



Cape Rockjumper – Rooi Els – November 2024 – © Andrew Kinghorn

South Africa – Best of the Western Cape 17TH November to 29TH November 2024

Written by Andrew Kinghorn, Dec.2024.



INTRODUCTION

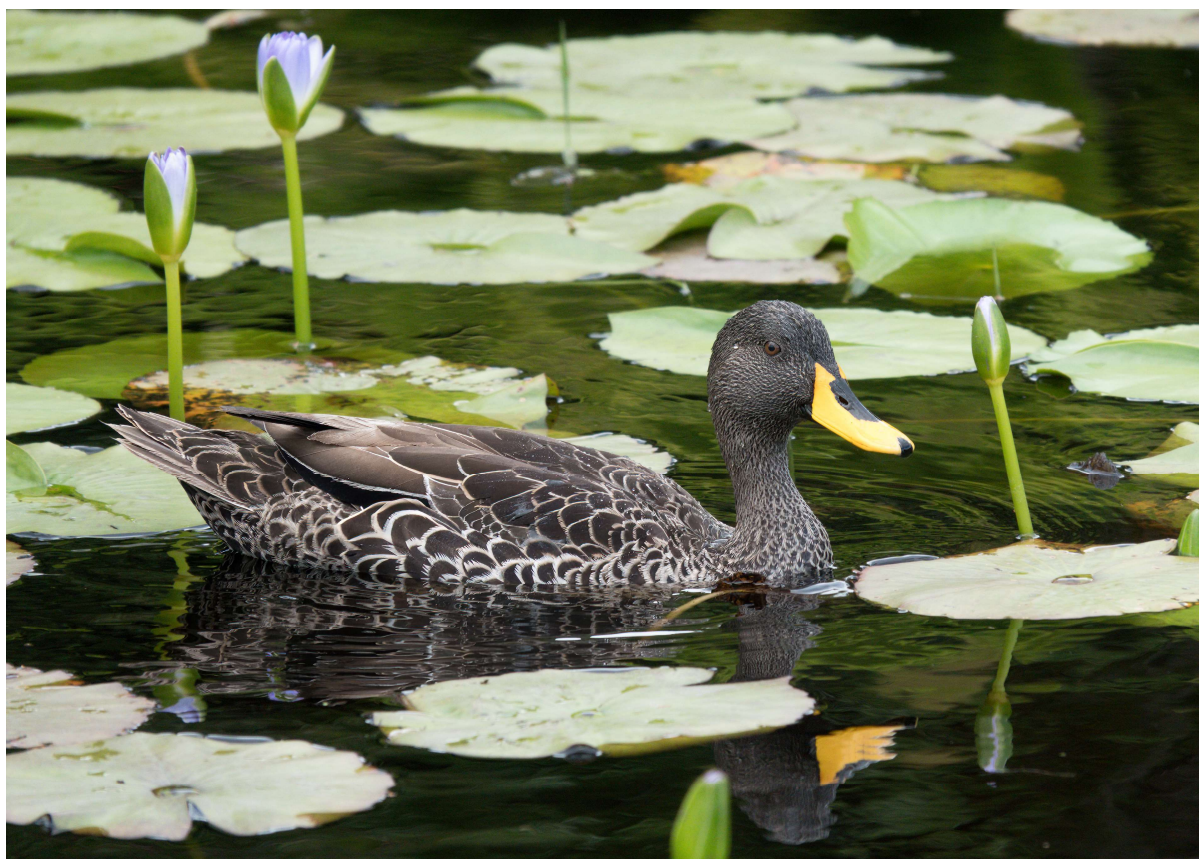
The following account is a rough breakdown of events and birds seen during the tour. Please note that the day narratives are by no means intended to be exhaustive, instead they outline highlights for each day. For the sake of consistency all species below possess names as defined by IOC World Bird List version 14.2, and to this author's best knowledge are correct as of December 2024.

SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

The day was entirely devoted to travel to Heathrow airport for the outbound flight on the evening to Cape Town around 21:00hrs.

MONDAY 18TH NOVEMBER

Arriving in Cape Town mid-morning allowed for a visit to Strandfontein Sewage Works. This nature reserve is a great introduction into the water birds of the Western Cape, on arrival we had excellent views of **Three-banded Plover** and were serenaded by **Lesser Swamp Warblers**. On the expansive pans themselves both **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos** were in attendance and allowed for good size and plumage comparison. Excellent views were had of **Cape Shoveler**, **Red-billed Duck**, **Yellow-billed Duck**, **Southern Pochard**, but a male **Maccoa Duck**, though the later was too brief for some and seemingly disappeared amongst the throng! Terns on the pans themselves consisted of excellent numbers of **Whiskered Terns**, and our first **Great Crested Terns** of the trip were more than welcome. Some familiarity came in the form of **Common Terns**. Aside from the **Three-banded Plover**, other stars of the show on the waders front included **Bar-tailed Godwits** and of course the first **Blacksmith Lapwings** of the trip. The most notable raptors seen included our first looks at **Jackal Buzzard** as well as **African Marsh Harrier** amongst the seemingly common **Yellow-billed Kites**. A well-received bird here was **Levaillant's Cisticola**, a beautifully marked bird that has a fondness for damp and marshy areas in the region. The first **Cape Canaries** of the trip were heard, but proved tricky to see, and given the abundance of the species it was decided we would retire to our accommodation for some much-needed rest after the long flight from Heathrow.



