SUMMARY

Angola continues to impress as one of Africa’s top birding destinations, and this year we logged a record 577 species in just 18 days. We visited all key birding sites, in the process covering habitats from lowland tropical rainforest to desert and seeing all Angolan endemics. Top birds included specials such as White-headed Robin-Chat, White-bellied Barbet, Braun’s Bushshrike, Gabela Helmetshrike, Pulitzer’s Longbill, Bocage’s Weaver, Bocage’s Sunbird, Rockrunner, Ludwig’s Bustard, Rüppell’s Korhaan, Swierstra’s Francolin, Orange River Francolin and Locust Finch.

Our journey took us first to the northern escarpment, with our very first stop producing Gabela Helmetshrike, White-fronted Wattle-eye and Golden-backed Bishop. Next on the cards was Braun’s Bushshrike, Forest Swallow and Angolan White-throated Greenbul, alongside a host of more widespread Congo Basin forest species. In the Kalandula region we found White-headed Robin-Chat, Perrin’s Bushshrike, Anchieta’s Barbet, Anchieta’s Sunbird and Thick-billed Cuckoo, before moving onto Muxima where Grey-striped Francolin and Monteiro’s Bushshrike were seen. At Kumbira the key targets fell in quick succession; Pulitzer’s Longbill, Gabela Akalat and Gabela Bushshrike, before we visited the Moco and the surrounding highlands for the better part of four days. Here, miombo woodlands produced Black-necked Eremomela, Sousa’s Shrike and Böhm’s Flycatcher, grasslands and dambos held Locust Finch, Black-and-rufous Swallow, Bocage’s Sunbird, Brazza’s Martin and Bocage’s Weaver, and montane forest turned up Angola Slaty Flycatcher. A productive morning was spent inland of Benguela, seeing Hartlaub’s Spurfowl, Orange River Francolin, White-tailed Shrike and Rockrunner. At Lubango we found Swierstra’s Francolin, Finsch’s Francolin and White-bellied Barbet at Tundavala, before continuing on to Namibe and Benguela with Cinderella Waxbill, Rüppell’s Korhaan, Ludwig’s Bustard, Bare-cheeked Babbler and Benguela Long-billed Lark. Finally we returned via the coast to Luanda, padding our list with various waterbirds that included Chestnut-banded Plover and Damara Tern.

ITINERARY

27 Aug: Luanda to Uíge via Caxito.
28 Aug: Northern escarpment forests.
29 Aug: Uíge to Kalandula.
30 Aug: Kalandula area.
31 Aug: Kalandula area.
1 Sep: Kalandula to Muxima via Pedras Negras.
2 Sep: Muxima.
3 Sep: Muxima to Conda.
4 Sep: Kumbira Forest.
5 Sep: Conda to Huambo.
6 Sep: Mount Moco region.
7 Sep: Mount Moco.
8 Sep: Huambo to Benguela via Moco.
9 Sep: Benguela to Lubango.
10 Sep: Tundavala.
11 Sep: Lubango to Namibe.
12 Sep: Namibe to Lobito.
13 Sep: Lobito to Luanda.
We gathered in Luanda, Angola’s colossal and chaotic capital city. Early the next morning we escaped the growing mass of traffic before it swallowed us, striking out on our 18-day loop across western Angola.

Our first stop was in some unassuming, dry forests near Caxito, surprisingly rich in endemics. A productive walk got proceedings off to a rapid start with specials such as Angola Batis, White-fronted Wattle-eye, Black-faced Canary, Bubbling Cisticola, Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush, Hartert’s Camaroptera, Golden-backed Bishop and, the cherry on top, Gabela Helmetshrike. Compact Weaver was a bit of a surprise. After a few hours we continued our way to Uíge, pausing en route for an uneventful picnic lunch, a police check point with Cassin’s Grey Flycatcher, White-throated Blue Swallow and some brief views of Forest Swallow, and a birding stop near Quitexe. The latter site rewarded us with our first views of the striking endemic Braun’s Bushshrike, and various other Congo Basin species in little over an hour. It had been a great first day!

During the following day-and-a-half we visited various sites along the northern escarpment of Uíge province, amassing an impressive list of species. Highlights included more views of Braun’s Bushshrike, perched Forest Swallow, tracking down the difficult Angolan White-throated Greenbul, Brown-backed Scrub Robin, Western Black-headed Batis, and prolonged views of White-collared Oliveback. Ample backup was provided by more common and widespread birds such as Eastern Piping Hornbill, Congo Pied Hornbill, Hairy-breasted Barbet, Speckled Tinkerbird, Great Blue Turaco, Guinea Turaco, Forest Chestnut-winged Starling, Yellow-mantled Weaver, Yellow-browed Camaroptera, Rufous-crowned Eremomela, Buff-throated Apalis, Dusky-blue Flycatcher, Banded Prinia, Velvet-mantled Drongo, Black-winged Oriole, Black Bee-eater, Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike, Pink-footed Puffback, perched Afep Pigeon, Red-headed Malimbe, Crested Malimbe, Red-fronted Parrot, Narrow-tailed Starling, Bocage’s Bushshrike, Green-backed Woodpecker, Eastern Yellow-billed Barbet, Olive-bellied Sunbird, Blue Yellowbill, Sooty Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Nicator, Rufous Flycatcher Thrush, Lowland Masked Apalis, Cassin’s Honeybird, Willcocks’s Honeyguide, Bristle-nosed Barbet and Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher.
From the northern-most point of the trip, near Uíge, we turned south-eastwards to the Kalandula Falls area with its broad-leaved woodlands and gallery forests. En route we paused at Lucala to admire Rock Pratincole.

At Kalandula the main birding area is 40 km to the north of the falls and town, around Kinjila Village. The gallery forests hold the star attraction, and this year White-headed Robin-Chat showed itself especially well, treating us to repeated views. The supporting cast included Western Black-backed Barbet, Eastern Black-backed Barbet, Brown-headed Apalis, Black-throated Wattle-eye, Petit’s Cuckooshrike, Western Bronze-naped Pigeon, Red-crested Turaco, Gorgeous Bushshrike, Grey-winged Robin-Chat, Cabanis’s Greenbul, Bannerman’s Sunbird, Bates’s Sunbird, Landana Firefinch, Marsh Tchagra, Narina Trogon and African Broadbill.

We also spent a significant amount of time scouring the surrounding woodlands, which held a complimentary set of species. More memorable sightings included Sharp-tailed Starling, Miombo Wren-Warbler, Meyer’s Parrot, Red-capped Crombec, Brubru, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, Bennett’s Woodpecker, Pale-billed Hornbill, Broad-tailed Paradise Whydah in full plumage, Retz’s Helmetshrike, Anchieta’s Sunbird, Cabanis’s Bunting and Thick-billed Cuckoo. Red-throated Cliff Swallow milled around the bridge over the Lucala River.

Moving on, we paused at the picturesque rocks at Pedras Negras, where a short stint of birding brought Ludwig’s Double-collared Sunbird, Pale-throated Barbet, Grey Waxbill, Angolan Swee Waxbill and Common Square-tailed Drongo. As we neared our accommodation at Cabala at the end of the day, we paused around a wetland where we found Long-legged Pipit and Orange-breasted Waxbill.

Our successful stop near Caxito, several days previously, had taken the pressure off our day in the dry forests of the Muxima area and left just a couple of targets. Fortunately, it didn’t take long to find a pair of Grey-striped Francolin feeding in the track, which allowed prolonged observation before melting into the dense undergrowth. And we were rewarded with good views of Monteiro’s Bushshrike. Many of the key birds were the same as around Caxito—Gabela Helmetshrike, Purple-banded Sunbird, Angola Batis and Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush—but we also saw Forest Scrub Robin and Scaly-throated Honeyguide. In the afternoon we found Long-billed Crombec near our lodge, and at a nearby wetland, African Mourning Dove and African Pygmy Goose and Fulvous Whistling Duck. After dark Square-tailed Nightjar showed well.

