

Deltas to Dunes: A Botswana-Namibia Safari | Species List September 1 – 19, 2023 | with Naturalist Journeys



With guide Bryan Shirley & 7 clients: Lisa, Chip, Glenn-Marie, Jackie, Ana, Carmen, and Dennis.

Compiled by: Bryan Shirley

Total species: 315 birds, 54 mammals

Botswana Summary: Pages 1 – 13

September 1 – 8, 2023

We had an outstanding time in the Okavango Delta and Northern Botswana. The sheer number of mammals was incredible. We had amazing, unforgettable experiences with Lions, Leopards, and lots of other wildlife every time we went out. Of course birds were great as well with good birding right around the camps and on our safari drives. Wended the Botswana portion of the trip with 180 species of birds, 33 mammals, and 3 reptiles/amphibians.

(#) in Family Line – total number species seen in family

(#) in species line – number of days of the trip, out of 8 total

OSTRICHES: Struthionidae — (1)

Common Ostrich *Struthio camelus* — (3) Several seen on our safari drives. Our guides had a great laugh trying to get some of the group to believe a swaying ostrich head was actually a cobra

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae — (6)

White-faced Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* — (7) Common and seen daily in large numbers in the marshes and rivers

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* — (6) Fairly common. Usually seen in pairs

Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis* — (6) We recorded this strange looking goose a couple of times at Kwara Lodge but they were seen daily at Lagoon Camp in the river byt the lodge

African Pygmy-Goose *Nettapus auritus* — (2) We had distant views of 2 on the river behind our hotel in Maun and another group of 5 at Kawara

Blue-billed Teal *Spatula hottentota* — (1) A pair was in the marsh in front of us during our sundowner our first niht at Kawara lodge

Red-billed Duck *Anas erythroryncha* — (1) A few were on the river on our pre-tour walk along the river in Maun6

GUINEAFOWL: Numididae — (1)

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* — (5) Nothing says Africa like a bunch of guineafowl! We saw large bunches daily. It was thanks to the alarm calls of guineafowl that our guides located the Wild Dog pack!

PARTRIDGES, PHEASANTS, AND ALLIES: Phasianidae — (3)

Crested Francolin *Ortygornis sephaena* — (5) recorded in low numbers on most of our safaris drives
Red-billed Spurfowl *Pternistis adspersus* — (7) most common francolin/spurfowl of the trip with several seen every time we went out
Swainson's Spurfowl *Pternistis swainsonii* — (3) not as common as the previous 2 species, but still saw plenty

GREBES: Podicipedidae — (1)

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* — (1) Only recorded once – on the river behind our hotel in Maun

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae — (7)

Rock Pigeon (I) *Columba livia* — (1) You know you are in good habitat when you don't see Rock Pigeons! We only got this species once and it was at the airport in Maun

Mourning Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decipiens* — (6) Crazy numbers of doves every day during the tour

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* — (3) probably would have seen daily but we all had “dove fatigue” and had all but quit looking at them after a few days

Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola* — (8) Very common and seen daily

Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis* — (2) Only recorded in Maun, where they were common

Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove *Turtur chalcospilos* — (5) common around the lodges and on our safari drives

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* — (3) Both days in Maun and one bird seen at Lagoon Camp

African Green-Pigeon *Treron calvus* — (2) Not common but recorded both at Kwara and Lagoon in low numbers

SANDGROUSE: Pteroclididae — (2)

Double-banded Sandgrouse *Pterocles bicinctus* — (3) Much easier in Namibia where we had them at waterholes, but in Botswana our sightings were usually one or 2 on the sandy tracks during our safari drives

Burchell's Sandgrouse *Pterocles burchelli* — (2) Just like the previous species, a few on the tracks during our drives

BUSTARDS: Otididae — (2)

Red-crested Bustard *Eupodotis ruficristata* — (2) Only 3 individuals total. They were very good at keeping a bush between the land cruiser and itself, but we were all able to see it well

Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis melanogaster* — (2) 3 individuals at Lagoon Camp

TURACOS: Musophagidae — (1)

Gray Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides concolor* — (8) Common and conspicuous, but one of the most memorable birds of the trip

CUCKOOS AND ALLIES: Cuculidae — (1)

Coppery-tailed Coucal *Centropus cupreicaudus* — (5) Low numbers seen most days

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae — (1)

Fiery-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus pectoralis* — (2) One individual flew up from the track during one of our night drives at Kwara. Similar experience with another one at Lagoon Camp

SWIFTS: Apodidae — (1)

African Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* — (6) Low numbers seen most days. Very easily ID'd swift thanks to the very long tail.

RAILS, COOTS, AND ALLIES: Rallidae — (1)

Black Crake *Zapornia flavirostra* — (3) First recorded at quite a distance along the river in Maun, but we got much better

looks at one at Lagoon Camp. It was in the marsh near the bridge and eventually hopped up on the bridge and walked across it right in front of the land cruiser

CRANES: Gruidae — (1)

Wattled Crane *Bugeranus carunculatus* — (2) Awesome looks at a pair on our first day at Kwara. They were very close to the vehicle and we got to watch them for about 10 minutes before they flew. We had a few other distant views

THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae — (2)

Water Thick-knee *Burhinus vermiculatus* — (3) We had a scope view in Maun, but it was a bit far. Much better views at both Kwara and Lagoon. We had one near the river that we were able to watch while we enjoyed our sundowner drinks one evening at Lagoon Camp.

Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus capensis* — (1) Only one sighting. It was in the sandy grass during a drive at Lagoon Camp

STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae — (1)

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* — (3) Usually present on the lake just behind the lodge at Kwara during our siestas every afternoon

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae — (4)

Long-toed Lapwing *Vanellus crassirostris* — (1) Not great looks at this one. We had a pair fly up out of a marshy area near the track and fly straight away from us.

Blacksmith Lapwing *Vanellus armatus* — (8) common and seen daily – basically anywhere there was water. A couple of times we had cute chicks that looked only a few days old

Crowned Lapwing *Vanellus coronatus* — (4) even though we saw them multiple days they were not very common and we only saw 5 individuals

Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus* — (2) Good looks at this very distinctive lapwing on 2 occasions at Lagoon Camp

JACANAS: Jacanidae — (2)

Lesser Jacana *Microparra capensis* — (1) In spite of not being as flashy as the more common African Jacana, this guy is always one of the more sought after targets for the trip. We finally got one on the marsh on our drive to the north along the river at Lagoon Camp

African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* — (8) Common and seen daily, often very close to the land cruiser allowing us to study it in great detail only a few feet away

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae — (3)

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* — (3) One was on the river in Maun and then we had 2 others at Lagoon Camp, both seen along the river during our sundowner

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* — (2) Best looks we had of this species was on the opposite side of the river from where we were having our sundowner drinks at Kwara

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* — (1) one was spotted our first evening at Kwara, but not seen by most of the group. Not surprising that people weren't interested in distant views of a sandpiper just because there were Storks, Vultures, Hippos, Lions, etc all around us!

BUTTONQUAILS: Turnicidae — (1)

Small Buttonquail *Turnix sylvaticus* — (1) A lucky few had this hard to find species flush from the track in front of the land cruiser. Typical of Buttonquail, it only flew a few feet and landed in the grass never to be seen again

COURSERS AND PRATINCOLES: Glareolidae — (2)

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* — (4) Lots of these guys around. We had really good looks at them from our boat near the heron rookery and during our sundowners near the river at Lagoon. Similar to the following species, but chestnut under the wings

Black-winged Pratincole *Glareola nuchalis* — (2) we spotted this migratory species our first evening flying over the marsh during our sundowner. The local guide said that he thought they must have just arrived recently – he noticed them the day before. We also had a couple flying over the open water as we cruised toward the heron rookery

STORKS: Ciconiidae — (4)

African Openbill *Anastomus lamelligerus* — (6) Seen most days. Many in large, migrating flocks. Along the river in Maun we had several hundred flying overhead and then about 50 landed in the river in front of the hotel

Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* — (3) What a gorgeous bird! We had a pair our first evening at Kwara near the lion kill site, but got better views of a pair at Lagoon Camp.

Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumenifer* — (4) Lots of storks that appeared to be migrating in large flocks flying over the river in Maun. Our best views were at the rookery when we parked the boat there and watched the Maribous and Yellow-billed for about an hour while we watched the sunset and enjoyed our sundowner drinks

Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis* — (3) We had several hundred YB stork at the rookery. It was fun to watch the interaction between them as they squabbled over nest sites. Lots were flying into the rookery with prized twigs they had gathered for their nests. Other than at the rookery we only had two other sightings and they were both flybys of a couple of birds

DARTERS: Anhingidae — (1)

African Darter *Anhinga rufa* — (5) We saw a few most days. There was one that liked to roost in a big dead snag over the lake at Kwara – it was usually there during our afternoon break

CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae — (1)

Long-tailed Cormorant *Phalacrocorax africanus* — (3) Not common but we had a few birds on 3 days. Never really able to get very close looks though – all of our birds were flying

HAMERKOP: Scopidae — (1)

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta* — (6) Common and seen almost daily. Usually one was feeding along the marsh edge in front of Kwara Lodge. It was especially fun to see one standing on top of the ridiculously large nest they build high up in a tree.