Yellow-billed Duck – Harold Porter Botanical Gardens – November 2024 – © Andrew Kinghorn

TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

We started the day at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, this is a famous place for birding around Cape Town, due to the nature of the site the birds show well here on account of frequent human presence. We didn't have to wait long until we got our first views of **Cape Canaries** on the trip after hearing them the previous day. We crept up on a **Lemon Dove** which was wandering around on the path, though we need not have bothered as it eventually nearly walked through some of the group's legs! The new birds came thick and fast with **Southern Double-collared Sunbirds** followed by an extremely elusive **Cape Sugarbird**, though this individual's behaviour was suggestive of breeding and the bird just wouldn't show. However, what did show was a male **African Paradise Flycatcher** and when he wasn't showing a smart **Cape Batis** was. High up in a tree was our first **African Olive Pigeon** of the trip. Other notable highlights in the botanical garden complex included point blank views of **Cape Francolin** and some of our only views of **Forest Canaries** of the trip, also brief views of **Brimstone Canary** and **Bar-throated Apalis**. On our way back to the exit we had point blank views of our first **Fork-tailed Drongo** of the trip and nearby a **Cape Robin Chat** showed well too. Enroute to our next stop we called to see a flock of **White-backed Ducks**, they showed well, as did a **Malachite Kingfisher** and we had good views of **Red Bishops** buzzing around their business over the lake. We checked a beach area for **White-fronted Plover** and came up trumps. Nearby we had our first **Crowned Cormorants**, a single **Cape Cormorant** and fantastic views of **Speckled Pigeons**. We stopped for lunch, where our first **Southern Fiscal** of the trip performed well in the garden of the eatery. Across the road at least two **Black-winged Kites** showed well too.

After refreshments we headed to the farmland around Philadelphia. Here we had further views of **Red Bishops**, good views of **Spur-winged Goose** and fantastic views of a flyby **Jackal Buzzard**. Our target bird here was **Blue Crane**, but on this occasion, we could not locate the birds. Fenceposts in this area held **African Stonechats** and it was easy to see **Blacksmith Plover** on roadside pools. Our first **Capped Wheatear** and **Pin-tailed Whydah** of the trip also featured here, and good views of **Black-headed Heron** were had. After a thoroughly enjoyable first full day birding in South Africa, we headed back to our accommodation for the evening.



Pin-tailed Whydah – Southern Africa – November 2024 – © Andrew Kinghorn

WEDNESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER

Today we headed for Langebaan in the West Coast National Park, which as the name suggests is up the west coast of the cape. We didn't have to search for long before coming face to face with our first **Northern Black Korhaan** of the trip, this bird was almost on the roadside and around about it we had good views of our first **African Black Swifts** of the trip. Upon entering the park itself we didn't have to wait long until we had eyes on our first wild **Common Ostrich** of the trip, after taking these in we headed down to the boardwalk at Geelbek. Enroute, we had the first **Kittlitz's Plovers** and **Water thick-knees** of the trip. From the hide itself the highlights were easy to pick out, with the first **African Fish Eagle** of the trip being harassed by an **Osprey**. Once again it was good to appreciate both **Lesser** and **Greater Flamingos**, we had more views of **White-fronted Plovers** and our only **Marsh Sandpipers** of the trip. From here we headed onto our lunch stop, but enroute we were very rudely interrupted by our first **Black Harrier** of the trip and only our second **African Marsh Harrier** of the trip. After lunch a short drive to a nearby bird hide proved to be fantastic, our first stop resulted in the group having just too much to look at in one go with **Grey-winged Francolin**, **Southern Penduline Tit** and **Bokmakierie** all on view at the same time. We did eventually make it down to the foreshore, but we were rudely interrupted by yet another **Black Harrier**. The foreshore held **White-fronted Plover** and terns were in good form with close views of **Caspian Tern**, **Great Crested Tern**, and a **Little Tern**, the latter was a bit of a surprise amongst the **Common** and **Sandwich Terns**.



Southern Black Korhaan – Grotto Bay – November 2024 – © Andrew Kinghorn

A visit to Abrahamskraal Waterhole was well worth it when we saw our only **African Spoonbill** of the trip, we also had our first **Yellow Canaries** of the trip, as well as good views of both **Red** and **Yellow Bishop**. Views were also had of **Brown-throated Martin** and it was impossible not to get good views of **White-throated Swallows** which were nesting in the hide. The surrounding area allowed the group to once again take in **Common Ostrich**, in this author's opinion it's hard to get your head around the fact these impressive beasts are birds! A check of an impressive **Martial Eagle** nest was understandably fruitless, so it was followed up with our first **Verreaux's Eagles** of the trip, over the same quarry area we managed our first **White-necked Ravens** of the trip. We waited in

vain in the hope of seeing the eagles take to the air, and so we retreated to our accommodation to prepare for our evening meal.

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

The day started with a trip back to the quarry for another look at the Verreaux's Eagles, but on this occasion the birds were nowhere to be seen. Compensation came in the form of our first **Familiar Chat** of the trip, after a short drive we stopped to take in the surrounding area, it was a worthwhile stop as we had our best views of **White-throated Canary** of the trip. A falcon zipped past in the distance, we believe it likely to be a Lanner Falcon but Peregrine does also occur and due to poor lighting, a firm ID was not possible. After another short drive we witnessed a seriously impressive gathering of **Yellow-billed Kites** and **Cape Gulls**, which had gathered over some form of farming activity. A productive farm road provided us with yet more **Cape Penduline Tits**, the first **Grey Tit** of the trip, as well as good numbers of **Long-billed Larks**, another smashing **Bokmakierie**, and good views of **Red-capped Larks**. We took a short drive and had a coffee break, here we had excellent views of **Chestnut-vented Warbler** and good views of a pair of **Spotted Eagle Owls**. Our next stop of the day was to look for the **Cape Long-billed Lark**, this stunning lark is quite unlike anything we have in the western palearctic, though its arguable a little reminiscent of Hoopoe Lark. It didn't take long until we were watching a pair of males singing and putting on their fantastic ariel displays. In this area we also had our only **Sickle-winged Chats** of the trip. A visit to salt pans gave us our only chance at **Chestnut-banded Plover** of the trip and were duly rewarded. We also managed our first **South African Shelducks** and more smashing views of **Kittlitz's Plover**. Enroute to our new accommodation we stopped at a wetland and encountered **Great White Pelicans** overhead, with an additional more distant flock of birds too. Our real target here was **Goliath Heron** and we were eventually rewarded with two flyovers, when you see these birds even at a distance you are struck by just how massive they are! We also had some very showy **Red Bishops** here, and a tree perched **Helmeted Guineafowl** added some humour to proceedings. A very distant and brief **African Fish Eagle** was not as cooperative as hoped, but the stop at a local sewage works gave us the first **African Hoopoe** of the trip as well as our first **White-faced Whistling Ducks**. Other highlights at this vibrant sewage works included **Water Thick-knee**, **Three-banded Plover**, and more **Blacksmith Plovers**.