Leaving Muxima we made our way to the coast through Quiçama National Park, passing along the way in some dry knob-thorn forest (where we saw our first Carp’s Tit and Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill). On reaching the coast we turned southwards, passing various coastal wetlands where our first African Royal Terns were seen and we found two Greater Crested Terns, rare in Angola. But it wasn’t long before we were headed inland again, this time climbing the endemic-rich central escarpment.

Eastern Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye © Jonathan Newman

Red-crested Turaco © Rob Tizard
The central escarpment (focussed on Kumbira) is arguably the highest priority for conservation in Angola, but it is also one of the most rapidly disappearing areas of habitat due to slash-and-burn cultivation. Some of the rarer endemics cling to the last uncleared patches of suitable habitat. We wasted no time in commencing our birding at Kumbira, where on our first afternoon we found a trio of Endangered endemics in the form of Pulitzer’s Longbill, Gabela Akalat and Gabela Bushshrike. Our full day at Kumbira started well with more views of Pale-throated Barbet and Gabela Bushshrike, again. And forest walks during the rest of the day brought Falkenstein’s Greenbul, Eastern Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, Dusky Tit, Bates’s Paradise Flycatcher, Many-coloured Bushshrike (rare here) and brief views of Gabon Coucal.

Aside from the escarpment, the unique biodiversity of Angola can be found in the adjacent highlands, and it was to this region that we next turned our efforts. The highland reach their pinnacle at Mount Moco, the core of a region that holds a diverse array of habitats. Most of the area is blanketeted in miombo woodland, now unfortunately mostly quite degraded due to clearing for agriculture and charcoal production. Significant areas of montane grassland can also be found, numerous rivers and associated dambo grasslands criss-cross the area, and very small patches of montane forest exist in the gullies on Mount Moco itself. We divided our time fairly evenly between these habitats, each with its own specials.

We spent the better part of a day in and around two of the forest patches on the mountain, with birds seen including Huambo Cisticola, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Ludwig’s Double-collared Sunbird, Angola Slaty Flycatcher, Western Green Tinkerbird, Grey Apalis, Black-chinned Weaver, Olive Woodpecker, Bronzy Sunbird, Red-throated Wryneck, Dusky Twinspot, African Hill Babbler and Bocage’s Akalat. Swierstra’s Francolin cowed from the dense undergrowth but remained well hidden. Margaret’s Batis put in just the briefest of appearances.

In the surrounding grasslands and rocky slopes we found the local race of Mountain Wheatear (nigricauda), Striped Pipit, Yellow-
crowned Canary, and, best of all, Finsch's Francolin.

The rest of our time was spent in the mosaic of habitats across the greater region. Grassland and shrubland species included Oustalet's Sunbird and Angola Lark. In damper areas of dambo grassland (dry at this time of the year) we found several Fülleborn's Longclaw, good numbers of Locust Finch that were seen well on the ground, and the sought-after Black-and-rufous Swallow. Areas of rank growth, mostly around rivers, held Broad-tailed Warbler, Brown Firefinch, Chirping Cisticola, Stout Cisticola, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Hartlaub’s Babbler, Fawn-breasted Waxbill, Hartlaub’s Marsh Widowbird, Blue-breasted Bee-eater and Bocage’s Weaver in full breeding plumage. A pair of Brazza’s Martin gave excellent views near their nest, and this year Bocage’s Sunbird played along nicely and we saw two lovely males very well.

The miombo woodlands also turned up some good birds, with well-chosen stops producing Salvadori’s Eremomela, Sousa’s Shrike, Western Miombo Sunbird, Miombo Scrub Robin, Wood Pipit, Black-necked Eremomela, African Spotted Creeper, Böhm’s Flycatcher, Pearl-breasted Swallow, Rufous-bellied Tit, Miombo Tit, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Green-capped Eremomela, Grey Penduline Tit and Miombo Wren-Warbler.

Next, we moved on to the Benguela area. Most of our time was spent in an area of arid habitats 30-40 km inland of Benguela. Here Hartlaub’s Spurfowl was persuaded to sit up on a rock for good views, and the scarce Orange River Francolin approached us within 20 m. White-tailed Shrike was quite conspicuous and we enjoyed good views of Rüppell’s Parrot, Pririt Batis, Chat Flycatcher, Black-chested Prinia, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Barred Wren-Warbler, Cape Penduline Tit, Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler and Yellow-bellied Eremomela. More open areas held good numbers of Stark’s Lark, Lark-like Bunting, Kalahari Scrub Robin and Caspian Plover.
Next on our agenda came Lubango, where we spent a day along the spectacular southern escarpment at Tundavala. Here, montane grasslands and remnant patches of Afromontane forest produced some of the best birding of the trip in impressive surrounds. Swierstra’s Francolin was seen well, after a little effort, with a smart male sitting out on a rock. Rocky areas were home to Angola Cave Chat, Short-toed Rock Thrush, and other goodies included Buffy Pipit, Rufous-checked Nightjar, Bradfield’s Swift, the very rare White-bellied Barbet, African Black Duck, Freckled Nightjar, White-fronted Bee-eater, Rufous-naped Lark, Wing-snapping Cisticola and Tinkling Cisticola.

From Lubango we returned back north to Luanda, first via the coastal deserts of Namibe and then various coastal wetlands further north.

Our first stop turned up the localised Cinderella Waxbill in little time, and in the same general area we found Benguela Long-tailed Starling, Monteiro’s Hornbill, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, Bare-cheeked Babbler, White-tailed Shrike, Rosy-faced Lovebird and Bennett’s Woodpecker.

Closer to the coast the habitat became sparser and drier, and we encountered Karoo Chat, Benguela Long-billed Lark, Ashy Tit, Double-banded Sandgrouse, Red-crested Korhaan Crimson-breasted Shrike and Dusky Sunbird. And out on the barren plains we located a trio of Rüppell’s Korhaan, Double-banded Courser, Tractrac Chat, Bokmakierie and five Ludwig’s Bustards.

The various coastal wetlands allowed us to do some list padding, with more interesting species including Chestnut-banded Plover at the salt works at Benguela, Cape Teal, Lesser Flamingo, Greater Flamingo, African Swamphen and Great White Pelican at Lobito, Blacksmith Lapwing and Slender-billed Weaver at the Keve River, Mangrove Brown Sunbird and Damara Tern at the Kwanza River mouth, and White-fronted Plover and Terek Sandpiper at Mussulo Bay.
**BIRDS RECORDED**

**Phasianidae**

Coqui Francolin *Campocolinus coqui*—Heard only (*coqui*)

Finsch’s Francolin *Scleroptila finschi*—Seen well on the deck at Tundavala, and flushed at Moco

Orange River Francolin *Scleroptila gutturalis*—Incredible views in the Benguela area (*jugularis*)

Harlaub’s Spurfowl *Pternistis harlaubi*—Good views in the Benguela area (*harlaubi*)

Swierstra’s Francolin *Pternistis swierstrai*—Good views for all at Tundavala. Also flushed by Jonathan at Moco.

