

TRIP REPORT

GAMBIA 19 – 26 January 2005

Compiled by Jan Sjöstedt



ITINERARY

Wednesday	19 January	Copenhagen - Banjul, Transfer to hotel African Village, and Kotu Creek
Thursday	20 January	Abuko Nature reserve, Lamin Lodge and Kotu Ponds.
Friday	21 January	Brufut cost, Abuko Nature Reserve and Brufut wood.
Saturday	22 January	Marakissa and Yundum

Sunday	23 January	Start of four days trip to/via Tendaba, Georgetown Basse, Georgetown, Kaur, Tendaba.
		Kotu to Tendaba (stay at Tendaba Bush Camp), with stops at Mandia Bah, Pirang and the Kampanti ricefields and Kiang West
Monday	24 January	Tendaba: boat tour in mangrove-fringed creeks at the northern bank of the Gambia river
		Tendaba to Georgetown, with various stops en route for birding.
Tuesday	25 January	Georgetown to Basse
		Basse to Tendaba via North Bank.
Wednesday	26 January	Tendaba, Kampanti, Pirang and Banjul airport to Copenhagen

Group

The birding activities were shared with three fellow-birders: Henrik Lind (the Doctor), Per Hansson (the Chief) and Lorand Szucs (the Hungarian Tennis Coach). Thanks to being 4 persons we not only found (and identified) more bird species but also could share costs of the guide and of the four-day inland trip. They are real nice guys and competent birdwatchers.

Flights and hotel

We booked a "Vingresor" trip for one week, flights, hotel African Village and breakfast included, for a total fair of appr. 600 euro. African Village is a nice place to stay in. You can have your breakfast looking out over the sea.

Literature

Field Guide to the Birds of The Gambia and Senegal; Clive Barlow, Tim Wacher and Tony Disley, Pica Press, 1999 edition, ISBN 1-873403-32-1;

A Birdwatchers Guide to The Gambia; Rod Ward; Birdwatchers Guides, Prion Ltd., 1994, ISBN 1-871104-04-1;

Guide

For organising the seven days including the inland trip to Tendaba (1 night stay at Tendaba Bush Camp, boat trip), Georgetown (1 night), Basse and Tendaba (1 night) we used the services of Malick Suso (and taxi driver Omar). The seven-days/three-nights trip all included, except for lunches, dinners and drinks, cost Euro 290 per person. Malick

Suso was serving us well on this trip and took us to the most important places. His knowledge of all inland spots helped us tremendously to find a lot of species during this trip. His knowledge of bird calls was excellent.

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INFORMATION ON THE SITES VISITED

General note: almost all sites visited are well covered in the booklet "A Birdwatchers' Guide to The Gambia" (see above), hence here only some additional comment is given.

Kotu Creek Course, Kotu ponds and Casino cycle track

From the bridge over the Kotu Creek excellent views could be obtained daily of 10+ wader species (incl. confiding Senegal Thick-Knees), most of the heron and egret species, Hamerkops, Sacred Ibis, and many passerine species. The rice fields and wet areas between the Kotu Creek and the Casino cycle track were rather rich in birds. The Kotu Ponds contained quite a number of wader species in addition to four Painted Snipes, 60 African Jacana and some Little Grebes.



Abuko Nature Reserve

Two visits to this small but very attractive forest reserve gave almost all target species, incl. Green and Violet Turaco, Ahanta Francolin, African Pied Hornbill, Giant Kingfisher, both African Paradise and Red-bellied Paradise Flycatchers, Common Wattle-eye, Green Hylia, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Little Greenbul, Buff-spotted Woodpecker, Collared Sunbird, Western Bluebill, greater Honeyguide and Verreaux's Eagle Owl. Green Vervet and Western Red Colobus Monkeys.

Brufut Woods

Also Brufut Woods turned out to be a very good place for birding. It contains areas of relatively undisturbed savannah woodland harbouring many attractive species. Here we found e.g. Black-crowned Tchagra, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Verreaux's Eagle Owl (one family), Striped Kingfisher, Bearded Barbet, Lanner, Klaas's Cuckoo and Diedriks Cuckoo.



Marakissa

It is a forested area that can be reached through Brikama and past (3 km south of) Marakissa village. Marakissa River Camp, situated along the small river is a nice place. We enjoyed some drinks and food here. We saw Black Scimitarbill, Lesser Honeyguide, Greater Honeyguide, Cardinal Woodpecker, Red-Shouldered Cuckoo Shrike, and Broad Billed Roller. Some good raptors were also seen here, incl. African Hawk-eagle.

Yundum

This area of relatively undisturbed savannah woodland harbours many attractive species. We saw: Senegal Batis, Western Violet Sunbird, Yellow Penduline Tit, Pied-winged Swallow, Vieillot's Barbet and Lanner.

Pirang

The shrimp farm and surrounding mangroves harbour a good number of wetland species. The most famous bird species of Pirang is the threatened Black-crowned Crane, of which we found a single pair. Other birds of interest here were Pink-backed Pelicans, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Yellow-billed Stork and Quail Finch. Also various swallow and wagtail species were seen here, besides the well-known waders and raptors.

Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse, Georgetown, Kaur, Tendaba

The first day of the 4-days' inland trip we drove from Kotu to Tendaba with three major stops, Mandina Bah, Pirang and at the Kampanti rice fields. The latter stop was a very good one, as again a lot of raptor species were seen here. Due to bad road conditions the (bumpy...) drive from Kotu to Tendaba took rather long, but beyond Tendaba the road became better, with fewer potholes. The late afternoon/evening we spent in Kiang West, with species as White-shouldered Black Tit, Brurbu, White-rumped Seedeater, Long-tailed nightjar and Four-banded Sandgrouse.

At Tendaba we stayed at the Tendaba Bush Camp and I made a night walk over the Tendaba "airfield" and saw over 100 fruitbats and one African Palm civet (a mammal believed to form a monotypic family) up in a tree. The next day we made a "creek tour" from 08.00 – 12.30 h using a small motorboat, exploring two interconnected mangrove-fringed creeks at the northern bank of the Gambia River. Interesting birds seen during this creek tour were Woolly-necked Stork, 5 (!) White-backed Night Heron, Mouse-brown Sunbird, Pygmy Sunbird, Copper Sunbird, Blue-breasted Kingfisher and African Finfoot. In the afternoon we drove to Georgetown staying one night. On the way we made several stops produced Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark and 2 Bronze-winged Coursers. The bushfires we passed gave us a lot of swallows and an amazing gathering of 100

Abyssinian Rollers.

The next day we drove from Georgetown to Basse, where good views of 1 Egyptian Plovers. Approx. 25 km east of Georgetown we visited the Bansang quarry containing a large Red-throated Bee-eater colony. Then we went via Georgetown to Kaur (North Bank), with a major stop at a marshy/ricefield of Kaur. On our way we saw Little Green Bee-eater and Marabou Stork.

The Kaur fields were disappointing, due to the fact that they were mainly dry. At Bambatenda ferry we saw a locust swarm which darkened the sky. Our guide had never seen something like it. A short night walk in Tendaba produced one female Standard-winged Nightjar.

The next day we went back to African village, with stops at Kampanti and Pirang. At Kampanti again a lot of raptors appeared such as African Hawk-eagle and White-backed Vulture,

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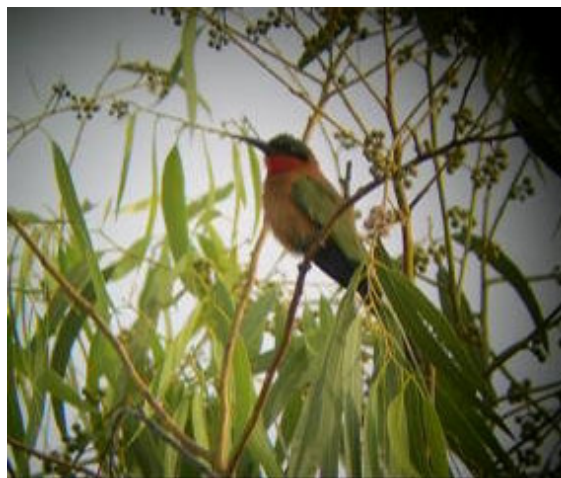
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BIRDLIST

In total we recorded 259 species.

Names/species (splits) are following Birds of Western Africa, by Nick Borrow and Ron Demey, Helm Identification Guides.

1. **Little Grebe** - *Tachybaptus ruficollis capensis*
Kotu Ponds: 5 ex 20/1
2. **Long-tailed (Reed) Cormorant** - *Phalacrocorax africanus*
Common in all wetland areas, like Kotu Creek, Tendaba, Georgetown etc.
3. **African Darter** - *Anhinga rufa*
Tendaba: at least 20 on 24/1
Basse: 2 on 25/1
Soma:(Bridge with ponds): 3 on 25/12
4. **Hamerkop** - *Scopus umbretta umbretta*
Not uncommon in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba , Georgetown, Basse and Kotu
5. **Goliath Heron** – *Ardea goliath*
Kotu creek: 1 on 20/1
Tendaba: 3 on 24/1
6. **Purple Heron** - *Ardea purpurea purpurea*
Small numbers in wetlands.
7. **Grey Heron** - *Ardea cinerea cinerea/monicae*
Common in areas with water like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown and Kotu
8. **Black-headed Heron** - *Ardea melanocephala*
Not uncommon in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba , Georgetown and Kotu

