

South Africa 30/1-10/2 2011

Mpumalanga and KwaZulu Natal

Lars Olausson



Wild dog, Kruger Park



Trumpeter Hornbill, St. Lucia

Introduction

A visit to South-Africa in their late summer is not the best time for bird watching. One will still see a lot of birds any time of the year and if it is the first visit to the south eastern parts of Africa it will definitely be rewarding with quite a lot of new species.

This was actually a family trip with my not twitching, but bird curious wife (she does not keep any lists). **I will put out the warning right here – this was not a 24 hour a day hardcore bird watching trip!**

The choice of destination was actually hers from the beginning and I had no objection at all! Wonder why?

She had found a Swedish South African specialist called Sydafrikaresor on the internet www.sydafrikaresor.se (web page only in Swedish) and from there we started a conversation with them. Finally we had decided first to stay at a private game reserve an hour away from Neelspruit, named KwaMadwala, for a couple of days. A stay there means full board with 3 meals a day. We had pre booked two half day tours to Kruger Park, one bush walk and several safari tours inside the game reserve.

After that we flew to Durban, picked up a rental car and drove the 210 km to the small and lazy seaside village St. Lucia, situated in the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. Not a bad choice at all.

The total cost including rental car, transfers, domestic flights and safari tours was about 2485 Euros each.

Sites

KwaMadwala is a private game reserve 80 km from Neelspruit in the district of Mpumalanga. Not more than 40 minutes to the southern boarder of Kruger Park (Malelane Gate).

KwaMadwala reserve is private but partly owned by Sydafrikaresor and a Finnish travel agency. Inside the game reserve is not much to do except going on safari trips or bush walks with an armed ranger. The stay is comfortable, the food is excellent and the staff very friendly. The rangers are really good and to my surprise also excellent bird guides. Between the safaris one can relax on the veranda and look for over flying raptors, vultures and Marabou Storks. To walk around is only aloud inside the camp because of a nearby Lion territory. A three, maximum four day stay is recommended. On the other hand very few seem to stay longer than that. They also do guided day trips to Swaziland if one wants to leave the animals for a day as well as full day safaris to Kruger Park.

St. Lucia

This tiny village lies in the district of KwaZulu Natal along the coast of the Indian Ocean. Not far from the Mozambique boarder and some 210 km north of Durban. It's a small and lazy village with an atmosphere of summer holiday place for wealthy South Africans. Accommodation is to be found everywhere and there is only one street with shops and restaurants – McKenzie Street.

We stayed at the Sea Sands Lodge and Conference Center and there were only a few other guest during our week, except one night. Here we only had pre paid breakfast so we had lunch and dinner when and where we wanted. No problems to get pre packed breakfast if one wants to leave for a trip very early.

It was a nice and quiet place and I also found out that it was not more than a five minute walk to THE hot spot iGwalagwala trail, where a lot of the local special species are to be seen.

In the neighborhood there are several game reserves within a few hours drive, the nearby iSimangaliso Wetland Park, night drives around the village (we did not try) and boat trips on the river (we tried). A week passes away to quick here. By the way, mention to your Mrs/Ms – there are lovely beaches, not crowded at all both in St. Lucia and Cape Vidal!

Map of St Lucia and surroundings



Bridge over river. Parking is easy at Tourist center. Good birding in the area before the bridge.

Mc Kenzie Street. Shops & restaurants.

SeaSands Lodge. Hornbill Street.

iGwalagwala trail. Very productive birding. Beware of Hippo's during the dark hours. Also said there are Leopards in the area.

End of drivable road. Parking area. At the start of the boardwalk there were Hippo's in the water, less than 100 mtrs away.

iMfolozoi and Hluhluwe Game Reserves

are connected to each other. In the north is entrance to the reserve through Memorial Gate and in the middle, just 30 minutes from St. Lucia, Nyalazi Gate. One can enter at one gate and leave at another, excellent!

As in most other game reserves one is not allowed to leave the car except at advised picnic spots. Birding can from time to time be rather frustrating, but on the other hand the car is an excellent hide when photographing. Inside the reserves there are several small loop roads (one way trafficked) to choose between. They often pass waterholes, runs parallel to rivers and over all offers a lot of nice scenery and good opportunity to come close to both mammals and birds. A small booklet with maps is sold at the entrance gates, very useful. This booklet covered all the reserves around St. Lucia.

Cape Vidal

is situated just outside St Lucia and inside iSimangaliso Wetland Park. An easy reserve to visit early in the morning with short transit time between the town and the gate. Recently the main road to Cape Vidal has been repaired and in very good condition. There are several gravel one way loop roads to drive looking for animals and birds, as well as a chance to leave the car and stretch the legs. At least around Mission Rocks, Catalina Bay and of course Cape Vidal itself. Rest of the park is now like any other game reserve with "stay in the car" rule. Cape Vidal has a camping site, great beach but NO restaurant – so bring a breakfast box from the hotel.

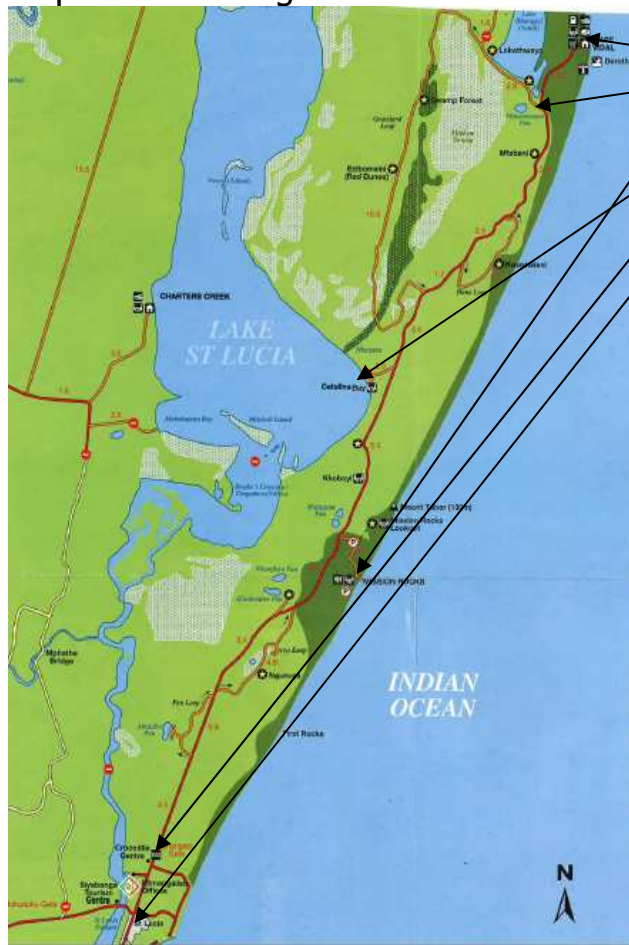
The road between the gate and Cape Vidal is a reliable area to see Southern Banded Snake-eagle, at the camping site it is easy to tick off Brown Scrub-robin. Because of a lot of rain prior our visit the roadside vegetation (grass) was very thick and high and that reduced our sightings of waxbills and munias and probably also twinspots and firefinches.