Grey-striped Francolin *Pternistis griseostriatus*—Seen well at Muxima

Red-necked Spurfowl *Pternistis afer*—Seen both on the plateau (*cranchii*), and along the coastal plain at Muxima (*afer*)

Harlequin Quail *Coturnix delegorguei*—A female was flushed in the Huambo highlands (*delegorguei*)

Blue Quail *Excalectoria adansonii*—Flushed at Kalandula and in the Huambo highlands

**Anatidae**

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata*—Seen on the Kwanza floodplain

Fulvous Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor*—Seen on the Kwanza floodplain

Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis [m.] melanotos*—Seen on the Kwanza floodplain

African Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus*—Seen on the Kwanza floodplain

African Black Duck *Anas sparsa*—Seen at Tundavala (*leucostigma*)

Cape Teal *Anas capensis*—Seen at Lobito and Porto Amboim

Red-billed Teal *Anas erythrorhyncha*—Seen at Tundavala

Southern Pochard *Netta erythropthalma*—Three at Tundavala

**Caprimulgidae**

Rufous-cheeked Nightjar *Caprimulgus rufigena*—Seen well at Tundavala (*rufigena*)

Fiery-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus p. pectoralis*—Seen at Tundavala (*fervidus*)

Freckled Nightjar *Caprimulgus tristigma*—Good views at Tundavala (*lentiginosus*)

Square-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus fossii*—Seen well near the Kwanza River (*welwitschii*)

Pennant-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus vexillarius*—Great views at Kalandula

**Apodidae**

Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura usheri*—Some good views along the coastal plain (*benguellensis*)

Böm's Spinetail *Neafrapus boehmi*—Some good views along the coastal plain (*boehmi*)

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus [p.] parvus*—Seen regularly (*hyphaene*)

Alpine Swift *Cypsiurus bicinctus*—Seen at Tundavala (*africenus*)

Mottled Swift *Tachymarptis melba*—Seen at Tundavala (*africanus*)

Bradfield's Swift *Apus bradfieldi*—Seen at Tundavala (*bradfieldi*)

Little Swift *Apus affinis*—Seen regularly (*theresae*)

Horus Swift *Apus horus*—Seen by Peter in the Huambo highlands (*horus*)

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer*—Seen a few times

**Musophagidae**

Great Blue Turaco *Corythaëela cristata*—Seen on the northern scarp

Guinea Turaco *Tauraco persa*—Seen on the northern scarp (*zenkeri*)

Schalow’s Turaco *Tauraco schalowi*—Good views at Tundavala, brief views at Moco

Red-crested Turaco *Tauraco erythrolophus*—Seen at Kalandula and Kumbira

Ross’s Turaco *Musophaga rossae*—Seen at Kalandula and Moco

Grey Go-away-bird *Corythaëoides concolor*—Seen along the coastal plain (*palldiceps*)

**Otididae**

Ludwig’s Bustard *Neotis ludwigi*—Five seen well in the south-west

Rüppell’s Korhaan *Eupodotis rueppelli*—Excellent views in the coastal deserts (*rueppelli*)

Red-crested Korhaan *Lophotis ruficrista*—Two good sightings near Benguela

Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis melanogaster*—Seen at Moco by some of the group, and once along the coastal plain (*melanogaster*)

**Cuculidae**

Gabon Coucal *Centropus anelli*—Brief views at Kumbira for Jonathan, where we all saw the bushes shake

Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis*—Seen on the coastal plain (*senegalensis*)

Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus*—Seen on the Kwanza River (*zachri*)

Coppery-tailed Coucal *Centropus cupreicauus*—Seen in the Huambo highlands (*cupreicauus*)

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques*—Good views on the northern scarp

African Mourning Dove *Streptopelia decipiens*—Seen on the Kwanza River floodplain (*ambigua*)

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*—Common

Ring-necked Dove / Cape Turtle Dove *Streptopelia capicola*—Common; *damarensis* in the south-west and *tropica* elsewhere

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis*—Seen several times (*senegalensis*)

**Thick-billed Cuckoo** *Pachytycoxus audelberg*—Good views at Kalandula (*validus*)

Klaas’s Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas*—Seen and heard on several dates

African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus*—Seen on the northern scarp

Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx olivinus*—Heard only

Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus*—Seen well at Kalandula (*gabonensis*)

Red-crested Cuckoo *Cuculus soritarius*—Seen at Kalandula

African Cuckoo *Cuculus gularis*—Seen at Kalandula

**Pteroclididae**

Namaqua Sandgrouse *Pterocles namaqua*—Seen in the south-west

Double-banded Sandgrouse *Pterocles bicinctus*—Great views in the south-west (*ansorgei*)

**Columbidae**

Rock Dove or Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*—Feral Pigeons were common in the towns and villages

Afep Pigeon *Columba unicolor*—Good views on the northern scarp

*Streptopelia damarensis*—Seen at Tundavala

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques*—Good views at Kalandula

African Mourning Dove *Streptopelia decipiens*—Seen on the Kwanza River floodplain (*ambigua*)

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*—Common

Ring-necked Dove / Cape Turtle Dove *Streptopelia capicola*—Common; *damarensis* in the south-west and *tropica* elsewhere

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis*—Seen several times (*senegalensis*)
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcopilos*—Common in the drier areas

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*—Common in the moister areas

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria*—Seen a few times in forest

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis*—Seen a few times (*capensis*)

African Green Pigeon *Treron [c.] calvus*—Seen on several dates (*calvus*)

Sarothruridae

Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra*—Seen

African Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio [porphyrio] madagascariensis*—Seen at Lobito

Allen’s Gallinule *Porphyrio alleni*—Seen at the Keve River by some of the group

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*—Seen at Lobito (*meridionalis*)

Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata*—Seen at Lobito

Podicipedidae

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus [r.] ruficollis*—Seen at Tundavala (*capensis*)

Phoenicopteridae

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus*—Seen along the coast several times

Lesser Flamingo *Phoenicoparrus minor*—Seen at Lobito

Turnicidae

Common Buttonquail *Turnix sylvaticus*—A couple of flushed sightings (*lepurana*)

Burhinidae

Water Thick-knee *Burhinus vermiculatus*—Seen at Lobito (*vermiculatus*)

Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus capensis*—Heard near the Kwanza River

Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus [h.] himantopus*—Seen a few times

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*—Seen at Lobito

Charadriidae

Blacksmith Lapwing *Vanellus armatus*—Seen on the Keve floodplain

Senegal Lapwing *Vanellus lugubris*—Heard by some of the group on the Kwanza floodplain

Crowned Lapwing *Vanellus coronatus*—Heard near Benguela (*xerophilus*)

African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus*—Seen in the Huambo highlands (*lateralis*)

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*—Seen along the coast (*squatarola*)

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*—Seen along the coast (*tundrae*)

Kittlitz’s Plover *Charadrius pecuarius*—Seen along the coast

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius [t.] tricollaris*—Seen a few times

White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus*—Seen at Mussulo (*mecowi*)

Chestnut-banded Plover *Charadrius pallidus*—One at Benguela (*pallidus*)

Caspian Plover *Charadrius asiaticus*—Seen well in the Benguela region

Jacanidae

African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus*—Several sightings

Scolopacidae

Eurasian Whimbrel *Numenius [p.] phaeopus*—Seen along the coast (*phaeopus*)

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*—Seen at Mussulo (*orientalis*)

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*—Seen along the coast (*lapponica*)

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*—Seen along the coast (*interpres*)

Ruff *Calidris pugnax*—Seen along the coast

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*—Seen along the coast

Sanderling *Calidris alba*—Seen along the coast

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*—Seen along the coast

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*—One spotted by Rob at Mussulo was the second record for Angola

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*—Seen a few times

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*—Seen along the coast

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*—Seen several times

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*—Seen along the coast

Glareolidae

Double-banded Curlew *Rhinoptilus africanus*—Excellent views in the coastal deserts

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola*—Seen on the Keve and Kwanza floodplains (*riparia*)

Rock Pratincole *Glareola nuchalis*—Good views on the Luambo River (*nuchalis*)

Laridae

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*—Seen along the coast (*vetula*)

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*—Seen along the coast

Greater Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*—Two near Porto Amboim

African Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus*—Seen along the coast in good numbers (*albididorsalis*)

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*—Seen along the coast

Damara Tern *Sterna hirundo*—Seen at the Kwanza River

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*—Seen along the coast

Ciconiidae

African Openbill *Anastomus lamelligerus*—Seen in coastal wetlands (*lamelligerus*)

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*—Seen at Tundavala

Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*—Seen at the Kwanza River by some of the group

Phalacrocoracidae

Reed Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus*—Seen several times, including along the coast (*africana*)

White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax [carbo] lucidus*—Seen along the coast

Cape Cormorant *Phalacrocorax capensis*—Seen along the southern coast

Anhingidae

African Darter *Anhinga rufa*—Several sightings (*rufa*)