9. **Great White Egret** - *Casmerodius albus melanorhynchos*
Common in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown and Kotu
10. **Intermediate (Yellow-billed) Egret** - *Egretta intermedia brachyrhyncha*
Small numbers in wetlands.
11. **Little Egret** - *Egretta garzetta garzetta*
Small numbers in wetlands.
12. **Western Reef Heron** - *Egretta gularis gularis*
Not uncommon in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba , Georgetown and Kotu
13. **Black Heron** - *Egretta ardesiaca*
Small numbers in wetlands.
14. **Cattle Egret** - *Bubulcus ibis ibis*
Common in all open and semi open habitats.
15. **Squacco Heron** - *Ardeola ralloides*
Not uncommon in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu
16. **Green-backed/Striated Heron** - *Butorides striatus atricapillus*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1
Tendaba: 1 on 12/12, 3 on 13/12, 2 on 17/12
Pirang: 1 on 23/1 and 4 on 26/1
17. **White-backed Night Heron** - *Gorsachius leuconotus*
Tendaba: 5 (3 adult and 2 juvenile)on 24/1
18. **Black-crowned Night Heron** - *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*
Not uncommon in wetlands.
19. **African Spoonbill** - *Platalea alba*
Pirang: 3 on 23/1 and 8 on 26/1
Tendaba: 10 on 24/1
20. **African Sacred Ibis** - *Threskiornis aethiopicus aethiopicus*
Kotu Creek: 10 on 19/1, 2 on 20/1
21. **Pink-backed Pelican** - *Pelecanus rufescens*
Common in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba and Georgetown.
22. **White Stork** – *Ciconia ciconia*
Kampanti: 2 on 23/1
23. **Marabou Stork** - *Leptoptilos crumeniferus*
Kaur: 1 on 25/1
24. **Woolly-necked Stork** - *Ciconia episcopus*
Tendaba: 8 on 24/1
25. **Yellow-billed Stork** - *Mycteria ibis*
Pirang: 1 on 23/1 and 1 on 26/1
26. **White-faced Whistling Duck** - *Dendrocygna viduata*
Kotu Creek/Ponds: 100 on 20/1
Yundum: 30 on 22/1
27. **Spur-winged Goose** - *Plectropterus gambensis gambensis*
Tendaba: 2 on 24/1
Bambatenda: 10 on 25/1
28. **Common Teal** – *Anas crecca*
Tendaba: 5 on 24/1
29. **Black-winged (Black-shouldered) Kite** - *Elanus caeruleus caeruleus*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1
Pirang: 1 on 23/1
Kampanti: 1 on 23/1
30. **Black Kite** - *Milvus migrans*
Not uncommon all over the country
31. **Yellow-billed Kite** - *Milvus parasitus*
Common all over the country.

Bambatenda ferry: >1000 feeding on a locust swarm of biblical proportions. This swarm was approximately a few hundred meter high, 4 km broad and 10 km long when we saw it pass east along the river for hours.

32. **Osprey** - *Pandion haliaetus*
Not uncommon in areas with water.
33. **African Fish Eagle** - *Haliaeetus vocifer*
Tendaba: 4 on 24/1
Georgetown: 2 on 25/1
34. **Palm-nut Vulture** - *Gypohierax angolensis*
1-2 / day
35. **Hooded Vulture** - *Necrosyrtes monachus monachus*
Common all over the country.
36. **African White-backed Vulture** - *Gyps africanus*
Kampanti: 2 on 23/1
Georgetown: 20 on 25/1
North Bank: 10 on 25/1
37. **Rueppell's Griffon Vulture** - *Gyps rueppellii rueppellii*:
Georgetown 2 juvenile on 25/1
38. **Brown Snake Eagle** - *Circaetus cinereus*
Kampanti: 2 on 23/1 and 2 on 26/1
39. **Bateleur** - *Terathopius ecaudatus*
Kampanti: 4 on 23 /1
Tendaba - coast: 1 on 26/1
40. **African Harrier Hawk** - *Polyboroides typus pectoralis*
1 – 5 every day
41. **Montagu's Harrier** - *Circus pygargus*
Lamin Lodge: 1 on 20/1
Tendaba: 20 on 24/1 (with 4 males black morph)
Kaur: 4 on 25/1
42. **Eurasian Marsh Harrier** - *Circus aeruginosus aeruginosus*
Every day
43. **Gabar Goshak** - *Micronisus gabar*
Yundum: 1 on 22/1
Kampanti: 1 on 23/1 (black morph) 1 on 26/1
Airport: 1 on 26/1
44. **Dark Chanting Goshawk** - *Melierax metabates metabates*
Pirang: 1 on 23 /1
Kampanti: 1 on 23/1 and 1 on 26/1
Kiang West: 1 on 23/1
45. **Shikra** - *Accipiter badius sphenurus*
Common in most areas, 1 - 6 / day.
46. **Ovambo Sparrowhawk** - *Accipiter ovampensis*
Kampanti: 1 subadult on 23/1
47. **Grasshopper Buzzard** - *Butastur rufipennis*
Marakissa: 1 on 22 /1
A few every day inland, unusually common this year.
48. **Lizard Buzzard** - *Kaupifalco monogrammicus monogrammicus*
Common in costal areas, 1 -8 / day.
49. **Tawny Eagle** - *Aquila rapax belisarius*
1 - 2 almost every day
50. **Wahlberg's Eagle** - *Aquila wahlbergi*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1
Kampanti: 2 on 23/1