Enroute to our hotel there was plenty of time for additional stops. One such stop high up in the mountains almost instantly produced two airborne **Verreaux's Eagles**, these were very much well received! There was just enough time left to check for **African Black Duck**, this species takes to water bodies with flowing water as opposed to stagnant water, it took until only our second check of a stretch of water to locate at least two of these beauties. It had been a long day and with the afternoon getting on we retired to our accommodation for the evening.

FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

The day started off with fantastic views of **Cape Clapper Lark** and an all too brief **Cape Longclaw**, which actually proved to be a bit of a bogey bird for the remainder of the tour. The **Cape Clapper Lark** is worthy of further attention in this report, this fabulous bird put on an impressive performance and has a fairly striking plumage. From here we headed on and had good views of the first **Cape Bunting** of the trip, and with some patience **Red-faced Mousebirds**. We stopped a short way on for breakfast and had one of the most memorable stops of the trip. From just one stop we had our first **Southern Grey-headed Sparrows** as well as a few **Mountain Chats** and our only **Cinnamon-breasted Warbler** of the trip. We were rudely interrupted by our first **Fairy Flycatcher** of the tour. We weren't on the road very long before we had to stop to take in a flying **Pale-chanting Goshawk**, we later saw another perched by the roadside. We finally added **Karoo Chat** to the trip list and the similar looking **Tractrac Chat** later on the same day. An all but dry river bed gave us an all too brief **Lark-like Bunting** and more **Grey-headed Sparrows**, given the rarity of sizable trees in this semi-desert biome the ones we did check held **Pirit Batis**, **Yellow-bellied Eremomela**, and **Cape Penduline Tit**. We stopped at a well-known site for **Karoo Eremomela**, an all too brief bird would not show again, but we did get our only **Dusky Sunbirds** of the trip as they went about their business along the fence line. We stopped at a nearly dried out water body to see if we could get

better views of the **Karoo Eremomela**, we were successful in this endeavour and also got good views of **Rufous-eared Warbler**, but more rewarding for our efforts was a superb **Secretarybird** which took flight and landed again. Just when we thought this stop could get no better one of the group skilfully spotted a **Namaqua Sandgrouse** resting on the near bank site, we had all but forgotten about the **Jackal Buzzard** that we had initially seen from the bus. Our final stop before lunch was to take in the incredibly smart **Spike-heeled Larks**, these dark coloured birds with their russet plumage and odd posture made for a fabulous addition to the tour!

After lunch we headed back to where we had heard a **Karoo Korhaan** before lunch. It didn't take too long for us to locate this incredibly impressive species, we saw at least three individuals, one of which was a chick! We made our way to a nearby picnic site where we saw some seriously impressive **African Bush Grasshoppers** and had both **Verreaux's Eagle** and **Booted Eagle** flyover. Enroute to our hotel we were interrupted by another roadside **Lark-like Bunting** and our final stop of the day saw us getting views of our first **Cape Grassbird** of the trip, this is a species that is often heard more than it is seen.



Cape Grassbird – Southern Africa – November 2024 – © Andrew Kinghorn

SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

An unexpected puncture meant some birding around the hotel grounds, this proved extremely worthwhile with the stand out highlight being excellent views of some of our only **Sweet Waxbills** of the trip. Another highlight here was several **Southern Masked Weavers** which showed very well and the first **Streaky-headed Seedeaters** of the trip. Once everything was up and running, we made our way to a reservoir where fairly quickly we had located a female **Maccoa Duck**, much to the delight of those who had missed the drake on the first day. The wetland itself provided us with excellent views of **South African Shelducks** and it was easy to see the not so beautiful **Spur-winged Geese**. Another small wetland area provided numerous **Whiskered Terns** and one of the only **Black-crowned Night Herons** of the trip. After much searching, we did eventually connect with another main target of the trip; **Namaqua Warbler**, this species is not normally as hard to connect with as it proved to be for the group, so it felt deserved when we eventually connected.

The rest of the day was spent commuting toward Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve, though we did stop to take in a fabulous **Red-chested Cuckoo** and fantastic views were had of **Amethyst Sunbird**. We were also treated to excellent views of a few **African Olive Pigeons**. After our evening meal it was decided to go and look for **African Wood Owl** and with some patience most of the group connected with the bird, though the views were a bit distant to truly appreciate this smart *strix*. One of the most unexpected birds of the trip also came in the form of a **Buff-spotted Flufftail** calling in the distance, but views were understandably not had.

SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER

At our accommodation we had excellent views of the only **African Black-headed Oriole** of the trip, we started off well at Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve with excellent views of **Klass's Cuckoo** and followed this up with **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**. A short way on the calls of an **African Goshawk** allowed us to locate the bird in a dead tree close by, many of the group also had their first decent views of **Brimstone Canary**. Content with a good pre-breakfast watch we retreated back to our accommodation for a hearty breakfast, we were rudely interrupted by our only **Greater Honeyguide** of the trip flying overhead. We stopped at a nearby bridge close to Gatplaats Nature Reserve, the birding here was fantastic, the standout highlights were two very brief **Tambourine Doves** which we inadvertently flushed from the bridge, we also had a fabulous singing **Black Cuckoo** which we eventually got view of. A scan into the distance provided a soaring **African Harrier-hawk**, this was also the only one of the trip. The waterway here provided a flash by kingfisher.sp (probably *Malachite*), excellent views of both **Red** and **Yellow Bishops**, and later on in the day **Giant Kingfisher** and **Yellow-billed Duck**. Our next stop provided us with another trip target in the form of **Black Crake** and we also had a flyover **African Fish Eagle**, the latter was understandably very well received.