Threskiornithidae

African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus*—Most conspicuous at Lobito

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*—Seen at Lobito

African Spoonbill *Platalea alba*—Several seen along the coast

Ardeidae

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus [m.] striata*—Heard only (*payesi*)

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*—One seen (*nycticorax*)

Striated Heron *Butorides [s.] striata*—Seen a couple of times (*atricapilla*)
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**Squacco Heron** Ardeola ralloides—Seen a few times

**Western Cattle Egret** Bubulcus [i.] ibis—Seen often

**Grey Heron** Ardea cinerea—Seen quite often (cinerea)

**Black-headed Heron** Ardea melanoccephala—Seen a few times

**Purple Heron** Ardea purpurea—Seen a few times (purpurea)

**Great Egret** Ardea alba—Seen in coastal wetlands (melanorhynchos)

**Yellow-billed Egret** Ardea [intermedia] brachyrhyncha—Seen in coastal wetlands

**Little Egret** Egretta [g.] garzetta—Seen in coastal wetlands (garzetta)

**Scopidae**

**Hamerkop** Scopus umbretta—Seen (umbretta)

**Pelecanidae**

**Great White Pelican** Pelecanus onocrotalus—Seen at Lobito

**Accipitridae**

**Black-winged Kite** Elanus caeruleus—Seen regularly (caeruleus)

**African Harrier-Hawk** Polyboroides typus—Seen quite often (typus)

**Palm-nut Vulture** Gypohierax angolensis—The most commonly-seen raptor

**European Honey Buzzard** Pernis apivorus—One seen on the central escarpment

**African Cuckoo-Hawk** Aviceda cuculoides—Seen at Muxima and in the Huambo highlands (verreauxii)

**Hooded Vulture** Necrosyrtes monachus—One seen at Muxima

**Black-chested Snake Eagle** Circaetus pectoralis—Seen once

**Brown Snake Eagle** Circaetus cinereus—Seen a few times

**Bateleur** Terathopius ecaudatus—Seen a couple of times

**Long-crested Eagle** Lophaetus occipitalis—A few sightings

**Booted Eagle** Hieraaetus pennatus—Two sightings

**Lizard Buzzard** Kaupifalco monogrammicus—Seen a few times (meridionalis)

**Gabar Goshawk** Micronisus gabor—One melanistic bird seen near Moco (gabor)

**Dark Chanting Goshawk** Melierax metabates—Seen in the Huambo highlands (mehowi)

**African Goshawk** Accipiter [t.] tachiro—Good views at Muxima (sparsimfasciatus)

**Shikra** Accipiter badius—Seen just once (polyzonoides)

**Ovambo Sparrowhawk** Accipiter ovampensis—Great views in the Huambo highlands

**African Marsh Harrier** Circus ranivorus—Seen once

**Yellow-billed Kite** Milvus [migrans] aegyptius—Seen in the Kalandula area (paradisus)

**African Fish Eagle** Haliaeetus vocifer—Seen on the Kwanza floodplain

**Red-necked Buzzard** Buteo auguralis—A few good sightings

**Augur Buzzard** Buteo [a.] augur—Seen from Moco southwards

**Tytonidae**

**Western Barn Owl** Tyto [a.] alba—Heard only

**Strigidae**

**African Scops Owl** Otus [s.] senegalensis—Seen well at Kalandula (senegalensis)

**Pearl-spotted Owlet** Glaucidium perlatum—A few good sightings during the day (licua)

**African Barred Owlet** Glaucidium [c.] capense—Heard only (ngamiense)

**Coliidae**

**Speckled Mousebird** Colius striatus—Seen on the northern scarp (migricollis)

**Red-backed Mousebird** Colius castanotus—Seen quite often

**Red-faced Mousebird** Urococcyx indicus—Seen along the coastal plain (lacteifrons)

**Trogonidae**

**Narina Trogon** Apaloderma narina—Seen at Kalandula (narina)

**Upupidae**

**African Hoopoe** Upupa [epops] africana—Seen a few times

**Phoeniculidae**

**Green Wood Hoopoe** Phoeniculus purpureus—Seen at Muxima (angolensis)

**Black Scimitarbill** Rhinopomastus aterrimus—Seen at Kalandula and in the Huambo highlands (anchietae)

**Common Scimitarbill** Rhinopomastus cyanomelas—Seen a couple of times in the south (cyanomelas)

**Bucerotidae**

**Damara Red-billed Hornbill** Tockus [erythrhorhynchus] damarenensis—Seen well in the south

**Monteiro’s Hornbill** Tockus monteiri—Seen well in the south

**Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill** Tockus leucomalas—The endemic subspecies was seen several times along the coastal plain (elegans)

**Crowned Hornbill** Lophoceros alboterminatus—Seen several times (alboterminatus)

**Congo Pied Hornbill** Lophoceros [f.] fasciatus—Seen on the northern scarp (fasciatus)

**Pale-billed Hornbill** Lophoceros pallidirostris—Seen well at Kalandula (pallidirostris)

**Eastern Piping Hornbill** Bycanistes [fistulator] sharpii—Seen on the northern scarp (sharpii)

**Trumpeter Hornbill** Bycanistes bucinator—Seen at Kumbira

**Coraciidae**

**Purple Roller** Coracias naevius—A few seen along the coastal plain (mosambicus)

**Lilac-breasted Roller** Coracias caudatus—Seen several times (caudatus)

**Blue-throated Roller** Eurystrymus gularis—Seen on the northern scarp

**Broad-billed Roller** Eurystrymus glacialis—Seen on the northern scarp and in the Kalandula area (sualricus)

**Alcedinidae**

**Chocolate-backed Kingfisher** Halcyon badia—Heard on the northern scarp

**Grey-headed Kingfisher** Halcyon leucocephala—Seen in the Huambo highlands (pallidiventris)

**Brown-hooded Kingfisher** Halcyon albibrevis—Heard only (pretensisgrayi)

**Striped Kingfisher** Halcyon chelicuti—Seen a few times (chelicuti)

**Blue-breasted Kingfisher** Halcyon malimbica—Heard at Kalandula (malimbica)

**Woodland Kingfisher** Halcyon senegalensis—Seen a few times (probably fuscoptilus and cyanoleuca)

**African Pygmy Kingfisher** Ispidina picta—Seen a few times (ferrugina)

**Malachite Kingfisher** Corythornis [c.] crisatus—Seen twice

**Shining-blue Kingfisher** Alcedo quadribrachy—Glimpses at Kalandula (guentheri)

**Half-collared Kingfisher** Alcedo semitorquata—Seen well in the Huambo highlands
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Giant Kingfisher Megaceryle maxima—Two good sightings
Pied Kingfisher Ceryle rudis—Several sightings (rudis)

Meropidae

Black Bee-eater Merops gularis—Seen on the northern scarp (austrialis)
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater Merops hirundineus—Seen near Benguela (hirundineus)

Little Bee-eater Merops pusillus—Seen regularly (meridionalis)

Blue-breasted Bee-eater Merops [v.] variatus—Seen in the Huambo highlands (varigatus)
White-fronted Bee-eater Merops bullockoides—Seen at Tundavala and Kalandula

Olive Bee-eater Merops superciliosus—Good views on the coastal plain (altornans)

European Bee-eater Merops apiaster—Seen in the north

Lybiidae

Bristle-nosed Barbet Gymnobucco peli—Seen on the northern escarpment
(Common) Naked-faced Barbet Gymnobucco [c.] calvus—Seen in the northern escarpment forests (conicus)
Angola Naked-faced Barbet Gymnobucco [calvus] vernayi—Seen at Pedras Negras and Kumbira
Anchieta’s Barbet Sactolaema anchietae—Seen at Kalandula (rex)
Speckled Tinkerbird Pogoniusus scolopaceus—Seen on the northern scarp (flavisquamatus)
Western Green Tinkerbird Pogoniusus coryphaca—An excellent sighting of the endemic subspecies at Moco (angolensis)