51. **Booted Eagle** - *Hieraaetus pennatus*
Abuko: 2 on 20/1 (light morph)
52. **African Hawk Eagle** - *Hieraaetus spilogaster*
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
Kampanti: 3 on 23/1
53. **Long-crested Eagle** - *Lophaetus occipitalis*
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
Mandina Bah: 1 on 23/1
Kampanti: 1 on 23/1
54. **Common Kestrel** - *Falco tinnunculus rufescens*
Pirang: 1 on 23/1
55. **Grey Kestrel** - *Falco ardosiaceus*
Not uncommon, regularly seen, 1-4 / day.
56. **Red-necked Falcon** - *Falco chicquera ruficollis*
Lamin Lodge: 1 on 20/1
Brufut coast: 2 on 21 /1
57. **Lanner Falcon** - *Falco biarmicus abyssinicus*
Abuko: 1 on 20 /1
Brufut: 1 on 21/1
Yundum: 2 on 22/1
Kaur: 1 on 25/1
58. **Stone Partridge** - *Ptilopachus petrosus petrosus*
Abuko: 1 on 21/1
59. **Ahanta Francolin** - *Francolinus achantensis*
Abuko: 1 heard 20/1 and 2 seen on 21/1
60. **Double-spurred Francolin** - *Francolinus bicalcaratus bicalcaratus*
Recorded in suitable habitat in most areas,.
61. **African Finfoot** - *Podica senegalensis senegalensis*
Tendaba: 2 males on 24/1
62. **Black Crake** - *Amaurornis flavirostris*
Abuko: 2 on 20/1 and 3 on 21/1
Kampanti: 5 on 26/1
63. **Black Crowned Crane** - *Balearica pavonina pavonina*
Pirang: 2 on 23/1
64. **African Jacana** - *Actophilornis africanus*
Kotu Ponds: 60 on 20/1
Abuko: 5 on 20/1
And other swamp areas
65. **Senegal Thick-knee** - *Burhinus senegalensis*
Kotu Creek: 12 on 20/1
Marakissa: 8 on 21/12
Tendaba: 20 on 24/1 and other places
66. **Egyptian Plover** - *Pluvianus aegyptius*
Basse: 1-2 on 25/1
North Bank: 5 on 26/1
67. **Bronze-winged Courser** - *Rhinoptilus chalcopterus*
Soma - Georgetown: 2 on 24/1 in burnt bush savanna.
68. **Temminck's Courser** – *Corsorius temminckii*
Brufut coast: 4 on 21/1
69. **Common Ringed Plover** - *Charadrius hiaticula hiaticula*
Pirang: 2 on 23/1
70. **African Wattled Lapwing** - *Vanellus senegallus*
Not uncommon, 5 – 10 / day

71. **Black-headed Lapwing** - *Vanellus tectus tectus*
Brufut coast: 10 on 21/1
North Bank: 2 on 25/1
72. **Spur-winged Plover** - *Vanellus spinosus*
Common in areas with water like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
73. **Greater Painted Snip** - *Rostratula benghalensis benghalensis*
Kotu ponds: 4 on 20/1
74. **Black-winged Stilt** - *Himantopus himantopus himantopus*
Not uncommon in areas with water like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
75. **Ruff** – *Philomachus pugnax*
Kaur: 15 on 25/1
76. **Black-tailed Godwit** - *Limosa limosa limosa*
Kotu Creek: 1 on 20/1
77. **Bar-tailed Godwit** - *Limosa lapponica lapponica*
African Village: 1 on 22/1.
78. **Whimbrel** - *Numenius phaeopus phaeopus*
Not uncommon in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
79. **Eurasian Curlew** - *Numenius arquata orientalis*
Lamin Lodge: 1 on 20/1
Pirang: 4 on 23/1
80. **Spotted Redshank** - *Tringa erythropus*
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
81. **Common Redshank** - *Tringa totanus tetanus*
A few in areas with water like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu
82. **Marsh Sandpiper** - *Tringa stagnatilis*
Kotu Creek/ponds: 1 on 20/1
83. **Common Greenshank** - *Tringa nebularia*
A few in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
84. **Green Sandpiper** - *Tringa ochropus*
A few in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
85. **Wood Sandpiper** - *Tringa glareola*
Common in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
86. **Common Sandpiper** - *Actitis hypoleucos*
A few in wetlands like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
87. **Ruddy Turnstone** - *Arenaria interpres interpres*
Tendaba: 2 on 24/1
88. **Kelp Gull** - *Larus dominicanus vetula*
African Village: 3 on 22/1
89. **Grey-headed Gull** - *Larus cirrocephalus poiocephalus*
Common in areas with water near the coast like Pirang, Tendaba and Kotu.
90. **Gull-billed Tern** - *Gelochelidon nilotica nilotica*
Pirang: 4 on 23/1 and 2 on 2671
Tendaba: 10 on 24/1
91. **Caspian Tern** - *Sterna caspia*
Not uncommon in coastal areas .
92. **Royal Tern** - *Sterna maxima albididorsalis*
Tendaba: 1 On 23/1.
93. **Lesser Crested Tern** - *Sterna bengalensis*
African Village: 1 on 20/1
94. **Sandwich Tern** - *Sterna sandvicensis sandvicensis*
Not uncommon in all coastal areas .

95. **Four-banded Sandgrouse** - *Pterocles quadricinctus*
Tendaba - Georgetown: 15 on 24/1 (passed the road) after dark
Kiang West: 3 on 23/1 1 female in 5 m
96. **Speckled Pigeon** - *Columba guinea guinea*
Common in areas with suitable habitat.
97. **Rock Dove** – *Columba livia*
Common near villages at the coast
98. **Red-eyed Dove** - *Streptopelia semitorquata*
Common in all areas
99. **African Mourning Dove** - *Streptopelia decipiens*
Common in all areas
100. **Vinaceous Dove** - *Streptopelia vinacea*
Not uncommon in moist habitat
101. **European Turtle Dove** - *Streptopelia turtur turtur/arenicola*
Basse: 2 on 25/1
102. **Laughing Dove** - *Streptopelia senegalensis*
Common
103. **African Collared Dove** - *Streptopelia roseogrisea*
Basse: 2 on 25/1
104. **African Green Pigeon** - *Treron calva nudirostris*
Yundum: 15 on 22/1
Marakissa: 10 on 22/1
105. **Bruce's Green Pigeon** - *Treron waalia*
Common inland e.g. Kaur area: 200 on 25/1
106. **Blue-spotted Wood Dove** - *Turtur afer afer*
Not uncommon in Abuko, Yundum, Brufut and Marakissa
107. **Black-billed Wood Dove** - *Turtur abyssinicus*
Common in wooded or semi wooded areas
108. **Namaqua Dove** - *Oena capensis*
Not uncommon, in all dry areas near villages
109. **Senegal Parrot** - *Poicephalus senegalus*
Not uncommon, in most areas
110. **Rose-ringed Parakeet** - *Psittacula krameri krameri*
Common
111. **Green Turaco** - *Tauraco persa buffoni*
Abuko: 15 on 20/1
Abuko: 3 on 21/1
112. **Violet Turaco** - *Musophaga violacea*
Abuko: 25 on 20/1, 10 on 21/1
Brufut: 3 on 21/1
Mantina Bah: 4 on 23/1
Kampanti: 5 on 26/1
Marakissa: 4 on 22/1
113. **Western Grey Plantain-eater** - *Crinifer piscator*
Common in savanna and woodland.
114. **Diederik's Cuckoo** - *Oxylophus levillantii*
Brufut: 1 on 21/1
115. **Klaas's Cuckoo** - *Chrysococcyx Klaas*
Brufut: 1 on 21/1
116. **Senegal Coucal** - *Centropus senegalensis senegalensis*
Not uncommon, in moist areas. Seen daily.

