

Tanzania including Zanzibar

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The great migration in Serengeti

More photos on my webpage: www.clandgren.se both in travels and birds section.

Since our trip to South Africa 2007 we have been longing to go back to Africa. They say that once you are bitten by the “African bug” you want to go back and that was the case with us. When our daughter Emma went to Kenya in October last year and then told us about the fantastic trip they had had, we started to make plans. We then discovered that Tanzania is a better place to go to in February as the big herds of wildebeest and zebras are in Serengeti to have their calves as a part of the famous big migration. So we started to look for options and found one which included one week safari and one week on Zanzibar relaxing in the sun. We booked the trip through an agency called **KenzanTours** in Västerås and they had the option of a private safari, which we liked. Being a birder and photographer it is better to have your own driver and all the time being able to decide what to do and where to stop without having to adjust to other people. Everything went fine and we are very pleased with KenzanTours. During the safari all meals were included but for lunch most of the days we got a lunch box which we did not eat that much of. The box often contained a very hardboiled egg, some very dry bread, a piece of grilled chicken tough to chew, a banana and a small fruit

juice. Not much and not very tasty so a good advice is to buy some biscuits, fruit and chocolate before the safari, but all the water you needed was provided. But this is the only complain we have, otherwise we are very pleased with the whole journey.

As we flew with KLM the journey once again started with the early flight 06.00 am from Copenhagen to Amsterdam. As usual we used our Priority Passes to get into the lounge and had a small breakfast including the traditional “gammeldansk”. We landed on time and after a short coffee break in the lounge we boarded the plane bound for **Kilimanjaro International Airport**. The flight took a little bit more than eight hours and we landed on time. It is nice not to suffer from a big time difference as it is just two hours. Kilimanjaro is a very small airport and there was a little bit of chaos in the arrival hall. On the plane we got a form to fill in and we thought this was for the visa, which we knew we had to buy before entering. So we went to a queue but after a while we found out this was the wrong one. First you have to fill in a new form, this one the correct one for the visa application, and then go to another queue to get the visas. This was a very slow process and it took almost 1,5 hours in a very hot arrival hall before we got our visas and could proceed to the control with our visas and the form we filled in on the plane. So if you can get a visa through an embassy before going to Tanzania you can save some time. The cost of the visa was USD 50. We picked up our entire luggage, which is always a relief to do, and found our guide and driver Adam. Soon we were on our way in the standard safari vehicle, a Toyota Landcruiser with plenty of space for us just being two passengers. Our first stop was a lodge called **Ameru River Lodge** just outside Arusha, which took about 45 minutes to reach. After checking in and a quick beer we went straight to bed. It was really nice and exciting to be back in Africa.

As we were going to be picked up at 07.30 I set the alarm at 06.00 being eager to do some birding before breakfast. I took a small walk around their beautiful garden. I thought the lodge was situated along a river due to its name but it was a little bit away. But some nice birds I got, for example **African palm swift, hammerkop, arrow-marked babbler, African paradise flycatcher, brown-breasted barbet, African golden oriole, collared sunbird** and a flying **grey crowned crane**. While walking in the garden I recognized a sound but was confused until I saw the birds, two tame turkeys!! walking around in the garden. We had a lovely breakfast outdoors before heading for our first stop, **Lake Manyara National Park**. But first we stopped to pick up our lunchboxes in Arusha and I exchanged some USD for Tanzanian schillings and got a big bundle of notes. On the way to the park we saw **abdim's stork, white-necked raven, long-tailed fiscal, white-browed sparrowweaver** and **haded a ibis**. We stopped for a flock of **white-bellied go-away-birds** and a perching raptor. As I had brought with me my brother's small travelling scope I quickly grabbed it and had a look. A fantastic **martial eagle** was sitting in a small tree. As we got closer to the park we saw many big birds circling in front of us and Adam said white stork, but when we got closer I had to correct him as it was **yellow-billed storks**. We stopped at the entrance for the washrooms and a little rest then we continued to our first stop, the hippo pools. Around this small wetland we had some nice birds for example **pink-backed pelican, spur-winged lapwing,**

red-billed oxpecker, African fish eagle, gull-billed tern, bateleur, Eurasian hobby and white-backed vulture. Now we started to see more and more mammals, like **hippos, zebra,** a small herd of **elephants** very close to our car, **wildebeest, waterbuck, impala, giraffe, vervet and blue monkey, olive baboon** and after a while we found the famous tree climbing **lions** of Lake Manyara. Two lions were relaxing in a tree and this was a rare sight according to our guide Adam. What a fantastic start of the safari and nice weather as well. We went to a nice picnic area with a fantastic view over the lake for lunch. But there was very little water in the lake due to the dry season, so the flamingos were very far away but you could see the pinkish color in the haze. At the picnic site there were of course some almost tame birds like **superb starling** and **red-and-yellow barbet,** really beautiful birds. On the way back to the entrance we saw **tawny eagle, European** and **broad-billed roller, northern white-crowned shrike** and **red-billed quelea.** Adam thought we already had seen the best of Lake Manyara so we left a little bit earlier and headed for our next stop, **Bougainvillea Safari Lodge** in Karatu not far from the entrance to **Ngorongoro.** We knew there was a pool there so we didn't mind getting there earlier. We manage to get a really nice half hour in the sun and in the pool before a heavy rain with thunder and lightning began. This is a really nice place to stay and there are some nice birds in the garden area for example, the absolutely adoring **Fisher's lovebird, black saw-wing, common bulbul, white-browed robin-chat, common fiscal, Abyssinian white-eye** and **variable sunbird.** During the rain we had a nice beer and the best popcorn we ever had tasted. The rain stopped after a while so we went for a walk in the village before dinner. Dinner was a three course menu and was nice. Then it was time for bed after a fantastic first day of our trip.



Fisher's lovebird



European roller

During the night we had heavy rain and thunder but in the morning it stopped. I woke up feeling a little bit nauseous but manage to go for a small walk in the garden before breakfast. New birds for today were **spotted morning thrush** and **baglefecht weaver**. At breakfast I could hardly eat anything. I think this was perhaps a reaction to taking malaria prophylaxis. As we were waiting for Adam to pick us up we got the message that due to a flat tire he was a little bit late. But he turned up just 20 minutes late but before heading for Serengeti we had to pick up the now repaired tire, as you need both spare tires going on trip like this. The weather was cloudy but nice temperature. Soon we arrived at the Ngorongoro gate and had to wait for a while due to computer problems. But birding the trees along the road at the gate is good. I had some nice sightings of **little bee-eater**, **tropical boubou**, **grey-backed camaroptera** and **African pied wagtail**. After the gate the bumpy gravel road started and at the beginning it was uphill for quite a bit. Soon we entered an area with dense forest almost like a rainforest. As the road was very winding and narrow it was not possible to stop and do some bird watching. That was a pity because I think this area is very interesting due to the higher elevation and different vegetation. But soon we stopped at a viewpoint over the beautiful **Ngorongoro crater**, fantastic view. Here I manage to see **spectacled weaver** and a soaring **augur buzzard**. Soon we were descending and the landscape was more open. We stopped at a big tree with some weavers and this time it was **rufous-tailed weaver**, almost an endemic for Tanzania, nice. At the same place we saw a **dusky turtle dove** and our first **crowned lapwing**.

