-billed Duck** Anas undulata —(2) Seen at Lake Victoria both visits to the Entebbe botanical garden and also at Matabama Swamp in small numbers.

#### **GALLIFORMES: Numididae (2)**

**Helmeted Guineafowl** *Numida meleagris* —(9) Seen regularly but always welcomed, in good light a stunning bird, often comical in their movements. We saw them on the ground and roosting towards dusk in trees

**Crested Guineafowl** *Guttera pucherani* —(1) A few towards the front of the line on our Chimpanze trek got a look at this furtive species

#### **GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae (3)**

**Heuglin's Francolin** *Pternistis icterorhynchus* —(3) We first heard and then saw several individuals of this species, typically solo, often vocal, along the road margin in MFNP

**Red-necked Francolin** *Pternistis afer* -(6) Typically encountered as we would stop to scan, feeding among herds of Uganda Kob or other graxers. Seen as singles or groups of 3-4 and with the grass so long we they did not linger long for views, in MBNP and QENP

Crested Francolin Francolinus sephaena —(4) Seen mainly in MBNP and QENP

#### PHOENICOPTERIFORMES: Phoenicopteridae (1)

**Lesser Flamingo** *Phoeniconaias minor* -(1) Three individuals seen, scoped at a long distance in one of the crater lakes we encountered of QENP as we made our way to explore that section of the park.

#### **CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae (5)**

**African Openbill** Anastomus lamelligerus —(2) Seen along the shores of Lake Victoria on both visits to Entebbe's Botanical Garden and then on our boat trip to the Delta of the River Nile at Lake Albert, a lone individual

**Woolly-necked Stork** Ciconia episcopus -(1) Two individuals seen as we approached Bwindi, in an open field we diverted to before going to our lodge

**Saddle-billed Stork** *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* —(2) Seen on both morning and afternoon trips to Entebbe's Botanical Garden our first day, a pair, and then again in MFNP when a pair flew over our bus and landed to feed in an open area for spectacular views

**Marabou Stork** *Leptoptilos crumenifer* —(7) Common and seen frequently, memorable were those hanging around the butcher shops in towns we'd pass in travel. They circled in groups aloft, rested on river margins, posed on large dead trees of the savanna.

**Yellow-billed Stork** *Mycteria ibis* —(6) Seen our river trips, in QENP and MFNP, in groups of 3 to 12, along the river margin, feeding and resting.

### **SULIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae (2)**

**Long-tailed Cormorant** *Microcarbo africanus* —(3) Seen twenty or more in groups along the Lake Victoria shore, roosting in scrubby trees at the Lake Victoria margin of Entebbe's Botanical Garden. Individuals seen on our boat ride through Mambamba, and then a few individuals seen flying over as we reached the Nile River Delta of Lake Albert

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* —(4) Seen at the Botanical Garden in Entebbe along Lake Victoria, then again along Kazinga Channel of QENP and on both boat rides on the Nile River in MFNP.

#### **SULIFORMES: Anhingidae (1)**

**African Darter** Anhinga rufa —(3) Seen along the Nile River in good number (35+) on both of our boat trips there, and one individual seen from the ferry as we crossed our final morning for the return drive to Entebbe

#### PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae (2)

**Great White Pelican** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* —(1) A few individuals seen on our boat trip on the Kazinga Channel of QENP

**Pink-backed Pelican** *Pelecanus rufescens* —(3) Seen at Entebbe's Botanical Garden along the Lake Victoria shore both visits, then on our boat trip on the Kaxinga Channel of QENP and the delta trip on the Nile River at MFNP

#### PELECANIFORMES: Balaenicipitidae (1)

**Shoebill** Balaeniceps rex — (1) A highlight of the bird sightings for many, the "rex" part of its scientific name held true as we spotted one individual about 15 minutes into our boat trip to Mabamba Swamp, a community conservation project. We lingered for as long as we could with this charismatic species, watched as it spread its wings to drop (flop!) on to prey (it missed), shuffle its great feet and move with stealth as it walked and fed in the river vegetation. We did not see it again as expected in MFNP on the delta, so we treasured this single, but so memorable sighting.

#### PELECANIFORMES: Scopidae (1)

**Hamerkop** Scopus umbrette -(7) We saw this handsome species on many days, sitting near its bulky nest at the garden in Entebbe, hanging around fishing boats looking for scraps at several dock areas, on our boat trips but also safaris as they flew over. Seen mainly as pairs or individuals, quite regularly.

#### PELECANIFORMES: Ardeidae (11)

**Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus* —(1) A quick view for one boat while we watched the Shoebill as one popped up out of the rushes and flew

**Gray Heron** Ardea cinereal —(4) Seen as long individuals but regularly in QENP and MFNP

**Black-headed Heron** Ardea melanocephala -(7) More widespread than Gray Heron, we saw individuals around water and in flight between water areas, including from the Kasese Airstrip. We noted a rookery at a bridge stop, in trees above the buildings of a fishing village

**Goliath Heron** Ardea goliath —(3) Seen each day while at Murchison Falls, this impressive heron gave us close views as our boat would approach. Five was our high count one day!

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea* —(2) Lone birds seen infrequently, at Matabama Swamp on our boat ride to the Delta, they seem to prefer the lush swamp areas.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* —(3) Lone birds seen infrequently, one on a travel day, two on boat trips in QENP and MFNP

**Intermediate Egret** *Mesophoyx intermedia* —(2) Kazinga Channel and Murchison Falls boat trips, lone individuals

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta* —(3) Seen at Lake Victoria, Entebbe botanical gardens, then from boat trips in QENP and MFNP, a few individuals mixed in with other waders

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* —(5) Widespread, seen with cattle and with native buffalos, many in breeding plumage. They use the backs of Hippos for a vantage point.

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* — (5) Present in small numbers at appropriate marsh habitat **Striated Heron** *Butorides striata* — (5) First seen on the shores of Lake Entebbe under the cormorant roost, we found them in each marsh visited in small number

#### PELECANIFORMES: Threskiornithidae (4)

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* —(1) Peg spied one fly in to join a group of White-cheeked Pintail as we motored back up the Nile River from the delta. Not common to find, we had good looks of this species at close range, one individual

**Sacred Ibis** Threskiornis aethiopicus —(5) Seen at the Entebbe Botanical Gardens along the Lake Victoria shore, and then on boat rides at QENP and MFNP. Seen as individuals or small groups amid other wading bird species

**Hadada Ibis** Bostrychia hagedash —(12) We saw them almost daily, hearing them first many times as they ring out their name HA DA DA overhead. We saw them at close range showing off their iridescent plumage, often terrestrial sightings as they flew over, but also along river margins

**African Spoonbill** Platalea alba -(1) Seen only on the Kazinga Channel, but seen well, "spooning" as they fed, working the shoreline, often close to Hippos or other wading birds. Definitely a curious member of the bird kingdom!

#### **ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae (24)**

**Black-winged (shouldered) Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* —(5) Seen first on our walk from the Bouma hotel, as with other spots a lone individual, hunting and flying, three of the sightings were in MFNP.

**African Harrier-Hawk** *Polyboroides typus* —(8) Our most frequently encountered raptors, we saw them perched and flying. Most memorable was the one raiding weaver nests as we drove from the airstrip in MFNP to our lodge. It was hanging upside down and probing into the nests.

**Palm-nut Vulture** *Gypohierax angolensis* —(10) Widespread and seen regularly, a beautiful bird to be fairly common. We got super views, flying and perched. Typically seen as lone individuals but several seen per day.

**Lappet-faced Vulture** *Torgos tracheliotos* —(2) Seen well at MFNP, several individuals, grouped with other vultures the first day, a lone bird perched the second.

Hooded Vulture Necrosyrtes monachus —(3) Entebbe botanical garden and MFNP

White-backed Vulture Gyps africanus —(2) In the rich ecosystem of MFNP with so many prey animals and active predators, we got to see groups of these birds and watched for them to lead us to predator sightings

**Rüppell's Griffon** *Gyps rueppelli* —(2) Seen in MFNP with White-backed Vultures, roosting in palms at days end and flying

**Bateleur** *Terathopius ecaudatus* —(6) Widespread, often several individuals seen per day, soaring. We saw both adult and immature birds.