117. **Verraux's Eagle Owl** - *Bubo lacteus*
 Abuko: 1 on 20/1
 Brufut : 4 on 21/1
118. **Pearl-spotted Owlet** - *Glaucidium perlatum perlatum*
 Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
 Kampanti: 1 on 23/1
119. **African Scops Owl** – *Otus senegalensis*
 Tendaba: 1 on 25/1
120. **Long-tailed Nightjar** - *Caprimulgus climacurus climacurus*
 Kiang West: 1 on 23/1
 Kolor: 1 on 25/1
121. **Standard-winged Nightjar** - *Macrodipteryx longipennis*
 Tendaba 1 female on 26/1
122. **African Palm Swift** - *Cypsiurus parvus parvus*
 Not uncommon.
123. **Little Swift** - *Apus affinis aerobates*
 Common
124. **Mottled Spinetail** - *Telacanthura ussheri ussheri*
 A few almost every day.
125. **Pallid Swift** - *Apus pallidus pallidus/brehmorum*
 Common
126. **Common Swift** - *Apus apus apus*
 A few near the coast
127. **Green Wood-hoopoe** - *Phoeniculus purpureus senegalensis*
 Common in woodland and savanna.
128. **Black Scimitarbill** - *Rhinopomastus aterrimus aterrimus*
 Marakissa: 5 on 22/1
129. **Blue-breasted Kingfisher** - *Halcyon malimbica torquata*
 African village: 1 on 23/1
 Tendaba: 10 on 24/1
 Kampanti: 2 on 26/1
 Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
130. **Striped Kingfisher** - *Halcyon chelicuti chelicuti*
 Brufut: 1 on 21/1
 Kampanti: 1 on 23/1
131. **Malachite Kingfisher** - *Alcedo cristata galerita*
 Pirang: 1 on 23/1
 Tendaba: 4 on 24/1
132. **Giant Kingfisher** - *Megaceryle maxima maxima*
 Abuko: 1 on 20/1 an 2 on 21/1
 Tendaba: 1 on 24/1
 Marakissa; 1 on 22/1
133. **Pied Kingfisher** - *Ceryle rudis rudis*
 Common in areas with water like Pirang, Tendaba, Georgetown, Basse and Kotu.
134. **Rufous-crowned Roller** - *Coracias naevius naevius*
 Mandina bah: 1 at 23/1
 Tendaba to Georgetown: 4 on 24/1
 Tendaba - coast: 3 on 26/1
135. **Blue-bellied Roller** - *Coracias cyanogaster*
 Common over 50 during the week
136. **Abyssinian Roller** - *Coracias abyssinicus*
 Common inland, over 100 around a bushfire near Kampanti,

137. **Broad-billed Roller** - *Eurystomus glaucurus afer*
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1.
138. **Little Bee-eater** - *Merops pusillus pusillus*
Abuko: 5 on 20/1, 4 on 21/1
Marakissa: 10 on 22/1
139. **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater** - *Merops hirundineus chrysolaimus*
Kotu: 4 on 19/1
Abuko: 10 on 21/1
Marakissa: 10 on 22/1
140. **Little Green Bee-eater** - *Merops orientalis viridissimus*
North Bank: 30 on 25/1
141. **Red-throated Bee-eater** - *Merops bulocki bulocki*
Bansang: 20 on 25/1
Georgetown 10 on 25/1
142. **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** - *Merops persicus chrysocercus*
Lamin Lodge: 20 on 20/1
Pirang: 40 on 23/1
Tendaba: 50 on 24/1
Pirang: 50 on 26/1
143. **European Bee-eater** - *Merops apiaster*
Kampanti area: 50 or more around a bushfire 24/1
144. **Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill** - *Bucorvus abyssinicus*
Tendaba Airfield: 2 on 26/1
145. **Red-billed Hornbill** - *Tockus erythrorhynchus erythrorhynchus*
Common
146. **African Grey Hornbill** - *Tockus nasutus nasutus*
Not uncommon, in areas with trees.
147. **African Pied Hornbill** - *Tockus fasciatus semifasciatus*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1,
Brufut: 2 on 21/1
Marakissa: 4 on 22/1
Basse: 1 on 25/1
148. **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird** - *Pogoniulus chrysoconus chrysoconus*
Lamin Lodge. 1 on 20/1
Yundum: 1 on 22/1
Airport: 1 on 26/1.
149. **Vieillot's Barbet** - *Lybius vieilloti buchanani*
Yundum: 2 on 22/1
Kampanti: 1 on 23/1
Kampanti: 2 on 26/1
Airport: 2 on 26/1
150. **Bearded Barbet** - *Lybius dubius*
Not uncommon, 1-3 / day
151. **Greater Honeyguide** - *Indicator indicator*
Marakissa: 3 on 22/1
Yundum: 1 on 22/1
Kampanti: 1 on 23/1 and 1 on 26/1
152. **Lesser Honeyguide** - *Indicator minor senegalensis*
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
Yundum: 3 on 22/1
153. **Fine-spotted Woodpecker** - *Campethera punctuligera punctuligera*
Yundum: 4 on 22/1