We had been discussing a visit to a traditional masai village with Adam and as we passed one on the way we did that. The cost of it was 70 USD per vehicle which we thought was a lot of money but Adam explained that the money is going directly to the village and is helping the community. Other groups left just as we arrived and suddenly we were the only visitors. At least 25 of the masai people started to sing and dance for us as a welcome ceremony, a fantastic sight with the grass plain and mountains in the background. Adam said he was tired and stayed in the car and during the day he had been very quite which we did not expect as he was the guide. After the dance we went into the old village (they do not live here anymore, it is more for showing) and into a small hut made of twigs, grass and cow dung. The hut contained four very small rooms, two bedrooms, one kitchen with the fire place and one small room for new born calves or lambs. It did not smell that good here. One of the masai told us a lot about their lives and customs, very interesting. They also showed us the famous masai jumping. When all this was done we were shown a lot of handicraft which they tried very hard to convince us to buy. We did not buy anything and they looked very disappointed. The whole visit was interesting but hardly worth 70 USD but it was for a good cause. Around the village we saw **capped wheatear**, **northern anteater chat** and **rufous sparrow** and on the plain there were several **kori bustard** and **abdims stork**.

We continued in more open country towards **Serengeti**. We passed a place with a dead animal and here a small group of **lapped-faced vulture** and **Rüppel's griffon vulture** had gathered. The road to Serengeti is narrow and very bumpy and that did not help me as I still

felt a little bit sick. We stopped at the gate at the beginning of the Serengeti plain for lunch but I could not eat that much of the not that good lunch box. Then we drove on the almost endless plain and as some rain had fallen during the night there were a lot of animals and birds. We saw a lot of **Thompson** and **Grant's gazelle**, **zebras**, **wildebeest** and two **golden jackals**. There was a lot of **white and abdim's stork**, **kori bustards**, **rufous-naped lark**, **grassland pipit** and **yellow wagtail** along the trail. We also had several **Montague's harrier** all males, some **marsh harriers** and three **Caspian plovers**, a nice surprise. Our camp was in the southern part of Serengeti in a area with more trees and bushes. As we were getting closer to the vegetation we saw some cars standing along the road and soon we saw the reason. A family of eight **lions** including a big male was resting on the road just ignoring us, a really fantastic experience. In a small tree by the lions we had a nice **steppe eagle**. We soon entered the area with more vegetation and soon new birds were seen for example **superb** and **wattled starling**, the beautiful **European and lilac-breasted rollers**, a **grey kestrel**, **little bee-eaters** and **Fisher's lovebird**. We passed our camp as we had to go to an office for **Ngogongoro Conservation Area** as we needed to get a permit to travel through that park, which is very close to our camp. Without this permit we could get a heavy fine being in the wrong place. At this office there was a dead tree with holes where **Fisher's lovebirds** were nesting, they are so cute. On the way back to the camp we drove a different way along a small lake not far from our camp, **Lake Ndutu**, where a lot of both **greater and lesser flamingos** were feeding. There was also a big flock of **white-winged terns** and some waders, mostly **ruff** and **little stints** but also a **two-banded courser** on the shore.

Back in the camp we were welcomed by the friendly staff and were shown to our tent. The tent has a double bed in the "living room", then a small area with a sink, two separate small rooms with a shower and flush toilet. To be able to take a shower the staff filled a bucket with hot water and hoisted it up. It was really nice here but we were surprised that there was no fence around the camp and we did not see any guards. We were told to keep close to the tents which we obeyed without protesting. We had a small porch with some chairs and sitting there drinking a cold beer in the middle of **Serengeti** was a fantastic feeling. From the porch I saw **slate-colored boubou**, **northern white-crowned shrike**, **Swahili sparrow** and **green wood-hoopoe**. At dinner we discovered that we were not the only Swedes at the table and we all had stories to tell about what had happened during the day. Normally the guides join you for dinner but we were told that Adam could not make it that night. The dinner was OK but not more and I still felt weak so we went early to bed but what a fantastic day.

In spite of strange noises we slept really well and in the morning I felt better. At first light I went outside and did some birding very close to the tents. This morning I found **red-cheeked cordon bleu**, **red-billed buffalo-weaver**, a stunning male **beautiful sunbird**, **superb starling**, a perching **augur buzzard**, **lilac-breasted roller** and the always present **marabou storks**. Some **white storks** came flying low over the camp and soon they were followed by **flamingos**, what a sight in the morning sun. After a nice breakfast Adam arrived with the car.

He then told us that he had not felt well last day and that was the reason for not joining us at the village and the dinner and he was sorry for that. Now he felt a little bit better so soon we were on our way. I was standing up through the now the open roof of the car ready with two cameras and hoping for an exciting day. We once again drove on the huge plain and saw a lot of animals. As usual a lot of **gazelles**, **zebras** and **wildebeest** but also new species like **wild cat**, three **spotted hyena** of which one was pregnant and two **eland**s. First we had to go the main gate of Serengeti to check in and that was located on the only small hill on the huge plain. Just before arriving there three **lions** were resting in the grass including one big male and in a lonely tree there was a pair of **greater kestrel**. At the office a small herd of elephants were grazing less than 50 meters from the houses. While we were waiting for Adam we went to up a small viewpoint and got a fantastic view of Serengeti. There were also some nice birds around like **black-shouldered kite**, **arrow-marked babbler**, **rufous-tailed weaver**, a soaring **black-chested snake-eagle**, **red-rumped swallow**, **African rock martin**, **Hildebrandt's starling**, **little swift** and **yellow-crowned canary**. We bought some chocolate and soft drinks here in order to improve the lunch box.



Grant's gazelle



Spotted hyena

We were now heading for another part of southern Serengeti and driving there we saw new birds like **bateleur**, **fan-tailed widowbird**, **white-backed vulture** and in a small pond **red-billed teal**. After a while we came to an area with some fascinating rock formations. You could almost imagine the lion king sitting on these big boulders like in the movie. Soon we saw a big herd of perhaps a few thousands of wildebeest and zebras including new born calves, moving in a long row across the plain. What a fantastic sight!! If you are lucky you can see tens of thousands moving like this. We continued towards a river where we were going to look for leopard. As we were getting close we suddenly saw two new species of antelopes, **hartebeest** and **topi** and also one **leopard** turtle. In the trees along the river we discovered three **lions** in a tree, really nice. This area was a little bit drier and here we saw **grey-backed fiscal**, **common fiscal** and **hooded vulture**. We talked to another car and got information about a **leopard** on the other side of the river, so we crossed over a bridge and were soon at

the site. The **leopard** was sleeping in a tree not that close to the road and this was the only one we saw during our safari. That was a disappointment but perhaps the only one for our trip besides the lunch boxes. We continued along the river and came to a crossing where we stopped. This small stop was good birding wise as we saw **black crane, magpie shrike, brubru, Rüppel's longtailed starling** and a beautiful **silverbird**. Now it was time for lunch and for that we had to go to the designated picnic area. Here it was really crowded and hard to find a place to sit down. Here there were some half tame animals hoping for leftovers like **rock hyrax** and the cute **dwarf mongoose**. But it was good birding around here. In a short time I saw **white-bellied canary, red-faced cromptec, yellow-breasted apalis, cardinal woodpecker, rufous sparrow, vitelline masked weaver, grey-headed social-weaver** and the cool looking **usambiro barbet**.