Cape Vulture & White-necked Raven – De Hoop NR– November 2024 – © Andrew Kinghorn

A drive out into the farmland landscape provided us with our first **Hammerkop** of the trip, good views of our second **Acadia Pied Barbet** of the trip and fantastic views of roadside **Wattled Starlings**. We also managed distant views of **Cape Vulture** as they soared up and over the landscape, not so distant were roadside **Grey-winged Francolins** and fantastic views of **Blue Cranes**, some with chicks in tow. We needed not have worried about **Karoo Korhaan** on this tour as we saw

further individuals, even closer to the road than on the previous day. Another highlight for the group was a **Giant Kingfisher** at a roadside pool which performed marvellously for a couple of minutes. After our evening meal at our accommodation, it was back out for another try for Nightjars and Owls, this time lady luck shone down on us and we had excellent views on multiple occasions of **African Wood Owl**, including a pair sitting almost side by side duetting. The **Buff-spotted Flufftail** was once again heard, but not seen.

MONDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

It was up and out early to look for Narina Trogon, though we were not successful we did have an array of other fabulous species. The group had further and much improved views of **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**. A showy **Southern Boubou** was well received as was the nest of a **Cape Batis** with adults in regular attendance. Post breakfast we headed back the bridge close to Gatplaats Nature Reserve, we had another fantastic stop here with a distant **Giant Kingfisher** and after a short while we all managed fabulous views of **Brown-headed Kingfisher**. A quick check of a nearby pool provided us with our only other **African Black Duck** of the trip, this was somewhat unusual as the species has preference for running water. It was a little bit of a drive to our next target, but the species gave itself up without too much effort; **Agulhas Long-billed Lark**. This species was split from **Cape Long-billed Lark**, it differs in both range and by having reduced streaking below. From here we headed off toward the **Cape Vulture** colony at De Hoop Nature Reserve. At the entrance to the national park, we heard a **Greater Honeyguide** but didn't actually see the bird. From the entrance we had some reasonably good views of **Cape Vultures** as they flew overhead surveying the landscape for feeding opportunities. Enroute to our lunch stop we were interrupted when one of the group member's sharp eyes spotted a colossal **Cape Vulture** come in and land in a field adjacent to the road, that was handy!

After lunch we had a very short walk, during which most of the group connected with another trip target; **Southern Tchagra**. Whilst this bird was elusive, most of the group managed some views. There were also **Speckled Mousebirds** ping-pong about and a really showy **Bokmakierie** beckoned for those willing to tear themselves away from looking for the Tchagra. Sadly, this was our last birding stop of the day as we had a long journey ahead to our overnight accommodation back in Cape Town.

TUESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER

The first stop of the day was at Rooi Els, a slow walk along the path gave the group their first views of **Cape Siskin** as family parties busied themselves around the path and rocks. These are handsome little birds which are quite subtly beautiful. It wasn't long after this before we clapped eyes on our real target; **Cape Rockjumper**, this South African endemic is understandably one of the most sought-after birds for anyone visiting the region. Our group enjoyed splendid views of both a male and female, the male displayed in front of us and was seen 'rock jumping' as he searched for prey. The species was understandably voted as bird of the entire trip. Whilst watching the **Cape Rockjumper** we were torn by what to look at when the closest **Verreaux's Eagle** of the trip soared around the hillside in front of us, some start to the day! After here we headed to Stoney Island, the most notable bird here was yet another trip highlight; **African Penguin**. We took a short walk to a viewpoint where we had good views of **Bank Cormorant**, **Crowned Cormorant**, and **Great Cormorants**. The **Bank Cormorant** is truly a rare species with the world population in the low thousands. Other highlights here included great views of **Great Crested Terns** and the ever-present **Hartlaub's Gulls**.

After a pleasant lunch the group were buoyant from the morning's birding, so we headed to Harold Porter Botanical gardens. Here we had fantastic views of **Orange-breasted Sunbirds** and yet more views of **Cape Sugarbird**, it is this author's opinion that it is not possible to see enough of either! However, the real target species here really made us work for it, but in the fullness of time we all eventually connected with **Victorin's Warbler**. Other highlights in the park here included good views **Brimstone Canary** and point-blank views of a single **Yellow-billed Duck** by the entrance. Our final stop of the day gave us views of **Denham Bustard** displaying in the distance. Content with our views it was decided we would head back to our accommodation, but the final highlight of the day came in the form of a close flyby **Hamerkop**.



Orange-breasted Sunbird – Harold Porter Botanical gardens – November 2024 – © Andrew Kinghorn

WEDNESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

We headed to Cape Point Nature reserve for the morning, this was because the hoped for pelagic could not go out due to poor weather. The birding was steady, we got more views of **Common Ostrich** and good views of **Speckled Mousebirds**, we also had our best views of **Malachite Sunbird** of the trip. Offshore we did manage to see **Cape Gannet**, this was a new bird for many on the tour. There were multiple attempts made to see **Ground Woodpecker** and **Protea Canary** but despite much effort our group drew a blank on both. For lunch we had a hearty portion of fish and chips, shared of course with **Hartlaub's Gulls**.

After lunch we decided to head back to Kirstenbosch botanical garden, the aim here was to 'mop up' some other target species that we hadn't yet seen. We headed to the woodland part of the park in the hope of woodpeckers, we had fantastic views of **Southern Double-collared Sunbird** and crippling views of **Lemon Dove** once again. Eventually with some patience we heard the distinctive call of **Olive Woodpecker**, a short while later we were watching a family of these fantastic little woodpeckers going about their business. We also had really good views of a **Sombre Greenbul** that sat out long enough for most of the group to obtain some images of this often-elusive species. On the way out of the park we also had fantastic views of a **Dusky Flycatcher** which performed remarkable well by the bust of Nelson Mandela. The flowerbed nesting **Spotted Eagle Owl** were showing better today and so worthy of note! We had another from the treetop canopy walk earlier which was skilfully picked out roosting in a tree by one of the group members. Content with a solid afternoon of birding we retreated back to the accommodation.

THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Our final day was once again spent trying to see **Ground Woodpecker** and **Protea Canary**, think of it as a 'mopping up' morning. We headed to Du Toitskloof to look for both. Sadly though, on this particular tour both of these target species were not to be, though we did have further views of **Cape Sugarbird**. An **African Paradise Flycatcher** was all a bit too brief to be truly appreciated, but we did have point blank views of a **White-necked Raven**. Some of the group also managed visuals on a **Cape Grassbird**. The pleasant weather was perhaps a little too pleasant as overall it was a quiet visit

to the area. Nonetheless it was an enjoyable end to this tour and so we headed for Cape Town Airport. Just when we thought the trip was over a **Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk** zipped past the airport window, which was actually a new bird for the trip for all of the group who saw it! We finished off by doing the list for the day over a drink. We boarded our flight to Heathrow a short time later in the mid-evening.

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

Our flight arrived back in Heathrow early in the morning, after gathering together and passing on our best wishes to one and other, we collected our luggage and the tour concluded.

Systematic List

NOTE: Comments in the below list are by no means exhaustive, their intention is to give a rough outline of what was seen and the frequency at which it was seen. This is to aid observers in understanding what they could see on a trip to the Western Cape. This checklist includes species seen whilst both in the vehicle and whilst birding.

Species in **bold** text are endemics and such are confined to Southern Africa, those in ***bold and italics*** are near endemics and are largely confined to Southern Africa. Finally, those in ***bold, italics, and underlined*** are breeding endemics that breed only in Southern Africa but do leave the region.

A total of 46 endemics were seen, with an additional 21 near-endemics, and 2 breeding endemics.

No.	Species List	Scientific name	Comments
1)	Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	Seen on three days, the birds in the Western Cape are from a reintroduction programme some 50 years ago.
2)	White-faced Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	Seen on two days, most notable sighting was a pair with young.
3)	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	Seen every day, a common and widespread bird in the region.
4)	South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	Seen on at least three days, nearly always around freshwater areas, understandably lacking in semi-desert habitats and mountainous areas.
5)	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	Seen every day bar one, a large and imposing species that is easy to see in the region.
6)	Blue-billed Teal	<i>Spatula hottentota</i>	Formerly known as Hottentot Teal, but due to colonial connections the species has been renamed. Single bird seen on one day only at Strandfontein sewage works.
7)	<i>Cape Shoveler</i>	<i>Spatula smithii</i>	Seen on five days, one of the commonest ducks in the region and can be found on most standing water of a reasonable size.
8)	African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>	Seen on two days, most notably on the river at Ceres. This species prefers water bodies with flowing water rather than standing water.
9)	Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>	Seen on eight days, a common but attractive duck found on most bodies of water.

10)	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	Seen on two days, a very pale and attractive looking duck. Most notably at Strandfontein sewage works.
11)	Red-billed Duck	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	Seen on four days, a dark capped appearance and bright red bill.
12)	Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>	Seen on one day only at Strandfontein sewage works.
13)	Maccoa Duck	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>	Seen on two days, first a drake at Strandfontein sewage works and then later a female close to Prince Alfred Hamlet.
14)	White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>	Seen on two days, on both occasions at one spot on the northern edge of Cape Town, the pond was part of a golf course.
15)	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	Seen every day, a common and widespread bird in the region.
16)	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Typically heard but not seen, notes on two days only.
17)	Cape Francolin	<i>Pternistis capensis</i>	Seen every day apart from the last, an obvious but plain looking francolin, most common of its family in the region.
18)	Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila afra</i>	Seen on two days, seen very well and in good numbers at West Coast National Park.
19)	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	Seen on six days. Easy to see on sizeable bodies of water.
20)	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>	Seen on four days. Not as widespread as Greater Flamingo, but seen most notably and well at Strandfontein sewage works.
21)	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Seen on five days, the easiest to see grebe in the Western Cape.
22)	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Sen on two days, both times on sizeable water bodies.
23)	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Seen on four days, on sizeable water bodies.
24)	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	Feral Pigeon, seen most days.
25)	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	Seen every day bar one, an attractive and easy to see species in the region.
26)	African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>	Seen on four days, first time was at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens.
27)	Lemon Dove	<i>Columba larvata</i>	Only seen at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, but the bird showed extremely well.
28)	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	One of the easiest birds to see in the region, very common and understandably seen every day.
29)	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	Seen every day, but not as easy to see or hear as Red-eyed Dove.
30)	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	Also known as Cape Turtle Dove. Seen or heard every day, easy to see in the Western Cape.
31)	Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>	Seen on one day only at a bridge close to Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve. This distinctive rather diminutive species is a

			secretive species to attempt to see.
32)	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	Seen on four days, a distinctive dove with a long tail and small size.
33)	<i>Namaqua Sandgrouse</i>	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>	Seen resting on the side of a roadside pond in the Tanqua Karoo. An excellent spot and a species that does not always feature on a tour of the Western Cape.
34)	Denham's Bustard	<i>Neotis denhami</i>	Seen on one day only and at a distance, thankfully a displaying male.
35)	Karoo Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis vigorsii</i>	Also known as Karoo Bustard. Seen on two days, first in the Tanqua Karoo and then in on a road that ran north-east from Malgas.
36)	Northern Black Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis afra</i>	Also known as Black Bustard. Seen on the outskirts of the West Coast National Park and actually within the park boundary itself. Seen on two days.
37)	Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	Seen on two days, always either in or on the outskirts of Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve.
38)	Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	Seen and heard on two days, both times at the bridge close to Gatplaats Nature Reserve.
39)	Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	Noted on three days, seen on one and heard on the other two. Visuals and heard at Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve.
40)	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	Seen on seven days, typically (as in Europe) at high altitude sites.
41)	African Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	Seen on four days, hard to tell from Common Swift on poor views, though this is the default 'all dark' swift in the region.
42)	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Seen on five days, seen in flight and visiting nest sites.
43)	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	Seen every day apart from on the first day, the easiest to see swift in the Western Cape.
44)	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	Seen twice briefly on the final day. This species is expanding its range and if this trend continues this species is likely to feature more commonly in the Western Cape.
45)	Buff-spotted Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura elegans</i>	Heard only during nighttime birding at Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve.
46)	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Seen on most days, a common species in the Western Cape.
47)	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	Seen every day bar one, a common and widespread species in the region.
48)	Black Crake	<i>Zapornia flavirostra</i>	Seen on a single day only, two individuals treading on lily pads at a roadside close to the south-west of Gatplaats Nature Reserve.
49)	Blue Crane	<i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>	Understandably this is a highly desired species for any trip to the Western Cape, seen without much effort. Seen on six