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird Pogoniusus [b.] bilineatus—Seen in the northern forests (leucolaimus)

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird Pogoniusus chrysocnous—Seen a couple of times (extoni)

Hairy-breasted Barbet Tricholaema hirsuta—Seen on the northern scarp (angolensis)

Miombo Pied Barbet Tricholaema frontata—Peter saw one at Kalandula

Acacia Pied Barbet Tricholaema leucometas—Seen along the coastal plain (centralis)

White-bellied Barbet Lybius [leucocephalus] leucogaster—Excellent views at Tundavala

Black-collared Barbet Lybius torquatus—Seen at Kalandula (conicus)
Western Black-backed Barbet Lybius [m.] minor—Seen well at Kalandula, Pedras Negras and Moco

Eastern Black-backed Barbet Lybius [minor] macclounii—Good views at Kalandula

Eastern Yellow-billed Barbet Trachyphtyonus [p.] purpuratus—Good views on the northern scarp

Indicatoridae

Cassin’s Honeybird Prototisus insignis—Seen on the northern scarp (insignis)

Green-backed Honeybird Prototisus zambezie—Seen in the Huambo highlands

Brown-backed Honeybird Prototisus regularis—Good views at Kalandula (regularis)

Willcocks’s Honeyguide Indicator willcocki—Seen on the northern scarp

Least Honeyguide Indicator exilis—Heard on the northern scarp

Lesser Honeyguide Indicator [m.] minor—Seen twice

Scaly-throated Honeyguide Indicator variatus—Seen at Muxima

Greater Honeyguide Indicator indicator—Heard a few times

Picidae

Red-throated Wryneck Jynx ruficollis—Seen at Moco (ruficollis)

Bennett’s Woodpecker Campethera [b.] bennetti—Seen at Leba (capricorni) and Kalandula (bennetti)

Golden-tailed Woodpecker Campethera abingoni—Seen a few times, including at Leba (andersoni) and Kalandula (abingoni)

Green-backed Woodpecker Campethera [caillaultii] permista—Seen on the northern scarp (permista)

Buff-spotted Woodpecker Pardipicus nivosus—Heard at Kalandula (nivosa)

Bearded Woodpecker Chloropus namaquus—Seen a couple of times

Yellow-crested Woodpecker Chloropus xantholophus—Heard on the northern scarp

Cardinal Woodpecker Dendropicos fuscescens—Seen regularly

Olive Woodpecker Dendropicos griseocephalus—Seen at Kalandula and Moco (ruenzonri)

Falconidae

Rock Kestrel Falco [tinnunculus] rapicolus—Seen at Moco and Tundavala

Greater Kestrel Falco rupicoloide—One seen in Namibe (rupicoiloides)

Grey Kestrel Falco ardosiacus—Just one for Michael

African Hobby Falco cucierii—Some good sightings

Lanner Falcon Falco biarmicus—Seen several times (biarmicus)

Psittacidae

Red-fronted Parrot Poicephalus guilemi—Seen on the northern scarp (guilemi)

Meyer’s Parrot Poicephalus meyeri—Seen at Kalandula (reichenowi)

Rüppell’s Parrot Poicephalus rueppelli—Good views in the Benguela and Leba areas

Psittaculidae

Rosy-faced Lovebird Agapornis roseicollis—Good views near Leba (catumbella)

Calyptomenidae

African Broadbill Smithornis capensis—Seen at Kalandula (albicularis)

Platysteiridae

Margaret’s Batis Batis margaritae—Brief views at Moco for Jonathan and Rob (margaritae)

Chinspot Batis Batis molitor—Seen a few times (pintoi)

Pirrit Batis Batis pirrit—Good views in the arid south (affinis)

Western Black-headed Batis Batis elrangeri—Seen on the northern scarp

Angola Batis Batis minulla—Several good sightings

White-tailed Shrike Lanioturdus torquatus—Good looks in the Benguela and Leba areas

Chestnut Wattle-eye Platysteira [c.] castanea—Seen at Kumbira

Black-throated Wattle-eye Platysteira peltata—Seen several times (mentalisi)

White-fronted Wattle-eye Platysteira albipennis—Good views at Caxito

Eastern Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye Platysteira [concreta] ansorgei—Good views at Kumbira (ansorgei)

Malaconotidae

Monteiro’s Bushshrike Malaconotus monteiri—Good views at Muxima

Grey-headed Bushshrike Malaconotus blanchoti—Heard a couple of times in miombo (interpositus)

Many-coloured Bushshrike Chlorophoneus multicolor—Seen at Kumbira (batesi)
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**Bocage's Bushshrike Chlorophaeus bocagei**—Seen on the northern scarp (bocagei)