After lunch we headed for the famous hippo pools, an area along a river with very little water left. At the pools the smell was terrible as the water level was low and there were a lot of hippos making number two in the water. The pool was a mixture of water and dung but the hippos looked like they enjoyed it. Around the pool we saw **red-billed oxpecker, Egyptian goose, black-headed heron, ruff, three-banded plover, wood sandpiper** and **little stint**. Now we had to head back to the camp as it was more than two hours away but we saw a lot of birds on the way. We stopped at a small pond with **black-winged stilt, avocet** and **three-banded plover**. We had a **black-bellied bustard** crossing the road, 60-70 **lesser kestrel** together hunting over the plain, some **wire-tailed swallows, tawny eagle** and both **grey and von der Decken's hornbill**. Back in the camp we ordered water for the well deserved shower. Before dinner we had a gin and tonic while sitting by the fire watching the sun going down, what an end to another fantastic day. During the night we both woke up to a strange sound but after a while we were back to sleep.

In the morning at breakfast the staff asked us if we had heard the male **lion** roaring during the night and we said yes. It was probably the same family of eight we saw the first day and the staff said they were not that far away from the camp. We also heard him the next night as well and now knowing what it was, made it a fantastic experience. THIS IS AFRICA!!! In the morning and later in the afternoon I stayed close to the tents but still manage to see some nice birds around the camp like **silverbird, beautiful sunbird, black-faced waxbill, grey woodpecker, fork-tailed drongo, lilac-breasted roller, a yellow-bellied eromomela** with a nest and **red-billed buffalo-weaver**. After breakfast it was time to go looking for the cheetah. Just outside the camp we saw some new species like **white-browed coucal, yellow-necked spurfowl** and **yellow-crowned canary**. We also had a small herd of **giraffes** and **elephants** close to the camp and a small **dic-dic**. We once again passed **Lake Nduto** and the morning light made the flamingos even more beautiful. A small plover was facing the wrong way but moved at last and then it became a **Kittlitz's plover**, a nice surprise. Around the lake there was a lot of **ruff** and **little stint**, a few **black-winged stilt** and some **wood sandpiper**. Soon we came to an area with short grass and scattered trees, perfect for raptors. Here we had two cute **pygmy falcons, steppe eagle, dark chanting goshawk, common buzzard** and

greater kestrel. We also saw some **bat-eared foxes** here. Other nice birds here were **red-cheeked cordon-bleu**, **Fishers's sparrowlark**, **secretary bird**, some **gull-billed tern** flying by and around ten **Caspian plovers**, of which some were in summer plumage. After a while we reached the open plain and started to look for the cheetah, as this was a good area for them. It did not take that long before we saw some cars standing still in the distance. When we got closer we saw the reason, a **cheetah** sitting there watching the grazing gazelles. I think this is the most beautiful animal around here. After a while it slowly walked away and we left as Adam wanted us to have a look at a small wetland. But after just 1 km Adam hit a dry bone and we got a flat tire so he had to change it in the middle of the plain. But soon we were on the way again and soon we saw another car standing still by a lonely tree so we went there. This time it was a lonely female **lion** with three so cute cubs and according to Adam they were not more than a couple of weeks old. They were lying in the shade of the tree just relaxing and not at all disturbed by us sitting in the car just 10-15 meters away. This moment is one the highlights of our journey. Then we headed for the wetland area and here the tsetse flies were a real pain in the neck. But we had some nice birds here, a surprising **wattled lapwing**, **black-headed heron**, 50-60 resting **collared pratincole**, **African hoopoe**, **marsh sandpiper**, **three-banded plover**, **little bee-eater** and in the bushes a **buff-bellied warbler**. There was also a big flock with hundreds of **white-winged tern** flying around but they disappeared when we got closer. Just before arriving to the wetland I asked Adam to stop so I could scan the area. As I was looking through the area with high grass/reeds I suddenly saw a head sticking up and disappearing again. After a while we saw a **cheetah** moving in the grass and soon it came out in the open. We drove around the wetland and tried to find the **cheetah** and after a while we found it. This time we were able to get nearer and could follow the cheetah for while when it moved through the vegetation. What a day we had had so far and it was just noon. Today we went back to the camp and had lunch, a really good pasta bolognese and a cold beer. Now we had time to rest for some hours but later in the afternoon we were going to do an evening drive.

Late in the afternoon we headed for **Lake Masek** not far from our camp but situated in **Ngorongoro Conservation Area**. At one place along the lake there were a lot of bones and skulls from wildebeest. They died here some years ago during a big drought when they got stuck in the mud trying to drink of the remaining water. Adam told us that he had witness it and that it was terrible to watch, hundreds of **wildebeest** died here. Along the shore there was as usual a lot of **little stint** and some **common ringed plover** but suddenly I saw something different. It was a **chestnut-banded plover** and there were two of them, a really nice find. We also had a **cape teal**, **several black-headed herons**, **lesser flamingos** and some **sacred ibis**. In the lake there were also some **hippos** and one had a newborn calf. Back in the camp we had a late dinner together with some wine as this was our last day in Serengeti. What a fantastic place on earth!!

Next morning we had an early start at 07.00 as we were going to the **Ngorongoro Crater**, which is 1,5-2 hours away. There were a lot of animals on the Serengeti plain when we drove

there for the last time. We had a new bird this time, **cape rook**. As we were getting closer and at climbing in altitude I was trying very hard to see some new birds but just manage one. It was a **mountain buzzard** and it was only due to the scope I could identify it. We stopped at the gate to check in as you are only allowed six hours in the crater. The view over the crater from here is fantastic and the place is like the Garden of Eden. On the steep road going down 600 meters into the crater we saw a lot of **common fiscal**, some **augur buzzard** and soaring **steppe eagle** and **tawny eagle**. Along the road we also had some **northern ant-eater chat**. The crater is about 260 sq kms and is home to stunning 25 000 large animals including the **black rhinoceros**. This is the only place you can see the rhino in order to get the big five and sometimes they are very hard to find. Some do not see them at all. The rhinos are very highly guarded here due to poachers. All big five live here and the density of lions is very high. The bottom of the crater is mostly short grass but have also a few small rivers and a big shallow lake with a lot of bird in and around it. Down in the crater we first visited the rest rooms and then we started to drive around mainly looking for the rhinos. Everywhere there were animals like **buffalos, gazelles, wildebeest, zebras, elands** and many had young ones. A lot of birds were also seen like **abdim's stork, crowned lapwing, yellow wagtail, red-rumped swallow, sacred ibis, flamingos** in the lake and many **grey crowned cranes**. We drove to a very small pond with some reeds in the middle of the crater and here we got some new birds for the trip, **purple heron, fan-tailed widowbird** and **plain martin**. We continued to drive around and suddenly many cars were seen standing together so we went there. The reason was two **lions** and one of them was almost leaning against a car. I discovered a **serval** who was trying to creep up on a **kori bustard**. It looked funny when this little cat was slowly moving towards the kori and then running away scared when the kori counterattacked. We also saw a new species of jackal, the **black-backed jackal**, but also **spotted hyena, warthogs** and a lot of **buffalos**. Other birds seen while driving around were for example, **spur-winged goose, little bee-eater, yellow-billed oxpecker, black-winged lapwing, Montagues harrier, citting cistocola, kittlitz plover**, soaring **white-backed vulture, grassland pipit, rufous-naped lark**. In other words, there were animals and birds everywhere, a truly fantastic place.