**Black-breasted Snake-Eagle** *Circaetus pectoralis* —(1) One individual seen at the bridge of the Kazinga Channel in QENP on a big utility tower.

**Brown Snake-Eagle** *Circaetus cinereus* —(3) QENP, the first we saw was perched close to the road for good viewing. We then saw them perched and flying at MFNP.

Banded Snake-Eagle Circaetus cinerascens —(1) One individual seen at QENP

**Long-crested Eagle** *Lophaetus occipitalis* —(7) We made a big effort to walk on a busy highway to photograph our first one spied from a rest stop on a travel day. They then became quite common, we could see four or five in a day — elegant and always a treat! Their white-wing patterns make them very conspicuous in flight and we found them perched as well, lone individuals or pairs.

**Wahlberg's Eagle** *Hieraaetus wahlbergi* —(7) The most widespread of the eagle clan, seen perched and in flight. On our final day we studied an odd-colored individual with white in the wing, transitional plumage.

Cassin's Hawk-Eagle Aquila africana —(1) A thrill to see a pair circling above us, distant but discernable from our bird walk at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP.

**Lizard Buzzard** *Kaupifalco monogrammicus* —(3) Our introduction at the Entebbe botanical garden was impressive, we watched one catching a snake! It flew off with it to a perch. We saw them in travel on two other days.

**Dark Chanting-Goshawk** *Melierax metabates* —(3) Individuals seen regularly in MFNP, a few per day. **African Marsh-Harrier** *Circus ranivorus* —(1) A single sighting of one individual flying at the river margin as we watched a sleeping group of lions, 12 of the 16 of this pride visible to us.

**African Goshawk** *Accipiter tachiro* —(1) A very cooperative individual flew up as we focused on sunbirds and seedeaters of a field outside Buhoma Haven Lodge. It perched and we were able to scope it and study it in detail.

**Shikra** Accipiter badius — (1) One harassed the smaller birds of the garden at the Boma hotel, seen by a few of our group

**Little Sparrowhawk** Accipiter minullus —(1) One individual seen on our walk at Bwindi, in the clearing past the first lodges on the level morning walk we took post Gorilla trekking. A quick fly-through on this species

**Great Sparrowhawk (Black Goshawk)** Accipiter melanoleucus —(1) One individual seen on our walk at Bwindi, in the clearing past the first lodges on the level morning walk we took post Gorilla trekking. It soared in the same vicinity as a pair of Cassin's Hawk-Eagle.

Black Kite Milvus migrans —(4) Seen in Entebbe and then on travel days around QENP

**African Fish-Eagle** *Haliaeetus vocifer* —(8) Iconic, splendid and regular views, individuals and pairs, high counts of 10 or more on some boat trips

**Augur Buzzard** Buteo augur —(3) Travel days and Bwindi area, lone individuals

#### **OTIDIFORMES: Otididae (1)**

**Black-bellied Bustard** *Lissotis melanogaster* —(1) Bev and Kim got a look at this species, seen on their side of viewing as it popped up out of the long grass and flew quite some distance remaining in sight. The tall grass made bustard searching tough this year!

#### **GRUIFORMES: Rallidae (1)**

**Black Crake** Zapornia flavirostra —(4) Seen first at Matabama, then we found them in reedy vegetation on most of our boat trips, Kaxinga Channel of QENP and both trips on the Nile River at MFNP

### **GRUIFORMES: Sarothruridae (1)**

(HO) White-spotted Flufftail Sarothrura pulchra -(1) Heard on the late-afternoon from the hedgerow at the edge of our view from the veranda of Buhoma Haven Lodge. It called repeatedly but never came into view.

#### **GRUIFORMES:** Heliornithidae—(1)

**African Finfoot** *Podica senegalensis* —(1) Our guide and boat driver worked very hard for us to see and see well, the male and female of this often local species on the Lake Mburo boat trip. The male was much less furtive and preened on an open branch, while the female kept to the secretive maxe of tree roots on the lake margin.

#### **GRUIFORMES:** Gruidae (1)

**Gray Crowned-Crane** *Balearica regulorum* -(5) First encountered on travel days, a group of 40 or more, we found them widespread but not common and they always caught our attention having such great beauty and elegance. In addition to travel day, pairs were seen well at QENP and MFNP.

### **CHARADRIIFORMES: Burhinidae (2)**

Water Thick-knee Burhinus vermiculatus —(3) Seen at Entebbe at the botanical gardens, and then on Lake Mburo and the Kazinga Channel, usually resting on sandy margins of the river. We had good numbers, at one location about 15.

**Senegal Thick-knee** *Burhinus senegalensis* —(2) Kim spotted our first one on the Murchison Falls boat trip, we saw them again the following day to the Delta at MFNP

#### CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae —(1)

**Black-winged Stilt** Himantopus himantopus —(1) Seen along Kazinga Channel, twenty or more, scattered.

#### **CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae (9)**

**Long-toed Lapwing** *Vanellus crassirostris* —(1) Seen only as we got near to the delta of the Nile River with Lake Albert, resting on sandbars or grassy areas, 2-3 pair in total

**Spur-winged Lapwing** *Vanellus spinosus* —(5) First seen on the shores of Lake Victoria at the Entebbe botanical gardens, we then found them readily along all the river corridors we explored by boat in QENP, MFNP

**Black-headed Lapwing** Vanellus tectus -(2) Not common, we found them in short grass areas where ungulates were graxing in MFNP, just a pair each time

**Senegal Lapwing** *Vanellus lugubris* —(3) Seen on the travel day into Lake Mburo, then two days at QENP, small numbers

**Crowned Lapwing** Vanellus coronatus —(1) Five individuals seen using the mowed areas of the airstrip at Kasese

**Wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus senegallus* —(8) The most numerous and frequently encountered lapwing on our trip, first encountered atop the hill by the picnic table as we walked early from Lake Mburo. Widespread, they were at each location featured on the tour

**Brown-chested Lapwing** *Vanellus* superciliosus —(2) This seasonal visitor from west Africa was a treat to see, several individuals, coming and going from Lake Mburo, some outside the park as well **Kittlitz's Plover** *Charadrius pecuarius* —(1) We found a small group of five bathing on a sand-bar roost of the Nile River on the Delta boat cruise

Three-banded Plover Charadrius tricollaris —(1) We searched for this one but keen-eyed Judith called it out, a lone bird by an occupied Hippo pool at the Kazinga Channel in Queen Elizabeth National Park.

#### CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae (1)

**African Jacana** *Actophilornis africanus* — (5) We saw them at each boat trip (five in total), plying through the aquatic vegetation their lumbering feet. One quite close on the Nile River Murchison Falls cruise we could have almost picked up, so intent was it on feeding on the site. Common with good views.

### **CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae (6)**

**Ruddy Turnstone** Arenaria interpres —(1) We had one walking the shoreline on Kazinga Channel, we'd give directions using which elephant feet it passed by as a big group gathered there. Turns out to be a rare sighting, but we were transfixed on species new to us, will need to check and see if anyone got a photo!

**Little Stint** Calidris minuta —(1) One individual seen in an area with mixed waders and shorebirds on Kazinga Channel

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* —(3) First seen at Lake Mburo, we had it along shorelines of Kazinga Channel of QENP and the Delta in MFNP as well.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* —(1) Two individuals, seen separately, on Kazinga Channel **Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis* —(1) Seen our first day in Entebbe on the shore of Lake Victoria at the botanical gardens

Wood Sandpiper Tringa glareola —(3) Seen on each river-associated location, a few individuals

#### **CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae (1)**

**Rock Pratincole** Glareola nuchalis -(1) A treat to see two of these river-associated pratincoles perched quite close, atop a rock eddy from which we viewed Murchison Falls on our boat trip there

### CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae (2)

**Gray-hooded Gull** *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* —(1) A group of twenty or more were roosting with African Skimmers on our boat trip on the Kaxinga Channel of QENP

**African Skimmer** *Rynchops flavirostris* —(1) Stunning views of 120 or more, lined up roosting on a river sandbar upstream as we started our trip on Kazinga Channel of QENP, several lifting off in flight as we watched them

#### **COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae (13)**

**Rock Pigeon** Columba livia —(2) Seen on travel days associated with towns or villages

**Speckled Pigeon** Columba guinea -(1) We looked for these on the travel day to Lake Mburo, got a good view of six or more sitting atop a tiled roof in town

White-naped Pigeon Columba albinucha —(1) One sighting on our travel day from QENP to Kibale Mourning Collared-Dove Streptopelia decipiens —(2) MFNP, regular along the river

**Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semitorquata* —(11) The most common and widespread dove of our tour **Ring-necked Dove** *Streptopelia capicola* —(7) Also common and widespread, easiest to track from their "work harder" calls.