154. **Buff-spotted Woodpecker** - *Campethera nivosa nivos*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1
155. **Grey Woodpecker** - *Dendropicos goertae goertae*
Abuko: 2 on 20/1 and 1 on 21/1
Marakissa: 2 on 22/1
Yundum: 1 on 22/1
156. **Cardinal Woodpecker** - *Dendropicos fuscescens lafresnayi*
Marakissa: 2 on 22/1
Kiang West: 2 on 23/1
157. **Crested Lark** - *Galerida cristata senegalensis*
Pirang: 20 on 23/1 and 10 on 26/1
158. **Chestnut-backed Sparrow Lark** - *Eremopterix leucotis melanocephala*
Tendaba - Georgetown: 5 on 24/1
159. **Sand Martin** - *Riparia riparia riparia*
Kampanti area: 50 on 24/1 around bushfires
Georgetown: 50 on 25/1
160. **Fanti Saw-wing** - *Psalidoprocne obscura*
Abuko: 4 on 20/1
Brufut: 50 on 21/1
161. **Mosque Swallow** - *Hirundo senegalensis senegalensis*
Pirang: 10 on 23/1 and 5 on 26/1
Tendaba - Georgetown: 10 on 24/1 around bushfires
Tendaba - coast: 2 on 18/12
162. **Rufous-chested Swallow** - *Hirundo semirufa gordon*
Tendaba - Georgetown: 2 on 24/1 around a bushfire
163. **Red-rumped Swallow** - *Hirundo daurica domicella*
Tendaba - Georgetown: 50 on 24/1 around bushfires
164. **Wire-tailed Swallow** - *Hirundo smitthi*
Yundum: 20 on 22/1
Pirang: 100 on 23/1 and 50 on 26/1
165. **Red-chested Swallow** - *Hirundo lucida lucida*
Common
166. **Pied-winged Swallow** - *Hirundo leucosoma*
Yundum: 20 on 22/1
Tendaba – Georgetown: 30 on 24/1 around bushfires
167. **Barn Swallow** - *Hirundo rustica rustica*
Not uncommon.
168. **Yellow-Throated Longclaw** – *Macronyx croceus*
Lamin Lodge: 1 on 20/1
169. **Common House Martin** - *Delichon urbica urbica*
Tendaba – Georgetown: 10 on 24/1 around a bushfire
170. **Yellow Wagtail** - *Motacilla flavissima*
Pirang: 1 on 23/1 and 2 on 26/1
171. **White Wagtail** - *Motacilla alba alba*
Pirang: 2 on 23/1 and 2 on 26/1
172. **Red-shouldered Cuckoo-shrike** - *Campephaga phoenicea*
Marakissa: 1 female on 22/1
173. **Fork-tailed Drongo** - *Dicrurus adsimilis divaricatus*
Not uncommon, daily seen 1-6.
174. **African Golden Oriole** - *Oriolus auratus auratus*
Abuko: 1 on 21/1
Marakissa: 3 on 22/1
Yundum: 2 on 22/1

- Kiang West: 1 on 23/1
 Basse: 1 on 25/1
175. **Pied Crow** - *Corvus albus*
 Common in all coastal areas, more rare inland.
 176. **Piapiac** - *Ptilostomus afer*
 Common in all areas.
 177. **Yellow Penduline Tit** - *Anthoscopus parvulus senegalensis*
 Yundum: 1 on 22/1
 178. **White-shouldered Black Tit** - *Parus (leucomelas) guineensis*
 Kiang West: 3 on 23/1
 North bank: 2 on 25/1
 Tendaba – Banjul: 1 on 26/1
 179. **Yellow White-eye** – *Zosterops senegalensis*
 Brufut forest: A small flock on 21/1
 180. **Brown Babbler** - *Turdoides plebejus platycircus*
 Common
 181. **Blackcap Babbler** - *Turdoides reinwardtii reinwardtii*
 Not uncommon.
 182. **Little Greenbul** - *Andropadus virens erythropterus*
 Abuko: 10 on 20/1, 5 on 21/1
 183. **Yellow-throated Leaflove** - *Chlorocichla flavicollis*
 Abuko: 2 on 20/1,
 184. **Grey-headed Bristlebill** - *Bleda canicapilla morelorum*
 Abuko: 1 on 21/1
 185. **Common Bulbul** - *Pycnonotus barbatus inornatus*
 Common in all areas.
 186. **African Thrush** - *Turdus pelios chiguancooides*
 Not uncommon in most woodland areas, Abuko etc.
 187. **Snowy-crowned Robin Chat** - *Cossypha niveicapilla niveicapilla*
 Abuko: 3 on 20/1, 5 on 21/1
 188. **White-crowned Robin Chat** - *Cossypha albicapilla albicapilla*
 African Village: 3 on 23/1
 189. **Common Redstart** - *Phoenicurus phoenicurus phoenicurus*
 Brufut: 1 on 21/1
 190. **Northern Wheatear** - *Oenanthe oenanthe oenanthe*
 Bansang: 1 on 25/1
 191. **African/European Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus baeticatus/scirpaceus*
 Tendaba: 1 on 24/1 was singing. Thus, probably the African species?
 192. **Olivaceous Warbler** - *Acrocephalus pallidus opacus*
 Yundum: 2 on 22/1
 193. **Melodious Warbler** - *Hippolais polyglotta*
 Marakissa: 2 on 22/1
 Yundum: 2 on 22/1
 194. **Willow Warbler** - *Phylloscopus trochilus trochilus*
 Abuko: 2 on 21/1
 Yundum: 2 on 22/1
 195. **Chiffchaff** - *Phylloscopus collybita collybita*
 Airport: 1 on 26/1
 196. **Common Whitethroat** - *Sylvia communis communis*
 Yundum: 1 on 22/1
 197. **Singing Cisticola** - *Cisticola cantans swanzii*
 Brufut: 1 on 21/1
 Brufut coast: 2 on 21/1