**Orange-breasted Bushshrike Chlorophaeus suriaepectus**—Seen a few times (simils)

**Gorgeous Bushshrike Telophorus viridis**—Nice looks at Kalandula (viridis)

**Bokamakiere Telophorus zeylonus**—Seen in the south-west

**Marsh Tchagra Bocagia minuta**—Nice views at Kalandula (anctiete)

**Brown-crowned Tchagra Tchagra australis**—Seen a few times (ansorgei)

**Black-crowned Tchagra Tchagra senegalus**—Heard

**Pink-footed Pullback Dryoscopus angolensis**—Seen twice in the scarp forests (angolensis)

**Black-backed Pullback Dryoscopus cuba**—Seen regularly

**Braun's Bushshrike Laniarius [luehderi] brauni**—Good looks near Quitexe

**Gabela Bushshrike Laniarius [luehderi] amboinensis**—Good views at Kumbira

**Tropical Boubou Lanius [aethiopicus] major**—Seen on the plateau (major)

**Swamp Boubou Laniarius bicolor**—Seen a few times on the coastal plain (guttatus)

**Crimson-breasted Shrike Laniarius arroccineus**—Seen in the south-west

**Brubru Nilaus afer**—Good views at Kalandula (affinis) and on the coastal plain (brubru)

**Vangidae**

**White-crested Helmetshrike Prionops plumatus**—Seen several times (polioccephalus)

**Retz's Helmetshrike Prionops retzii**—Seen in the Kalandula region (nigricans)

**Gabela Helmetshrike Prionops gabela**—Great views at Caxito and Mumaxa

**African Shrike-flycatcher Megabyas flammulatus**—Seen well on the northern scarp (acaudatorialis)

**Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher Bias musici**—Seen on the northern scarp (musici)

**Campephagidae**

**White-breasted Cuckoooshrike Cebelepyris pectoralis**—Seen at Kalandula

**Black Cuckoooshrike Campephaga flava**—Seen by Peter at Kalandula

**Petit’s Cuckoooshrike Campephaga petiti**—Seen at Kalandula

**Purple-throated Cuckoooshrike Campephaga quiscalina**—Seen on the northern scarp (quiscalina)

**Laniidae**

**Southern White-crowned Shrike Eurocephalus anguittimens**—Seen a few times on the coastal plain (anguittimens)

**Sousa’s Shrike Lanius souzae**—Great views in the Moco region (souzae)

**Northern Fiscal Lanius [collaris] humeralis**—Seen regularly on the plateau (capelli)

**Southern Fiscal Lanius [c.] collaris**—Seen in the south-west (aridiculus)

**Oriolidae**

**Black-headed Oriole Oriolus larvatus**—Seen several times (angolensis)

**Black-winged Oriole Oriolus nigripennis**—Seen on the northern scarp

**African Golden Oriole Oriolus auratus**—Seen in the Huambo highlands (notatus)

**Dicuridae**

**Common Square-tailed Drongo Dicurus [l.] ludwigii**—Seen at Pedras Negras

**Sharpe's Drongo Dicurus [ludwigii] sharpei**—Seen at Kalandula (saturatior)

**Southern Fork-tailed Drongo Dicurus [a.] adsimilis**—Seen regularly (apivorus)

**Velvet-mantled Drongo Dicurus [m.] modestus**—Seen along the northern escarpment (coracinus)

**Monarchidae**

**Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher Trochocercus nitens**—Seen at Kumbira (nitens)

**Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher Terpsiphone [viridis] rufojcinerea**—Seen at Uige

**Bates’s Paradise Flycatcher Terpsiphone batesi**—Seen at Kumbira (barnermani)

**African Paradise Flycatcher Terpsiphone [v.] viridis**—Seen regularly (plumbeiceps)

**Corvidae**

**Pied Crow Corvus albus**—Common

**Stenotiridiae**

**African Blue Flycatcher Elminia longicauda**—Seen along the central and northern scarp (terestia)

**White-tailed Blue Flycatcher Elminia albicauda**—Seen at Pedras Negras, Moco and Tundavala

**Paridae**

**White-winged Black Tit Melaniparus leucomelas**—Seen in the north (insignis)

**Carp’s Tit Melaniparus carpi**—Seen in Kissama and in the south-west

**Dusky Tit Melaniparus funereus**—Seen at Kumbira (gabela)

**Rufous-bellied Tit Melaniparus [r.] rufigenavis**—Great views in the Huambo highlands (rufigenavis)

**Miombo Tit Melaniparus grieseverti**—Seen well in the Huambo highlands

**Ashy Tit Melaniparus cinerascens**—Seen in the south-west (benguela)

**Remizidae**

**Grey Penduline Tit Anthuscius [c.] caroli**—Seen well in the Huambo highlands (ansorgei)

**Cape Penduline Tit Anthuscius minutus**—Seen in the south-west

**Nicotiridae**

**Yellow-throated Nicator Nicator vireo**—Seen well on the northern scarp; heard at Kumbira

**Alaudidae**

**Spice-heeled Lark Chersomanes [a.] albifasciata**—Seen in the south-west (obscurata)

**Benguela Long-billed Lark Certhilauda [subcoronata] benguelensis**—Good views in Namibe (benguelensis)

**Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark Eremitopterix verticallis**—Seen in fair numbers in the south-west (damarenis)

**Sabota Lark Calandulauda sabota**—Seen in the south-west (ansorgei)

**Rufous-naped Lark Mirafra [a.] africana**—Seen at Tundavala (occidentalis)

**Flappet Lark Mirafra rufocinnamomea**—Heard only (fischeri)

**Angola Lark Mirafra angolensis**—Seen well in the Huambo highlands (angolensis)

**Stark’s Lark Spizocorys starki**—Good numbers in the coastal deserts

**Red-capped Lark Calandrella cinerea**—Seen in the Huambo highlands (saturatior)

**Pycnonotidae**

**African Red-eyed Bulbul Pycnonotus nigricans**—Seen in the arid south-west (nigricans)

**Dark-capped Bulbul Pycnonotus [barbatus] tricolor**—Common (tricolor)

**Slender-billed Greenbul Stelgidillas gracilirostris**—Seen on the northern scarp (gracilirostris)

**Little Greenbul Eurillas virens**—Heard only (virens)

**Plain Greenbul Eurillas curvirostris**—Heard on the northern scarp (curvirostris)

**Yellow-whiskered Greenbul Eurillas latirostris**—Seen at Kumbira (latirostris)
Honeyguide Greenbul  Bacopogon indicator—
  Seen at Kalandula (indicator)
Yellow-bellied Greenbul  Chlorocichla
  flaviventris—Several good views (occidentalis)
Falkenstein's Greenbul  Chlorocichla
  falkensteini—Seen at Kumbira and along the
  northern escarpment
Simple Greenbul  Chlorocichla simplex—Heard
  only
Pale-throated Leaflove  Atimastillas [flavicollis]
  flavigula—Seen a few times (flavigula)
Swamp Palm Bulbul  Theseleocichla
  leucopleura—Seen on the northern scarp
Pale-olive Greenbul  Phyllastrephus
  fulviventris—Seen well at Caxito, heard
  elsewhere
Cabani's Greenbul  Phyllastrephus [c.]
  cabanisi—Seen at Kalandula (cabinisi)
Angola White-throated Greenbul
  Phyllastrephus [albigularis] viridiceps—Seen by
  everyone on the northern scarp
Red-tailed Bristlebill  Bleda syndactylus—
  Heard only (woonsami)
Black-collared Bulbul  Neolestes torquatus—
  Seen on the northern scarp and in the
  Huambo highlands

Hirundinidae
Black Saw-wing  Psalidoprocne pristoptera—
  Several sightings (reichenowi)
Grey-rumped Swallow  Pseudhirundo
  griseopyga—Several good views, especially in
  the Moco region (griseopyga)
Brazza's Martin  Phedina brazzae—Excellent
  views in the Huambo highlands
Banded Martin  Riparia cincta—Seen on the
  Kwanza floodplain and in the Huambo
  highlands (xerica)
Angola Swallow  Hirundo angolensis—Seen
  regularly in small numbers
White-throated Swallow  Hirundo albigularis—
  Seen in the Huambo highlands

Wire-tailed Swallow  Hirundo smithii—Seen
  along the coastal plain (smithii)
White-throated Blue Swallow  Hirundo
  nigrita—Good views en route to Uige
Black-and-rufous Swallow  Hirundo
  nigrorufa—Some good looks in the Huambo
  highlands
Pearl-breasted Swallow  Hirundo dimidiata—
  Seen in the Huambo highlands (marwitzi)
Large Rock Martin  Ptyonoprogne [f.]
  fuligula—Seen at Tundavala (anderssoni)
Red-throated Rock Martin  Ptyonoprogne
  [fuligula] rufigula—Seen at Pedras Negras
  (rufigula)
Greater Striped Swallow  Cecropis cucullata—
  Seen at Moco
Lesser Striped Swallow  Cecropis abyssinica—
  Common (unitatis)
Red-breasted Swallow  Cecropis semirufa—
  Seen by Peter at Lubango (semirufa)
Mosque Swallow  Cecropis senegalensis—Seen
  at Moco (monteiri)
Red-throated Cliff Swallow  Petrochelidon
  rufigula—Many seen on the plateau
Forest Swallow  Petrochelidon fuliginosa—
  Excellent views near Uige

Macronyphagidae
Moustached Grass Warbler  Melocichla
  mentalis—Seen in the Huambo highlands
  (mentalis)
Rockrunner  Achaetops pyconygius—Good
  views near Benguela (spadix)
Yellow Longbill  Macropus flavicans—
  Heard on the northern scarp (flavicans)
Pulitzer's Longbill  Macropus pulitzeri—
  An excellent sighting at Kumbira
Long-billed Crombec  Sylviaettta rufescens—Seen
  near Muxima (ansorgei) and in the
  west-south (flecki)
Red-capped Crombec  Sylviaettta ruficapilla—
  Nice looks at Kalandula and in the Huambo
  highlands (ruficapilla)
Green Crombec  Sylviaettta viriens—Common
  along the escarpment (tando)

Hylidae
Green Hylia  Hylia prasina—Heard along the
  scarp (prasina)

Acrocephalidae
Greater Swamp Warbler  Acrocephalus
  rufescens—Seen at Kalandula and in the
  Huambo highlands
African Yellow Warbler  Iduna natalensis—
  Seen a couple of times (major)

Locustellidae
Broad-tailed Warbler  Catriscus brevirostris—
  Nice looks in the Huambo highlands
  (alexinae)
Evergreen Forest Warbler  Bradypus lopezi—
  Seen by some at Moco (boultoni)
Little Rush Warbler  Bradypus [b.]
  babocula—Seen at Kalandula (benguellensis)