**Vinaceous Dove** *Streptopelia vinacea* —(4) MFNP, new for us as we arrived there, we saw them daily and they seemed to be displaying, courting, in the papyrus and reedy areas of the Nile River on our boat tours as well as more widespread, heard from our lodge

**Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis* —(7) Seen regularly and widespread

**Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove** *Turtur chalcospilos* —(1) Just one individual feeding in a bare patch as we left Lake Mburo NP and passed through agricultural country

Black-billed Wood-Dove Turtur abyssinicus —(4) Common at MFNP

**Blue-spotted Wood-Dove** *Turtur afer* -(3) Seen at Bwindi, good views near the village, and then some of the group encountered them again at Kibale

**Tambourine Dove** *Turtur tympanistria* —(2) What a stunning dove! We saw them best at Bwindi, both visits to the entrance gate forest pathway. We also heard and saw them at Kibale

**African Green-Pigeon** *Treron calvus* —(6) Our "lipstick" bird after Peg commented on the bill color. As fig trees are plentiful in Uganda, we had the treat of seeing these regularly in the first part of our trip, we did not see them at MFNP

### **CUCULIFORMES:** Musophagidae (6)

**Great Blue Turaco** *Corythaeola cristata* —(4) A striking bird, we first encountered a bold, active group at the Entebbe botanical gardens. They were fairly common on our forest walks and seen also at Bwindi and Kibale including the grounds of our hotel at Kibale.

**Black-billed Turaco** Tauraco schuettii -(1) Roger described watching a tree full of them, 7 or so on the birding option for several of the group at the guided Chimpanzee walk in Kibale. Chimp watchers had to be content to hear them only.

White-crested Turaco *Tauraco leucolophus* —(1) One individual flew back and forth between large fruiting trees on the Nile River, a very impressive bird!

**Ross's Turaco** *Musophaga rossae* —(4) We were able to see this beauty well, at Entebbe at the gardens, on a travel day with four in a tree we stopped on the road to view, Lake Mburo and QENP, seen as pairs or small groups, one time a lone individual in with Great Blue Turacos.

**Bare-faced Go-away-bird** *Corythaixoides personatus* —(2) Seen on both days in Lake Mburu NP, lone indivudals, one at the entry gate as we entered the park late afternoon

**Eastern Plantain-eater** *Crinifer zonurus* —(6) An outrageous personality wrapped up in feathers could describe this bold species. We first encountered them at Boma Hotel, quite vocal in the gardens. They were widespread after that, often seen on travel days as well as parks and reserves

#### **CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae (11)**

**Senegal Coucal** *Centropus senegalensis* —(2) Seen on both ends of the trip, Lake Mburo and MFNP **Blue-headed Coucal** *Centropus monachus* —(1) Seen on our boat trip into Mabambe Swamp, at least three distracting us from watching the Shoebill!

White-browed Coucal Centropus superciliosus — (4) Seen regularly at Lake Mburo NP and during our time at QENP, on boat trips and game drives, several individuals a day

**Blue Malkoha (Yellowbill)** *Ceuthmochares aereus* —(3) Widespread, we encountered this showy species in forest areas, Mburo, Bwindi and Kibale

**Levaillant's Cuckoo** *Clamator levaillantii* —(3) Our first was at the Shoebill site in Mabamba Swamp and we found them again, lone individuals, in MFNP, Roger spied on our walk around the hotel grounds **Dideric Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx caprius* —(4) Lone individuals seen at QENP and MFNP in open woodland and savanna

**Klaas's Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx klaas* —(3) Seen first at the Bouma hotel on the grounds, then encountered in Kibale forest and QENP

**(HO) African Emerald Cuckoo** Chrysococcyx cupreus —(1) Heard only, Kibale forest

**Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo** *Cercococcyx mechowi* —(2) Peg watched two for a few minutes high in the canopy on the gorilla trek day in Bwindi, as we waited for our group at a rest break. We then heard them in Kibale Forest as well.

**Red-chested Cuckoo** *Cuculus solitarius* —(1) This species called quite often, several individuals responding to each other as we searched for Chimpanxees. Our birding group encountered them for a visual as well.

African Cuckoo Cuculus gularis —(1) One individual seen as we entered Lake Mburo NP

#### STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae (3)

**(HO) African Scops-Owl** *Otus senegalensis* —(4) Heard in the night from lodge rooms at Lake Mburo and QENP

**Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** *Bubo lacteus* —(1) An awesome spotting by Judith as we drove back to our lodge in Murchison Falls National Park one evening — it was perched on the outside of a thickly-leafed tree providing us splendid views

**African Wood-Owl** *Strix woodfordii* — (3) Kim arrived first at Boma Hotel and had already located an individual that roosted on the grounds in a palm. She shared it with us as others arrived and with good luck it stayed for all to get a view. As we left the final morning it was not present, light rain may have driven it to denser cover. For some it was the first bird they saw arriving from the airport, wow!

#### **CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae (2)**

**Pennant-winged Nightjar** Caprimulgus vexillarius —(2) Bev and Linda had a magical experience early morning as they sat on their porch at dawn light at Mantanna Tented Camp, when a male of this amazing species flew by. Later the next day, we were out at dusk driving back when at least three males flew alongside the bus, with one female, their long pennants flying. WOW.

**Black-shouldered Nightjar** *Caprimulgus nigriscapularis* —(1) Peg saw one individual flying close by overhead as she walked to breakfast in first light, we also heard them calling from the dining area of our lodge at Lake Mburo

CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Apodidae (4)

**Scarce Swift** *Schoutedenapus myoptilus* —(2) Graceful long-winged individuals seen above us on boat trips on the Nile River

**Little Swift** *Apus affinis* —(6) Widespread and common, best views perhaps while crossing Kazinga Channel on the bridge at QENP

White-rumped Swift Apus caffer —(9) Very common and widespread

**African Palm-Swift** Cypsiurus parvus —(6) Seen at Entebbe at the gardens, Lake Mburo and all of our days at MFNP including those in the palms at our lodge

#### **COLIIFORMES: Coliidae (2)**

**Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus* —(14) Common, seen daily in small groups, often several groups per day and always seen from our lodges where we could watch their antics well

**Blue-naped Mousebird** *Urocolius macrourus* —(4) Not nearly as common as Speckled, we had a few chances to observe them, one being on a walk around our hotel grounds at MFNP. We first encountered them leaving Lake Mburo, then spied a few in QENP a couple of times

#### **BUCEROTIFORMES: Phoeniculidae (2)**

**(HO) Green Woodhoopoe** Phoeniculus purpureus —(1) Heard only though at close range and repeatedly as we had breakfast at our lodge at Lake Mburo one morning, then also heard again that afternoon while out on the game drive. We tried but could not pull them into view.

**Common Scimitarbill** *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas* —(1) Seen very well on an exposed perch on our game drive at Lake Mburo

#### **BUCEROTIFORMES:** Bucorvidae (1)

**Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill** *Bucorvus abyssinicus* —(4) Seen all days in Murchison NP, we had one family group of four close to our lodgings, and we found 2-3 groups in addition to that per day. They walked freely about the ungulates, and were often not far from the road. We saw them several times up in trees, roosting towards dusk

### **BUCEROTIFORMES:** Bucerotidae (3)

**Crowned Hornbill** Lophoceros alboterminatus —(4) Seen well on our afternoon walk at the Entebbe botanical gardens then in QENP and MFNP

**African Gray Hornbill** *Lophoceros nasutus* —(5) First seen on a travel day, then one day in QENP, then on all days of MFNP where it became more numerous and visible, quite common there, several individuals seen per day, including pairs

**Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill** *Bycanistes subcylindricus* —(6) Quite a large and rather unbelievable bird to be fairly common, we saw it on travel days as well as from the Boma, Entebbe gardens, QENP and MFNP

### CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae (8)

Malachite Kingfisher Corythornis cristatus —(5) Seen in all appropriate aquatic habitat, very confiding. We got super views of several at Lake Mburo, with one sitting on the dock as we waited to board the boat. First views were at Mabamba Swamp, two memorable ones courting on a bent-over reed.