All observations in the species list referred to Cape Vidal are made inside iSimangaliso Wetland Park.

Daily log

29-30.1 We departure from Stockholm/Arlanda in the afternoon to London/ Heathrow. Kept on with an overnight flight to Johannesburg where we arrived 06.30 on the 30th of January. Three hours later we embarked a

Map over iSimangaliso Wetland Park



- Cape Vidal camping site.
- Start of Grassland Loop.
- Mission Rocks.
- Catalina Bay.
- Bangazi Gate.
- St. Lucia

small Jet streamer 42 for a one hour flight to Neelspruit where we were picked up by people from KwaMadwala Game Reserve. Transfer by car the 80 km to the Manyatta Rock Camp inside the reserve. We arrived there about an hour before lunch. Then we had a lazy, relaxing afternoon for a few hours. Victor, one of the local rangers, picked us up 15.30 for a pre booked afternoon bushwalk. This walk in the end turned out to be close to four hours. Our ranger not only knew a lot about the animals in the area, he also was a very good bird guide and it was a pleasure to walk with him.

31.1 An early wake up (04.15) and 15 minutes later Laxon, our guide for the half day in the southern parts of Kruger Park, drove us out to their morning coffee spot a short drive from the camp. While sipping on the coffee we heard a close male Lion announcing his presence. Also Laxon was a very good bird watcher, as well as a mammal guide. As we were the only ones on the tour we could stop whenever we found anything that looked interesting. We drove around in the park until lunch. Stopped at a small rest camp called Afsal and enjoyed our packed breakfast.

In the afternoon we just relaxed and looked for over flying vultures and other raptors from our veranda.

1.2 Both a morning and an afternoon drive in the local reserve. All morning drives started with coffee a few minutes past 04.30 and the trip ended by lunch time. The afternoon drives started 15.30 and on the way back it was spot lightning the last 45-60 minutes.

2.2 Our lazy morning. We were picked up 07.30 and had a short drive for a bush breakfast. We walked the way back to the camp with one of the rangers.

In the afternoon we had a safari in the local reserve with ranger Smiley, a guy with a great smile and a big sense of humor.

3.2 Another very early wake up, coffee in the bush and half day in the southern parts of Kruger Park, today with ranger Obet. Six more people in the safari jeep but we managed to stop for quite a lot birds. Drove all the way up to Skukuza rest camp where we had our packed breakfast.

In the afternoon we had a final safari in the local reserve with ranger Victor.

4.2 Had a lazy morning though we should leave KwaMadwala today. Left 12.30 for transfer to Neelspruit airport and then an hours flight to Durban. Arrived around 16.15, picked up our pre booked rental car and drove north the 210 km to St. Lucia. We arrived to Sea Sands Lodge around 19.30. Got our room, unpacked a bit and took a walk to McKenzie street, the main

street where all shops and restaurants are, and had dinner.

5.2 I went up early and started to bird outside the lodge. I walked around for a while just to discover that I actually stood at the entrance to iGwalagwala trail. It is THE trail to find a lot of the KwaZulu-Natal specials. Birded here for a couple of hours, then I went back for breakfast. For the rest of the day we walked around this small town and its outskirts.

6.2 Started with the iGwalagwala trail a couple of hours before breakfast. Singing activity was a bit low because of the season. After breakfast we drove north along the western side of Lake St. Lucia up to Charter's Creek and False Bay, about 80 km one way. This was in fact disappointing with very few birds seen. In retrospect we maybe should have visited the nearby Bonamanzi Game Reserve instead. We ended the day with an hour along the iGwalagwala trail.

7.2 Early wake up for nearly a full day to Cape Vidal and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. We drove every single little dirt loop we found, looked at Mission Rocks, birded at Catalina Bay. At the beach and camping site at Cape Vidal, where one is aloud to leave the car. The Grassland loop, which starts near Cape Vidal was the best one, even though views of Lake Bhangazi are limited. Another good spot was the water hole at iZondondwe where a small heard of Hippo's was seen.

Late afternoon we went for a boat trip along the river and watched more Hippo's and added some more bird species to the trip list.

8.2 Morning walk along iGwalagwala trail before breakfast. The rest of the morning was spent on the beach. In the afternoon we decided to look at the close iMfolozi Game Reserve. Drove around in a beautiful hilly grassland landscape and tried some dirt road loops before they closed the gate.

9.2 We got up very early for an hours drive to Memorial Gate at the northern end of Hluhluwe Game Reserve (pronounced something like sjusjuwe). Arrived to the gate 05.15, paid the entrance fee and started to drive the loop roads. Headed to Hilltop Camp for a cup of coffee before we drove south through the reserve to iMfolozi. The afternoon turned out to be one of the highlights of our holiday when my wife found a Leopard along the Shanti loop.

10.2 Our final full day in St. Lucia. Had a lazy morning and after breakfast we went to beach at relaxed. After lunch we decided to have the afternoon in iSimangaliso Wetland Park.

11.2 I had a short morning walk along iGwalagwala trail before breakfast. Then just packing and leaving St. Lucia for the drive back to Durban and

the afternoon flight to Jo'burg and later the overnight flight to London/Heathrow. Arrived late afternoon **12.2** to Stockholm/Arlanda.

Species List

Note that the bird names follow the Sasol guide Birds of Southern Africa (Sinclair, Hockey&Tarboton) and is not always the same as in Clements checklist, sixth edition.

The order follows Clements (because my software does).

White-faced Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1, 1 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2, 6 Kwa Madwala G.R 2/2, 2 Kwa Madwala G.R 3/2, 1 St. Lucia 7/2, 2 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1, 8 Kruger Park 31/1, 2 Kwa Madwala G.R 3/2, 2 St. Lucia 5/2, 2 Charter's Creek 6/2, 4 Cape Vidal 7/2, 4 St. Lucia 7/2, 6 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2 and a pair with 4 chicks Cape Vidal 10/2.