Cisticolidae
Red-faced Cisticola  Cisticola erythropus—
  Seen a few times (lepe)
Whistling Cisticola  Cisticola lateralis—Seen
  at Kalandula (modestus)
Bubbling Cisticola  Cisticola bulliens—Seen
  along the coastal plain and escarpment
  (septentrionalis and bulliens)
Huambo Cisticola  Cisticola [aberrans]
  bailundensis—Seen at Moco and in the
  Huambo highlands
Rattling Cisticola  Cisticola chiniana—Seen
  below Leba (smitheri)
Tinkling Cisticola  Cisticola rufilatus—Seen
  well at Tundavala (ansorgei)
Wailing Cisticola  Cisticola [L.] lais—Common
  at Tundavala and Moco (namba)
Chirping Cisticola  Cisticola picipiens—Seen
  at Kalandula and in the Huambo highlands
  (picipiens)
Stout Cisticola  Cisticola robustus—Good views
  in the Huambo highlands (angolensis)
Croaking Cisticola  Cisticola natalensis—Seen
  in the Huambo highlands (huambo)
Short-winged Cisticola  Cisticola
  brachypterus—Seen a few times (loanda)
Neddicky  Cisticola fulvicapilla—Seen at
  Kalandula (disparr)
Zitting Cisticola  Cisticola juncidis—Seen in
  the Huambo Highlands (terrestrial)
Desert Cisticola  Cisticola aridicus—Seen near
  Porto Amboim (lobito)
Wing-snapping Cisticola  Cisticola ayresii—
  Seen at Moco and Tundavala (ayresii)
Tawny-flanked Prinia  Prinia subflava—
  Widespread
Black-chested Prinia  Prinia flavicans—Seen in
  the arid south-west (ansorgei)
Banded Prinia  Prinia [b.] Bairdii—Seen on the
  northern scarp (heinrichi)
White-chinned Prinia  Schistolais leucopogon—
  Seen at Kalandula (leucopogon)
Yellow-breasted Apalis  Apalis [f.] flavida—
  Seen a couple of times along the coastal plain
  (flavida)
Lowland Masked Apalis  Apalis binotata—Seen
  near Quixex
Buff-throated Apalis  Apalis [r.] rufogularis—
  Seen along the central (brauni) and northern
  escarpment (angolensis)
Grey Apalis  Apalis [c.] cinerea—Seen at Moco
  (grandis)
Brown-headed Apalis  Apalis [cinerea]
  alticola—Seen at Kalandula (alticola)
Grey-backed Camaroptera  Camaroptera
  [brachyura] brevipudata—Seen several times
  in the south (sharpei)
Zosteropidae
Southern Yellow White-eye Zosterops [serenatensis] andersonsi—Seen on the northern scarps and Moco (kwanzae)

Hylidioidea
Yellow-bellied Hyliola Hyliola flavigaster—Several sightings in Miombo (barbozae)

Southern Hyliola Hyliola [a.] australis—Seen at Kumbira

Certhiidae
African Spotted Creeper Salpornis salvadori—Seen in the Huambo highlands (salvadori)

Sturnidae
Wattled Starling Creatophora cinerea—Seen on the Keve floodplain

Cape Starling Lamprotornis nitens—Seen near Benguela and Moco (benguela)

Splendid Starling Lamprotornis splendidus—Seen on the northern scarp (benguela)

Benguela Long-tailed Starling Lamprotornis [mevesii] benguelensis—Seen in the Huambo highlands (benguela)

Sharp-tailed Starling Lamprotornis acuticaudus—Seen well at Kalandula and Moco (acuticaudus)

Violet-backed Starling Cinnycinclus leucogaster—Many seen (verreauxii)

Forest Chestnut-winged Starling Onychognathus fulgidus—Seen on the northern escarpment (intermedius)

Pale-winged Starling Onychognathus nabourou—Seen in the Huambo highlands (nabourou)

Narrow-tailed Starling Poooptera lugubris—Seen on the northern scarps

Buphagidae
Yellow-billed Oxpecker Buphagus africanus—A few seen in the south-west (langi)

Turdidae
White-tailed Ant Thrush Neocossyphus poensis—Heard on the northern scarps and Moco (ribucunda)

Rufous Flycatcher-THRUSH Sizorhina [f.] fraseri—Seen on the northern scarps (fuilae)

Common Groundscraper Thrush Turdus [l.] litistirupa—Seen in the south (paucigau)

African Thrush Turdus pelios—Seen well on the northern scarp (benguela)

Kurrichane Thrush Turdus libyana—Heard only (verreauxii)

Muscipicidae
Forest Scrub Robin Cercotrichas leucosticta—Good views at Muxima (reichenowi)

Miombo Scrub Robin Cercotrichas barbarata—Nice views in the Huambo highlands

Kalahari Scrub Robin Cercotrichas paena—Seen on the northern scarp (benguela)

Brown-backed Scrub Robin Cercotrichas harterti—Seen on the northern scarp (benguela)

White-browed Scrub Robin Cercotrichas leucops—A few times

Grey Tit-Flycatcher Mioparus plumbeus—Seen a couple of times

Angola Slaty Flycatcher Melaenornis brunneus—Seen at Moco (baulindensis)

Southern Black Flycatcher Muscicapa adusta—Common in the south-west (benguela)

Common Groundscraper Thrush Turdus [l.] litistirupa—Seen in the south (paucigau)

African Thrush Turdus pelios—Seen on the northern scarps (ribucunda)

Ashy Flycatcher Muscicapa caerulescens—Seen on the northern scarps (impavida)

Cassins Flycatcher Muscicapa cassinia—Seen en route to Uige

African Dusky Flycatcher Muscicapa adusta—Seen in the Huambo highlands
Angola 2023—

Bronzy Sunbird *Nectarinia kilimensis*—Seen at Moco (gadawo)

Little Green Sunbird *Anthreptes seimundi*—Seen at Kumbira (*minor*)

Grey-chinned Green Sunbird *Anthreptes rectirostris*—Seen at Kalandula

Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra cyanolaema*—Seen on the northern scarp (*taphroæmus*)

Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Cyanomitra cyanolaema*—Seen on the northern scarp (*octaviae*)

Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea*—Common in forest (*cephalsis*)

Carmelite Sunbird *Chalcomitra fuliginosa*—Seen en route to Uige (*fuliginoso*)

Green-throated Sunbird *Chalcomitra rubescens*—Seen on the northern scarp (*rubescens*)

Amethyst Sunbird *Chalcomitra amethystina*—Seen in miombo (*deminita*)

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis*—Several seen (*saturatior*)

Bocage's Sunbird *Nectarinia bocagii*—Fantastic views in the Huambo highlands

Bronzy Sunbird *Nectarinia kilimensis*—Seen at Moco (gadawo)

Olive-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris chloropygus*—Seen along the escarpment (*orphogaster*)

Western Miombo Sunbird *Cinnyris [nanoænis] gertrudis*—Good views in the Huambo highlands (*pintos*)

Ludwig’s Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris [i.] ludovicensis*—Seen well at Pedras Negras, Moco and Tundavala (*ludovicensis*)

Purple-banded Sunbird *Cinnyris bifasciatus*—Seen along the coastal plain (*bifasciatus*)

Johanna’s Sunbird *Cinnyris johannae*—Seen on the northern scarp

Superb Sunbird *Cinnyris superbus*—Several seen along the escarpment (*superbus*)

Oustalet’s Sunbird *Cinnyris oustaleti*—Nice looks in the Huambo highlands (*oustaleti*)

White-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris talatala*—Seen in the south-west (*talatala*)

Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus*—Seen a couple of times (*fulkensteini*)

Dusky Sunbird *Cinnyris fuscus*—Seen in the coastal deserts (*inclusus*)

Bates’s Sunbird *Cinnyris batesii*—Seen at Kalandula

Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cupreus*—Seen a few times (*chalceus*)

Passeridae

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*—In many towns and villages

Great Sparrow *Passer montanus*—Seen by Peter and Sue in the south-west (*berguellensis*)

Cape Sparrow *Passer melanocephalus*—Seen in the south-west (*damaensis*)

Northern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer [g.] griseus*—Seen in the north (*ugandae*)

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer diffusus*—Seen from Mumax southwards (*diffusus*)

Yellow-throated Petronia *Gymnoris supersilicarius*—Seen in miombo (*rufstergum*)

Ploceidae

Red-billed Buffalo Weaver *Bubalornis niger*—Seen along the coastal plain (*niger*)