African Pygmy-Kingfisher Ispidina picta —(3) Each time we saw this gem, it was quick. First we found a pair chasing each other through a banana plantation as we drove away from Lake Mburo through

agricultural areas. We then had two chances in MFNP, one from the boat and one on land, but both lighting quick views.

**Gray-headed Kingfisher** *Halcyon leucocephala* — (5) We first found this species while in QENP, but then it increased its presence, several individuals seen per day, on all days in MFNP

**Woodland Kingfisher** *Halcyon senegalensis* — (7) Widespread, the most common kingfisher encountered. Great views, several individuals seen per day typically.

**(HO) Blue-breasted Kingfisher** *Halcyon malimbica* — (1) We heard this in the early morning hours when we kept up our pace with a focus on Chimpanxee finding. Sadly, as we changed focus to birding, we were not able to locate this thick forest kingfisher again. Our invitation to return...

Striped Kingfisher Halcyon chelicuti — (4) Lake Mburo, QENP and MFNP

**Giant Kingfisher** *Megaceryle maxima* — (3) We found the first individual at Lake Mburo, gaining really close views from the boat ride. We then saw it on both boat trips from MFNP. Judith taught us to look for males with T-shirts (rust at the top of the chest) and females with skirts (rust across the belly) and her visual stuck — we had views of both — nice!

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis* — (8) This bird was abundant, so many on our boat trips we pruned the eBird numbers as we figured they would not believe us for over 500! They were nesting, and there would be 20-30 at a time calling and chasing each other, landing four to ten on a branch at times. Going up or down river there could be 20 or more hovering as they fished. Often seen as pairs but just as often seen as groups. More than we expected at all river-associated locations

### **CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae (7)**

**Red-throated Bee-eater** *Merops bulocki* —(4) A favorite for several of the group due to its beautiful tapestry of color, this species was best seen on the boat trips in MFNP, but also seen on the Kazinga Channel boat trip in QENP

**Little Bee-eater** *Merops pusillus* —(5) The most widespread of the bee-eaters we encountered, seen on travel days and in parks and reserves throughout

**Blue-breasted Bee-eater** *Merops variegatus* —(1) Seen only at Mabamba Swamp, several individuals **Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater** *Merops oreobates* —(2) With us while at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP, and seen very well from the veranda of our lodge there

**Swallow-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops hirundineus* —(2) Individuals seen on two days while in QENP **Madagascar Bee-eater** *Merops superciliosus* —(3) Seen at the botanical gardens in Entebbe, then seen up very close on the boat trip in QENP, also on the game drive in QENP

Northern Carmine Bee-eater Merops nubicus —(3) Seen several times a day, each day at MFNP

#### **CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae (2)**

**Lilac-breasted Roller** *Coracias caudatus* — (1) Seen quickly on a travel day from Entebbe to Lake Mburo we thought we'd have another chance to see this bird so common in other parts of East Africa. This lone bird was our only sighting of this colorful species

**Broad-billed Roller** *Eurystomus glaucurus* —(4) Seen regularly at Bouma and Entebbe, Lake Mburo, then not encountered again until Peg spied one lone individual perched for us at MFNP

#### **PICIFORMES: Lybiidae (10)**

**(HO) Yellow-billed Barbet** *Trachyphonus purpuratus* —(1) A clear loud call from the forest canopy as we walked in to find the Chimpanzees

**Gray-throated Barbet** *Gymnobucco bonapartei* —(1) Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP, good views of one individual

**Speckled Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus scolopaceus* -(2) Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP, one individual in a mixed flock on our morning walk, encountered again by the birding group at Kibale NP

**Yellow-throated Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus subsulphureus* —(4) Seen and heard several locations **Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus bilineatus* —(7) Bev and Kim nick-named this species "Tink" as it was so regular that we all learned its call. We had the best views as we met up at the park gate at Bwindi, several of them feeding in flowers with a very close view. Other views were tree tops and some days we were content with heard only. Encountered most locations except for MFNP

**Yellow-spotted Barbet** *Buccanodon duchaillui* —(1) Heard and seen in Kibale Forest, from the road **Streaky (Hairy)-breasted Barbet** *Tricholaema hirsute* —(1) Good views on an exposed perch, seen from the road in Kibale Forest

**Spot-flanked Barbet** *Tricholaema lacrymosa* —(4) Lake Mburo, QENP and two days while at MFNP, seen as individuals or pairs, often perched and calling

**Black-billed Barbet** Lybius guifsobalito -(3) Seen daily and easy to find at MFNP, several sightings per day, not always the case according to Judith so we were lucky to get such good views

**Double-toothed Barbet** *Lybius bidentatus* —(5) Bouma Hotel, a family group with two fledglings posed nicely for us the morning we packed up to start our safari. We got good views at the rest stop at the ranger station in QENP, and found them on the grounds at Chimpanxee Forest Guest House.

#### PICIFORMES: Indicatoridae (2)

Wahlberg's Honeyguide  $Prodotiscus\ regulus\ -(1)$  Seen as we entered Lake Mburo NP Greater Honeyguide  $Indicator\ indicator\ -(1)$  Seen on our outing in Lake Mburo NP, scope views as we watched Eland in the same area

### PICIFORMES: Picidae (6)

**Nubian Woodpecker** Campethera nubica —(1) Seen on the game drive in Lake Mburo NP **Buff-spotted Woodpecker** Campethera nivosa —(2) We first encountered a pair of this species on the morning walk in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest and were able to find them again the same afternoon with those who had not been with us in the morning. We saw it again in a mixed flock in Kibale Forest. **Speckle-breasted Woodpecker** Dendropicos poecilolaemus —(1) Great views as it was seen on the grounds of our hotel at Chimpanzee Forest Guest House

**Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens* —(2) Seen on the afternoon game drive in Lake Mburo NP and then again in MFNP, one individual each time

**Golden-crowned (Yellow-crested) Woodpecker** *Dendropicos xantholophus Seen for several moments,* one individual in the canopy, traveling with a mixed flock visible on our road birding after the Chimpanxee trek in Kibale Forest

**African Gray Woodpecker** *Dendropicos goertae* —(1) Seen well on first walk from Boma hotel through the neighborhood, perched on a phone pole in plain view

#### **FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae (3)**

**Gray Kestrel** Falco ardosiaceus —(4) Seen in QENP and MFNP, several individuals per day, the most regular perched raptor sighted.

**Red-necked Falcon** *Falco chicquera* —(1) A score on our final morning as we drove out of MFNP, Roger hoped for two more new species for his list to reach a milestone, and this was one. A pair perched in clear view not far from the bus

**African Hobby** Falco cuvierii —(1) One individual seen well on our walk the first afternoon from Boma Hotel with Judith, causing quite a response from the prinias and other small birds as it harassed the neighborhood.

#### **PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae (2)**

**Gray Parrot** *Psittacus erithacus* -(2) Good looks on the first walk from Boma Hotel and then fly-overs each visit to the botanic garden there.

**Meyer's Parrot** *Poicephalus meyeri* —(4) Boma Hotel and Entebbe, Lake Mburo and on our first day in QENP. We'd often seen in small groups of 2-8, vocal and flying, occasionally perched.

### PASSERIFORMES: Platysteiridae (3)

**Brown-throated Wattle-eye** *Platysteira cyanea* —(6) Seen in the big tree by our lunch pavilion at Mabambe Swamp, then at each of the national parks, and on the grounds of Chimpazee Forest Guest House

Chestnut Wattle-eye Platysteira castanea —(1) Brenda spotted the female first, along our road birding after the Chimpanzee trek, then the male flew in, like all members of this family a striking find!