Now it was time for lunch so we had to go to the picnic site. On the way there we had to pass two young **lions** sleeping in the middle of the road. We had to drive with two wheels almost off the road to pass them and they did not even blink when we did that. They were really the king of the road. The picnic site was situated by a large deep pond with reeds and with a lot of hippos in it. At the site there were also a lot of **black kites** trying to steal your lunch and you had to be very careful as they were shameless thieves. In the reeds we saw a really big **elephant bull**. Around the pond we had birds like **squacco heron**, a lot of **cattle egret, white-faced whistling-duck**, one nice **banded martin, black-headed weaver** and one **helmeted guinea fowl** constantly begging for food by making an irritating sound. After lunch we drove closer to the lake which was full of birds like **flamingos, African spoonbill, Eurasian shoveler, gull-billed tern, ruff** and **pink-backed pelicans**. There was also smaller shorebirds but impossible to identify due to the distance and haze. Then suddenly we saw two **rhinos** at a distance, mission accomplished and the big five completed. Adam thought we were ready

with the crater so went for the exit but first a stop at the rest rooms. Here I heard a strange and loud sound but I could not find the bird. Just before we had to go I found it, a **woodland kingfisher** high and well hidden in a tree. The exit road is a really winding and steep but at some points you have incredible views over the crater. On the way back to **Bougainvillea Lodge** we stopped at a souvenir shop and bought a wooden zebra and a wooden bowl. Back at the lodge we went to swimming pool and relaxed for while. The dinner in the evening was OK but now Agnetha felt a little weak and feverish so we went early to bed.



Lion cub



Cheetah

Next day we were off early again because we had at least a two hours drive to Tarangire National Park. We stopped at a big shop with a lot of souvenirs as I wanted to buy a **tinga tinga painting**. I soon found a really nice one and got it for USD 100. Today we have framed it and I really love it, the motive and colors are really nice to watch. Tinga tinga paintings are so much better than the paintings you see everywhere along the roads and are difficult to find. But if you do, buy one as they are really beautiful. We had heard that there were not that many animals in Tarangire due to the season and that was correct. We saw large herds of **elephants** and a few **antelopes** and **zebras**. But we talked to some other Swedes during dinner and they had had both **cheetah** and a **leopard** in a tree with a prey, so you will never know what will turn up. **Tarangire** has more trees and bushes so the hunters have more advantage here. But **Tarangire** is really good for birding and especially for raptors. At the entrance we saw one of the target birds, **yellow-collared lovebird**. We immediately started to drive around in the park on numerous tracks and most of the time we kept close to the river. The water level was low so sometimes we crossed the river through the water. It was really nice driving around here and just one day for birding here is not enough. We stopped many times so I could take photos of all the birds, nice to be alone in the car. During the drive we had many **rollers**, **crested francolin**, **red-necked spur fowl**, **grey hornbill**, **von der Decken's hornbill**, **black cuckoo**, **hamerkop**, **beautiful sunbird**, **little sparrow hawk**, **grey kestrel**, **mosque swallow**, **red-and-yellow barbet**, **white-browed scrub-robin**, **arrow-marked babbler**, **red-billed hornbill**, **African fish-eagle**, **red-billed buffalo-weaver**, **saddle-billed stork**, **long-tailed fiscal**, **bare-faced go-away-bird**, **white-headed buffalo-weaver**,

grey-headed kingfisher and many other birds. We stopped for lunch at a picnic site with a view over the river. Here we had **ashy starling**, **African black swift**, **little swift**, **African palm swift** and at the parking I found a really nice bird, **spot-breasted owlet**. During the day we had a lot of soaring raptors in the sky, for example **hooded vulture**, **tawny eagle**, **Walberg's eagle**, **African hawk eagle**, **Rüppel's vulture**. Another nice bird was an immature **African crowned eagle** sitting in a tree. We also saw two big lizards. One **monitor lizard** was sitting in a termite mound and one **Nile monitor** was digging in the sand by the river. At one place we witness a funny thing. A von der Decken's hornbill was sitting on the ground and in the ground there were three holes out of which flying ants were coming. Every time an ant was creeping out he caught it and sometimes he got really busy when several ants came out at the same time. We just sat 10 meters away and smiled at what we witnessed.



Zebra



Lions in Serengeti

Later in the afternoon we went to the lodge, **Tarangire Safari Lodge**. It is situated on a hill just by the river and with a fantastic view. When the guy who walked with us to our tent saw my equipment, he immediately showed me a roosting **African scoops owl** just 20 meters from our tent. We put our things in the tent in order to go to the swimming pool to relax and have a cold beer. Agnetha used the bathroom in our tent and suddenly she came out and said there was a **scorpion** in the sink and sure there was. We called the guy responsible for our tent and he used an umbrella to crush it, problem solved but we were very careful and had our eyes open and checked everything. Then we went to the pool and had the well deserved beer. The tents were situated along the ridge and it was good birding here and around the lodge. Here I had **ashy starling**, **African grey flycatcher**, **grey-backed camaroptera**, **woodland kingfisher**, **spotted morning-thrush**, **crested francolin**, **black-headed oriole** and **white-bellied go-away-bird**. While enjoying the view I heard a strange noise and discovered two beautiful **African orange-bellied parrots** just 20 meters from our tent, what a nice surprise. Unfortunately they flew away before I could grab my camera. Before dinner drinks were served outdoors and while enjoying them we watched the sun go down, a moment to remember. Then we had a nice three courses dinner with some wine. Afterwards we spent the evening talking to four other Swedes who we had run into a couple

of times during our trip. It was also their last day before going to Zanzibar. As usual we slept really well.

In the morning we had a long way to Arusha. We stopped briefly at the entrance gate so I had time for 10-15 minutes birding while Adam was checking out. Special birds were **diedriks cuckoo**, **African golden weaver** and **lesser masked weaver**. We drove for a couple of hours without stopping but as we got nearer to Arusha we decided we needed more for lunch than the usual not so good lunch boxes. So we asked Adam to stop at a nice place just outside Arusha called **The Coffee lodge**. We asked if it was OK for us to have lunch there and it was no problem. So we had a really nice big buffet for lunch together with some beers in their lovely garden. I think we paid less than 20 USD for us. Then it was off to the nearby small local airport. The check in was a little bit chaotic and almost everyone had to pay extra because of overweight as on this flight you were just allowed 15+5 kilos. A small plane with just 15-16 seats took us smoothly to Zanzibar and we landed on time. The name of the island is correctly **Unguja**, Zanzibar is the region. **Unguja, Pemba and Mafia Island** is also known as the **Spice Islands**. As usual we were picked up by a driver and taken to our hotel. Our hotel was located far north on the west coast almost at the tip in a small village called Nungwi. It took a little more than one our hour to go there through the hectic Stone Town (Zanzibar City) and small villages, a very interesting trip. When the road ends in Nungwi we drove through the village and we have to admit it did not look that nice. But once at the hotel by the sea it was paradise. We have never seen such a lovely beach with such turquoise water. The hotel is not a fancy one but the location, the staff and the food is fantastic. There is a small garden with a pool and some bungalows around it but we stayed in main building with seaside view, which we recommend. These rooms are bigger and better and worth the extra charge. The restaurant was standing on poles in the water and sitting here eating really tasty Zanzibar food watching the sunset, was heaven on earth. People were coming from other hotels just to eat here.