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae — (10)

Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea* — (3) We had good views of a couple along the river in Maun, then almost went the rest of the trip without seeing one until we had one fly by us as we drove to the airstrip our last morning at Lagoon Camp

Goliath Heron *Ardea goliath* — (4) Great views of this giant along the river in Maun. It helped us realize just how large it really is when a gray heron (which isn't a small bird!) walked past and was completely dwarfed by the Goliath.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* — (2) Only seen on the river in Maun on both of our days there

Great Egret *Ardea alba* — (7) Common and seen almost daily

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* — (4) Several on the river in Maun, but not many after we left the city. There were a couple the flew past us while we were at the rookery during our boat trip from Kwara

Slaty Egret *Egretta vinaceigula* — (4) Commonly seen during our stay at Kwara. There was one that always was feeding along the edge of the lake in front of our cabins during our afternoon breaks

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* — (7) A few were seen most days. It was fun to see them sitting on and following African Buffalo instead of domestic cattle like around the US!

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* — (7) It doesn't seem like we saw many, so a bit surprised that we recorded it 7 out of 8 days. We had good looks at 3 in the river in Maun and then all the others were single birds.

Rufous-bellied Heron *Ardeola rufiventris* — (3) Brief view of one as it flew along the river in Maun, but better looks of one flying and then landing near the river's edge while we were at the rookery having our sundowners

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* — (1) We flushed one as our boat worked its way up the river toward the rookery

IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae — (3)

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* — (1) a small flock was feeding in a marsh our first night at Lagoon camp

Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* — (1) Only one sighting. It flew past on our first evening at Kwara near the lion site

Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash* — (5) Not common, but we ended up seeing them most days. Oftentimes it would just be a fly by, but we did have a few feeding in the marshes at Kawara as well

HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae — (14)

White-headed Vulture *Trigonoceps occipitalis* — (1) One was perched high in a tree with a couple of White-backed Vultures during one of our safari drives at Kwara

Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos* — (1) One was found in with the 100's of White-backed Vultures at the dead elephant site at Lagoon Camp

Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus* — (1) Only saw a one pair. It was the first evening near the lion kill site. There were a lot of White-backed Vultures in the area which probably attracted this pair in as well to check out the carcass

White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* — (5) Most common vulture of our trip. We saw it most days, but the one of the highlights of our time at Lagoon Camp was the dead elephant and the 100's of White-backed Vultures there

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* — (4) Several sightings of this striking black and white raptor. All of our sightings were of flying birds, often circling very high above the delta

Black-chested Snake-Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis* — (2) Both of our sightings were along the river at Maun. They were both flying very high. One was riding a thermal with a large flock of storks

Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* — (1) One seen perched on one of our drives at Lagoon Camp. What an awesome bird! It was an adult and showed the spotting on the belly.

Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraetus wahlbergi* — (1) One was seen soaring very high and very far away by some of our group during a drive at Lagoon Camp. It was not a great view but our guides felt confident it was this species

Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax* — (3) Several sightings of this species during our trip. Seems to be the most common Eagle in the area

African Hawk-Eagle *Aquila spilogaster* — (3) Our most memorable sighting was watching a pair perched in a tree not far from us. Eventually they flew to a different tree a bit further away, giving us great flight views as well

Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* — (1) Only one sighting and not seen by everybody since it was during an optional outing during a afternoon break at Kawara. It flew past us as we were looking out from the lodge at the birds and Lechwe near the lake

African Marsh-Harrier *Circus ranivorus* — (1) One was perched about a mile away and we drove closer trying to figure out what it was. Before we got close enough it flew but luckily cam towards us hunting over the marsh and we could see that it was a harrier

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* — (3) This long distance migrant was just arriving – we had one group of 20+ birds that were roosting in the trees along the lakeshore during our boat cruise at Kwara. They were the Yellow-billed variety, a separate species by some authorities

African Fish-Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer* — (8) One of the few birds we had every day. They were common along the lakes and rivers. The funny thing is that it is the national bird of Namibia and we never saw one there, but had them everyday in Botswana. The national bird of Botswana is the Kori Bustard, which we only had in Namibia!

OWLS: Strigidae — (4)

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl *Bubo lacteus* — (3) We found one not far from the lodge on one of our night drives at Kwara. It was perched on a large dead tree. We called the other vehicle and luckily the owl hardly moved until the other vehicle arrived, so everybody got good looks at it. We had a couple other brief views on night drives at Lagoon camp as well

Marsh Owl *Asio capensis* – (2) Seen twice on night drives at Kwara. It was hunting over the grassy fields and we were able to watch it in flight for several minutes

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum* — (2) Common diurnal owl. We had one seen by part of the group at Kwara and another at Lagoon Camp was hanging out by the cabins during one of our afternoon breaks

African Barred-Owlet *Glaucidium capense* — (1) One of the vehicles had one calling on the evening drive and were able to find it perched in a Acacia tree

MOUSEBIRDS: Coliidae — (1)

Red-faced Mousebird *Urocolius indicus* — (2) Not great looks but had a flock go by us during our safari drives at Kwara on two separate days

HOOPOES: Upupidae — (1)

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops* — (6) Seen most days, but never better than in the gardens at our hotel in Maun. They were always in the gardens and using their long bills to probe the grass

WOODHOOPOES: Phoeniculidae — (2)

Green Woodhoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus* — (5) We started our birding in Maun out with this bird perched on a telephone pole as we were walking toward the river. We had them a few other times, often in the tress around our cabins during our afternoon breaks

Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas* — (1) This one was Bryan only as it passed through the trees by the cabins at Kwara

GROUND-HORNBILLS: Bucorvidae — (1)

Southern Ground-Hornbill *Bucorvus leadbeateri* — (2) Our plane from Maun to Kwara stopped at several other lodges to drop or pick people up on the way. It was at one of these stops that we had a small flock of Ground-Hornbills just off the runway and we were all able to see them from the plane. Also during one of the drives at Kwara one of the vehicles had a couple of them very close to the vehicle giving them great views

HORNBILLS: Bucerotidae — (3)

African Gray Hornbill *Lophoceros nasutus* — (5) Common and seen most days

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus leucomelas* — (2) Not nearly as common as the Red-billed, but we saw them well several times

Southern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus rufirostris* — (8) Common and seen every day. We watched one in Maun for quite a while trying to figure out what it was doing and finally decided it must be catching ants or small insects, snapping them out of the air with its large bill

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae — (3)

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus* — (2) has to be one of the most striking birds of the trip! We only saw it 2 days, but got really good looks at them both days and got to watch them hunting by diving into the water after prey

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* — (4) Striped Kingfishers are not tied to water and we saw them several times perched in trees with water nowhere nearby

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* — (8) Common and seen daily. It was interesting when we were coming back from the rookery after sunset, we flushed a large group of them roosting in the same area along the river

BEE-EATERS: Meropidae — (4)

White-fronted Bee-eater *Merops bullockoides* — (1) This species likes to hang out near water, so it makes sense that the only day we saw it was from the boat near the rookery

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus* — (7) common and seen almost on every one of our drives from both kwara and lagoon

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus* — (3) Not as common as the Little Bee-Eater, but we still saw them on several of our drives

Southern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicoides* — (5) One of the favorites of the trip! This species is migratory and recently returned to Botswana just in time for us. We had our best views along the river on our boat cruise – we had several trees that were full of them!

ROLLERS: Coraciidae — (1)

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus* — (7) This is the perfect bird to see on a birding trip – common, perches out in the open, and couldn't possibly be any more beautiful! They are surprisingly trusting too. Oftentimes we would have one perched just a few feet away from us and it wouldn't ever fly

AFRICAN BARBETS: Lybiidae — (2)

Crested Barbet *Trachyphonus vaillantii* — (5) We saw both of the barbet species many times during our trip, but never better than in the gardens of our hotel in Maun. The Crested Barbet is often on the ground and we had it hopping around the ground in the garden on several occasions

Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus* — (5) Like the previous species, got great looks at the hotel in Maun. A pair perched at eye level in front of Chip & I our first evening and sat there posing for photos

HONEYGUIDES: Indicatoridae — (2)

Green-backed Honeyguide *Prodotiscus zambesiae* - (1) Seen by several of our group near the cabins during an afternoon break. It caused a bit a confusion for a minute, but we got very good looks and eventually were able to ID it

Walburg's Honeyguide *Prodotiscus regulus* – (1) One landed in a tree not far from the restaurant during breakfast. Bryan worked around onto the other side of the tree where the light was better and was able able to get a good look at it

WOODPECKERS: Picidae — (4)

Cardinal Woodpecker *Chloropicus fuscescens* — (1) A pair gave us great looks in the trees between the restaurant and cabins during some afternoon birding at Kwara

Bearded Woodpecker *Chloropicus namaquus* — (3) Seen several times at both lodges. We had a very cooperative pair at Kwara lodge that were tapping around a tree near the vehicle

Bennett's Woodpecker *Campethera bennettii* — (4) Recorded several times at both Kwara and Lagoon Camp