			days.
50)	Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	Seen on two days, both times around water bodies.
51)	Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>	Seen on three days, all chance encounters from the transport. Tend to show well but quite skittish.
52)	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Seen every day, bar two. Easy to see on moderate sizeable bodies of water that remain largely undisturbed.
53)	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Seen on three days of the trip, always around sizeable bodies of water.
54)	<i>African Oystercatcher</i>	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>	Seen on four days, a striking species that is easy to see around coastal areas of the region.
55)	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Seen on two days only, on both occasions at water bodies of a notable size.
56)	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	Seen every day, the easiest to see wader in the region on this tour of the Western Cape, fills a similar ecological niche as Northern Lapwing does in Europe.
57)	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	Seen on five days, a species that likes farmland landscapes. Whilst seen slightly less often than Blacksmith Plover, it is still a species expected to be seen on a tour of Western Cape.
58)	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	Seen with ease around salt pans and marshy areas in the Western Cape, noted on three days.
59)	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Seen on three days.
60)	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	Seen on three days, a striking species that has a strong association to bodies of water.
61)	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	Seen on three days, habitat ranges from coastal beaches and rocky areas to salt pans, as is typical of most species in this family it has a strong association with more expansive areas of water.
62)	Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	Seen on a single day only at XXX, not as widespread or as easy to see as others in the same family on this tour.
63)	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Seen on two days.
64)	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	Seen on two days.
65)	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Seen on two days.
66)	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Seen on one day.
67)	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Seen on one day.
68)	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Most notably in big numbers at Langebaan in the West Coast National Park.
69)	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Seen on one day.
70)	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	Most notably seen at Langebaan in the West Coast National Park. Seen on two days only.
71)	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Noted on a single day.

72)	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Seen on two days, good numbers were noted at Langebaan in the West Coast National Park.
73)	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Seen on one day only at Langebaan in the West Coast National Park.
74)	Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Flew past when looking out to sea at Smitswinkel Bay.
75)	Grey-hooded Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	Only seen on one day, but multiple seen and seen well at Velddrif.
76)	Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>	Seen on most days, only absent inland in semi-desert habitats where the areas are understandably unsuitable for the species.
77)	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Noted on most days around coastal areas and areas with extensive freshwater habitat.
78)	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Seen on one day only, roosting with terns at West Coast National Park.
79)	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Noted on four days, some good views were had of this impressive species.
80)	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	The only marsh tern seen on the trip, very easy to see even at inland freshwater bodies where the species can occur in surprisingly high numbers.
81)	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Seen on four days,
82)	Great Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	Noted on four days, an impressive species with a large yellow bill. Can occur in both fresh and salt water habitats. Most notable numbers were at Strandfontein Sewage Works.
83)	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	Seen on five days, nearly always out over the sea or very close to the coast.
84)	<u>African Penguin</u>	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>	Seen on one day only at Stoney Point Penguin colony, fantastic views.
85)	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	Quite notable, seen on one day only east of Cloeteskraal.
86)	<u>Cape Gannet</u>	<i>Morus capensis</i>	Seen flying offshore around the Cape of Good Hope.
87)	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	Seen on four days, a distinctive species. Noted even around extensive river areas.
88)	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	Also known as Long-tailed Reed Cormorant. Seen on nine days, easy to see on this itinerary.
89)	Crowned Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo coronatus</i>	Seen on four days, a strong association with coastal habitats.
90)	<i>Cape Cormorant</i>	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>	Seen on three days, a relatively easy species to see around the coastal areas of the Western Cape.
91)	Bank Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax neglectus</i>	Seen on one day only around the Stoney Island Penguin colony, can take a little effort to find the species amongst the cormorant colonies.
92)	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Also known as White-breasted Cormorant. Seen every day, bar two. This

			is a subspecies of Great Cormorant.
93)	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Seen on one day only at Bergrivier.
94)	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Seen on three days, a truly African species and a highlight for many on this tour of the Western Cape.
95)	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Seen on seven days, a widespread species in the region.
96)	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	Seen on eight days, an easy to see species in the region. Can be seen around open farmland quite commonly, even seen in Cape Town on a road verge.
97)	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Seen on two days.
98)	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	Seen on one day only, two individuals flew over wetland areas near to Bergrivier. This species has recently expanded its range in the Western Cape after having previously been absent.
99)	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Seen on five days, easy species to connect with in the Western Cape.
100)	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Seen on ten days, a bird that is as easy to see in Southern Africa as it is across most of Europe.
101)	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Seen on three days, typically in all occasions either briefly or largely obscured.
102)	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Seen on three days, always around wetland areas.
103)	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Seen every day of the tour, a common and widespread species in the Western Cape.
104)	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	Seen every day of the tour, a common and widespread species in the Western Cape.
105)	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>	Single bird seen on one day only at Abrahamskraal Waterhole.
106)	Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	One was seen near Spes Bona near Tankwa Karoo National Park. This was the only sighting of the species throughout the trip.
107)	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Seen on one day only around West Coast National Park. Most notable in a conflict with an African Fish Eagle at Langebaan.
108)	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Seen on five days, easy to see raptor in the Western Cape.
109)	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Seen every day bar two, a common and widespread species in the region.
110)	African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	Seen on one day only and at a considerable distance.
111)	Cape Vulture	<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>	Also known as Cape Griffon. Seen on two days, on both occasions around De Hoop Nature Reserve.
112)	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	Seen on six days, a widespread eagle and quite easy to see around Southern Africa.
113)	Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>	Seen on four days, understandably a trip highlight for many. At least six individuals seen over four sites.