Nungwi beach at high tide



Dhow in sunset

Birding on Zanzibar is not that rewarding comparing to the mainland. A lot of the natural forest is cut down and cultivated. **House crows** are everywhere and they are a big problem for the natural birds of Zanzibar, as they are destroying nests. Pemba Island is located 80 km north of Zanzibar and between the islands there is a fast ferry connection. Pemba has four endemic birds, (Pemba green-pigeon, Pemba scops-owl, Pemba white-eye, Pemba sunbird) and how difficult they are to find I do not know. Best birding on Zanzibar is at **Jonzani National Park** and in right season along the coast with shorebirds on migration.

As it was a big difference between high and low tide and even more now due to full moon, we had to adjust our day to the water level. I think the difference must have been almost 4 meters. When it was low tide it was impossible to swim and instead we took long walks along the beach. When it was high tide the water was fantastic to swim in, crystal clear and lovely. Up north toward the tip with the lighthouse there were no more hotels. Instead the fishing boats and the dhows were on the beach together with the people from the village. The people here were very friendly and we never felt unsecure. It was very interesting to see how they were fishing. Sometimes it was the men in their boats, sometimes it was the women dragging a net close to the beach at high tide especially in the evenings. During low tide lots of women were picking trapped fishes or shellfishes in remaining puddles. During our stay we like that we were not staying in a more closed resort and that we got a glimpse of the life and tradition on Zanzibar. South of our hotel there were some more fancy resorts where mainly Italians were staying. As this was the relaxing part of our journey I did not do that much of birding here but did some before breakfast. Along the beach there were of course birds flying by all the time, for example both **lesser and crested tern**, **Saunders's tern**, **lesser black-backed gull**, **purple heron**, **grey heron** and **dimorphic egret** of both morphs. There was also a **sooty gull** patrolling the beach now and then and one morning there was a **brown noddy** sitting on a buoy. Here it was really good that I had brought a scope with me. At low tide some shorebirds were seen like **grey plover**, **whimprel** and **greenshank**. I had hoped to see crab plover here but it was too late for them. In the garden of the hotels and in the bushy area east of the bigger resorts I had **purple-banded**, **scarlet-chested** and **amethyst sunbird**, **spotted flycatcher**, **bronzed manakin**, **African golden weaver**, **white-browed coucal**, **southern grey-headed sparrow**, **wire-tailed swallow**, **common bulbul** and **Zanzibar somber green-bul**. One day we arranged for a trip to **Jonzani National Park** in the southern part of the island. We paid USD 130 for a whole day for a car with a driver, actually the same driver that picked us up at the airport. The park is good for birding and there is also an endemic monkey, red colobus monkey. We started 07.30 and it took little more than an hour to go there. At the office at the main entrance I tried to get in contact with a guide working there named Bakari. I had read in a report on the internet that he was a good birder. They told me that he was working and was soon coming to the reception. Soon he arrived and I asked him if he could guide us but now we were unlucky. Several buses with people from a cruising ship were soon coming and he had to guide them but we were welcome to join them a little bit in the background. The people from the boat were mainly Americans which were old, loud, not so interested and were complaining about

the heat. First we went to see the nice looking monkeys and then we went to a boardwalk going through a mangrove area. Bakari tried the best to show me birds between taking care of the Americans and felt sorry that we had come the wrong day. But suddenly they had to go back to the ship and he was free to guide us. So we went about an hour on a small trail winding through different habitats and now it was really hot. In the park we had **collared, purple-banded and olive sunbird, green-backed camaroptera, dark-backed weaver, yellow-rumped and eastern green tinkerbird, red-capped robin-chat, black-and-white manakin, common waxbill, yellow-breasted apalis, green-backed twinspot and black-bellied glossy starling**. So I added quite a few new species for the trip here. He told me it was much better early in the morning and asked me to come back the day after but that was not possible for me. He also told me if you started birding at 05.30 and birded for 3-4 hours you could get between 40-60 species here including the palm-nut vulture as he knows where they roost. If you ever go to Zanzibar I recommend that you contact him as he was really good. You can reach **Bakari Haji** through the office at the park or mobilephone +255777845075. I gave him 30 USD for his kind help and he looked very pleased. After the visit here we went to the nearby beach at Paje for lunch and a quick swim before going back to Nungwi, a really nice day. Next day were our last one and then sadly we have to leave this fantastic island. This combo with one week safari and one week on Zanzibar is a really good one which we can highly recommend. **Hakuna Matata!!!**

Species list mainland Tanzania

LM = Lake Manyara, SE = Serengeti, NG = Ngorongoro Conservation Area, NCC = Ngorongoro Crater, TA = Tarangire National Park

1 Common Ostrich (struthio camelus) mainly seen in SE, 1 pair TA

2 Pink-backed pelican (pelecanus rufescens) many around hippo pools LM and probably seen in NGC as we saw pelicans in the lake at a long distance and in haze.

3 Black-crowned night-heron (nycticorax nycticorax) only one seen in a small pond with reeds in the middle of NGC

4 Cattle egret (bubulcus ibis) common

5 Squacco heron (ardeola ralloides) 1 flying at the lake at the picnic spot NGC

6 Purple heron (Ardea purpurea) 1 flying NGC

7 Black-headed heron (ardea melanocephala) 15-20 seen during the safari

8 Hamerkop (*scopus umbretta*) 2 at Arumeru Lodge, 1 TA

9 White stork (*ciconia ciconia*) common in Serengeti, a few in TA

10 Yellow-billed stork (*mycteria ibis*) many around the entrance to LM and at the hippo pools LM

11 Abdim's stork (*ciconia abdimii*) common

12 Saddle-billed stork (*ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*) 4 in TA

13 Marabou stork (*leptoptilos crumeniferus*) 5-6 always present in our camp in SE, a few seen most of the days

14 Sacred ibis (*threskiornis aethiopicus*) 10 at Lake Masek SE, 5-6 in NGC

15 Hadada ibis (*bostrychia hagdash*) some on the road to LM, 4-5 NGC



Hamerkop



Dimorphic egret

16 African spoonbill (*platalea alba*) at least 2 at the lake in NGC

17 Greater flamingo (*phoenicopterus ruber*) seen in Lake Nduto SE, many flamingos were seen at a distance both at LM and NGC