FALCONS: Falconidae — (1)

Dickinson's Kestrel *Falco dickinsoni* — (1) One of the land cruisers got a view of this species on a safari drive at Lagoon Camp

PARROTS Psittacidae — (1)

Meyer's Parrot *Poicephalus meyeri* — (6) Not really common during our trip, but we got a few almost daily. Usually our views were not great and it would just be a fly by, but a couple of times we were able to locate them in trees and get good looks at them

OLD WORLD ORIOLES: Oriolidae — (2)

African Golden Oriole *Oriolus auratus* — (1) Only seen by half of the group since the vehicles had split up a bit during our afternoon drive at Lagoon Camp

African Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus* — (4) Our best view was in the gardens at our hotel in Maun. We saw it several times there, often very close

WATTLE-EYES AND BATIS: Platysteiridae — (1)

Chinspot Batis *Batis molitor* — (1) Seen by half of the group during a drive at Kwara

VANGAS AND HELMETSHRIKES: Vangidae — (1)

White Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus* — (2) A flock came through camp one afternoon at Kwara and we had another flock while we were on a drive at Lagoon Camp. This species is almost always in small flocks making quite a bit of noise as they move through the trees and that is how it was both times we saw them

BUSHSHRIKES: Malaconotidae — (7)

Brubru *Nilaus afer* — (1) Nice looks at this small bushshrike as we had our midmorning snack during a drive at Lagoon Camp

Black-backed Puffback *Dryoscopus cubla* — (2) We recorded this species twice – both times during the afternoon break at lagoon camp. We never saw it display and show us how it earned its name, we did get very good looks at it and could see the white back and red eye

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* — (2) We had this species on a couple of our drives from Lagoon Camp. It is very similar to the following species and since we were in the landcruisers and not able to get out it made it difficult to get a good view, but eventually it popped up into sight and we could confirm the all black crown

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* — (1) Seen well when we had a bit of a bird wave come through the camp just after lunch. It gave us good looks at it as it foraged on the ground near one of the cabins at Lagoon Camp

Gabon Boubou *Laniarius bicolor* — (5) Common at both lodges. We had a pair of them doing their duet songs multiple times at Lagoon Camp

Crimson-breasted Gonolek *Laniarius atrococcineus* — (3) Another one of those birds that every time you see it you gasp at how pretty it is. We had a couple that were hanging out in the garden at the hotel in Maun and had a few other views of them during drives at Lagoon Camp

Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike *Telophorus sulfureopectus* — (1) Guide Only. One flew in front of Bryan as he was walking to the restaurant after our afternoon break one day at Lagoon Camp

DRONGOS: Dicuridae — (1)

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis* — (8) One of the most common birds of the trip and seen daily

SHRIKES: Laniidae — (1)

Magpie Shrike *Corvinella melanoleuca* — (5) Striking bird and was fairly common at both lodges

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae — (1)

Pied Crow *Corvus albus* — (2) We saw Pied Crows both of our days in Maun from our hotel and birding along the river. Once we left the city we didn't record them again until Namibia

TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae — (1)

Southern Black-Tit *Melaniparus niger* — (2) Both of our sightings were in the trees between the restaurant and the cabins at Lagoon Camp during afternoon breaks

LARKS: Alaudidae — (2)

Fawn-colored Lark *Calendulauda africanoides* — (2) We had a couple on a drive at Kwara and then a couple more a few days later on a drive at Lagoon Camp. Since the vehicles weren't near each other it was not seen by everyone

Rufous-naped Lark *Mirafra africana* — (2) A couple of different sightings at Kwara. We had several other larks that we were not able to get good IDs on but they were most likely this species as well

AFRICAN WARBLERS: Macrosphenidae — (1)

Cape Crombec *Sylvietta rufescens* — (2) Ana located a Crombec making a nest just off the deck near the restaurant at Lagoon Camp. In spite of it working on a nest it wasn't there very often and we had to watch for it everytime we went to eat and eventually I think we were all able to get good looks at it

CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES: Cisticolidae — (4)

Green-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brachyura* — (3) Seen well during our walk along the river in Maun. It was in a bush just a few feet from us. We also saw them a couple of times at Lagoon Camp. Botswana has the Gray-backed subspecies – a separate species according to some authorities

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava* — (3) Just like the previous species, we saw it well during our walk along the river and then again a couple of days at Lagoon Camp

Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana* — (4) Never easy to ID, Cisticolas are always tough. This species is the common one in the areas we were birding and we saw it well several times. Perhaps our best views were our first morning on our walk along the river in Maun

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* — (3) We heard it often and saw several at Lagoon Camp

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae — (3)

Banded Martin *Riparia cincta* — (2) Seen best during our boat cruise to the rookery at Kwara. Also recorded one day at Lagoon Camp

White-throated Swallow *Hirundo albigularis* — (1) Brief views when two of this species flew past the land cruiser during a drive at Kwara

Lesser Striped-Swallow *Cecropias abyssinica* — (2) Nice views of a pair perched on a branch over the river during our cruise at Kwara. Also had a pair flying around during a break near the river at Lagoon

BULBULS: Pycnonotidae — (4)

Yellow-bellied Greenbul *Chlorocichla flaviventris* — (2) One on the walk along the river in Maun and then part of the group had another during a drive at Lagoon Camp

Terrestrial Brownbul *Phyllastrephus terrestris* — (1) Recorded by part of the group during an afternoon break at Kwara

Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus* — (7) Abundant and seen almost every day (probably forgot to mark it on the one day we don't have it listed!)

Black-fronted Bulbul *Pycnonotus nigricans* — (5) Common on the first part of the trip but not when we got to Lagoon Camp

LEAF WARBLERS: Phylloscopidae — (1)

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* — (1) An early returning migrant was found by part of the group during a drive at Lagoon Camp

SYLVIID WARBLERS: Sylviidae — (1)

Chestnut-vented Warbler *Curruca subcaerulea* — (1) One seen by part of the group during a drive at Lagoon Camp

LAUGHINGTHRUSHES AND ALLIES: Leiothrichidae — (2)

Arrow-marked Babbler *Turdoides jardineii* — (6) Seen almost daily. Noisy flocks were common in most areas including in the gardens at the hotel in Maun

Hartlaub's Babbler *Turdoides hartlaubii* — (7) Like the previous species, common and seen most days. The white rump made it easy to separate from the previous species

Oxpeckers: Buphagidae — (2)

Red-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* — (4) First seen around the donkeys and cows near the river in Maun,

then lots more on Buffalo at Kawara and Lagoon

Yellow-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus africanus* – (7) Seemed more common than the previous species. Recorded most days on giraffes and other animals

STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae — (6)

Wattled Starling *Creatophora cinerea* — (5) A couple along the river in Maun then seen a few other times throughout the trip. Unfortunately they are all in nonbreeding plumage so we never saw one with wattles

Common Myna (1) *Acridotheres tristis* — (2) Lots of this introduced species in Maun

Burchell's Starling *Lamprotornis australis* — (8) Common and recorded daily in large numbers. More common than Meve's – the other long-tailed starling on the trip

Meves's Starling *Lamprotornis mevesii* — (5) Not as common as the previous species, but still common

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* — (7) Abundant throughout the trip

Cape Starling *Lamprotornis nitens* — (4) Probably more common than what we recorded, but there were so many Blue-eared it made it hard to find this species since they are so similar

THRUSHES: Turdidae — (2)

Groundscraper Thrush *Turdus litsitsirupa* — (2) Seen well both days at the hotel in Maun. It is a very striking thrush and it was nice to see it so well in the gardens

Kurrichane Thrush *Turdus libonyana* — (3) Seen best in Maun at the hotel but also recorded at Kwara Lodge. In Maun it was often in the gardens early in the morning, then we wouldn't see it the remainder of the day

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS: Muscicapidae — (3)

Southern Black-Flycatcher *Melaenornis pammelaina* — (1) Chip and Bryan had one at Kwara Lodge during an afternoon break. At first we thought it was just a drongo but closer under closer inspection we realized that it wasn't a drongo and was this species

White-browed Robin-Chat *Cossypha heuglini* — (4) Our best views were in the garden of the hotel in Maun where we saw it multiple times hopping around the gardens. What a beauty and a great way to start our trip!

African Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus* — (2) Not many but got a few during our boat cruise at Kwara Camp

SUNBIRDS: Nectariniidae — (2)

Mariqua Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis* — (2) We saw this species several times at Kwara – usually in the camp during our afternoon breaks

White-breasted Sunbird *Cinnyris talatala* — (2) Seen around both Kwara and Lagoon Camps in the afternoons in the large trees around camp

WEAVERS: Ploceidae — (10)

Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver *Bubalornis niger* — (4) Common along the river in Maun – the trees just through the fence at the hotel usually had a few in it. Also had a good colony in the tree above us when we had our sundowner one evening at Lagoon Camp

Scaly Weaver *Sporopipes squamifrons* — (1) Seen by one of the vehicles during a drive at Lagoon Camp

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali* — (3) A few were around during some of our drives at Lagoon Camp but much more common during the Namibia portion of the tour

Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularius* — (1) 4 were seen by part of the group during some down time at the hotel in Maun. The black mask was obvious

Holub's Golden-Weaver *Ploceus xanthops* — (5) Common at most of the areas we visited. There was one making a nest near the restaurant at Lagoon Camp. It was just starting when we arrived and was pretty close to completion when we left 3 days later

Southern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus xanthopterus* — (1) We observed one along the river near the rookery at Kwara. It was a bit far but close enough that we could make out the brown throat

Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius* — (1) One seen in the garden of the hotel in Maun

Southern Masked Weaver *Ploceus elatus* — (1) One seen during our walk along the river in Maun

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus* — (5) Weavers were tough this time of year since they are non-breeding plumage, but we had several that we were able to ID as this species

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* — (6) Common and in large flocks of a hundred+ birds most days

WAXBILLS: Estrildidae — (3)

Southern Cordonbleu *Uraeginthus angolensis* — (5) First seen at our hotel in Maun just behind the fence near the river, then later seen on multiple occasions at both Kwara and Lagoon Camp

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala* — (4) Good looks at this species during our birding outing along the river in Maun

Jameson's Firefinch *Lagonosticta rhodopareia* — (4) A few seen around camp at both Kwara and Lagoon, usually while we were birding during downtime around camp

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae — (2)

Southern Gray-headed Sparrow *Passer diffusus* — (2) Several seen two afternoons while birding around the cabins at Lagoon Camp

Yellow-throated Petronia *Gymnornis superciliaris* — (2) There was a pair going in and out of a hole in a large tree near the restaurant at Kwara Camp

WAGTAILS AND PIPITS: Motacillidae — (4)

African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus* — (2) Seen a few times at both Lagoon and Kwara

Woodland Pipit *Anthus nyassae* — (1) Seen in area of trees and brush near where we observed the wild dogs. Our tracker guide saw it and called out the ID for us or it would have been a tricky one to figure out

Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys* — (3) More tricky IDs here but our guides were confident on the ID of a few of them at Lagoon Camp

Buffy Pipit *Anthus vaalensis* — (2) These pipits were tough and we were all glad to have local guides to help with the IDs of them. We had a pair of this species near the dried up waterhole at Kwara camp during our mid-morning snack break on a safari drive

FINCHES: Fringillidae — (1)

Black-throated Canary *Serinus atrogularis* — (1) We had good looks at this species on our walk along the river in Maun on our first day

OLD WORLD BUNTINGS: Emberizidae — (1)

Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris* — (1) A pair was foraging on the ground near the cabins at Lagoon Camp during one of our afternoon breaks

MAMMALS: — (33)

African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* — (7) Common and seen daily. They were often around the cabins at both camps — 2 members of our group were stuck in their cabin because an elephant was feeding near the path. We had great views of them daily

Chacma Baboon *Papio ursinus* — (7) Common and seen daily. A group was hanging out right around the camp at Kwara. A large group of about 50 came to the river at Lagoon Camp to drink one afternoon

Vervet Monkey *Chlorocebus pygerythrus* — (5) Not as common as Baboons, but we still saw them most days

Scrub Hare *Lepus saxatilis* — (2) Observed twice during our night drives hopping along in front of the land cruiser

Lion *Panthera leo* — (3) Our first day our guides said that a lion pack had killed an Eland the night before so we raced out there and were treated to a bunch of lions cleaning up the scraps of the carcass. It was an amazing scene to be able to observe, especially from only a few feet away. We had several other sightings of males and one group of females with cubs

Leopard *Panthera pardus* — (4) Total of 11 separate Leopard sightings. We observed one Leopard that was snoozing in a sausage tree try to ambush an Impala and flew out of the tree missing the Impala by mere inches. Later was had a female Leopard that had hung an Impala in a tree and was sleeping nearby with 2 cubs

African Civet *Civettictis civetta* — (2) Both sightings during night drives. Not great looks the first night but mostly just an animal running through the brush. The second sighting was much better

Small Spotted (Common) Genet *Genetta genetta* — (1) Brief views of one during a night drive at Kwara

Yellow Mongoose *Cynictis penicillata* — (1) Seen by one of the vehicles during a drive at Lagoon Camp

Dwarf Mongoose *Helogale parvula* — (1) One was observed well at Lagoon Camp, but not everyone got to see it

Spotted Hyena *Crocuta crocuta* — (1) Commonly heard around camp after dark, but only one sighting on a night drive. A female was laying in some bushes and had a baby that was climbing around it and eventually nursing!

Aardwolf *Proteles cristatus* — (1) Brief views by one of the vehicles during a night drive at Lagoon Camp. We drove by a known den site but the Aardwolf was probably asleep inside the den waiting for dark

Side-striped Jackal *Canis adustus* — (1) One seen by one vehicle during a drive at Lagoon camp

Black-backed Jackal *Canis mesomelas* — (1) There was a couple hanging out near the Eland carcass on our first day at Kwara

African Wild Dog *Lycaon pictus* — (1) We observed a pack of about 25 our last morning at Kwara and got to watch them for quite a while before they moved off into the brush. Later that day we flew to Lagoon Camp and had a group of 7 between the airstrip and the lodge. We all felt pretty lucky to have two packs that we got to watch in the same day

Burchell's Zebra *Equus quagga burchellii* — (7) Common and we saw good numbers every day

Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus* — (7) Common and we saw several everyday

Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibious* — (7) Everywhere there was water there was a hippo head watching us

(Southern Reticulated) Giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis* — (5) We saw them most days and I think they were probably one of the favorites of the trip

Blue Wildebeest (Brindled Gnu) *Connochaetes taurinus* — (5) We didn't see huge numbers, but saw some almost daily. It was interesting to see that there was often one Wildebeest that would be in the middle of a herd of other animals

Tsessebe *Damaliscus lunatus* — (5) We had a good herd of them our first day as we were driving toward the lion kill. They were feeding near the track we were on and we parked and watched them for a while. We saw them most other days as well

Blesbok *Damaliscus pygargus* — (1) One vehicle apparently had a couple of this species on our second day at Kwara

Steenbok *Raphicerus campestris* — (3) Several sightings of this species at both lodges

African Buffalo *Syncerus caffer* — (6) Common at both lodges

Common Eland *Tragelaphus oryx* — (1) We watched a bunch of lions working on an Eland carcass our first evening, but one vehicle saw one that was alive and well our last day at Lagoon Camp

Bushbuck *Tragelaphus scriptus* — (1) We saw one from the boat at Kwara. It was feeding along the riverbank only a few feet from the boat but with the bushes and reeds it was hard to get a good look at it

Greater Kudu *Tragelaphus strepsiceros* — (7) Common and seen daily

Sable Antelope *Hippotragus niger* — (2) We had amazing views of this species on 2 occasions. One on the drive north near the dead elephant and then another herd feeding near the track the next day

Roan Antelope *Hippotragus equinus* — (1) One small group came to the river to drink near where we were enjoying our sundowners at Lagoon Camp

Impala *Aepyceros melampus* — (7) Large herds of Impala were common and we saw them everyday

Waterbuck *Kobus ellipsiprymnus* — (2) A few were feeding in a clearing during a drive one evening at Kwara

Red Lechwe *Kobus leche* — (7) Common and seen daily in good numbers

Southern Reedbuck *Redunca arundinum* — (2) Observed once at Kwara and once at Lagoon
Smith's Bush Squirrel *Paraxerus cepapi* — (7) Common around the camps and we observed them daily
Southern Springhare *Pedetes capensis* — (3) We saw these interesting species a few times on our night drives. Our guides called them African Kangaroo and they did look like mini kangaroo as they hopped around, but they are actually rodents

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS: — (3)

Nile Crocodile *Crocodylus niloticus* — (5) Always a few around the rivers and lakes
African Leopard Tortoise *Stigmochelys pardalis* — (1) One of the vehicles saw a tortoise on a drive at Lagoon Camp
Angolan (Painted) Reed Frog *Hyperolius parallelus* — (1) This was the highlight of our canoe trip on the lake at Kwara. We found several males and females on the reeds. Hard to imagine that they can be so loud when they are so small!

Namibia Summary: Pages 13 – 25

September 8 – 19, 2023

We were met by local guide Sean Braine in Windhoek and spent 2 nights birding along the way to Etosha NP where we spent 4 nights viewing birds and wildlife. It was very dry so most of the wildlife was concentrated around the waterholes in the park. From Etosha we headed into the Erongo Mountains for a night, then out to coast and the Namib desert. Trip was wonderful, much in part to the knowledge of Sean.