Spur-winged Goose (*Plectropterus gambensis*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2, 2 St. Lucia 7/2, 2 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 1 there 10/2.

Red-billed Teal (*Anas erythrorhyncha*)

2 Cape Vidal 7/2.

Coqui Francolin (*Francolinus coqui*)

1 calling just outside Memorial Gate, Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Crested Francolin (*Francolinus sephaena*)

1 calling Kwa Madwala G.R 31/1, 1 seen Kwa Madwala G.R 2/2, 5 seen Kruger Park 3/2 and 5 seen Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Natal Francolin (*Francolinus natalensis*)

Common in Kwa Madwala G.R 31/1-4/2 and on the two visits to the southern part of Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2.

Swainson's Francolin (*Francolinus swainsonii*)

5 seen in Kruger Park 31/1.



Crested Guineafowl



Crested Francolin

Common Quail (*Coturnix coturnix*)

10 heard Kruger Park 31/1.

Helmeted Guineafowl (*Numida meleagris*)

10 Kruger Park 31/1, 3 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2, 5 Kwa Madwala G.R 3/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Crested Guineafowl (*Guttera pucherani*)

A party of 30 seen in the outskirts of St. Lucia 6-8/2. Mixed with adult and immature birds.

Last seen in the morning 8/2 when the whole convey was on the move towards Eden Park campsite.

Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 1 and 3/2.

Great White Pelican (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*)

100 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2.

Pink-backed Pelican (*Pelecanus rufescens*)

1 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2.

Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax africanus*)

1 flying along the river just outside Malelane Gate, Kruger Park 31/1.

Little Bittern (*Ixobrychus minutus*)

2 seen on the boat trip St. Lucia 7/2.

Gray Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 2/2, 2 St. Lucia 5/2 and 1 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Black-headed Heron (*Ardea melanocephala*)

21 Cape Vidal 7/2, 3 St. Lucia 7/2 and 3 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Goliath Heron (*Ardea goliath*)

1 St. Lucia 5/2, 2 St. Lucia 7/2 and 1 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

1 St. Lucia 7/2.

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)

1 Kruger Park 31/1 and 25 St. Lucia 7/2.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

4 Kruger Park 31/1, 150 Cape Vidal 7/2, 1 Cape Vidal 10/2 and a few along the road on the transfers.

Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)

1 Kruger Park 31/1 and 1 there 3/2.

Hadedda Ibis (*Bostrychia hagedash*)

A few seen almost every day, except 3/2 when 11 were seen in Kruger Park.

African Spoonbill (*Platalea alba*)

2 St. Lucia 5/2.

Hamerkop (*Scopus umbretta*)

3 Kruger Park 31/1, 1 Cape Vidal 7/2, 2 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2 and 1 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Woolly-necked Stork (*Ciconia episcopus*)

3 St. Lucia 5/2, 6 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2, 4 Cape Vidal 7/2, 1 St. Lucia 7/2 and 1 iMfolozi G.R 8/2.

Marabou Stork (*Leptoptilos crumeniferus*)

15 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1, 2 Kwa Madwala G.R 31/1, 33 flying over Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2 and 1 Kruger Park 3/2.

Yellow-billed Stork (*Mycteria ibis*)

1 St. Lucia 5/2 and also 1 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Black-shouldered Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*)

3 between Kwa Madwala and Malelane Gate, Kruger Park 31/1 and 1 between Neelspruit and KwaMadwala 4/2.

Black (Yellow-billed) Kite (*Milvus migrans*)

Fairly common. Seen every day with up to 15-20 individuals. Clements still not recognize the split of Black & Yellow-billed Kite.

African Fish-Eagle (*Haliaeetus vocifer*)

1 pair St. Lucia 7/2.

White-backed Vulture (*Gyps africanus*)

Fairly common in the game reserves. Up to 15-20 seen as the highest count on a single day.

Cape Vulture (*Gyps coprotheres*)

3 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2 and 1 iMfolozi G.R 9/2.

Lappet-faced Vulture (*Torgos tracheliotus*)

1 flying over Kwa Madwala G.R 4/2.

White-headed Vulture (*Trigonoceps occipitalis*)

1 adult female Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2 and also 1 adult female Kruger Park 3/2.

Black-breasted Snake-Eagle (*Circaetus pectoralis*)

1 adult Kwa Madwala G.R 2/2 and 1 adult False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2.

Southern Banded Snake-Eagle (*Circaetus fasciolatus*)

1 adult along the road to Cape Vidal 10/2.
Clements name this Fasciated Snake-eagle.

Bateleur (*Terathopius ecaudatus*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1, 2 Kruger Park 31/1, 1 adult male Kwa Madwala G.R 1-3/2, 1 adult male Kruger Park 3/2 and 1 adult male iMfolozi G.R 9/2.



Adult male Bateleur



Long-crested Eagle

Lizard Buzzard (*Kaupifalco monogrammicus*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1.

Dark Chanting-Goshawk (*Melierax metabates*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1.

Shikra (*Accipiter badius*)

1 Malelane Gate, Kruger Park 3/2.

Steppe (Eurasian) Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1, 3 and 4/2, 1 Kruger Park 3/2, 2 Charter's Creek, St. Lucia 6/2, 5 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2, 4 ex iMfolozi G.R 9/2 and 2 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Most of the buzzards have already started to migrate north to their breeding grounds.

Jackal Buzzard (*Buteo rufofuscus*)

1 younger bird iMfolozi G.R 9/2.

Tawny Eagle (*Aquila rapax*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2 and 2 there 2/2.

Wahlberg's Eagle (*Aquila wahlbergi*)

A pair with 2 chicks in a nest Kruger Park 31/1, 1 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2, 1 Kruger Park 3/2 and 1 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Booted Eagle (*Aquila pennata*)

1 pale morph Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1.

Martial Eagle (*Polemaetus bellicosus*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1, 1 Kruger Park 3/2 and 1 Kwa Madwala G.R 4/2.

Long-crested Eagle (*Lophaetus occipitalis*)

4 on the transfer Durban-St. Lucia 4/2 (all 4 along a short part of the road not far from Mtubatuba), 1 Charter's Creek, St. Lucia 6/2 and 1 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2.

Amur Falcon (*Falco amurensis*)

2 (1 adult and 1 younger bird) Kruger Park 31/1 and 2 adult haunting close to our veranda Kwa Madwala G.R 2/2.