18 Lesser flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*) a couple of hundreds at Lake Nduto, SE

19 Egyptian goose (*alopochen aegyptiacus*) seen around water most days

- 20 Spur-winged goose (*Plectropterus gambensis*)** one with dark bill (juv?) NGC
- 21 White-faced whistling-duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*)** 2 at the lake at the picnic spot NGC
- 22 Red-billed teal (*Anas erythrorhynchos*)** 2 in a small pond SE, a few LM and NGC
- 23 Cape teal (*Anas capensis*)** 1 Lake Masek SE
- 24 Northern shoveler (*Anas clypeata*)** 5-6 seen at the lake NGC
- 25 Black kite (*Milvus migrans*)** seen most days, both nominate and yellow-billed were present at the picnic spot NGC
- 26 Black-shouldered kite (*Elanus caeruleus*)** 3-4 seen in SE
- 27 Secretary bird (*Sagittarius serpentarius*)** only two seen together in SE
- 28 African fish eagle (*Haliaeetus vocifer*)** 1 LM and 1 TA
- 29 Hooded vulture (*Necrosyrtes monachus*)** 5 together on a field SE, 2 flying TA
- 30 White-backed vulture (*Gyps africanus*)** the most common vulture and seen most of the days
- 31 Rüppell's griffon vulture (*Gyps rueppellii*)** 2 at a dead animal SE, two flying TA
- 32 Lappet-faced vulture (*Torgos tracheliotus*)** 2 at a dead animal SE,
- 33 Black-chested snake-eagle (*Circaetus pectoralis*)** 1 soaring above rangers station in SE
- 34 Eurasian marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*)** common on the SE plains
- 35 Montague's harrier (*Circus pygargus*)** several seen SE plains, a few NG and TA, all sightings were males.
- 36 Dark chanting goshawk (*Melierax metabates*)** 1 SE
- 37 Little sparrowhawk (*Accipiter minullus*)** 2 TA
- 38 Augur buzzard (*Buteo augur*)** several seen most days
- 39 Mountain buzzard (*Buteo oreophilus*)** 1 seen highlands of NG

- 40 Common buzzard (*buteo buteo*)** 1 seen SE
- 41 Tawny eagle (*aquila rapax*)** a few seen most of the days
- 42 Steppe eagle (*aquila nipalensis*)** 2 SE and 1 NGC
- 43 Wahlberg's eagle (*aquila wahlbergi*)** 1 TA
- 44 African hawk-eagle (*hieraaetus spilogaster*)** 1 TA
- 45 Bateleur (*terathopius ecaudatus*)** 1 LM and 2 SE
- 46 Martial eagle (*polemaetus bellicosus*)** 1 sitting in a tree on the road to LM
- 47 African crowned eagle (*stephanoaetus coronatus*)** 1 sitting in a tree in TA and looked like a subad
- 48 Common kestrel (*falco tinnunculus*)** 3-4 seen in SE
- 49 Lesser kestrel (*falco naumanni*)** 60-70 hunting together SE plains, what a fantastic sight
- 50 Greater kestrel (*falco rupicoloides*)** two pairs seen in SE, one with nest
- 51 Grey kestrel (*falco ardosiaceus*)** 1 SE and 1 TA
- 52 Pygmy falcon (*polihierax semitorquatus*)** 2 pairs SE not far from Lake Nduto
- 53 Eurasian hobby (*falco subbuteo*)** 1 over the hippo pools LM
- 54 Helmeted guineafowl (*numida meleagris*)** familygroups seen every day
- 55 Crested francolin (*francolinus sephaena*)** seen around the entrance to TA and at Tarangire Safari lodge
- 56 Yellow-necked spurfowl (*francolinus leucoscepus*)** 2 SE and 2 TA
- 57 Red-necked spurfowl (*francolinus afer*)** 2 TA
- 58 Black crane (*amaurornis falvirostris*)** 1 at small rivercrossing done by car SE
- 59 Grey crowned crane (*balearica regulorum*)** a few SE, common NGC
- 60 Kori bustard (*ardeotis kori*)** common on the plains in SE and NGC
- 61 Black-bellied bustard (*eupodotis melanogaster*)** 1 crossing the road in SE



Lilac-breasted roller



Hildebrandt's starling

62 Black-winged stilt (*himantopus himantopus*) 4 in a small pond SE , 2 NGC

63 Pied avocet (*recurvirostra avosetta*) 2 in the same pond as above

64 Two-banded courser (*rhinoptilus africanus*) 3 SE

65 Collared pratincole (*glareola pratincola*) 1 flying NG, 40-50 resting at a small marsh area in SE

66 Blacksmith lapwing (*vanellus armatus*) 3-5 seen everyday

67 Spur-winged plover (*vaellus spinosus*) many at hippo pools LM

68 African wattled lapwing (*vanellus senegallus*) 1 around a marsh area SE

69 Crowned lapwing (*vanellus coronatus*) common SE and NGC

70 Black-winged lapwing (*vanellus melanopterus*) 6 NGC

71 Kittlitz's plover (*charadrius pecuarius*) 1 Lake Nduto SE and 1 NGC

72 Chestnut-banded plover (*charadrius pallidus*) 2 Lake Masek NG

73 Three-banded plover (*charadrius tricollaris*) 3 SE

- 74 Common ringed plover (*charadrius hiaticula*)** 1 Lake Masek SE
- 75 Caspian plover (*charadrius asiaticus*)** 1+10 SE, some in almost summer plumage
- 76 Ruff (*philomachus pugnax*)** many at Lake Masek and Nduto SE
- 77 Common sandpiper (*actitis hypoleucos*)** a few seen LM and SE
- 78 Wood sandpiper (*tringa glareola*)** 8-10 Lake Masek SE
- 79 Marsh sandpiper (*tringa stagnatilis*)** 1 at small marsh area in SE
- 80 Little stint (*calidris minuta*)** common around Lake Masek and Nduto
- 81 Gull-billed tern (*sterna nilotica*)** several seen flying over SE plains, at hippo pools LM and at NGC
- 82 White-winged tern (*chlidonias leucopterus*)** a big flock seen at Lake Masek and at a small marsh area in SE
- 83 Ring-necked dove (*streptopelia capicola*)** common
- 84 African mourning dove (*streptopelia decipiens*)** common
- 85 Laughing dove (*streptopelia senegalensis*)** common
- 86 Dusky turtle dove (*streptopelia lugens*)** 1 seen along the road in NG
- 87 African orange-bellied parrot (*poicephalus rufiventris*)** 1 pair sitting for a short while in a tree 20 meters from our tent in Tarangire Safari Lodge
- 88 Fisher's lovebird (*agapornis fisheri*)** common in the southeastern part of SE around our camp and a small flock present in Bougainvillea Safari Lodge
- 89 Yellow-collared lovebird (*asapornis personatus*)** present around entrance to TA and a few seen in the same park.
- 90 White-bellied go-away-bird (*corythaixoides leucogaster*)** 8 together on the way to LM, 2 TA safari lodge
- 91 Bare-faced go-away-bird (*corythaixoides personata*)** 5 together in TA
- 92 Black cuckoo (*cuculus clamosus*)** 1 TA

- 93 Diederik cuckoo (*chrysococcyx caprius*)** 1 female at the entrance to TA
- 94 White-browed coucal (*centropus superciliosus*)** 1 in the camp SE, 2 TA
- 95 African scops-owl (*otus senegalensis*)** 1 roosting 15 meters from our tent at TA Safari lodge shown by the staff
- 96 Pearl-spotted owlet (*glaucidium perlatum*)** 1 at a picnic spot in TA
- 97 Little swift (*apus affinis*)** common
- 98 African black swift (*apus barbatus*)** 4-5 at a picnic site in TA
- 99 African palm swift (*cupsiurus parvus*)** common around palms in TA
- 100 Speckled mousebird (*collius striatus*)** small numbers seen at Arumeru, Bougainvillea and Tarangire lodges.
- 101 Grey-headed kingfisher (*halcyon leucocephala*)** 2 TA
- 102 Woodland kingfisher (*halcyon senegalensis*)** 1 at the restrooms at the exit NGC and 1 TA
- 103 Little bee-eater (*merops pusillus*)** small groups seen at the entrance to NG and in SE and NGC
- 104 Broad-billed roller (*eurystomus glaucurus*)** 3 LM
- 105 Lilac-breasted roller (*coracias caudata*)** common SE and TA
- 106 European roller (*coracias garrulus*)** common SE and TA
- 107 Green wood-hoopoe (*phoeniculus purpureus*)** 1 at our camp in SE
- 108 African hoopoe (*upupa africana*)** 2 SE and 1 TA
- 109 Red-billed hornbill (*tockus erythrorhynchus*)** 1 TA
- 110 Von der Decken's hornbill (*tockus deckeri*)** 5-6 seen SE, more common in TA
- 110 African grey hornbill (*tockus nasutus*)** 3-4 in both SE and TA
- 111 Crowned hornbill (*tockus alboterminatus*)** 2 at The Coffee Lodge in Arusha