Chinspot Batis Batis molitor —(1) One individual perched up for us, part of a mixed flock we encountered as we drove to our boat ride on Lake Mburo one morning

### PASSERIFORMES: Vangidae (1)

**Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher** *Bias musicus* —(2) First heard only from our hotel walk from Boma Hotel the first afternoon, then seen well from the veranda of our community-run lodge at Bwindi

#### PASSERIFORMES: Malaconotidae (11)

Marsh Tchagra *Tchagra minutus* —(1) Great views of one individual of this species as we drove out to explore our first day in QENP, it perched for some time giving us splendid views

**Black-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra senegalus* —(1) One individual seen as we were leaving the lions we encountered in MFNP, seen by Judith and a few of the group

**Brown-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra austral* —(2)

**Luehder's Bushshrike** Laniarius luehderi —(2) First encountered at our lodge, in the hedge row, as we arrived at our community lodge at Bwindi with the big veranda, a colorful and stunning bird. Seen also on our walk in Bwindi National Park

**Tropical Boubou** Laniarius major —(3) QENP and then seen at dusk on the grounds of our lodge at Chimpanxee Forest Guest House

**Black-headed Gonolek** *Laniarius erythrogaster* — (9) A stunning bird to be so common and widespread, often alerting us by its loud call. We started out with cracking views of a couple of pair on the grounds of Boma hotel, then encountered them throughout the journey, on travel days and in parks.

**Papyrus Gonolek** Laniarius mufumbiri -(1) Seen on our day boating through papyrus in Mabamba Swamp, excellent and repeated views of several individuals, close enough for some photo - ops. Surely one of the world's most lovely and colorful birds!

**Gray-green Bushshrike** *Telophorus bocagei* — (1) Bwindi NP

**Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike** *Telophorus sulfureopectus*—(2) Seen well along the roadside on one of our travel days, 3 individuals in a tall tree next to the bus, perched and in flight. Heard again from the river on our boat trip at MFNP

- (HO) **Many-colored Bushshrike** *Telophorus multicolor* (1) Heard only on our bird walk at Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP, with so many species popping it we had trouble focusing on it and it got away, sadly!
- (HO) **Gray-headed Bushshrike** *Malaconotus blanchoti* (1) Heard but impossible to see in dense foliage along the shores of the Nile River MFNP

#### PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae (3)

**Gray-backed Fiscal** Lanius excubitoroides -(9) Widespread, a few individuals seen most days **Mackinnon's Shrike** Lanius mackinnoni -(3) Seen regularly at Buhoma Haven Lodge (two on the wires by our lodge each morning) and exploring QENP

**Northern Fiscal** Lanius humeralis —(1) A few individuals seen at Lake Mburo NP

#### **PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae (1)**

**(HO) Western Black-headed Oriole** Oriolus brachyrynchus -(1) Heard only, fluid calls as we walked into the area we found Chimpazees in a fruiting tree in Kibale NP

#### PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae (2)

**Fork-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus adsimilis* —(5) Seen on travel days, Lake Mburo and QE national parks **Velvet-mantled Drongo** *Dicrurus modestus* —(1) Seen in the tree canopy as we walked the road birding after Chimpanzee trekking

#### PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae (2)

**Black-headed (Red-bellied) Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone rufiventor* —(1) Good views at the botanical garden in Entebbe

**African Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone viridis* —(5) First seen at the botanical garden, always impressive. Seen at Bouma Hotel in Entebbe, heard at the botanical garden there, Mburo, Bwindi and at at our lodge in MFNP

### **PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae (2)**

**Piapiac** *Ptilostomus afer* —(4) Ever-present in Murchison Falls National Park, favoring herds of African Buffalo and Warthogs, and Elephant particularly, which they would ride on and take on the role of oxpeckers, working the skin for ticks and other parasites. They were vocal, would cluster in trees, and fly in big groups from herd to herd. Their calls are the same rhythm as their name.

**Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* —(11) Common and widespread, many present around towns, our lodges, travel days

### PASSERIFORMES: Nicatoridae (1)

**Western Nicator** *Nicator chloris* —(1) Great looks at one individual on the afternoon birding session alon the road in Kibale Forest. We had heard its loud, whip-like cracking sound at dawn, so nice to see it on a high exposed perch in the afternoon.

#### PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae (1)

Rufous-naped Lark Mirafra africana —(2) Queen Elizabeth National Park and the airstrip at Kasese

#### PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae (10)

**Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia* —(3) QENP and MFNP, a few individuals

**Rock Martin** *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* —(2) Seen on a travel day, and then from our lodge at Kibale **Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* —(3) Best views included a tree of roosting individuals at the Delta cruise of the Nile River, also Mburo and Kazinga by water

**Angola Swallow** *Hirundo angolensis* —(8) Common and widespread, numerous

**Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii* —(5) Tied to water areas, we saw them on Kazinga Channel and on all days at MFNP as we focused time on the Nile River

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica* -(4) Widespread, seen on travel days as well as parks **Lesser Striped-Swallow** *Cecropis abyssinica* -(1) Several seen well in the parking area by the boat dock for Lake Mburo. We saw them again on the grounds of our hotel at Kibale.

**Mosque Swallow** *Cecropis senegalensis* —(1) Seen from the veranda of Haven Lodge, Bwindi **White-headed Sawwing** *Psalidoprocne albiceps* —(4) Seen well in the open parking area for the boat at Mburo, then in QENP and MFNP open grassy areas

**Black Sawwing** *Psalidoprocne pristoptera* —(1) Seen from Haven Lodge at Bwindi

#### PASSERIFORMES: Stenostiridae (2)

**African Blue-Flycatcher** *Elminia longicauda* —(5) First seen as we waited to board our small boats at Mabamba Swamp, then on the grounds of quite a few of our lodges, Buhoma and Chimpanzee Forest Guest House

White-tailed Blue-Flycatcher Elminia albicauda —(1) Seen on our birding walk in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest National Park with local guide added to our group, Matthew

#### **PASSERIFORMES: Paridae (1)**

White-winged Black-Tit Melaniparus leucomelas —(1) Found when we stopped for a mixed flock as we drove to the boat trip on Lake Mburo, in open forest, one individual in a mixed flock

#### **PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae (6)**

**Slender-billed Greenbul** *Stelgidillas gracilirostris* —(2) Seen in forested areas of Kibale and Bwindi **Yellow-throated Greenbul** *Atimastillas flavicollis* —(4) Noisy, seen mainly in dense tree growth around of riverine forest areas. Seen at Entebbe's botanic garden, at Mabamba Swamp and again at MFNP **Cameroon Sombre (Plain) Greenbul** *Eurillas curvirostris* —(1)

**Little Greenbul** *Eurillas virens* —(2) Seen on the birding walk at Bwindi, several individuals then one individual seen again at Kibale Forest

**Toro Olive-Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus hypochloris* —(1) Seen at Kibale Forest, vocal early morning and visible in the tree canopy on our afternoon walk

**Common Bulbul** *Pycnonotus barbatus* —(13) Common and widespread, only missed on one day – the Ruija higher forest site for gorilla trekking

#### PASSERIFORMES: Macrosphenidae (3)

**Green Crombec** Sylvietta virens -(1) Seen at Bwindi on our birding walk through the park, one individual in with other species in high tree canopy

**Moustached Grass-Warbler** *Melocichla mentalis* —(1) Very good views close to the bus in QENP **Green Hylia** *Hylia prasina* —(1) One singing and seen on our walk back from the Chimpanzee trek at Kibale Forest

#### PASSERIFORMES: Acrocephalidae (1)

**Lesser Swamp-Warbler** *Acrocephalus gracilirostris* —(1) One lightning quick look at one flying into dense vegetation on the Delta boat trip on the Nile River, heard singing as well

#### PASSERIFORMES: Locustellidae (2)

**Little Rush-Warbler** *Bradypterus baboecala* —(1) Seen in a small wetland adjacent to Buhinga Haven hospital as we left Fort Portal town to our lodge, Chimpanzee Guest house in Kibale forest National Park. **White-winged Swamp-Warbler** *B radypterus carpalis* —(1) This bird was a tease on our boat trip on Lake Mburo, eventually seen flying between tall Papyrus stems in a cove where we lingered to watch the Spitting Cobra entwined in reeds.

#### PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae (19)

Black-throated Apalis Apalis jacksoni — (1) Seen at Bwindi on the morning bird walk

Masked Apalis Apalis binotata — (1) Seen on the great Mountain Gorilla trek by a few

Buff-throated Apalis Apalis rufogularis — (1) Seen at Bwindi and Kibale, forested areas

Chestnut-throated Apalis Apalis porphyrolaema — (1) Seen at Bwindi, above the bathroom as we prepared for our gorilla trek instructions

**Gray Apalis** Apalis cinereal —(1) Seen well on the bird walk at Bwindi, a pair

Green-backed Camaroptera Camaroptera brachyura —(7) Common and widespread

White-chinned Prinia Schistolais leucopogon —(1) A pair was seen at close range along the road we walked at Bwindi

**Red-faced Cisticola** *Cisticola erythrops* —(2) Several individuals seen in QENP along the grassy roadsides, singing

**Trilling Cisticola** Cisticola woosnami -(3) Seen as we left Lake Mburo, photographed in short grasses at the open woodland stop we had so many birds, and then seen in QENP

Chubb's Cisticola Cisticola chubby —(1) A very vocal pair was courting, between bouts of feeding on insects in the car and truck grills near small one-car parking areas near lodges on the road into Bwindi Rattling Cisticola Cisticola chiniana —(3) Seen each day in MFNP, fairly common at our stops Winding Cisticola Cisticola galactotes —(4) Seen at the botanical gardens on the shore of Lake Victoria, at Mabamba Swamp, Kazinga Channel and the Nile River shorelines

(HO) Carruthers's Cisticola Cisticola carruthersi -(1) A skulker, we tried at two spots to lure them out after hearing them singing, to no avail

**Croaking Cisticola** *Cisticola natalensis* —(2) Seen in the grasses of QENP and also the grass of the airstrip we used at Kasese

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis* —(4) Heard and seen at several locations

**Gray-capped Warbler** *Eminia lepida* -(6) First seen at Boma Hotel in the garden at Entebbe, we later mainly heard it, another sighting at our lunch spot ahead of the Kazinga Channel boat trip

(HO) **Black-faced Rufous-Warbler** Bathmocercus rufus -(1) Heard only on the walk at Bwindi, we tried to bring it in to no avail

**Tawny-flanked Prinia** *Prinia subflava* —(2) Seen on our walk from Booma Hotel in Entebbe, perched up and singing, then on a travel day to Lake Mburo

**Banded Prinia** *Prinia bairdii* —(1) Seen by Roger on the grounds of our hotel, Haven Lodge at Bwindi, a family group both close and vocal

### PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae (1)

African Yellow White-eye Zosterops senegalensis —(3) Seen in forested areas, Bwindi and Kibale

#### PASSERIFORMES: Pellorneidae (1)

(HO) **Scaly-breasted Illadopsis** *Illadopsis albipectus* —(1) Heard early morning during our Chimpanzee trek

### PASSERIFORMES: Leiothrichidae (2)

**Black-lored Babbler** *Turdoides sharpie* —(3) QENP and also at the airstrip at Kasese **Arrow-marked Babbler** *Turdoides jardineii* —(4) Lake Mburo and Bwindi area

#### PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (16)

**Dusky-brown (African Dusky) Flycatcher** *Muscicapa adusta* —(2) Seen as we gathered at the boat dock for Mabamba Swamp and then at our lodge at Buhoma and in QENP

**Swamp Flycatcher** Muscicapa aquatica -(2) Seen at Entebbe along the shore of Lake Victoria at the botanical garden, then again on our Delta boat trip at MFNP

**Cassin's Flycatcher** *Muscicapa cassini* —(1) Seen on a log over a stream from the bridge we started our afternoon birding from while at Kibale Forest

**Dusky-blue Flycatcher** *Bradornis comitatus* —(2) Seen from Haven lodge and the road we walked in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

Pale Flycatcher Agricola pallidus —(1) Seen from road birding at MFNP, one individual Silverbird Melaenornis semipartitus —(3) Seen daily at our lodge and round the park at MFNP Northern Black-Flycatcher Melaenornis edolioides —(3) Seen in Entebbe at the botanical gardens and then both days at QENP

White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher Melaenornis fischeri —(1) Seen on our birding walk at Bwindi Brown-backed Scrub-Robin Cercotrichas hartlaubi —(1) Seen on a stop with many species observed as we left Lake Mburo

Red-backed (White-browed) Scrub-Robin Cercotrichas leucophrys —(1) Seen in Lake Mburo as we made a road stop to investigate a possible Pearl-spotted Owlet and encountered a mixed flock Gray-winged Robin-Chat Cossypha polioptera —(1) Seen well on our walk at Bwindi

White browed Robin Chat Cossypha houghing (6) First soon at the Roma hatel widesproad.

White-browed Robin-Chat Cossypha heuglini —(6) First seen at the Boma hotel, widespread Red-capped Robin-Chat Cossypha natalensis —(1) Seen well on our walk at Bwindi, feeding in the forested road margin

**Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat** Cossypha niveicapilla —(1) A wonderful sighting of this often furtive species at the botanical gardens

**Spotted Morning-Thrush** Cichladusa guttata —(2) Seen at our lodge in MFNP, one individual

**Sooty Chat** *Myrmecocichla nigra* —(4) Seen on travel days and in parks, Lake Mburo, QENP and the airstrip at Kasese

#### PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae (2)

**Rufous Flycatcher-Thrush** *Neocossyphus fraseri* —(1) Seen on the afternoon birding walk at Kibale **African Thrush** *Turdus pelios* —(5) Widespread

### PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae (7)

**Wattled Starling** *Creatophora cinereal* —(2) A big flock was seen perched up on Euphorbia shrubs as we left Lake Mburo, we then saw them in QENP around buffalo.

**Violet-backed Starling** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* —(5) Widespread but usually seen as individuals **Chestnut-winged Starling** Onychognathus fulgidus (1) Bwindi, two flew over calling as we started our Mountain Gorilla trek

**Purple-headed Starling** *Hylopsar purpureiceps* —(1) Kibale Forest a few individuals seen morning and afternoon on our birding walks

**Rüppell's Starling** Lamprotornis purpuroptera —(12) Frequently encountered as groups, widespread **Splendid Starling** Lamprotornis splendidus —(3) Entebbe at the botanical gardens, Mabamba Swamp by the lunch pavilion and Lake Mburo

**Lesser Blue-eared Starling** *Lamprotornis chloropterus* —(1) Two individuals seen as we left Lake Mburo at our roadside stop

#### PASSERIFORMES: Buphagidae (1)

**Yellow-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus africanus* —(6) Seen with ungulates at all grassland areas, not that common

#### **PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae (17)**

**Green Sunbird** Anthreptes rectirostris —(2) Bwindi and MFNP

**Collared Sunbird** *Hedydipna collaris* —(2) Bwindi and Kibale

**Green-headed Sunbird** *Cyanomitra verticalis* —(4) Seen at the Boma from our lunch tables, Lake Mburo and QENP

**Blue-throated Brown Sunbird** Cyanomitra cyanolaema -(3) Seen at QENP and at Kibale forest where we found one working on a nest over the road after our Chimpanzee trek.

Western Olive Sunbird Cyanomitra obscura −(1) Kibale Forest

Green-throated Sunbird Chalcomitra rubescens —(2) QENP near our lodge and at Kibale

**Scarlet-chested Sunbird** *Chalcomitra senegalensis* —(4) More frequently encountered we got good looks at this little beauty starting at the Boma hotel in the gardens and then widespread

**Purple-breasted Sunbird** *Nectarinia purpureiventris* —(1) We saw a few individuals while on our Mountain Gorilla trek in lush forest

Bronze Sunbird Nectarinia kilimensis — (2) Bwindi, seen near our lodge at close range
Olive-bellied Sunbird Cinnyris chloropygius —(4) Widespread, good views and photos by our lodges
Northern Double-collared Sunbird Cinnyris reichenowi —(1) Bwindi, at our lodge and in the park
Regal Sunbird Cinnyris regius —(1) Bev had good views of this beauty on the Mountain Gorilla trek day
Beautiful Sunbird Cinnyris pulchellus —(1) Judith found this one for us as we left MFNP en route back to
Entebbe, our last new bird of the trip!