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali*—Seen in the south-west (*ansorgei*)

Scaly-feathered Finch *Sporopipes squamifrons*—Seen near Benguela (*squamifrons*)

Black-chinned Weaver *Ploceus nigrimentus*—Good views at Moco

Slender-billed Weaver *Ploceus pelzelni*—Seen on the Keve floodplain (*monacha*)

Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis*—Seen a few times (*crocutus*)

Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus [n.] nigricollis*—Several sightings (*nigricollis*)

Bocage’s Weaver *Ploceus temporalis*—Great views in the Huambo highlands

Holub’s Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops*—Quite common

Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius*—Seen in Kissama (*beattyi*)

Southern Masked Weaver *Ploceus velatus*—Seen in the south (*velatus*)

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus*—Fairly common (*collaris*); also at Leba (*nigriceps*)

Vieillot’s Black Weaver *Ploceus [n.] nigerrimus*—Seen in the northern areas (*nigerrimus*)

Chestnut Weaver *Ploceus rubiginosus*—Seen in the south (*trothae*)

Yellow-mantled Weaver *Ploceus tricolor*—Seen on the northern scarp (*interscapularis*)

Compact Weaver *Ploceus superciliosus*—Seen near Caxito

Orange-winged Pytilia *Pytilia afra*—Good views at Kalandula

Black-winged Red Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus*—Seen several times (*hordeaceus*)

Golden-backed Bishop *Euplectes aureus*—Non-breeding birds seen well at Caxito

Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis*—Quite common in the highlands (*angolensis*)

Fan-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes axillaris*—A few seen in the highlands (*bocagel*)

Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes macroura*—Seen in the north (*macroura*)

Hartlaub’s Marsh Widowbird *Euplectes hartlaubi*—Several non-breeding males seen well in the Huambo highlands (*hartlaubi*)

Red-backed Weaver *Ploceus bicolor*—Seen in the scarp forests (*amaurocephalus*)

Red-headed Malimbe *Malimbus rubricollis*—Seen well in the scarp forests (*praeludens*)

Crested Malimbe *Malimbus malimbus*—Seen well in the northern scarp (*malimbus*)

Red-headed Quelea *Quelea erythrocephala*—Seen at Kalandula

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea*—Seen a few times (*lathami*)

Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis*—Quite common in the highlands (*angolensis*)

Fan-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes axillaris*—A few seen in the highlands (*bocagel*)

Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes macroura*—Seen in the north (*macroura*)

Hartlaub’s Marsh Widowbird *Euplectes hartlaubi*—Several non-breeding males seen well in the Huambo highlands (*hartlaubi*)

White-winged Widowbird *Euplectes albonotatus*—A couple of sightings (*asymmetrurus*)

Red-collared Widowbird *Euplectes oropes*—Seen at Moco

Estrildidae

White-breasted Nigrita *Nigrita fusonotus*—Common on the northern scarp (*fusonotus*)

Pale-fronted Nigrita *Nigrita luteofrons*—Seen briefly on the northern scarp (*luteofrons*)

Grey-headed Nigrita *Nigrita canicapillus*—Seen along the escarpment (*angolensis*)

Orange-winged Pytilia *Pytilia afra*—Good views at Kalandula
Green-winged Pytilia Pytilia melba—Seen along the coastal plain (melba)
Red-headed Finch Amadina erythrocephala—Seen in the south-west
Red-headed Bluebill Spermophaga rufigapilla—Heard only (rufigapilla)
Brown Twospot Clytospiza monteiri—Seen on the northern scarp
Dusky Twospot Euschistospiza cinereovinacea—Good looks at Moco (cinereovinacea)
Brown Firefinch Lagonosticta nitidula—Seen well in the Huambo highlands
Red-billed Firefinch Lagonosticta senegala—Seen in the south-west
Landana Firefinch Lagonosticta [rubricata] landanae—Several good sightings
Jameson’s Firefinch Lagonosticta rhodopareia—Seen at Pedras Negras and Tundavala (ansorgei)
Blue Waxbill Uraeginthus angolensis—Common (angolensis)
Violet-eared Waxbill Uraeginthus granatinus—Seen in the south-west (siccatus)
Angola Swee Waxbill Coccopygia [melanotis] bocagei—Nice looks at Moco and Pedras Negras
Grey Waxbill Estrilda perreini—Seen at Pedras Negras (perreini)
Cinderella Waxbill Estrilda thomensis—Good views at the foot of the southern escarpment
Fawn-breasted Waxbill Estrilda [p.] paludicola—Several sightings on the plateau (benguellensis)
Orange-cheeked Waxbill Estrilda melpoda—Seen along the scarp (melpoda)
Common Waxbill Estrilda [a.] astrild—Several sightings (subspecies not identified)
Orange-breasted Waxbill Amandava subflava—Seen several times (niethammeri)

African Quailfinch Ortygospiza [atricollis] fuscocrista—Seen well in the Huambo highlands (muelleri)
Locust Finch Paludipasser locustella—Superb views of the ground in the Huambo highlands (wulensi)
Bronze Mannikin Lonchura cucullata—Seen several times (scutata)
Black-and-white Mannikin or Red-backed Mannikin Lonchura bicolor—Seen along the escarpment (woltersi)

Viduidae

Dusky Indigobird Vidua funerea—Seen at Moco (nigerrima)
Pin-tailed Whydah Vidua macoura—Only non-breeding birds seen
Broad-tailed Paradise Whydah Vidua obtusa—One male in full breeding plumage was at Kalandula

Motacillidae

Cape Wagtail Motacilla capensis—Seen in the Huambo highlands
African Pied Wagtail Motacilla auromarginata—Seen a few times
Fülleborn’s Longclaw Macronyx fuelleborni—Good views in the Huambo highlands (ascensi)
Rosy-throated Longclaw Macronyx amelieae—Brief views in the Huambo highlands
African Pipit Anthus cinnamomeus—Seen a few times (subspecies not determined)
Nicholson’s Pipit Anthus [similis] nicholsoni—Heard on top of Moco (moco)
Wood Pipit Anthus nyassae—Seen in the Huambo highlands (schoutedeni)
Buff Pipit Anthus vaalensis—Seen at Tundavala (neumannii)
Plain-backed Pipit Anthus leucophrys—Seen in the Huambo highlands (bohndorfi)

Long-legged Pipit Anthus pallidiventer—Seen on the Kwanza floodplain
Striped Pipit Anthus lineiventris—Great views at Moco

Fringillidae

Black-faced Canary Crithagra capistrata—Good sightings on several occasions (hildegardae)
Black-throated Canary Crithagra aragouragoura—Seen in the south (semideserti)
Yellow-fronted Canary Crithagra mozambica—Several sightings (tando)
Brimstone Canary Crithagra sulphurata—Seen a few times (sharpii)

White-throated Canary Crithagra albogularis—Seen in the south-west (crocopygia)
Yellow-crowned Canary Serinus flavivertex—Seen at Tundavala and Moco (huillensis)

Emberizidae

Lark-like Bunting Emberiza impetuani—Good numbers in the coastal deserts (cremica)
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting Emberiza [t.] tahapisi—Seen a few times (nivenorum)
Golden-breasted Bunting Emberiza flaviventris—Seen a few times in the south (princeps)
Cabanis’ Bunting Emberiza cabanisi—Seen at Kalandula (orientalis)

Grey Penduline Tit © Rob Tizard
Pale-winged Starling, White-bellied Barbet and Black-bellied Bustard © Jonathan Newman
Red-crested Korhaan and Namaqua Sandgrouse © Jonathan Newman

Locust-finch and Cinderella Waxbill © Jonathan Newman
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Violet-eared Waxbill and Purple-banded Sunbird © Michael Mills

Compact Weaver and Rufous-cheeked Nightjar © Jonathan Newman
Long-billed Crombec © Michael Mills and White-tailed Shrike © Rob Tizard

Oustalet’s Sunbird © Rob Tizard and Brown Firefinch © Michael Mills
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