Martial Eagle

Africa Fish-eagle

Lanner Falcon (*Falco biarmicus*)

1 pair on the cliffs at the breeding site of Southern Bald Ibis in Hluhluwe

G.R 9/2.

Small Buttonquail (*Turnix sylvaticus*)

1 passing the road just a few meters in front of the car iMfolozi G.R 8/2.

Black Crake (*Amaurornis flavirostra*)

1 St. Lucia 7/2.

Purple Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*)

3 (1 juvenile) St. Lucia 5/2 and 1 juvenile St. Lucia 7/2.

Water Thick-knee (*Burhinus vermiculatus*)

Up to 5 seen Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1-3/2 and a group of 9 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Blacksmith Plover (*Vanellus armatus*)

Up to 6 seen Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1-3/2, 2 St. Lucia 5/2, 10 Cape Vidal 7/2, 2 iMfolozi G.R 9/2 and 2 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Crowned Lapwing (*Vanellus coronatus*)

10 Kruger Park 31/1 and 3 there 3/2.

Wattled Lapwing (*Vanellus senegallus*)

2 Kruger Park 31/1 and 7 ex Cape Vidal 10/2.

Kittlitz's Plover (*Charadrius pecuarius*)

2 St. Lucia 10/2.

Three-banded Plover (*Charadrius tricollaris*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 2-3/2 and 1 Cape Vidal 10/2.

White-fronted Plover (*Charadrius marginatus*)

12 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2, 2 Charter's Creek, St. Lucia 6/2, 2 Cape Vidal 7-8/2 and 2 St. Lucia 10/2.

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)

1 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2 and 2 Cape Vidal 7/2.

African Jacana (*Actophilornis africanus*)

4 St. Lucia 5/2, 3 Cape Vidal 7 and 10/2, also 3 St. Lucia 7/2.

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

Singles seen in almost every visited pond Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1-3/2 and 1 Kruger Park 31/1.

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)

2 Kwa Madwala G.R 2/2 and up to 14 on various locations Cape Vidal 10/2.

Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*)

30 Cape Vidal (Catalina Bay) 10/2.

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*)

2 Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1, 1 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2, 5 St. Lucia 5/2 and up to 4 Cape Vidal 7 and 10/2.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)

1 St. Lucia 10/2.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)

3 False Bay, St Lucia 6/2.

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)

1 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2 and 15 St. Lucia 7/2.

Bronze-winged Courser (*Rhinoptilus chalcopterus*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2.

Standing on the road when we drove down to the "coffee corner" well before dawn. Really an unexpected species.

Collared Pratincole (*Glareola pratincola*)

Up to 85 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 10/2.

Gray-hooded Gull (*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*)

Up to 30 seen on various locations around St. Lucia-Cape Vidal 5-10/2.
Unexpected few gulls and terns seen around St. Lucia/Cape Vidal.

Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*)

5 St. Lucia 5/2, 2 St. Lucia 7/2 and 1 Cape Vidal 8/2.

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*)

1 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2, 1 St. Lucia 7/2, 1 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 2 there 10/2.

Whiskered Tern (*Chlidonias hybrida*)

1 St. Lucia 5/2.

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)

1 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2.

Great Crested Tern (*Thalasseus bergii*)

2 adult St. Lucia 5/2.

Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*)

1 Cape Vidal 7/2.

Rock "Feral" Pigeon (*Columba livia*)

Seen in towns and at Johannesburg airport.

Lemon Dove (*Columba larvata*)

Up to 3 seen or heard iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-11/2.

Red-eyed Dove (*Streptopelia semitorquata*)

Common, but less numerous than Cape Turtle-dove.

Cape Turtle-dove (*Streptopelia capicola*)

Common.

Named Ring-necked Dove in Clements checklist.

Laughing Dove (*Streptopelia senegalensis*)

Fairly common, but localized in the southern part of Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2. A few also seen iMfolozi G.R 9/2.

Emerald-spotted Wood-dove (*Turtur chalcospilos*)

Common.

Tambourine Dove (*Turtur tympanistria*)

Up to 2 seen or heard iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-11/2, 1 in the garden opposite Sea Sands Lodge, St. Lucia 5/2, 2 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 1 seen Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Namaqua Dove (*Oena capensis*)

3 Kruger Park 31/1 was the only record.

African Green-pigeon (*Treron calvus*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R 3/2, 3 Skukuza camp, Kruger Park 3/2, 3 St. Lucia 6/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Livingstone's Turaco (*Tauraco livingstonii*)

Common in and around St. Lucia 5-11/2.



Livingstone's Turaco

Purple-crested Turaco (*Tauraco porphyreolophus*)

Up to 5 seen and heard Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1-3/2, up to 5 each day St. Lucia 5-11/2, 2 Cape Vidal 7/2, 5 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2 and 2 iMfolozi G.R 9/2.

Gray Go-away-bird (*Corythaixoides concolor*)

3 Kruger Park 31/1, 5 Kwa Madwala G.R 1/2 and 6 Kruger Park 3/2.

Pied Cuckoo (*Clamator jacobinus*)

1 Kruger Park 31/1, 1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 3/2 and 2 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Great Spotted Cuckoo (*Clamator glandarius*)

1 Kruger Park 3/2.

Red-chested Cuckoo (*Cuculus solitarius*)

Fairly commonly heard on most of the sites we visited.

Black Cuckoo (*Cuculus clamosus*)

1 calling Kwa Madwala G.R 31/1.

African Cuckoo (*Cuculus gularis*)

1 Kruger Park 3/2.

Klaas's Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx klaas*)

1 heard Kruger Park 3/2, 1 heard St. Lucia 7/2, 1 heard Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2 and 1 heard Cape Vidal 10/2.

African Emerald Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx cupreus*)

1 seen Kwa Madwala G.R 30/1 and 1 seen Cape Vidal 7/2.

Dideric Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx caprius*)

Fairly common.

Yellowbill (*Ceuthmochares aereus*)

1 iGwalagwala Trail, St. Lucia 8/2.

Black Coucal (*Centropus grillii*)

1 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Burchell's Coucal (*Centropus superciliosus*)

Common. Seen or heard almost every day, with up to 5 individuals. Clements treats Burchell's as a subspecies of White-browed Coucal

African Scops-owl (*Otus senegalensis*)

1 on day roost at Afsal Rest Camp, Kruger Park 31/1.