112 Brown-breasted barbet (*lybius melanopterus*) 1 pair Arumeru lodge



Von der Denkens hornbill Variable sunbird Dark chanting goshawk

113 Usambiro barbet (*trachyphonus usambiro*) 1 at picnic site in SE

114 Red-and-yellow barbet (*trachyphonus erythrocerphalus*) 1 at picnic site at LM, 2 TA

115 Cardinal woodpecker (*dendropicos fuscenscens*) 1 picnic spot SE and 1 in our camp SE

116 Grey woodpecker (*dendropicos goertae*) 1 in our camp SE

117 Rufous-naped lark (*mirafraga africana*) common in grassland, the song heard everywhere

118 Fisher's sparrow-lark (*eremopterix leucopareia*) common SE

119 African rock martin (*hirundo fuligula*) 4-5 seen around ranger station SE

120 Plain martin (*riparia paludicola*) 3 seen around small marsh area NGC

121 Banded martin (*riparia cincta*) 1 single bird at picnic spot NGC

- 122 Red-rumped swallow (*hirundo daurica*)** a few seen SE, NGC and TA
- 123 Lesser striped swallow (*hirundo abyssinica*)** small flocks seen mainly around running water in LM and TA
- 124 Barn swallow (*hirundo rustica*)** common, some had more red breasts
- 125 Wire-tailed swallow (*hirundo smithii*)** a few seen SE
- 126 Black saw-wing (*psalidoprocne holomelas*)** a few seen at Bougainvillea Safari Lodge and NGC
- 127 African pied wagtail (*matacilla aguimp*)** a few seen most of the days
- 128 Yellow wagtail (*motacilla flava*)** common in grassland LM, SE and NGC
- 129 Grassland pipit (*anthus cinnamomeus*)** common in grassland
- 130 Common bulbul (*pycnonotus barbatus*)** common but not seen NGC
- 131 White-browed robin-chat (*cosypha heuglini*)** 1 each Bougainvillea and Arumeru lodge
- 132 Common rock-thrush (*monticola saxatilis*)** 1 male SE
- 133 Northern anteater chat (*myrmecocichla aethiops*)** 8-10 seen at higher altitudes in NG and NGC
- 134 Capped wheatear (*oenanthe pileata*)** seen at higher altitudes in NG and NGC, common around the masai village we visited
- 135 Northern wheatear (*oenanthe oenanthe*)** 1 SE and 1 LM
- 136 Spotted morning-thrush (*cichladusa guttata*)** 1 Bougainvillea Safari lodge and common around Tarangire Safari lodge
- 137 Buff-bellied warbler (*phylloscopus pulchella*)** small group seen SE
- 138 Willow warbler (*phylloscopus trochilus*)** a few seen SE
- 139 Red-faced crombec (*sylvietta whytii*)** 1 at the picnic site SE
- 140 Yellow-bellied eremomela (*ermomela icteropygialis*)** 2 with nest just next to our tent in SE



Grey crowned crane

141 Zitting cisticola (*cisticola juncidis*) 1 NGC

142 Rattling cistola (*cisticola chiniana*) 1 TA

143 Tawny-flanked prinia (*prinia subflava*) 3 in SE

144 Grey-backed camaroptera (*camaroptera brachyura*) 1 pair at the entrance to NG and at Tarangire Safari lodge,

145 Yellow-breasted apalis (*apalis flavida*) 1 picnic spot SE

146 African grey flycatcher (*bradornis microrhynchus*) 1 at Tarangire Safari lodge

147 Ashy flycatcher (*musciapa caerulescens*) 1 by the restrooms NGC

148 African paradise-flycatcher (*terpsiphone viridis*) 1 pair Bougainvillea Safari lodge, a few seen SE and NGC

149 Silverbird (*empidonis semipartitus*) 1 ad SE and 1 imm in our camp SE

- 150 Arrow-marked babbler (*turdiodes jardineii*)** 1 Arumeru lodge, 1 SE
- 151 Abyssinian white-eye (*zosterops abyssinicus*)** small flock present in the garden of Bougainvillea Safari lodge
- 152 Scarlet-chested sunbird (*chacomitra senegalensis*)** a few seen SE
- 153 Beautiful sunbird (*cinnyris pulchella*)** 1 seen in our camp SE, 1 seen in TA
- 154 Variable sunbird (*cinnyris venusta*)** 1 in the garden of Bougainvillea lodge
- 155 Collared sunbird (*hedydipna collaris*)** 1 pair Arumeru River lodge
- 156 Common fiscal (*lanius collaris*)** common
- 157 Long-tailed fiscal (*lanius cabanisi*)** a few seen along the roads, 4 TA
- 158 Grey-backed fiscal (*lanius excubitoroides*)** 2 SE
- 159 Magpie shrike (*urolestes melanoleucus*)** 5-6 in SE and TA
- 160 Tropical boubou (*lanarius aethiopicus*)** 1 at the entrance to NG
- 161 Slate-coloured boubou (*lanarius funibris*)** 2 in our camp SE and 2 Tarangire Safari Lodge
- 162 Brubru (*nilaus afer*)** 2 SE
- 163 Black-backed puffback (*dryoscopus cubla*)** 1 hippopools LM
- 164 Northern white-crowned shrike (*eurocephalus reuppelli*)** 3-4 seen almost every day
- 165 Fork-tailed drongo (*dicturus adsimilis*)** 1 SE, 1 TA
- 166 Pied crow (*corvus albus*)** seen around towns and farmland
- 167 White-necked raven (*corvus albicollis*)** a flock of 15-20 seen just outside Arusha
- 168 African black-headed oriole (*oriolus larvatus*)** 1 Bougainvillea lodge, 2 TA
- 169 African golden oriole (*oriolus oriolus*)** 1 Bougainvillea lodge
- 170 Yellow-billed oxpecker (*buphagus africanus*)** 4-5 NGC some imm

171 Red-billed oxpecker (*buphagus erythrorhynchus*) common SE, also seen at hippo pools LM

172 Ashy starling (*cosmopsarus unicolor*) 8-10 seen TA

173 Rüppell's long-tailed starling (*lamprotornis purpuropterus*) 2 SE, 2 TA

174 Superb starling (*lamprotornis superbus*) common

175 Hildebrandt's starling (*lamprotornis hildebrandti*) probably common if you look closer at the starlings

176 Wattled starling (*creatophora cinerea*) common SE and TA

177 Rufous sparrow (*passer rufocinctus*) common around masai village and at picnic spot SE, probably common SE

178 House sparrow (*passer domesticus*) common around villages

179 Swahili sparrow (*passer suahelicus*) 2 in our camp SE and a few more in SE

180 White-browed sparrow-weaver (*plocepasser mahili*) 2 LM

181 Rufous-tailed weaver (*histurgops ruficaudus*) a small colony along the road in NG, 4-5 ranger station in SE, endemic to north Tanzania