198. **Winding Cisticola** - *Cisticola galactotes*
Bambatenda ferry: 1 on 25/1
199. **Rufous Cisticola** - *Cisticola rufus*
Airport: 1 on 26/1
200. **Zitting Cisticola** - *Cisticola juncidis uropygialis*
Pirang: 4 on 23/1 and 5 on 26/1
201. **Yellow-breasted Apalis** - *Apalis flavida caniceps*
Abuko: 2 on 20/1
Abuko: 3 on 21/1
202. **Tawny-flanked Prinia** - *Prinia subflava subflava*
Common in semi wooded savanna areas.
203. **Oriole Warbler** - *Hypergerus atriceps*
Kampanti: 2 on 26/1
204. **Green-backed Eremomela** - *Eremomela canencens canescens*
Common in semi wooded areas
205. **Northern Crombec** - *Sylvietta brachyura brachyuran*
Lamin Lodge: 1 on 20/1
Yundum: 2 on 22/1 and some other places
206. **Green Hylia** - *Hylia prasina prasina*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1
207. **Grey-backed Camaroptera** - *Camaroptera brachyura brevicaudata*
Common in all semi wooded areas
208. **Northern Black Flycatcher** - *Melaenornis edolioides edolioides*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1
Yundum: 1 on 22/1
209. **African Paradise Flycatcher** - *Terpsiphone viridis viridis*
Abuko: 4 on 20/1 and 6 on 21/1
210. **Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher** - *Terpsiphone rufiventer rufiventer*
Abuko: 1 on 20/1, 2 on 21/1
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
211. **Hybrid Red-bellied x African Paradise Flycatcher**
Abuko: 1 on 21/1
212. **Senegal Batis** - *Batis senegalensis*
Yundum: 2 on 22/1
213. **Common (Brown-throated) Wattle-eye** - *Platysteira cyanea cyanea*
Common in all wooded areas
214. **Woodchat Shrike** - *Lanius senator senator*
Yundum: 2 on 22/1
215. **Yellow-billed Shrike** - *Corvinella corvina corvine*
Common in semi wooded areas
216. **Black-crowned Tchagra** - *Tchagra senegala senegala*
Brufut: 2 on 21/1
Tendaba: 1 on 13/12
North Bank: 1 on 25/1
217. **Northern Puffback** - *Dryoscopus gambensis gambensis*
Abuko: 4 on 21/1
Yundum: 3 on 22/1
Marakissa: 2 on 22/1
218. **Yellow-crowned (Common) Gonolek** - *Laniarius barbarus barbarus*
Abuko: 1 on 21/1
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
Yundum: 1 on 22/1

- Georgetown: 2 on 25/1
 Basse: 1 on 25/1
219. **Brubru** - *Nilaus afer afer*
 Kiang West: 1 on 23/1
220. **White Helmet-shrike** - *Prionops plumatus plumatus*
 Abuko: 15 on 21/1
 Yundum: 5 on 22/1
 Kiang West: 6 on 23/1
 North Bank: 6 on 25/1
221. **Purple Glossy Starling** - *Lamprotornis purpureus purpureus*
 Common
222. **Bronze-tailed Glossy Starling** - *Lamprotornis chalcurus*
 Bansang: 3 on 25/1
223. **Greater Blue-eared Glossy Starling** - *Lamprotornis chalybaeus chalybaeus*
 Bansang: 5 on 25/1
224. **Lesser Blue-eared Glossy Starling** - *Lamprotornis chloropterus chloropterus*
 Not uncommon.
225. **Long-tailed Glossy Starling** - *Lamprotornis caudatus*
 Common
226. **Yellow-billed Oxpecker** - *Buphagus africanus africanus*
 Kampanti: 1 on 23/1
227. **(Mouse-)Brown Sunbird** - *Anthreptes gabonicus*
 Tendaba: 6 on 24/1
228. **Scarlet-Chested Sunbird** - *Chalcomitra senegalensis senegalensis*
 Yundum: 3 on 22/1
 Basse: 2 on 14/12, 10 on 15/12
 Yundum: 1 on 21/12
229. **Collared Sunbird** - *Hedydipna collaris subcollaris*
 Abuko: 1 on 21/1
 Kampanti: 1 on 26/1
230. **Pygmy Sunbird** - *Hedydipna platura*
 Kiang West: 2 on 23/1
 Tendaba: 5 on 24/1
 Airport: 2 on 26/1
231. **Beautiful Sunbird** - *Cinnyris pulchellus pulchellus*
 Common in suitable habitat.
232. **Variable Sunbird** - *Cinnyris venustus venustus*
 Common in all coastal areas.
233. **Splendid Sunbird** - *Cinnyris coccinigaster*
 Brufut: 3 on 21/1
 Yundum: 3 on 22/1
234. **Western Violet-backed Sunbird** - *Cinnyris longuemarei*
 Yundum: 4 on 22/1
235. **Copper Sunbird** - *Cinnyris cupreus cupreus*
 Tendaba: 1 on 24/1
236. **House Sparrow** - *Passer domesticus domesticus*
 A few seen in Senegambia, Kotu Creek and Banjul Airport.
237. **Northern Grey-headed Sparrow** - *Passer griseus griseus*
 Common