Southern White-faced Owl (*Ptilopsis granti*)

1 seen on an evening drive Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2.

Fiery-necked Nightjar (*Caprimulgus pectoralis*)

Up to 4 birds seen or heard daily in Kwa Madwala G.R. 31/1-3/2.



African Scops Owl



Fiery-necked Nightjar

African Swift (*Apus barbatus*)

5 Kruger Park 3/2, 5 St. Lucia 6/2, 5 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 2 St. Lucia 7/2.

Little Swift (*Apus affinis*)

Common. A high count was at least 500 St. Lucia in the evening 7/2.

African Palm-Swift (*Cypsiurus parvus*)

Common.

Speckled Mousebird (*Colius striatus*)

5 St. Lucia 5/2, 2 St. Lucia 6/2, 4 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Red-faced Mousebird (*Urocolius indicus*)

3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1, 2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2, 4 Kruger Park 3/2 and 5 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Narina Trogon (*Apaloderma narina*)

1 heard calling iGwalagwala Trail, St. Lucia 5 and 11/2 also 1 seen and another heard there 6/2.



Narina Trogon



European Roller

Woodland Kingfisher (*Halcyon senegalensis*)

Fairly common Kwa Madwala G.R. and Kruger Park 30/1-3/2.

Brown-hooded Kingfisher (*Halcyon albiventris*)

3 Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2, 3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2, 1 St. Lucia 5/2, 2 St. Lucia 6/2, 15 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 4 seen there 10/2.

Striped Kingfisher (*Halcyon chelicuti*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1.

Giant Kingfisher (*Megaceryle maximus*)

2 on the boat ride St. Lucia 7/2.

Pied Kingfisher (*Ceryle rudis*)

1 Kruger Park 3/2, 3 on the boat ride St. Lucia 7/2 and 1 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.



Pied Kingfisher



Giant Kingfisher

White-fronted Bee-eater (*Merops bullockoides*)

2 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 3 in another part of iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Little Bee-eater (*Merops pusillus*)

6 Cape Vidal 7/2, 5 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2 and 2 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater (*Merops persicus*)

Fairly common St. Lucia and Cape Vidal 5-10/2.

European Bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*)

Common.

Southern Carmine Bee-eater (*Merops nubicoides*)

A pair feeding a young Afsal Rest camp, Kruger Park 31/1 and 3 Skukuza Camp, Kruger Park 3/2.

European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*)

Common. We estimated the number on the half day in Kruger Park 3/2 to at least 50, maybe as many as 100.

Lilac-breasted Roller (*Coracias caudatus*)

Fairly common in the southern parts of Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2.



Lilac-breasted Roller

Purple Roller (*Coracias noevius*)

1 roadside bird Neelspruit-KwaMadwala 30/1, 1 Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2.
Named Rufous-crowned Roller by Clements.

Broad-billed Roller (*Eurystomus glaucurus*)

2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 2/2 and 4 St. Lucia 10/2.

African Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*)

1 Kruger Park 31/1, a total of 3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1-3/2, 3 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2
and 5 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Still treated as a subspecies of Eurasian Hoopoe by Clements

Green Woodhoopoe (*Phoeniculus purpureus*)

10 Kruger Park 31/1, 5 Kruger Park 3/2, 5 Kwa Madwala G.R. 3/2 and 2
Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Common Scimitarbill (*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*)

1 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Red-billed Hornbill (*Tockus erythrorhynchus*)

Fairly common in the southern parts of Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2.

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill (*Tockus leucomelas*)

Up to 4 seen on a single day Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1-3/2 and 5-10 Kruger
Park 31/1 and 3/2.

Also nick named "the flying banana" by the rangers at KwaMadwala G.R.

Crowned Hornbill (*Tockus alboterminatus*)

Fairly common St. Lucia and Cape Vidal 5-11/2.

African Gray Hornbill (*Tockus nasutus*)

2 seen Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2.

Trumpeter Hornbill (*Ceratogymna bucinator*)

Fairly common St. Lucia and Cape Vidal 5-11/2.

Southern Ground-hornbill (*Bucorvus leadbeateri*)

1 near Malelane Gate, Kruger Park 31/1.

Crested Barbet (*Trachyphonus vaillatii*)

4 Kruger Park 31/1, 3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2, 1 Kruger Park 31/1 and 1 iMfolozi 9/2.



Crested Barbet

White-eared Barbet (*Stactolaema leucotis*)

Common St. Lucia and Cape Vidal 5-11/2.

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird (*Pagoniulus bilineatus*)

Common St. Lucia and Cape Vidal 5-11/2.

Black-collared Barbet (*Lybius torquatus*)

Up to 2 seen or heard almost every day Kwa Madwala G.R., 2 Kruger Park 31/1, 2 St. Lucia 5/2, 3 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Cardinal Woodpecker (*Dendropicos fuscescens*)

1 male Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2 and a female Kwa Madwala G.R. 3/2.

Red-backed Shrike (*Lanius collurio*)

Common.

Lesser Gray Shrike (*Lanius minor*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2.

Common Fiscal (*Lanius collaris*)

1 Charter's Creek, St. Lucia 6/2 and 1 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Magpie Shrike (*Corvinella melanoleuca*)

Fairly common in the southern parts of Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2.

Southern White-crowned Shrike (*Eurocephalus anguitimens*)

4 Malelane Gate, Kruger Park 31/1 and 4 near Skukuza Camp, Kruger Park 3/2.

Cape Crow (*Corvus capensis*)

2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Pied Crow (*Corvus albus*)

2 Hluhluwe town 6/2.

White-necked Raven (*Corvus albicollis*)

2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Blue-mantled Crested-flycatcher (*Trochocercus cyanomelas*)

2 iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 6/2.

Named African Crested-flycatcher by Clements.

African Paradise-Flycatcher (*Terpsiphone viridis*)

3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1 and 1 female Kruger Park 31/1.

Rufous-naped Lark (*Mirafrā africana*)

3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1, 1 Cape Vidal 7/2, 5 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2, 5 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2 and 3 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Flappet Lark (*Mirafrā rufocinnamomea*)

1 displaying bird Kruger Park 31/1.

Sabota Lark (*Calendulauda sabota*)

1 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2, 2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2, 1 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2 and 2 Cape Vidal 10/2.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

Very common.

Wire-tailed Swallow (*Hirundo smithii*)

2 Kruger Park 31/1, 1 St. Lucia 5/2, 2 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Greater Striped-Swallow (*Cecropis cucullata*)

10 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 10 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Lesser Striped-Swallow (*Cecropis abyssinica*)

Common.