182 Grey-capped social-weaver (*pseudonigrita arnaudi*) 4-5 seen at picnic site in SE, much more lighter and more grey compared to the book

183 White-headed buffalo-weaver (*dinemellia dinemelli*) almost common in LM

184 Red-billed buffalo-weaver (*bubalornis niger*) 4-6 with nest in our camp SE, a few more seen in SE and TA

185 Black-headed weaver (*ploceus cucullatus*) 2 at picnic spot NGC

186 Lesser masked weaver (*ploceus intermedius*) a few seen TA

187 Vitelline masked weaver (*ploceus velatus*) 3-4 at picnic site in SE

188 Spectacled weaver (*ploceus ocularis*) 2 seen at entrance to NG

189 Baglafaecht weaver (*ploceus baglafaecht*) 2 seen at entrance to NG, 3-4 seen at Bougainvillea lodge, a few seen in NGC

190 Red-billed quelea (*quelea quelea*) common around hippo pools LM

191 red-collared widowbird (*euplectes ardens*) 1 at LM

192 Fan-tailed widowbird (*euplectes axillaris*) 1 at small marsh area NGC

193 Red-cheeked cordon-bleu (*uraeginthus bengalus*) common SE and TA

194 Black-faced waxbill (*estrilda erythronotos*) 2 in our camp SE

195 White-bellied canary (*serinus dorsotriatus*) a few seen SE

196 Yellow-crowned canary (*serinus canicollis*) 2 seen ranger station in SE, a few more in SE

Species list Zanzibar

197 Dimorphic egret (*egretta dimorpha*) both morphs common Nungwi beach

Purple heron (*Ardea purpurea*) 1 flying Nungwi beach

198 Grey heron (*ardea cinera*) 1 flying at Nungwi beach

199 Grey plover (*pluvialis squatarola*) 2 at Nungwi beach

200 Common greenshank (*tringa nebularia*) 1 at Nungwi beach

201 Whimprel (*numenius phaeopus*) 1 at Nungwi beach

202 Common black-headed bull (*larus ridibundus*) 2 at Nungwi beach

203 Lesser black-backed gull (*larus fuscus*) 1 at Nungwi beach

204 Sooty gull (*larus hemprichii*) a single bird flying everyday along Nungwi beach

205 Lesser crested tern (*sterna bengalensis*) common Nungwi beach

206 Greater crested tern (*sterna bergii*) 5-10 seen together with lesser crested at Nungwi beach

207 Saunder's tern (*sterna saundersi*) common at Nungwi beach

208 Brown noddy (*anous stolidus*) 1 sitting on a buoy at Nungwi beach

White-browed coucal (*centropus superciliosus*) 2 bushy area east of the beach

Bee-eater sp? two bee-eaters hunting over the Nungwi beach were either Blue-cheeked or Madagascar

209 Yellow-rumped tinkerbird (*pogoniulus bilineatus*) 2 at mangrove boardwalk in Jonzani

210 Eastern green tinkerbird (*pogoniulus simplex*) 1 Jonzani

Wire-tailed swallow (*hirundo smithii*) 4 Nungwi beach

211 Little greenbul (*andropadus virens*) 2 Jonzani

212 Zanzibar sombre greenbul (*andropadus importunus*) common bushy area east of the hotels Nungwi beach

213 Red-capped robin-chat (*cosypha natalensis*) 1 Jonzani

Grey-backed camaroptera (*camaroptera brachyura*) the green-backed race was seen at Jonzani

Yellow-breasted apalis (*apalis flava*) 1 Jonzani

214 Spotted flycatcher (*musciapap striata*) 5-6 seen in hotelgardens Nungwi beach

215 Amythyst sunbird (*chacomitra amethystina*) most common sunbird in the gardens Nungwi beach

216 Olive sunbird (*cyanomitra olivacea*) 2 Jonzani

217 Purple-banded sunbird (*cinnyris bifasciata*) 4-5 in the hotelgardens Nungwi beach

Scarlet-chested sunbird (*chacomitra senegalensis*) a few seen in the hotelgardens Nungwi beach

218 House crow (*corvus splendens*) seen everywhere and is a big threat to other birds as they are destroying nests.

House sparrow (*passer domesticus*) common

219 Grey-headed sparrow (*passer griseus*) 2 seen in a tree in bushy area

220 African golden weaver (*ploceus subaureus*) 2 seen the garden Nungwi beach

221 Dark-backed weaver (*ploceus bicolor*) 2 Jonzani

222 Green-backed twinspot (*mandingoa nitidula*) 2 Jonzani forest

223 Common waxbill (*estrilda astrild*) 2 in the gardens Nungwi beach

224 Bronzed mannikin (*lonchura cucullata*) a few seen in the gardens Nungwi beach

225 Black-and-white mannikin (*lonchura bicolor*) 2 Jonzani forest

List of mammals

Blue monkey a few seen LM

Vervet monkey a few seen LM, SE, TA

Olive baboon small numbers seen most parks

African scrub hare 1 SE

Mouse sp? many seen at SE Ranger station in southern SE

Golden jackal 2 SE

Side-striped jackal 1 SE

Black-backed jackal 1 NGC

Bat-eared fox 2 SE

Dwarf mongoose many at SE picnic site

Banded mongoose one family seen in TA

Spotted hyena 3 in SE of which one was pregnant, 1 NGC

Leopard one sleeping in a tree in SE

Lion 2 treeclimbing in LM, a family of 8 together in SE, 3+3 SE, one mother with 3 cubs in SE, 2+2 in NGC

Cheetah 1 Serengeti plains and 1 sneaking through a marsh area in SE

Serval 1 NGC

African wild cat 1 SE

African elephant small herds seen SE and LM, many at TA and a big bull was seen in NGC

Rock hyrax a few seen at picnic site in SE

Black rhinoceros 2 seen in NGC, the only place to see them

Burchell's zebra common

Warthog 5-10 seen in all parks

Hippopotamus 20-25 at the hippo pools LM, 80-100 at the hippo pools in SE, 15-20 at picnic site in NGC

Giraffe small numbers seen everywhere except in NGC

African buffalo seen in every park, bigger numbers in NGC

Bushbuck 2 seen LM

Cape eland 8-10 seen SE, 4-5 in NGC

Kirk's dik-dik a few seen LM, SE and TA

Waterbuck a few seen in all parks

Grant's gazelle a few seen TA, many in SE

Thomson's gazelle the most common gazelle, abundant in SE

Impala seen in TA, SE and LM, highest numbers in SE

Topi 1 in SE

Coke's hartebeest only one seen, together with the topi in SE

Leopard tortoise 2 SE

Monitor lizard 1 big one sitting on a termite mound in TA

Nile monitor 1 TA

Scorpion sp? 1 in our sink in our tent in TA

Caterpillar sp? one huge one sitting on a tree in TA