**Red-chested Sunbird** *Cinnyris erythrocercus* —(5) Widespread, one of the more common sunbirds encountered

**Purple-banded Sunbird** *Cinnyris bifasciatus* — (2) Seen at the Bouma hotel and then again at Chimpanzee Lodge on the grounds

**Variable Sunbird** *Cinnyris venustus* —(3) Bwindi and Kibale Forest

**Copper Sunbird** Cinnyris cupreus —(3) QENP and Kibale Forest

#### PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae (4)

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp* —(10) Common and widespread, tame and tolerant of people **African Pipit** *Anthus cinnamomeus* —(2) Seen on a travel day and then in short grass at Kasese Airstrip **Plain-backed Pipit** *Anthus leucophrys* —(2) Two seen driving in from the airport to Bouma Hotel, then a few seen in OENP

Yellow-throated Longclaw Macronyx croceus —(3) Widespread, seen in grassy habitats

#### PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae (2)

Cinnamon-breasted Bunting Emberiza tahapisi — (1) Kim spotted this beauty at the airstrip in Kasese Golden-breasted Bunting Emberiza flaviventris — (2) Seen with the male singing from a perch on our walk above the lodge at Lake Mburo early morning, a pair

#### PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae (4)

**Yellow-fronted Canary** *Serinus mozambicus* —(3) Seen on a travel day to Lake Mburo and then again both days from our lodge in Bwindi

**Brimstone Canary** *Serinus sulphuratus* —(2) Seen around Chimpanzee Lodge, Kibale in small number **Streaky Seedeater** *Serinus striolatus* —(1) One individual seen in the hedgerow of the parking lot at Haven Lodge, Bwindi

**Thick-billed Seedeater** *Serinus burtoni* -(1) One individual seen from the veranda of Haven Lodge, Bwindi, working some flowers

### PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae (3)

**House Sparrow** Passer domesticus -(3) Not common, individuals picked up around villages **Shelley's Rufous Sparrow** Passer shelleyi -(1) Just one sighting, a good pick-up by Judith near the Lion open grassy resting area, feeding in tire tracks of the road

Northern Gray-headed Sparrow Passer griseus —(12) Common and widespread

#### PASSERIFORMES: Ploceidae (29)

**Speckle-fronted Weaver** *Sporopipes frontalis* —(3) Seen daily in MFNP including a flock that frequented our lodge gardens

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali* —(1) We watched two work on a nest from our bus in MFNP while stopped to view other species

**Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver** *Plocepasser superciliosus* —(1) Seen on one day, near the Lions on an open grassy area, in MFNP

**Red-headed Malimbe** *Malimbus rubricollis* —(1) Seen morning and afternoon, just a lone individual each time, while birding the forests of Kibale

**Baglafecht Weaver** *Ploceus baglafecht* —(3) Seen at our hotel and in the village and lodge area at Bwindi

**Little Weaver** *Ploceus luteolus* —(4) First seen at Mabamba Swamp, we then had them daily at MFNP, groups working on nests

**Slender-billed Weaver** Ploceus pelzelni —(1) Seen well in the tree by our lunch spot at Mabamba Swamp, a tree very active with species all needing attention, one individual

**Black-necked Weaver** *Ploceus nigricollis* —(5) Common and widespread, best views at the rest stops in QENP

**Spectacled Weaver** *Ploceus ocularis* —(2) Seen in small number at our hotel and at the lunch spot at Mabamba Swamp

**Black-billed Weaver** *Ploceus melanogaster* —(1) A beautiful weaver with yellow head, seen in a mixed flock while walking the road into Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP

**Holub's Golden-Weaver** *Ploceus xanthops* —(1) Seen working on nests over the water from our boats at Mambamba Swamp

**Northern Brown-throated Weaver** *Ploceus castanops* —(2) A big group held parties on the lawn at the Bouma hotel, we saw them in the Entebbe botanical gardens and at Matabama Swamp

**Northern Masked-Weaver** *Ploceus taeniopterus* —(1) Seen one day, at Buhinga hospital close to Fort Portal town while traveling to Chimpanzee Guest House, a very local species we dodged traffic along the roadside but in time saw working on its nest.

**Lesser Masked-Weaver** Ploceus intermedius — (4) Seen in groups at Lake Mburo and also QENP

Vitelline Masked-Weaver Ploceus vitellinus —(1) Seen in MFNP, one sighting

**Heuglin's Masked-Weaver** *Ploceus heuglini* —(1) Just one group, seen in MFNP

**Vieillot's Weaver** *Ploceus nigerrimus* —(4) We found big clusters of active nests on several days, widespread

**Village Weaver** *Ploceus cucullatus* —(2) Seen at Entebbe at the gardens and also on an early travel day between Lake Mburo and Bwindi

**Weyns's Weaver** *Ploceus weynsi* —(1) Flocks were coming and going behind the Shoebill at Mambamba Swamp

Black-headed Weaver Ploceus melanocephalus — (7) Common and widespread

**Brown-capped Weaver** *Ploceus insignis* — (1) Several individuals seen together on the birding walk our morning at Bwindi

**Cardinal Quelea** *Quelea cardinalis* —(1) A bright male was observed in with a group of Red-billed in MFNP

**Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea* —(2) Flocks seen in QENP and MFNP, forty or more bird in a flock **Northern Red Bishop** *Euplectes franciscanus* —(3) Seen daily in MFNP

**Southern Red Bishop** Euplectes orix -(3) Seen very well, several times a day, in QENP

**Black-winged Bishop** *Euplectes hordeaceus* —(1) Very close views of a male and female from a stop in MFNP, just out the bus window

**Yellow-mantled Widowbird** *Euplectes macroura* —(2) QENP and MFNP in grasslands **Fan-tailed Widowbird** *Euplectes axillaris* —(3) Males were not sporting long plumes but were discernible – seen at Mabamba Swamp, along Kazinga Channel and at the Kasese Airstrip **Grosbeak Weaver** *Amblyospiza albifrons* —(1) A small group seen on the grounds of Chimpanzee Lodge

PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae (17)

**Gray-headed Nigrita** *Nigrita canicapillus* —(3) Bwindi and Kibale, great views of one feeding on berries as we got off the bus in the village of Bwindi

White-breasted Nigrita Nigrita fusconotus —(3) Seen at Bwindi and Kibale, forested areas

White-collared Oliveback Nesocharis ansorgei —(1) Peg took a rest break on a ridge while on the gorilla trek and a small flock came through, she was just about eye to eye with this beauty, briefly!

**Yellow-bellied Waxbill** *Coccopygia quartinia* —(2) Also known as "East African Swee", we watched a pair work diligently at a nest on the grounds of Chimpanzee Lodge

**Fawn-breasted Waxbill** *Estrilda paludicola* —(1) A flock of a dozen or more were seen feeding on grass seedheads as we entered the lush open savanna of QENP from the south

**Crimson-rumped Waxbill** *Estrilda rhodopyga* —(1) Also found in lush savanna of QENP, a few individuals

**Black-rumped Waxbill** *Estrilda troglodytes* —(1) A small group found in MFNP **Common Waxbill** *Estrilda astrild* —(1)

**Black-crowned Waxbill** *Estrilda nonnula* —(2) Seen on two days while up at Kibale and at Chimpanzee Lodge

**Red-headed Bluebill** *Spermophaga ruficapilla* —(1) A stunning single male came very close to us in a small tree off the veranda of Haven Lodge at Bwindi, in with some Black-and-white Mannikins feeding on small berries

**Red-cheeked Cordonbleu** *Uraeginthus bengalus* —(4) First seen at Lake Mburo, we had them daily at MFNP including on the grounds of our lodge

**Purple Grenadier** *Granatina ianthinogaster* —(1) Kim exclaimed as she saw this beauty, driving through MFNP

**Green-winged Pytilia** Pytilia melba —(1) Seen in a mixed group with cordon-blues as we departed Lake Mburo and stopped for open woodland birding