114)	<i>Pale Chanting-Goshawk</i>	<i>Melierax canorus</i>	Seen on two days around the karoo around Tankwa Karoo National Park.
115)	African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	Seen on two days, one at Strandfontein Sewage Works and another around West Coast National Park.
116)	Black Harrier	<i>Circus maurus</i>	High up on many people's wish list when visiting Southern Africa, we saw this stunning species on four days. Most notable numbers were around the West Coast National Park.
117)	African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	Seen on three days, perched in a dead tree at Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve was the most notable sighting.
118)	Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter rufiventris</i>	Only one sighting of the species for most included a flyby at Cape Town airport.
119)	Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	Also known as Black Goshawk. Largely absent for most, a flypast one morning enroute to breakfast was the only multiply observed bird of the trip.
120)	African Fish-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	Seen on three days, most notable at Langebaan where the group first connected with the species.
121)	Common Buzzard (Steppe)	<i>Buteo bueto voicer</i>	Seen every day, bar one.
122)	Forest Buzzard	<i>Buteo trizonatus</i>	Seen on two days only at Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve.
123)	Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>	Seen every day of the trip, a strikingly attractive species.
124)	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Seen in a nest box on one day only.
125)	Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	Seen on three days, the infamous pair at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens were humorous, but we also saw the species elsewhere in slightly more natural habitat.
126)	African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>	Seen and heard on the outskirts of Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve.
127)	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	Seen on three days, an attractive family of birds with much charisma.
128)	White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>	Seen on four days, quite tricky to get good views of this rather mobile species.
129)	Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>	With patience most of the group got good views of this attractive species, seen on five days.
130)	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	Seen on four days, echoes of some familiarity for European birders.
131)	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	Seen on two days, always around either extensive water bodies of river courses.
132)	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>	Seen on one day only at the bridge close to Gatplaats Nature Reserve.
133)	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	At least two birds seen, but both on the same day. A fortuitous roadside encounter close to Buffeljagsrivier was the first and a second at the bridge close to Gatplaats Nature Reserve.
134)	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Seen on one day only, as expected around



			water courses.
135)	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	Seen and heard on two days, the only regularly occurring Bee-Eater in the Western Cape.
136)	<i>Acacia Pied Barbet</i>	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>	Seen on two days only, one around our accommodation in Cape Town and another along a long country lane leading north from Malgas.
137)	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	Seen and heard on two days, only visual was from the garden at Honeywood Farm.
138)	Olive Woodpecker	<i>Chloropicus griseocephalus</i>	Family of birds seen at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens; the only woodpecker species encounter during the tour.
139)	Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>	Seen every day bar two, inhabits habitats much the same as Common Kestrel in Europe.
140)	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Seen on one day only, a typically brief encounter of a bird in flight.
141)	African Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	Seen in the grounds of Honeywood Farm, this species is at the very edge of its range in the Western Cape.
142)	<i>Cape Batis</i>	<i>Batis capensis</i>	Seen on six days, the most commonly encountered Batis in the Western Cape, most notable sightings included a bird attending to a nest in Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve and good views at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens.
143)	<i>Pririt Batis</i>	<i>Batis pririt</i>	Seen on one day only in semi-desert karoo habitat near to Tankwa Karoo National Park.
144)	Southern Tchagra	<i>Tchagra tchagra</i>	Single bird seen on the banks of the De Hoopvlei river by the Fig Tree Restaurant.
145)	Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>	Seen or heard on three days, an easy to see species in the Western Cape.
146)	Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>	An attractive species, many views of this species were had on at least six days.
147)	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	Seen on seven days, with point blank views had at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens.
148)	African Crested-Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>	Seen on two days, all encounters made at Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve. With patience some excellent views of this attractive species.
149)	African Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	Seen on six days of the tour, a brightly coloured and attractive species.
150)	Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	Seen every day bar one, the most common and widespread shrike in the Western Cape, very easy to see.
151)	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	Seen on three days, the only plain and all dark regularly occurring crow in the Western Cape.
152)	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	Seen every day without exception, an attractive black crow with a white body

			wrapping around the nape.
153)	White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>	Seen on eight days, a species with an affinity for upland and quarry areas in the region.
154)	Cape Rockjumper	<i>Chaetops frenatus</i>	This species understandably won bird of the trip; the group watched a pair of these fabulous birds at Rooi Els. It was only encountered on one day.
155)	Fairy Flycatcher	<i>Stenostira scita</i>	Seen on one day only on the outskirts of the Tankwa Karoo National Park.
156)	Grey Tit	<i>Melaniparus afer</i>	Encountered on two days only, a surprisingly difficult species to connect with.
157)	<i>Southern Penduline Tit</i>	<i>Anthoscopus minutus</i>	Seen on three days, a distinctive species with lots of character.
158)	<i>Spike-heeled Lark</i>	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>	Seen on one day only on the road that runs east from Tankwa Padstal eatery.
159)	Cape Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda curvirostris</i>	Seen in fields to the east of Paternoster, a charismatic bird with a fabulous display. Seen on one day only.
160)	Agulhas Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda brevirostris</i>	Very similar to Cape Long-billed Lark, from which it was split. The species differs in having less streaking on the underparts. Seen on one day only to the north-east of Cloeteskraal.
161)	Karoo Lark	<i>Calendulauda albescens</i>	Seen on two days.
162)	Cape Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafra apiata</i>	Seen on one day only in field to the south of Olkersia, another trip highlight. Species with a fantastic song and display.
163)	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	One of the commonest larks in the Western Cape, seen on seven days,
164)	Large-billed Lark	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>	Seen on six days, an easy to see species within the Western Cape.
165)	Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenocacus afer</i>	Noted on six days, but seen more often than heard. An attractive species.
166)	Victorin's Warbler	<i>Cryptillas victorini</i>	Seen and heard at Harold Porter Botanical gardens after considerable effort.
167)	Yellow-bellied Eremomela	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>	Seen on one day only around Tankwa Karoo National Park.
168)	Karoo Eremomela	<i>Eremomela gregalis</i>	Seen on one day only around Tankwa Karoo National Park.
169)	Namaqua Warbler	<i>Phragmacia substriata</i>	Seen on one day only, this species was difficult to connect with on this trip, which is unusual.
170)	Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>	Noted on eight days, an easy to see hear species and a little more difficult to see. But with patience everyone in the group connected with the species.
171)	Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>	Seen well on the outskirts of the Tankwa Karoo National Park.
172)	Karoo Prinia	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>	Encountered on every day of the tour, an easy species to connect with.