Red-breasted Swallow (*Cecropis semirufa*)

4 Kruger Park 31/1, 2 Kruger Park 3/2, 8 Cape Vidal 7/2, 10 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2, 4 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2 and 6 Cape Vidal 10/2.
Named Rufous-chested in Clements's checklist.

Black Saw-wing (*Psalidoprocne pristoptera*)

2 St. Lucia 8/2.

Gray-rumped Swallow (*Pseudhirundo griseopyga*)

1 St. Lucia 5/2 and 6/2, also 2 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Southern Black-Tit (*Melaniparus niger*)

5 Kruger Park 31/1 and 2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 31/1.

Dark-capped Bulbul (*Pycnonotus barbatus*)

Very common.

Named Common Bulbul by Clements.

Sombre Greenbul (*Andropadus importunus*)

Up to 3 each day Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1-3/2, 1 St. Lucia 5/2, 3 Cape Vidal 7/2, 10 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2 and 5 St. Lucia 11/2.

Yellow-bellied Greenbul (*Chlorocichla flaviventris*)

Common iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-10/2 and also 10 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2.

Terrestrial Brownbul (*Phyllastrephus terrestris*)

Up to 10 seen on every visit to iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-11/2.

Eastern Nicator (*Nicator gularis*)

1-2 heard iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-11/2 also 1 heard Cape Vidal 7/2.

Rattling Cisticola (*Cisticola chiniana*)

Common.

Rufous-winged Cisticola (*Cisticola galactotes*)

2 Cape Vidal 7/2.

Rufous-winged and Luapula Cisticola are lumped by Clements and named Winding Cisticola.

Levaillant's Cisticola (*Cisticola tinniens*)

3 St. Lucia 5/2.

Named Tinkling Cisticola in Clements checklist.

Croaking Cisticola (*Cisticola natalensis*)

3 Cape Vidal 7 and 10/2, 1 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Neddicky (*Cisticola fulvicapilla*)

2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30-31/1, 3 Kruger Park 31/1 and 2 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Named Piping Cisticola in Clements checklist.

Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*)

5-10 Cape Vidal 7 and 10/2, 5 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 3 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Tawny-flanked Prinia (*Prinia subflava*)

Fairly commonly heard.

Bar-throated Apalis (*Apalis thoracica*)

Fairly common Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1-4/2.

Yellow-breasted Apalis (*Apalis flavida*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1 and fairly common St. Lucia and Cape Vidal 5-11/2.

Rudd's Apalis (*Apalis ruddi*)

Up to 3 seen/heard St. Lucia 5-11/2 and also a few Cape Vidal 7/2.

Green-backed Camaroptera (*Camaroptera brachyura*)

Common iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-11/2 and 10 Cape Vidal 8/2.

Little Rush-warbler (*Bradypterus baboecala*)

1 seen and heard from the bridge outside St. Lucia 5/2 and 1 singing Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Named African Bush-warbler by Clements.

Great Reed-warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*)

1 singing Kruger Park 3/2 and 1 singing St. Lucia 7/2.

Green-capped Eremomela (*Eremomela scotops*)

1 iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 11/2.

Cape Crombec (*Sylvietta rufescens*)

1 Afsal Rest Camp, Kruger Park 31/1 and 1 iMfolozi G.R 9/2.

Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)

A few seen or heard Kwa Madwala G.R., Kruger Park, iMfolozi G.R. and Hluhluwe G.R.

Southern Black-flycatcher (*Melaenornis pammelaina*)

Common.

Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*)

Fairly common.

African Dusky Flycatcher (*Muscicapa adusta*)

2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1 and 1 there 3/2, also 2 Kruger Park 31/1.

White-throated Robin-chat (*Cossypha humeralis*)

1 iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 8/2.

Red-capped Robin-chat (*Cossypha natalensis*)

1-2 iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-11/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Chorister Robin-chat (*Cossypha dichroa*)

1 St. Lucia 5/2.

Bearded Scrub-robin (*Cercotrichas quadrivirgata*)

1 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Brown Scrub-robin (*Cercotrichas signata*)

2 Cape Vidal campsite 7/2.



Brown Scrub-robin

White-browed Scrub-robin (*Cercotrichas leucophrys*)

1-2 seen or heard Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1-1/2 and 3 Kruger Park 31/1.
Named Red-backed Scrub-robin by Clements.

Mocking Cliff-chat (*Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris*)

2 pairs Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1- 4/2.

Groundscraper Thrush (*Psophocichla litsipsirupa*)

1 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Olive Thrush (*Turdus olivaceus*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1.

Kurrichane Thrush (*Turdus libonyanus*)

1 Afsal Rest Camp, Kruger Park 31/1 and 1 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Cape Batis (*Batis capensis*)

2 iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 6/2.

Woodward's Batis (*Batis fratrum*)

1 iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 6/2 and 2 there 8/2.

Chinspot Batis (*Batis molitor*)

1 False Bay, St. Lucia 6/2 and 3 iMfolozi G.R 9/2.

Arrow-marked Babbler (*Turdoides jardineii*)

Fairly common Kwa Madwala G.R. and Kruger Park 30/1-3/2.

Cape White-eye (*Zosterops pallidus*)

1 in a small bird wave iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 6/2.

Collared Sunbird (*Hedydipna collaris*)

Up to 5 seen St. Lucia 5-11/2, also 1 Hilltop Camp, Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Eastern Olive Sunbird (*Cyanomitra olivacea*)

2-3 seen St. Lucia 5/2-11/2.

Grey Sunbird (*Cyanomitra veroxii*)

2-3 seen St. Lucia 5/2-11/2.

Named Mouse-colored Sunbird in Clements checklist.

Mariqua (Marico) Sunbird (*Cinnyris mariquensis*)

1 singing male Cape Vidal 10/2.

Purple-banded Sunbird (*Cinnyris bifasciatus*)

2 St. Lucia 5/2.

White-bellied Sunbird (*Cinnyris talatala*)

1 seen Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2 and 4/2.

Named White-breasted Sunbird by Clements.

African Black-headed Oriole (*Oriolus larvatus*)

Up to 5 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1-3/2, 10 Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2, 1 St. Lucia 6/2 and 1 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Brubru (*Nilaus afer*)

1 Kruger Park 31/1 and 1 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Black-backed Puffback (*Dryoscopus cubla*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 31/1, 2 Kruger Park 31/1, 2 St. Lucia 5/2, 1 singing and displaying bird (a real puffback!) St. Lucia 6/2 and 1 Cape Vidal 8/2.