212 Bird Species total in Namibia. We also observed 36 species of Mammals and a few reptiles & amphibians.

(#) in Family Line – total number species seen in family

(#) in species line – number of days of the trip, out of 11 total

OSTRICHES: Struthionidae — (1)

Common Ostrich *Struthio camelus* — (8) Common in Etosha. They were usually at most of the waterholes we visited

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae — (6)

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* — (3) Didn't seem as common as in Botswana – probably due to lack of water but we did have a few at some of the larger waterholes

South African Shelduck *Tadorna cana* — (3) We had these beautiful ducks at a few different waterholes in Etosha. They were always in pairs

Blue-billed Teal *Spatula hottentota* — (1) We only saw one pair during the trip. They were in the marsh at Walvis Bay

Cape Shoveler *Spatula smithii* — (1) Only one female. At the marsh at Walvis Bay with the previous species

Cape Teal *Anas capensis* — (4) Most common duck on the tour (still not very common though). We had them at several waterholes in Etosha and quite a few at Walvis Bay

Red-billed Duck *Anas erythrorhyncha* — (3) A few were at the waterhole at Okonjima Preserve. We also had one at a waterhole in Etosha

GUINEAFOWL: Numididae — (1)

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* — (9) Common and seen almost daily

PARTRIDGES, PHEASANTS, AND ALLIES: Phasianidae — (3)

Crested Francolin *Ortygornis sephaena* — (1) Only one pair. They were along the hwy between Okonjima and Etosha.

Hartlaub's Spurfowl *Pternistis hartlaubi* — (1) Our target before breakfast at our lodge in the Erongo Mountains. We got

a pair to hop up on a boulder for us before they disappeared over the hill

Red-billed Spurfowl *Pternistis adspersus* — (6) Seen daily for the first half of the trip until we dropped into the desert

FLAMINGOS: Phoenicopteridae — (2)

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* — (2) Thousands at the Swakopmund Salt Pans and at Walvis Bay. Nice to have mixed with Lessers to be able to see the size difference and compare plumage differences. According to Sean there are up to about 70,000 flamingos in the area

Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* — (2) See above species. Too many to count

GREBES: Podicipedidae — (2)

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* — (3) We had a few at waterholes in Etosha NP and several at Walvis Bay

Eared Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* — (2) A bit distant, but we had a large flock at the Swakopmund Salt Pans and again the next day at Walvis Bay

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae — (6)

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* — (3) We had one mixed in with a flock of other pigeons at a waterhole in Etosha. Also a couple more in Swakopmund

Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea* — (6) common throughout, but great looks at them coming to the waterhole in the evening at Aiaiba and drinking from the puddle in the garden at our hotel in Swakopmund

Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola* — (8) Most common dove of the trip. Large numbers most days

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis* — (9) Common and seen almost daily

Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove *Turtur chalcospilos* — (2) a few came to some of the waterholes behind our cabins at Onguma

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* — (1) Only recorded one day along the road in Etosha NP

SANDGROUSE: Pteroclididae — (3)

Namaqua Sandgrouse *Pterocles namaqua* — (4) Common at all the waterholes in the mornings

Double-banded Sandgrouse *Pterocles bicinctus* — (5) Common at all the waterholes when they come to drink, usually in the evenings

Burchell's Sandgrouse *Pterocles burchelli* — (2) Not as common as the previous 2 species, but we had them a couple of times, usually mixed in with Namaqua's at waterholes in the morning

BUSTARDS: Otidae — (5)

Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori* — (4) Heaviest flying bird. We actually saw one flying at Okonjima and it was pretty amazing. We saw several everyday at Etosha NP as well. Total of 19 individuals during the trip

Ludwig's Bustard *Neotis ludwigii* — (2) We felt lucky to get this tricky species in the western part of Etosha NP, then we saw one more not far from our lodge in Sossusvlei NP

Ruppell's Bustard *Eupodotis rueppellii* — (2) We had 3 along the road on our drive to Sossusvlei, then we had them inside the national park as well

Red-crested Bustard *Eupodotis ruficrista* — (4) We saw this species a few times around Etosha NP. Once we even had one fluff his crest a bit and we could see the red for a second

White-quilled Bustard *Eupodotis afraoides* — (6) Common and seen most days until we reached the Namib desert. It was fun to see one early in the morning in Etosha that was fluffed up like a ball trying to stay warm

TURACOS: Musophagidae — (1)

Gray Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides concolor* — (8) Common and seen on most days

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae — (2)

Fiery-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus pectoralis* — (1) One was flying around the waterhole at Onguma just before dark as we sat watching animals

Freckled Nightjar *Caprimulgus tristigma* — (2) We had one calling and flying around the waterhole during dinner at Okonjima. Had one more flying around the pool at Aiaiba

SWIFTS: Apodidae — (2)

Little Swift *Apus affinis* — (2) Brief views a couple of times while driving and we could see the white rumps

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* — (5) Not seen as often as Botswana, but we had them most days for the first half our trip, then not recorded once we got to the desert

RAILS, CRAKES, AND ALLIES: Rallidae — (3)

Eurasian Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* — (1) Only recorded in the marsh at Walvis Bay, but we had quite a few of them there that morning

Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata* — (1) Only a couple were seen in the marsh at Walvis Bay

African Swamphe *Porphyrio madagascariensis* — (1) We only saw 2, but they were gorgeous and one of the favorites of the morning at Walvis Bay

CRANES: Gruidae — (1)

Blue Crane *Anthropoides paradiseus* — (1) We had 16 in the Andoni Plains in the north end of Etosha. This is a isolated population of approximately +/- 35 birds in Namibia, all the rest of this species is in western South Africa

THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae — (1)

Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus capensis* — (2) We found one in the Andoni Plains and one in the western part of Etosha NP. We got much better looks here than we had in Botswana

STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae — (2)

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* — (2) A couple were at a waterhole in Etosha, but we had quite a few at Walvis Bay

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* — (3) There were 2 at the Andoni Plains Waterhole in Etosha, but we had lots of this species in the Salt Pans at Swakopmund and Walvis Bay

OYSTERCATCHERS: Haematopodidae — (1)

African Oystercatcher *Haematopus moquini* — (1) We made a stop between Walvis Bay and Swakopmund to look for this species and were fortunate to have 2 foraging along the coastline

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae — (8)

Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* — (2) Common in the salt pans around Swakopmund and Walvis bay

Blacksmith Lapwing *Vanellus armatus* — (5) Most of the waterholes in Etosha had a pair hanging around

Crowned Lapwing *Vanellus coronatus* — (5) We had a few everyday while we were in Etosha, but not recorded anywhere else

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* — (3) We got really good looks at this species at the waterhole in the Andoni Plains in Etosha where we had a pair close to the vehicle

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* — (1) One at the Swakopmund Salt Pans

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris* — (4) Several at waterholes in Etosha and a few around Walvis Bay

White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus* — (2) several at the Swakopmund Salt Pans and Walvis Bay

Chestnut-banded Plover *Charadrius pallidus* — (4) We first saw this species at the waterhole at the Andoni Plains, but

had lots of them around Walvis Bay

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae — (11)

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* — (1) 2 at Walvis Bay

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* — (1) We had two of this uncommon migrant at Walvis Bay

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* — (2) Recorded in low numbers on both days along the coast and salt pans

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* — (2) a few along the coast and in the salt pans near Swakopmund

Ruff *Calidris pugnax* — (3) We recorded this species in a few of the waterholes in Etosha NP and then had quite a few at Walvis Bay

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* — (4) Like the previous species, we saw a few of this species utilizing the waterholes in Etosha, but large numbers along the coastal wetlands

Sanderling *Calidris alba* — (2) Recorded in low numbers on both days along the coast and salt pans

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* — (4) We recorded this species in a few of the waterholes in Etosha NP and then had quite a few at Walvis Bay

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* — (1) Only one seen during the tour. It was at the marsh near Walvis Bay

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* — (2) One was feeding along the shore with zebras at a waterhole in Etosha, then we had a couple more later in the trip at Walvis Bay

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* — (1) One in the waterhole at Andoni Plains

PRATINCOLES AND COURSERS: Glareolidae — (1)

Double-banded Courser *Smutsonis africanus* — (2) First seen in the Andoni Plains, then we got one more a couple days later in the western part of Etosha

GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae — (7)

Hartlaub's Gull *Chroicocephalus hartlaubii* — (2) We got this species as soon as we got to the coast. It walked around the bus while we had our box lunches

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* — (2) The common large gull of the area. We had them both days along the coast

Damara Tern *Sternula balaenarum* — (1) We found a few of these little terns quite a way out in Walvis Bay

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* — (1) about 20 were mixed in with the other terns on a sand island in the middle of Walvis Bay

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* — (2) Some at the Salt Pans our first day near the coast and a few more mixed with the other terns in Walvis Bay

Great Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii* — (2) Quite a few at the salt pans near Swakopmund and again the next day in Walvis Bay

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis* — (1) two were roosting on the side of one of the salt pans near Swakopmund

STORKS: Ciconiidae — (1)

Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumenifer* — (2) Not many around but we got one at a waterhole in Etosha and another during our drive south from Etosha

CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae — (3)

Crowned Cormorant *Microcarbo coronatus* — (2) A large group was roosting near the shipwreck our first day along the coast. We had another roosting flock the following day at the large guano platform near Walvis Bay

Cape Cormorant *Phalacrocorax capensis* — (2) A couple hundred at the Swakopmund Walvis Bay salt pans

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* — (2) About 20 total over two days around the coast and salt pans. This is the white-breasted form, split as a separate species by some authorities

PELICANS: Pelecanidae — (1)