238. **Bush Petronia** - *Petronia dentata dentate*
Kiang West: 10 on 23/1
Basse: 10 on 25/1
239. **Cut-throat** - *Amadina fasciata fasciata*
Basse: 5 on 25/1
240. **White-billed Buffalo Weaver** - *Bubalornis albirostris*
Not uncommon.
241. **Village Weaver** - *Ploceus cucullatus cucullatus*
Common
242. **Black-necked Weaver** - *Ploceus nigricollis brachypterus*
Abuko: 20 on 20/12, 10 on 21/1
243. **Yellow-crowned Bishop** - *Euplectes afer afer*
Pirang: 7 on 23/1
Airport: 1 on 26/1
244. **Black-winged Red Bishop** - *Euplectes hordeaceus hordeaceus*
Marakissa: 1 on 22/1
245. **Northern Red Bishop** - *Euplectes franciscanus*
Common in moist grassland.
246. **Red-winged Pytilia** - *Pytilia phoenicoptera*
Kampanti: 2 on 23/1
247. **Red-billed Firefinch** - *Lagonosticta senegala senegala*
Common
248. **Western Bluebill** - *Spermophaga haematina haematina*
Abuko: 2 on 22/1
249. **African Quailfinch** - *Ortygospiza atricollis*
Pirang: 10 on 23/1
250. **Bronze Mannikin (Munia)** - *Lonchura cucullata cucullata*
Seemed to be dispersed over most areas.
251. **Red-cheeked Cordon-Bleu** - *Uraeginthus bengalus bengalus*
Common in dry habitat, bushland.
252. **Lavender Waxbill** - *Estrilda caerulescens*
Abuko: 4 on 20/1
Airport: 6 on 26/1
253. **Orange-cheeked Waxbill** - *Estrilda melpoda melpoda*
Kampanti: 2 on 23/1
254. **Black-rumped Waxbill** - *Estrilda troglodytes*
Kampanti: 20 on 23/1
255. **Village Indigobird** - *Vidua chalybeata chalybeata*
Basse: 4 on 25/1
Airport: 1 on 26/1
256. **Pin-tailed Whydah** - *Vidua macroura*
Brufut: 5 on 21/1
257. **Exclamatory Paradise Whydah** - *Vidua interjecta*
North Bank: 10 on 25/1
258. **Yellow-fronted Canary** - *Serinus mozambicus caniceps*
Not uncommon in most areas with dry savanna woodland.
259. **White-rumped Seedeater** - *Serinus leucopygius riggenbachi*
Kiang West: 5 on 23/1

Mammals:

1. **Bush Bock** - *Tragelaphus scriptus*
Abuko: 10 on 20/12, 6 on 21/1

2. **Maxwells Duiker** – *Cephalophus maxwelli*
Abuko: 1 on 21/1
3. **Western Green Vervet Monkey** - *Chlorocebus sabaeus*
Common at the coast.
4. **Patas Monkey** - *Erythrocebus patas*
Common eastwards.
5. **Western Red Colobus Monkey** - *Piliocolobus badius*
Seen in Abuko, Mantina Bah and Georgetown.
6. **Common Slender Mongoose** – *Herpestes sanguineus*
Farafenni: 1 on 25/1
7. **Marsh Mongoose** – *Atilax palidinosus*
Tendaba: 1 on 24/1.
8. **African Palm Civet** – *Nandinia binotata*
Tendaba: 1 on 23/1 in the same tree as the fruit bats.
9. **Scrub/Cape hare**
Kiang West: 1 on 23/1
10. **Gambian Sun-squirrel** - *Heliosciurus gambianus*
A lot in the west in savanna woodland.
11. **Striped Ground Squirrel** - *Xerus erythropus*
More seen in the eastern part of Gambia.
12. **Fruit Bat sp** -
Tendaba: >100 on 23/1
13. **Commersons roundleaf bat** – *Hipposideros comersoni*
Kolior: 2 on 25/1

Lizards etc.:

1. **Nile Crocodile** - *Crocodylus niloticus*
Abuko: 3 on 20/1 and 5 on 21/1
2. **Nile Monitor** - *Varanus niloticus*
Not uncommon, all over the country near water
3. **Agama** - *Agama sp.*
Many seen.
4. **Gecko** - *Gecko sp.*
Few seen.