Black-crowned Tchagra (*Tchagra senegalus*)

2 Kruger Park 31/1, 2 heard Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2 and 1 Cape Vidal 7/2.

Brown-crowned Tchagra (*Tchagra australis*)

1 Kruger Park 31/1.

Southern Boubou (*Laniarius ferrugineus*)

Fairly common.

Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike (*Telophorus sulfureopectus*)

2 singing Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1, 3 heard Kruger Park 31/1, 1 seen and 2 heard Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Gorgeous Bush-shrike (*Telophorus viridis*)

1 singing Cape Vidal 7/2.

Clements has named this one Four-colored Bush-shrike.

White-crested Helmetshrike (*Prionops plumatus*)

20 (2 parties of 10) Kruger Park 30/1, 2 Kruger Park 31/1, up to 10 Kwa Madwala G.R. on several dates, 5 on the transfer Neelspruit-KwaMadwala, 4/2 and a single seen iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Square-tailed Drongo (*Dicrurus ludwigii*)

Up to 5 daily St. Lucia 5/2-11/2.

Fork-tailed Drongo (*Dicrurus adsimilis*)

Common, especially in Kruger Park.



White-crested Helmet-shrike

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)

4 Johannesburg Airport 30/1, 20 on the drive Durban-St. Lucia 4/2, 20 St. Lucia 5/2 and even 2 seen Mpila Camp, iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Wattled Starling (*Creatophora cinerea*)

200 (probably many more, though just a small number was seen good enough for a safe id) Kruger Park 31/1.

Not even one was seen on the visit 3/2.

Cape Glossy Starling (*Lamprotornis nitens*)

Fairly common. Some days up to 50 where seen.

Burchell's Glossy-Starling (*Lamprotornis australis*)

2 Kruger Park 31/1 and 10 there 3/2.

Black-bellied Starling (*Lamprotornis corruscus*)

Up to 7 daily around iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5-10/2 and 4 Cape Vidal 7/2.

Clements has added Glossy to the name.

Violet-backed Starling (*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*)

1 male Kruger Park 31/1, 4 female colored Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2, 15 Kwa Madwala G.R. 3/2 and a pair iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Red-winged Starling (*Onychognathus morio*)

2 Mpila Camp, iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 4 Hilltop Camp, Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Red-billed Oxpecker (*Buphagus erythrorhynchus*)

At least 20 on both visits to Kruger Park and the trip in Hluhluwe G.R. Up to 10 all days in Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1-3/2. Also seen, but less numerous, Cape Vidal and iMfolozi G.R.

Cape Wagtail (*Motacilla capensis*)

1 Neelspruit airport 4/2, 2 Cape Vidal 8/2 and 2 St. Lucia 10/2.

African Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla aguimp*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 2-3/2, 1 Kruger Park 3/2, up to 8 St. Lucia 5-10/2, 1 Cape Vidal 7/2, 6 Cape Vidal 8/2 and 4 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

African Pipit (*Anthus cinnamomeus*)

2 Charter's Creek, St. Lucia 6/2 and 5 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 2 there 10/2.

Orange-throated Longclaw (*Macronyx capensis*)

1 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Yellow-throated Longclaw (*Macronyx croceus*)

2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1, 1 Kruger Park 31/1, 2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2, 3 Cape Vidal 7/2 and 2 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Golden-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza flaviventris*)

2 Kruger Park 30/1, 1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 31/1, 1 Kruger Park 31/1 and 2 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Yellow-fronted Canary (*Serinus mozambicus*)

4 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1, 2 Kruger Park 31/1, 2 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1/2, 2 St. Lucia 5/2, 2 Charter's Creek, St. Lucia 6/2, 2 Cape Vidal 7/2, 2 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2, 4 Cape Vidal 8/2, 10 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2 and 2 iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Forest Canary (*Serinus scotops*)

2 Cape Vidal 7/2.



Yellow-throated Longclaw

Brimstone Canary (*Serinus sulphuratus*)

2 Cape Vidal 7/2 and another one 10/2.

The end of the Grassland Loop was good for canary species.

Streaky-headed Seedeater (*Serinus gularis*)

5 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 1 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)

10 Afsal Rest camp, Kruger Park 31/1 and 5 Cape Vidal 8/2.

Maybe overlooked, but the fact is that very few sparrows were encountered during the trip. See also next species.

Southern Gray-headed Sparrow (*Passer diffusus*)

1 Kruger Park 30/1, 1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 2/2, 1 pair iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 5 Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Yellow-throated Petronia (*Petronia superciliaris*)

1 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1.

Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver (*Bubalornis niger*)

4 Kruger Park 31/1 and 1 Kwa Madwala 3/2.

Red-headed Weaver (*Anaplectes rubriceps*)

5 Afsal Rest Camp, Kruger Park 31/1 and 2 male Kwa Madwala G.R 3/2.

Southern Masked-Weaver (*Ploceus velatus*)

2 males building nests Afsal Rest camp, Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2.

Yellow Weaver (*Ploceus subaureus*)

The most commonly seen weaver with several colonies around St. Lucia 5-11/2. Also seen at Cape Vidal and iMfolozi G.R.

Named African Golden-weaver in Clements checklist.



Yellow Weaver



Red-headed Weaver

Southern Brown-throated Weaver (*Ploceus xanthopterus*)

4 St. Lucia 5/2 and a pair Cape Vidal 8/2.

Lesser Masked-Weaver (*Ploceus intermedius*)

5 Kruger Park 31/1 and 20 St. Lucia 7/2.

Village Weaver (*Ploceus cucullatus*)

Several huge colonies Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Dark-backed Weaver (*Ploceus bicolor*)

Up to 5 seen iGwalagwala trail, St. Lucia 5/2-11/2 and 2 Cape Vidal 8/2.
Clements name is Forest Weaver.

Red-headed Quelea (*Quelea erythrops*)

Several seen and identified in small flocks of queleas iMfolozi G.R 8/2.

In real there were hundreds of queleas flying across the loop roads when coming to areas with vast grassland. None perched that we could look at had red bill or red legs. When visiting the same loop roads a day later there were almost no queleas seen.

Red-billed Quelea (*Quelea quelea*)

A small number was seen in Kruger Park 31/1.

In Kruger Park we were passengers in a safari jeep with limited options to stop at interesting roadside birds. There were several hundred queleas flying around, not giving us any chance to safely id them.