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* — (2) A large flock flying over Etosha NP was a surprise. We thought they were going to land on the waterhole near our lodge but they opted to take their chances on finding more water elsewhere. We had 1 other roosting in a salt pan at Walvis Bay

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae — (5)

Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea* — (1) Only saw one during the trip- it was in the marshy area just outside of Walvis Bay

Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala* — (2) One was hanging out at the waterhole at Okaukuejo Camp in Etosha

Great Egret *Ardea alba* — (1) Funny that we didn't see this species any of the other areas but only once out in the desert at the oasis near where we first saw the welwitchias

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* — (1) We only saw them one day, but we saw quite a few on our day around Walvis Bay

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* — (1) One at the Andoni Plains waterhole and a couple more at Walvis Bay

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae — (2)

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* — (1) a small group of 6 was feeding in the marsh near Walvis Bay

African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* — (1) Only a flyby at Immanuel Wilderness Lodge during our pre-breakfast birding

SECRETARYBIRD: Sagittariidae — (1)

Secretarybird *Sagittarius serpentarius* — (1) Only one but that is enough! It wasn't very close to the vehicle, but at least we could watch it for several minutes as it walked around looking for prey. It was during our long drive in Etosha from the east to the west side of the park

HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae — (10)

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* — (2) We had several during our drives the first 2 days of the tour

Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos* — (4) a couple at Okonjima and Etosha, but our best looks were out in the desert when we were driving toward Sossusvlei. They appeared to be nesting in a tree near the road

White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* — (5) Most numerous vulture, especially around Etosha and at several places during travel days

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* — (2) One seen along the highway while driving to Etosha, then had one in the park on one of our days there

Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus* — (1) One of this beautiful species perched far out in Etosha NP

Booted Eagle *Hieraetus pennatus* — (1) One soaring above the Erongo Hills as we drove from Etosha to Aiaiba

Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax* — (4) we saw several at Etosha including a pair that roosted every evening in the large tree above the waterhole at Okuakuejo

Pale Chanting-Goshawk *Melierax canorus* — (7) By far the most common raptor of the trip

Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar* — (1) One flew in and scared away all the larks and weavers at the waterhole that we had the Eland come drink

Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur* — (2) got brief views our first day in the Erongo Mtns, but then the following day got a really good look at one soaring near the road. Tail reminded us of a Red-tailed Hawk

OWLS: Strigidae — (4)

African Scops-Owl *Otus senegalensis* — (1) We stopped to bird in a dried up riverbed on the way from Etosha to Aiaiba and heard this species calling (it is a nocturnal species, but will call during the day sometimes). We followed the calls until we were able to get the correct tree, then just a matter of time until we located it

Southern White-faced Owl *Ptilopsis granti* — (1) Great looks at this beautiful owl during the optional night drive at Okonjima

Spotted Eagle-Owl *Bubo africanus* — (1) While we were exploring the pan at Deadvlei, Sean searched the trees near the end of the road and had it nailed down for us when we got back

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum* — (1) a pair was calling and flying around the trees near the lodge during our pre breakfast birding. One eventually perched and gave us good scope views

MOUSEBIRDS: Coliidae — (2)

White-backed Mousebird *Colius colius* — (3) We had a few different groups that we saw including in the park in Swakopmund, but for most of us our best views were in the canyon near the Welwitchia plants

Red-faced Mousebird *Urocolius indicus* — (1) A group was in the trees when we stopped to bird and break up the long drive to Etosha NP

HOOPOES: Upupidae — (1)

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops* — (2) We only saw this species a couple of times, both while driving and so not seen well by most of the group (we had great looks in Botswana so didn't try very hard here)

WOODHOOPOES AND SCIMITARBILLS: Phoeniculidae — (2)

Violet Woodhoopoe *Phoeniculus damarensis* — (1) We stopped at a couple of places looking for this species before we eventually found a couple in a dry riverbed the day we left Etosha

Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas* — (2) Part of the group got good looks at this species just as we were getting to Okonjima, but not everyone saw it. We were lucky to get another one close and everyone saw it at Aiaiba

HORNBILLS: Bucerotidae — (6)

Bradfield's Hornbill *Lophoceros bradfieldi* — (1) We made a couple of stops looking for this species before we finally found one during our drive to Etosha. Once we found it we all were able to get good looks at it in large trees near the road

African Gray Hornbill *Lophoceros nasutus* — (2) a couple of views in Etosha NP including a pair that was in the picnic area at Halali Camp

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus leucomelas* — (6) The most common hornbill of our trip. Recorded everyday at Etosha

Monteiro's Hornbill *Tockus monteiri* — (3) Similar to Bradfield's but spotted wings and white secondaries. We first saw this species at Immanuel Wilderness Lodge before breakfast. Also saw at Okonjima and Aiaiba

Southern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus rufirostris* — (2) Seen early in the eastern part of Etosha. Halali is considered a interbreeding zone between Red-Billed and Damara, and we saw one that looked a bit sketchy there

Damara Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus damarensis* — (1) After seeing the suspected hybrid at Halali we hoped to get a good look at a clean Damara, so we were happy when we found a few in a riverbed as we were leaving the Erongo Mountains

BEE-EATERS: Meropidae — (1)

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus* — (6) We recorded this species 6 days, but it doesn't seem very common. Most days we saw only 1 individual while we were driving

ROLLERS: Coraciidae — (1)

Rufous-crowned Roller *Coracias naevius* — (2) After seeing several that we drove by at 60 mph, we found one with a place to park along the highway so everybody could see it well. Not as flamboyant as the Lilac-br, but still a very pretty bird

AFRICAN BARBETS: Lybiidae — (1)

Pied Barbet *Tricholaema leucomelas* — (3) We got good looks at this species at Immanuel Wilderness Lodge and a couple of other days, including really good views by some during an afternoon siesta at Okuakuejo.

WOODPECKERS: Picidae — (3)

Cardinal Woodpecker *Chloropicus fuscescens* — (1) We had a pair in the trees near the lodge during our pre-breakfast outing at Okonjima

Bearded Woodpecker *Chloropicus namaquus* — (1) One was actively tapping and looking for food at Okonjima just as we pulled in and were unloading the vehicle

Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni* — (1) We got this nice looking species in the parking area at Onguma Forest Camp in the evening before dinner

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae — (5)

Pygmy Falcon *Polihierax semitorquatus* — (2) One of the last birds we were still looking for. Eventually we found them in Sossusvlei NP our last 2 days and were able to get great looks at them both days

Rock Kestrel *Falco rupicolus* — (4) Our best looks were probably at Aiaiba Lodge where we had them sitting on the cliffs around the lodge a couple of different times

Greater Kestrel *Falco rupicoloides* — (2) Really good looks at a pair in a small acacia near the road on our day in NW Etosha

Red-necked Falcon *Falco chicquera* — (2) Very distant views of one in a palm at Etosha, but much better looks at the pair that was chasing each other around and perched in the old, dead trees at the Deadvlei Pan

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* — (1) One was flying around the oasis on our way to see the Welwitschia plants

OLD WORLD PARROTS: Psittaculidae — (1)

Rosy-faced Lovebird *Agapornis roseicollis* — (6) Had our first pair at the airport just after we got through customs. Fairly common around most of our lodges throughout the tour

NEW WORLD AND AFRICAN PARROTS: Psittacidae — (1)

Ruppell's Parrot *Poicephalus rueppellii* — (1) Good views of this near endemic parrot in the morning at Okonjima. We had a few brief views before we eventually got one to perch where we could put the scope on it and study it well

WATTLE-EYES AND BATISES: Platysteiridae — (2)

White-tailed Shrike *Lanioturdus torquatus* — (3) Our first view was at Okonjima where we did a short hike through a dry riverbed. We had a couple others at Aiaiba lodge as well

Pirit Batis *Batis pirit* — (3) We had this species both days at Okonjima. We had good looks at the buffy female as well as the pied male

VANGAS AND HELMETSHRIKES: Vangidae — (1)

White Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus* — (1) This species is always in groups and the time we saw it was no exception – we had a group of 6 in the picnic area and drinking from the sprinkler at Halali Camp in Etosha

BUSHSHRIKES AND ALLIES: Malaconotidae — (5)

Brubru *Nilaus afer* — (2) had this species both days at Aiaiba Lodge

Black-backed Puffback *Dryoscopus cubla* — (1) a pair was foraging in the trees along the road as we drove in to Onguma Lodge our first day at Etosha

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* — (1) We had good looks at this species during a short break during our drive from Etosha

Crimson-breasted Gonolek *Laniarius atrococcineus* — (6) Lots of good views of this species and after looking at so many drab larks it was always exciting to see something so bright!