Red-billed Firefinch Lagonosticta senegala —(6) Fairly common and widespread

**Bar-breasted Firefinch** Lagonosticta rufopicta -(1) A great pick-up by Herbert seen as we stopped to view a raptor in MFNP coming back from one of our boat trips

**Bronze Mannikin** *Spermestes cucullate* —(6) First found at Mabamba Swamp, we then had them in widespread habitats from Bwindi to QENP and MFNP

**Black-and-white Mannikin** Spermestes bicolor —(3) Seen in Bwindi and Kibale, the forested areas

### PASSERIFORMES: Viduidae (2)

**Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura* —(10) Seen very regularly, males sporting long plumes and courting **Village Indigobird** *Vidua chalybeate* —(1) One sighting in QENP

## MAMMALS (36)

#### Elephants (1)

Bush (Savanna) Elephant  $Loxodonta\ africana\ -$  (6) One of the thrills of this trip was seeing such large and healthy herds of Elephants. Many had young of the year. In our larger vehicle we were safe to be close to herds by the road and watched them in great detail. Flocks of Piapiacs following them was fun and unique here compared to other East Africa areas visited.

#### Primates (11)

Patas monkey Erythrocebus patas — (3) Seen well in QENP

Vervet monkey Chlorocebus pygerythrus — (6) Common and widespread

**Tantalus monkey** *Chlorocebus tantalus* — (1) One group seen well along the roadside, feeding, in QENP **Red-tailed monkey** *Cercopithecus ascanius* — (1) Seen while tracking Chimpanzees in Kibale, one at close range put on a good show, climbing and feeding in open view

**L'Hoest's monkey** *Cercopithecus Ihoesti* — (2) We first encountered a group on the ground on the trail we walked at Bwindi, a big group, then we saw them higher in the trees at Kibale

**Blue Monkey** *Cercopithecus mitis* — (1) Kibale Forest

**Uganda Mangabey** *Lophocebus ugandae* — (1) Kibale Forest, groups seen morning and afternoon outings

Olive baboon Papio anubis — (9) Common and widespread, huge groups!

**Mantled Guereza** (Black-and-white Colobus) *Colobus guereza* — (3) Entebbe botanical gardens, heard at Bwindi from our lodge and Linda spotted a group in the forested section of QENP

**Eastern Mountain Gorilla** *Gorilla beringei beringei* — (1) Success, our efforts paid off and we got to spend time with this forest giant, so meaningful!

**Common Chimpanzee** *Pan troglodytes* – (1) Kibale Forest, an individual, then a group feeding high above us in a huge fig tree

### Rodentia (rodents) (2)

**Striped Ground Squirrel** *Xerus erythropus* — (2) Seen in Entebbe in the botanical gardens and then at the end of the trip, at MFNP

**Carruther's Mountain Squirrel** Funisciurus carruthersi — (1) Bwindi

#### Bats (3)

**Egyptian Rousette** Rousettus aegyptiacus — (1) Lake Mburo

**Yellow winged bat** Lavia frons — (1) MFNP

**Evening bat** *Nycticeius humeralis* — (1) Lake Mburo

We also had roosting bats in some trees at Bwindi National Park along the road we walked in at the main gate, yet to be identified by photos...

#### Carnivora (4)

**African lion** *Panthera leo* — (2) Seen at QENP at a distance, a group resting in trees after a kill. We suspect the pride had young as two females persistently checked dense bush areas, while others rested at leisure on the limbs of a very large group of savanna trees. We had another individual not far from a spot we'd seen Leopard the day previous, resting in a tree. We watched it get up with no concern for us, doing "lion yoga", scratching its claws, wiping its face, 100% cat. We then found a pride much closer at MFNP, this pride a large one, in which we saw 12 of the 16 reported. Two were young and playful, great viewing.

**African leopard** *Panthera pardus pardus* — (1) Bev shouted "stop" and we were all thrilled, she had found a Leopard, in a classic pose draped across a tree limb. It was late-afternoon and as we backed up, it leisurely got up, stretched and leaped across to another limb, then headed down the tree. At quite some distance, but still great viewing.

**Banded mongoose** *Mungos mungo* — (1) One quick road sighting in Lake Mburo.

**Spotted hyena** *Crocuta crocuta* — (1) Anabelle said that our final day seemed almost scripted, one superb sighting after another, and if so, as we headed back to the lodge at dusk having a Spotted Hyena come up alongside the bus and cross the road as we watched was grand!

### Perissodactyla (odd-toed ungulates) (1)

**Common (Bohemi) Zebra** Equus quagga — (3) Beautiful herds, with foals, at Lake Mburo.

### Artiodactyla (even-toed ungulates) (14)

**Common warthog** *Phacochoerus africanus* — (10) Present at all parks, we got excellent views and saw many groups in a variety of behaviors

**Hippopotamus** *Hippopotamus amphibious* — (7) With so much time on the water, five wonderful boat trips, we had LOTS of Hippo time. We found them in and out of the water, watched males sparring, found a few young babies, and yes, a few got photos of their iconic yawns!

**Rothschild'S Giraffe** *Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi* — (4) Seen at Lake Mburo and again at MFNP, big groups, we stopped often to watch them

Lelwel (Jackson's) Hartebeest Alcelaphus buselaphus — (4) Seen daily at MFNP

**Topi** Damaliscus korrigum — (2) Lovely views at Lake Mburo

**Oribi** Ourebia ourebi — (4) Territorial pairs seen each day at close range in MFNP

**African buffalo** Syncerus caffer — (9) Seen at all the parks, big healthy herds

**Common eland** *Taurotragus oryx* — (2) We saw them coming and going to Lake Mburo, one group of females with young just at dark, and then two adults on which rode our first Yellow-billed Oxpeckers **Nile bushbuck** *Tragelaphus sylvaticus* — (4) Lone individuals spotted at Lake Mburo, QENP and MFNP **Black-fronted Duiker** *Cephalophus nigrifons* — (1) A lone individual seen feeding at dusk at Bwindi as we returned the second afternoon for birding

**Common (Bush) Duiker** *Sylvicapra grimmia* — (1) Seen very close to the vehicle, one individual, in MFNP **Impala** *Aepyceros melampus* — (1) Good numbers at Lake Mbuou and QENP

**Waterbuck** *Kobus ellipsiprymnus* — (8) Widespread, seen in good number with some huge males present

**Kob** *Kobus kob* — (6) Seen at QENP and MFNP in large herds, abundant!

# REPTILES (7)

**Common House Gecko** *Hemidactylus frenatus* — (2) Noted at Entebbe and QENP, widespread **Blue-headed Agama** *Acanthocercus ugandaensis* — (1) Common in QENP

**Red-headed Agama** Agama agama — (1) Very common in MFNP, they greeted us at the airstrip and were plentiful around the lodge

**Nile (Water) Monitor** *Varanus niloticus* — (1)

Water Cobra Naja melanoleuca — (1)

**Günther's Green Tree Snake** *Dipsadoboa unicolor* − (1)

**Nile Crocodile** *Crocodylus nilolicus* — (1)

Spitting Cobra-(1) Seen lying on the papyrus during our boat ride on Lake Mburo

#### **BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES**

Many species! We are working on photo id for this group, this list is a few of the common ones or those we photographed. Butterflies especially at Kibale were incredible.

Variable Diadem Hypolimnas anthedon anthedon — Kibale
Green-banded Swallowtail Papilo phorcas - widespread
Northern Caper White Belenois gidica — QENP, reststops — abundant!
Falcate Red Charax Charaxes paphianus falcata
Mirgratory Glider Cymothoe Herminia
Blood Red Glider Cymothoe sangaris habarti — Kibale
Gregory Brown Pansy Junonia gregorii - widespread
Wide-banded Commodore Precis sinuate
African Monarch Danaus chryspiipus transiens
African Belenois, sp — widespread
Equatorial Mimic Forester Euphaedra imitans — Kibale
Edward's Forester — Euphaedra edwardsii — Kibale
Blotched Leopard — Lachnoptera anticlia