Southern Red Bishop (*Euplectes orix*)

1 male Kruger Park 31/1.

White-winged Widowbird (*Euplectes albonotatus*)

Locally common, especially along the Magangeni loop, Hluhluwe G.R (turn right directly after Memorial Gate). Also seen in Kruger Park, Cape Vidal and iMfolozi G.R.

Red-collared Widowbird (*Euplectes ardens*)

5 male Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Fan-tailed Widowbird (*Euplectes axillaris*)

1 roadside male on the transfer Neelspruit-KwaMadwala 4/2, 5 St. Lucia 5/2 and 1 male iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Thick-billed Weaver (*Amblyospiza albifrons*)

5-10 breeding pairs seen from the bridge just outside St. Lucia 5/2. 1-4 birds also seen on other locations in and around St. Lucia. Also recorded in small numbers Cape Vidal, iMfolozi G.R. and Hluhluwe G.R.

Named Grosbeak Weaver in Clements checklist.

Common Waxbill (*Estrilda astrild*)

5 St. Lucia 5/2, 20 Cape Vidal 7/2, 20 St. Lucia 8/2 and 10 Hluhluwe G.R 9/2.

Blue Waxbill (*Uraeginthus angolensis*)

Up to 5 Kwa Madwala G.R. 30/1-2/2, 10 Kruger Park 31/1 and 2 iMfolozi G.R. 8/2.

Named Blue-breasted Cordonbleu in Clements checklist

Pin-tailed Whydah (*Vidua macroura*)

1 Kruger Park 31/1 and 3/2, 3 Cape Vidal 7/2, 2 male iMfolozi G.R. 8/2, 5 male Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2 and 2 pairs iMfolozi G.R. 9/2.

Long-tailed Paradise-whydah (*Vidua interjecta*)

2 displaying roadside males Neelspruit-KwaMadwala 30/1, 3 male Kruger Park 30/1, 1 male Kwa Madwala G.R. 3/2, 1 male Kruger Park 3/2, 1 male iMfolozi G.R. 8/2 and 1 male Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Dusky Indigobird (*Vidua funerea*)

1 pair Hluhluwe G.R. 9/2.

Named Variable Indigobird by Clements.

Mammal List Mpumalanga & KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

English names and order follows *Field Guide to Mammals of Southern Africa*, Chris & Tilde Stuart, third edition 2001.

Savanna Baboon (*Papio cyanocephalus*)

30 Kruger Park 3.2, 20 Cape Vidal 7.2 and 10 Hluhluwe G.R. 9.2.

Vervet Monkey (*Chlorocebus aethiops*)

5 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1.2 and 15 seen there 2.2. Common in and around St. Lucia.

Samango Monkey (*Cercopithecus mitis*)

1 Cape Vidal.

Scrub Hare (*Lepus saxatilis*)

1 seen in Kwa Madwala G.R. 31.1.

Red Squirrel (*Paraxerus palliatus*)

Seen along iGwalagwala trail on almost every visit, with up to 4 individuals.

Tree Squirrel (*Paraxerus cepapi*)

2 Kruger Park 31.1.



Waterbuck



Red Squirrel

Wild Dog (*Lyacon pictus*)

11 Kruger Park 31.1.

Banded Mongoose (*Mungos mungo*)

3 seen in St. Lucia 7.2.

Slender Mongoose (*Galarella sanguinea*)

1 Kruger Park 31.1.

Dwarf Mongoose (*Helogale parvula*)

Only seen in Kruger Park where 2 were seen on both visits.

Lion (*Phantera leo*)

1 male and 1 female seen on several occasions Kwa Madwala G.R and 1 male and 1 female seen in Kruger Park 31.1 and 2 younger males in Kruger Park 3.2.

Leopard (*Panthera pardus*)

1 resting at the roadside along Shanti Loop, iMfolozi G.R. 9.2.
One of the highlights though we found this leopard by ourselves.

Elephant (*Loxodonta Africana*)

1 young male Kruger Park 31.1 and 10 seen 3.2, 1 younger male Hluhluwe G.R 9.2.

Plains Zebra (*Equus burchellii*)

Fairly common. Seen in all the game reserves.

Hook-lipped Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis*)

1 close to Malelane Gate, Kruger Park 31.1, 2 iMfolozi G.R 8.2, 2 Hluhluwe G.R 9.2 and 2 Cape Vidal 10.2.

Square-lipped Rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*)

3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1.2 and 3.2, 5 Cape Vidal 7.2, 5 iMfolozi G.R 8.2, 6 Hluhluwe G.R 9.2 and 10 iMfolozi G.R 9.2.



Rhinos in iMfolozi G.R.

Warthog (*Phacochoerus africanus*)

Fairly common. Seen almost every day with up to 20 animals.

Hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibious*)

Seen in small numbers Kwa Madwala G.R., in the river at Malelane Gate, Cape Vidal and common around St. Lucia.

Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)

Seen in all game reserves almost daily, mostly 10-15 animals.

Buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*)

1 Cape Vidal 7.2, 5 iMfolozi G.R 8.2, 50 Hluhluwe G.R 9.2 and 20 iMfolozi G.R 9.2.



Hippos Sugarloaf camping, St Lucia Resting Lion, Kruger Park

Nyala (*Tragelaphus angasii*)

3 Kwa Madwala G.R. 1.2 and 2 seen 3.2, 5 False Bay 6.2 and 2 Cape Vidal 7.2.

Bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*)

1 southern Kruger Park 31/1 and 2 Cape Vidal 10.2.

Waterbuck (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*)

Small numbers seen except along Cape Vidal road where it was fairly common.

Reedbuck (*Redunca arundinum*)

2 near False Bay 6.2 and 5 Cape Vidal 7.2.

Blue Wildebeest (*Connochaetus taurinus*)

Fairly common. Seen in all the game reserves.

Impala (*Aepyceros melampus*)

Common.

Klipspringer (*Oreotragus oreotragus*)

3 seen Kwa Madwala 3.2.

Red Duiker (*Cephalophus natalensis*)

Small numbers (1-7) noted every day in the outskirts of St. Lucia and along iGwalagwala trail.

Common Duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmeri*)
2 False Bay 6.2.



The end of the Leopard, sneaking away in to the grass, iMfolozi G.R

Compiled by: Lars Olausson
Slottsvägen 21
861 34 Timrå
SWEDEN
Email: larnen@yahoo.se