DRONGOS: Dicruridae — (1)

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis* — (7) Common and seen daily everywhere except in the Namib Desert

SHRIKES: Laniidae — (2)

Southern Fiscal *Lanius collaris* — (3) All 3 sightings were along the roads as we were driving. We stopped and got a good look at one the day we were leaving the Erongos

White-crowned Shrike *Eurocephalus anguitimens* — (2) Several different sightings in Etosha NP including one in the picnic area at Halali Camp

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae — (2)

Cape Crow *Corvus capensis* — (2) Fairly common around Etosha

Pied Crow *Corvus albus* — (5) More common than the previous species. We had at Etosha and along the coastal areas

TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae — (2)

Carp's Tit *Melaniparus carpi* — (2) We had good looks at a pair during a birding break from the long drive between Etosha and Aiaba. We also had one in the morning at Aiaiba Lodge

Ashy Tit *Melaniparus cinerascens* — (5) A pair showed well during our pre-breakfast walk at Okonjima. We also had one that sat and called for about 10 minutes in an acacia near the waterhole viewing area at Okuakuejo

LARKS: Alaudidae — (10)

Spike-heeled Lark *Chersomanes albofasciata* — (3) Several views at close range along the roads in Etosha. Like all these larks, we were glad to have Sean who could pick out the different species easily

Gray's Lark *Ammomanopsis grayi* — (2) Sean said he normally didn't see them as far inland as our first sighting near Uis. We saw them closer to Swakomund the following day in what would be their normal areas

Karoo Long-billed Lark *Certhilauda subcoronata* — (2) Some authorities split this into several species. We had the Benguela variety first before we reached the Erongo Mtns, then the next day we had the Karoo type near the Spitzkoppe mountains.

Gray-backed Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix verticalis* — (2) We saw several at waterholes in Etosha NP

Sabota Lark *Calendulauda sabota* — (5) Several sightings in Etosha and the Erongo mtns portions of the trip

Dune Lark *Calendulauda erythrochlamys* — (2) We had awesome views of this species – the only true Namibian endemic. We got a pair near Walvis Bay and another pair in Sossusvlei NP that was so tame it was hard to photograph because they wouldn't stay far enough away!

Eastern Clapper Lark *Mirafra fasciolata* — (1) We had one of these larks near the waterhole on our drive around the Andoni Plains of Etosha

Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea* — (3) Most common lark of the trip with well over 100 individuals. Frequently seen along the road and flocks of them were visiting the waterholes

Stark's Lark *Spizocorys starki* — (4)

Pink-billed Lark *Spizocorys conirostris* — (3) First seen at the waterhole in the Andoni Plains where we had good looks at a couple of them drinking and foraging near the vehicle. Several others while driving

AFRICAN WARBLERS: Macrosphenidae — (2)

Cape Crombec *Sylvietta rufescens* — (2) We saw our first crombec at Immanuel Nature Lodge during our morning walk. We saw one other the next day at Okonjima near the lodge

Rockrunner *Achaetops pycnopygius* — (2) One of the birds of the trip. This was our target on our walk at Okonjima – we heard several before we finally had one pop out where we could see it. Part of the group had another in the evening at Aiaiba Lodge

CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES: Cisticolidae — (9)

Yellow-bellied Eremomela *Eremomela icteropygialis* — (4) We had several throughout the trip

Burnt-necked Eremomela *Eremomela usticollis* — (1) A pair was in the trees between our rooms and the main lodge at Okonjima

Barred Wren-Warbler *Calamonastes fasciolatus* — (1) Sean saw one along the road while we were driving near the Onguma lodge toward Etosha. We called it and it responded and showed well. Some of the group had another near the waterhole at Okaukuejo Camp

Green-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brachyura* — (2) We saw them both at Okonjima and Onguma. Here in Namibia is the Gray-backed subspecies, split from Green-backed by some authorities

Black-chested Prinia *Prinia flavicans* — (6) Fairly common and recorded most days, starting with one near the water at Immanuel Wilderness Lodge

Rufous-eared Warbler *Malcorus pectoralis* — (1) A pair on our evening drive from Okuakuejo in Etosha NP

Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana* — (1) One on our drive into the Andoni Plains area of Etosha NP

Red-headed Cisticola *Cisticola subrificapilla* — (1) Near the oasis on the drive to see the Welwitschia plants. Only cisticola possible in the area

Desert Cisticola *Cisticola aridulus* — (1) Good looks (for a cisticola!) of this species near the waterhole in the Andoni Plains of Etosha NP

REED WARBLERS: Acrocephalidae — (1)

Common Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* — (1) 2 were in the reeds in the marsh at Walvis Bay

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae — (5)

Rock Martin *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* — (10) Common and seen daily. Most common swallow of the trip

Pearl-breasted Swallow *Hirundo dimidiata* — (1) We had one fly by us during our pre-breakfast walk at Okonjima

Greater Striped Swallow *Cecropsis cucullata* — (1) One flew by the vehicle during one of our evening drive at Etosha

Rufous-chested Swallow *Cecropsis semirufa* — (3) We had several on 3 days in Etosha NP. Very striking swallow!

South African Swallow *Petrochelidon spilodera* — (1) A bit of a surprise finding one flying around the Swakopmund salt pans

BULBULS: Pycnonotidae — (1)

Black-fronted Bulbul *Pycnonotus nigricans* — (10) Common and seen in low numbers everyday of the trip

SYLVIID WARBLERS: Sylviidae — (2)

Layard's Warbler *Curruca layardi* — (2) We found one in the Erongo mtns and then again near the Welwitschia area (Sean said he had never seen one in that area before)

Chestnut-vented Warbler *Curruca subcoerulea* — (3) Recorded both at Immanuel Wilderness Lodge and Okonjima. At Okonjima there was a pair near the rooms everytime we walked to the restaurant

WHITE-EYES: Zosteropidae — (1)

Orange River White-eye *Zosterops pallidus* — (1) Easily found in the small park near our hotel in Swakopmund

LAUGHINGTHRUSHES AND ALLIES: Leiothrichidae — (2)

Bare-cheeked Babbler *Turdoides gymnogenys* — (1) One of the favorites of the trip. Very striking babbler and has a small distribution restricted to Namibia and Angola. We had a flock of them near the restaurant at Halali in Etosha

Southern Pied-Babbler *Turdoides bicolor* — (1) A small flock of them was in the trees around the lodge during our morning walk at Okonjima

STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae — (5)

Wattled Starling *Creatophora cinerea* — (2) A few were around Onguma lodge. Some of our group had some come to the bird bath near their rooms as well

Pale-winged Starling *Onychognathus nabeourop* — (6) Fairly common and recorded in several locations. Particularly common around Aiaiba Lodge

Burchell's Starling *Lamprotornis australis* — (2) Not as common as in Botswana and we only saw them twice during the trip

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* — (1) Only recorded once – at Onguma near the rooms

Cape Starling *Lamprotornis nitens* — (5) Abundant around Etosha. Over 200 during lunch at Halali

THRUSHES: Turdidae — (1)

Groundscraper Thrush *Turdus litsitsirupa* — (2) A pair was around the lodge during our pre-breakfast walk at Okonjima. Also had one near Aiaiba lodge

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS AND CHATS: Muscicapidae — (12)

Mariqua Flycatcher *Bradornis mariquensis* — (5) Most common around Etosha

Chat Flycatcher *Agricola infuscatus* — (5) Common on the west side of Etosha, but we didn't see one until we moved to Okaukuejo, then we saw it for the next four days

Herero Chat *Melaenornis herero* — (2) Another range-restricted species, barely makes it into Angola. We had one both days around the Erongo Mountains

Kalahari Scrub-Robin *Cercotrichas paena* — (4) A couple of times part of the group recorded this species around Okonjima and later on we had it on 2 of our drives in Etosha

Red-backed Scrub-Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys* — (3) First seen at Immanuel Wilderness Lodge before breakfast near the waterhole. Also recorded at Okonjima during our evening hike and a pair near the lobby at Onguma

Short-toed Rock-Thrush *Monticola brevipes* — (4) We had one in the parking area at Immanuel Wilderness Lodge, but we had much better views at Aiaiba Lodge where a pair was always right around the rooms

Karoo Chat *Emarginata schlegelii* — (2) first seen on the drive from Etosha to Aiaiba. We saw the pale, Namibia race.

Tractrac Chat *Emarginata tractrac* — (2) We had 2 as we drove down toward the coast into the Namib desert

Southern Anteater-Chat *Myrmecocichla formicivora* — (2) Recorded two days, both in Etosha NP. First seen on the Andoi Plains drive sitting on a termite mound

Mountain Wheatear *Myrmecocichla monticola* — (4) Very common around Aiaiba Rock Painting Lodge

Familiar Chat *Oenanthe familiaris* — (4) We saw it at every location except Etosha. A couple early in the trip at Immanuel and Okonjima, then later at Sossusvlei Distinctive wing flicking and chestnut rump and tail

SUNBIRDS: Nectariniidae — (2)

Mariqua Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis* — (4) Common the first few days of the trip, then we didn't record it again after we left the east part of Etosha, which is right in line with the distribution

Dusky Sunbird *Cinnyris fuscus* — (5) Replaces the above species in western Namibia and once in the correct area we saw this species daily

WEAVERS: Ploceidae — (7)

Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver *Bubalornis niger* — (1) We had a small flock of 7 fly across the road one day in Etosha

Scaly Weaver *Sporopipes squamifrons* — (4) We saw quite a few at Okonjima (20+). The other 3 days we recorded this species it was only one or two birds

White-browed Sociable-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali* — (6) Fairly common, but our best views were probably in the morning at Aiaiba Lodge when they were feeding just next to the restaurant

Sociable Weaver *Philetairus socius* — (3) For as many gigantic nests we saw, it is surprising that we only observed this

species 3 days. The nests are incredible though. Mostly the west side of Etosha and Erongos

Lesser Masked-Weaver *Ploceus intermedius* — (2) There were some around Halali outside the restaurant. Also near the lodge in Swapkomund

Southern Masked-Weaver *Ploceus velatus* — (6) Most common yellow weaver. We even had some in breeding plumage at the cactus restaurant (apparently keep breeding plumage year round)

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* — (4) Common the first few days of the trip, including a flock of over 300 in Etosha

WAXBILLS AND ALLIES: Estrildidae — (7)

Black-faced Waxbill *Brunhilda erythronotos* — (2) a couple both days at the waterhole in Okonjima

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild* — (1) A few flew into the nearby tree in the park in Swakopmund while we were looking for the White-eyes

Red-headed Finch *Amadina erythrocephala* — (3) Best looks were probably in the picnic area at Halali Camp in Etosha NP. They were coming to the sprinkler for water

Violet-eared Waxbill *Granatina granatina* — (2) We had two at the waterhole in Okonjima, then a group of 4 the next afternoon at Onguma Lodge

Southern Cordonbleu *Uraeginthus angolensis* — (3) There were a few coming to the feeder and water at Immanuel Nature Lodge. Also seen one day in Etosha

Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba* — (2) One of the first birds we saw at Immanuel Nature Lodge on our morning walk. Also some people saw one at the bird bath near their room at Onguma

WHYDAHS AND INDIGOBIRDS: Viduidae — (1)

Shaft-tailed Whydah *Vidua regia* — (1) Too bad they aren't in breeding plumage this time of year, but at least the pair that we had the male had good buffy plumage – just no long tail feathers. In Etosha NP

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae — (4)

House Sparrow (1) *Passer domesticus* — (5) Every time we were in a city we saw this introduced species

Great Rufous Sparrow *Passer motitensis* — (3) We had 2 at the waterhole in Okonjima. Resembles a big, chestnut colored house sparrow

Cape Sparrow *Passer melanurus* — (5) Good looks around Swapkomund. One landed only a few feet away from a few of us and posed for photos with a red sand background in Deadvlei

Southern Gray-headed Sparrow *Passer diffusus* — (7) Common and found at most of the waterholes in Etosha

PIPITS AND WAGTAILS: Motacillidae — (2)

Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis* — (3) Seen best around Swapkomund – often on the sidewalks around town

African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus* — (3) A few were around some of the waterholes in Etosha

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae — (3)

Black-throated Canary *Crithagra atrogularis* — (4) Common on several days, but on our Welwitchia day we had 100+ near the oasis

Yellow Canary *Crithagra flaviventris* — (3) We had good looks during our morning walk at Okonjima. Also we had one in Etosha

White-throated Canary *Crithagra albogularis* — (1) We stopped to bird a bit in a dry river bed on the long drive after seeing the Welwitchia plants and we had one of this species show well for a minute before it flew up the canyon

OLD WORLD BUNTINGS: Emberizidae — (2)

Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris* — (2) A couple were at the waterhole at Okonjima. Some lucky people also had them visit their bird bath during a siesta at Onguma

Lark-like Bunting *Emberiza impetواني* — (5) Saw quite a few of this drab bunting. Probably best views at Okonjima at the waterhole as we were driving into the lodge

MAMMALS: — (35)

Rock Hyrax *Procavia capensis* — (3) We had a couple at Okonjima on our walk for the Rockrunner. Several pairs were on the cliffs behind Aiaiba Lodge

African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* — (3) Common on our drives around Etosha and at the waterholes, including at the waterhole in front of our lodge at Okuakuejo

Scrub Hare *Lepus saxatilis* — (2) One at Okonjima during the optional night drive and another in Etosha

Smith's Bush Squirrel *Paraxerus crepapi* — (3) Probably forgot to record them because it seems like they were all over the place most days

South African Ground Squirrel *Geosciurus inauris* — (2) A small colony at Okuakuejo. Also had a colony on one of our drives at Etosha and there was a Yellow Mongoose using the same burrows

Acacia Tree Rat *Thallomys sp* — (1) After dark one was munching leaves of an acacia tree in the lights near the waterhole at Okuakuejo

Tomb Bat *Taphozous sp* — (1) a few flew in and landed in the corner of the lobby at Aiaiba

Spring Hare *Pedetes capensis* — (1) A couple of this nocturnal species during the night drive at Okonjima

South African Porcupine *Hystrix africaeaustralis* — (1) One was rumbling down the road in front of us during the night drive at Okonjima

Chacma Baboon *Papio ursinus* — (1) Only a few seen at Okonjima

Yellow Mongoose *Cynictis penicillata* — (2) Interesting sighting at Etosha when one was using the same burrows made by the Ground Squirrels. It disappeared into a hole and popped up about 15 feet away!

Banded Mongoose *Mungos mungo* — (2) We had on our drive a couple of times, but the best were in the parking area at Onguma while we were trying to check in

Slender Mongoose *Herpestes sanguinea* — (2) We had this species a couple of times at Okonjima, including really good looks at one that was hanging out along the side of the road

Brown Hyena *Parahyaena brunnea* — (1) Several seen on the optional night drive at Okonjima

Spotted Hyena *Crocuta crocuta* — (1) One cooling off in a waterhole and having a no blink contest with a giraffe in Etosha

Cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus* — (1) We worked hard in Etosha for this one, but our persistence finally paid off and we found one and were able to watch it for as long as we wanted

Lion *Panthera leo* — (1) 2 were sleeping in the shade of an acacia near a waterhole in Etosha. Luckily we had much better views in Botswana

Ratel (Honey Badger) *Mellivora capensis* — (4)

Black-backed Jackal *Lupulella mesomelas* — (7) Quite common and seen almost daily

Brown Fur Seal *Arctocephalus pusillus* — (1) We had one floating along with his fins up in Walvis Bay

Mountain Zebra *Equus zebra* — (1) In Okonjima Preserve. Had Plains Zebras nearby so it was good to be able to compare the differences in the striping

Plains Zebra *Equus quagga* — (4) Got to compare with Mtn Zebras in Okonjima. Also saw quite a few in Etosha NP

White Rhinoceros *Ceratotherium simum* — (1) We had very close looks at one as it fed along the roadside, then it walked down the road in front of us marking its territory as it went

Black Rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis* — (2) Both evenings they came to the waterhole by our rooms at Okuakuejo. The waterhole is so close to the rooms we could come and go whenever we wanted and several members of our group were still watching 2 Rhinos sword fighting and pushing each other around at nearly midnight

Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus* — (5) Fairly common around the waterholes in Etosha

Giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis* — (5) Everyday in Etosha, but never gets old

Bush Duiker *Sylvicapra grimmia* — (3) Seen best at Okonjima just before we reached the lodge. Sean said "this is a good area for Duiker" and about 10 seconds later we found one!

Damara Dik-Dik *Madoqua damarensis* — (5) Almost daily the first week of the trip. Hard to imagine how such a small antelope can survive with so many predators around!

Steenbok *Raphicerus campestris* — (3) Awesome views of a pair only a few feet away from us while we did the checklist and watched the waterhole at Onguma

Impala *Aepyceros melampus* — (5) We had the common subspecies at Okonjima and the Black-faced subspecies in Etosha (sometimes listed a separate species)

Springbok *Antidorcas marsupialis* — (8) Very common and seen in large numbers most days

Greater Kudu *Tragelaphus strepsiceros* — (4) fairly common at waterholes in Okonjima and Etosha

Common Eland *Tragelaphus oryx* — (1) One came to a waterhole in Etosha. One of the favorite mammals of the trip

Gemsbok *Oryx gazella* — (7) Common in Etosha and had quite a few in the red sand dunds around Sossusvlei and Deadvlei. What a striking animal!

Hartebeest *Alcelaphus buselaphus* — (2) We had a good time watching a herd trying to get a drink at a waterhole in Etosha. There may have been a predator in the area, but something had them very alert and jumpy. After about 20 minutes they finally made it to the water

Common Wildebeest *Connochaetes taurinus* — (5) A few around all the waterholes in Etosha NP

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS: — (3)

Namib Rock Agama *Agama planiceps* — (1) One was on a rock as we were unloading at Aiaiba Lodge. Some people saw one there the following morning as well

Namib Sand Gecko *Pachydactylus rangei* — (2) heard only. They were making a ruckus just after sunset at our lodge at Sossusvlei but several of us tried to find one with no luck. Apparently they call from their holes and don't come out until it is completely dark

Namib Sand Snake *Psammophis namibensis* (1) Ana found one poking its head out a hole in a sand dune at Deadvlei

Other

Welwitschia *Welwitschia mirabilis* — (1) National plant of Namibia and shown on the coat of arms seen on coins. We had lots of these strange plants between Swapkomund and Sossusvlei. One of the oldest living plants