173)	Cinnamon-breasted Warbler	<i>Euryptila subcinnamomea</i>	Seen well around a picnic area on the outskirts of the Tankwa Karoo National Park.
174)	<i>Grey-backed Cisticola</i>	<i>Cisticola subruficapilla</i>	Seen or heard on eight days, the most commonly encountered <i>cisticola</i> in the region.
175)	Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	Noted on five days, a species that is often associated with marshy areas. Most notable sightings of the species were made at Strandfontein Sewage Works.
176)	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Noted on one day only.
177)	<i>Cloud Cisticola</i>	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>	Seen on one day only along long country road north of Cloeteskraal.
178)	Neddicky	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>	Also known as Piping Cisticola, a plain unstreaked species. Noted on at least two days, can be quite difficult to get good views.
179)	Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>	Formerly known as African Reed Warbler, seen or heard on two days.
180)	Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	Seen at Strandfontein Sewage Works and heard on two other days.
181)	Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>	Noted on two days and finally seen at the bridge close to Gatplaats Nature Reserve.
182)	Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Seen on seven days.
183)	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>	Seen on two days only.
184)	Large Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	Seen on at least seven days, a distinctive species that likes rocky areas.
185)	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Seen every day without exception, common and widespread across the region.
186)	White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	An attractive and widespread species across the Western Cape, seen every day without exception.
187)	Pearl-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>	Seen on four days, not as widespread as other <i>Hirundo</i> species in the region.
188)	Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>	Seen on eight days, a distinctive bird with a red rump and long tail streamers.
189)	Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristoptera</i>	A species that initially played hard to get, but eventually most of the group managed to get views. Seen on six days.
190)	Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>	Seen on five days, the only times the species was seen well was at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens.
191)	Cape Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>	Seen on eight days, a very straightforward species to see.
192)	Layard's Warbler	<i>Sylvia layardi</i>	Seen on three days.
193)	<i>Chestnut-vented Warbler</i>	<i>Sylvia subcoerulea</i>	Only seen at one location on one day, this was at a specific stop to look for the species.
194)	Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops virens</i>	Seen every day without exception, a widespread species and the only white-eye in the region, making identification straightforward.

195)	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Seen every day without exception.
196)	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	Seen on one day only on a long country road leading north out of Malgas, this is a nomadic species and it can be difficult to connect with this species in the Western Cape.
197)	Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	Seen every day, bar one. A widespread and common species across the Western Cape.
198)	African Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>	Common species to see in farmland landscapes in the Western Cape, seen on six days.
199)	Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	Seen on nine days, an easy to see species across the Western Cape.
200)	African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>	Seen or heard on six days, a small species with a distinctive dumpy appearance. Most notably seen well at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens.
201)	Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis silens</i>	Seen on six days, a widespread and easy to see species in the Western Cape. Best views around Honeywood Farm accommodation.
202)	Karoo Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas coryphoeus</i>	Seen on five days, a rather plain grey scrub-robin, but notable due to restricted range.
203)	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>	Seen or heard on eight days, a brightly coloured species.
204)	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	Seen on six days.
205)	Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Emarginata sinuata</i>	Seen on one day only.
206)	<i>Karoo Chat</i>	<i>Emarginata schlegelii</i>	Seen on one day only around Tankwa Karoo National Park.
207)	<i>Tractrac Chat</i>	<i>Emarginata tractrac</i>	Seen on one day only on the road that runs east from Tankwa Padstal eatery.
208)	<i>Mountain Chat</i>	<i>Myrmecocichla monticola</i>	Also known as Mountain Wheatear. Seen on the outskirts of Tankwa Karoo National Park.
209)	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>	Seen on five days, an attractive wheatear associated primarily with farmland landscapes.
210)	Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>	Seen on three days.
211)	Cape Sugarbird	<i>Promerops cafer</i>	Understandably this is another species that many visiting Southern African want to see, the group saw the species on six days.
212)	Orange-breasted Sunbird	<i>Anthobaphes violacea</i>	Seen on two days, most notably at Harold Porter botanical gardens.
213)	Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>	Seen on four days, a surprisingly difficult species to connect with for our group. Males are particularly beautiful.
214)	Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>	Seen on four days, despite being quite widespread our group did not see this species too often.
215)	Southern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chalybeus</i>	Seen on eight days, the easiest to connect with sunbird in the Western Cape.

216)	Greater Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris afer</i>	Encountered on two days only, most notably at Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve.
217)	Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fuscus</i>	Seen around Spes Bona, these were the only Dusky Sunbirds encountered on the trip.
218)	Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>	Seen every day bar three, males are a striking yellow weaver with a pale iris.
219)	Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	Seen on five days.
220)	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	Seen on two days, both times chance encounters.
221)	Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	Seen on seven days in total, males are a beautifully coloured bird and very striking.
222)	Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	Seen on eight days in total, males are a beautifully coloured bird and very striking.
223)	Swee Waxbill	<i>Coccyzygia melanotis</i>	A brightly coloured and attractive species, seen on at least three days.
224)	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	Seen on seven days, despite the name they can be quite difficult to connect with but to be expected on a tour of the Western Cape.
225)	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	Seen on three days, males were understandably particular popular.
226)	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Seen every day without exception.
227)	<i>Cape Sparrow</i>	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	Seen every day bar one, an easy to connect with species across most habitats in the Western Cape, including urban environments.
228)	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>	Seen on four days.
229)	Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	Encountered every day of the trip without exception.
230)	African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	Seen on four days, easy to encounter in farmland habitat with grasslands.
231)	Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>	Seen on one day only on the track at Strandfontein Sewage Works.
232)	Cape Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>	Despite being a highly desired species on any visit to the Western Cape, the species was only encountered on two occasions and on both occasions only briefly.
233)	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Heard on one visit only to Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens.
234)	Forest Canary	<i>Crithagra scotops</i>	Seen only at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, but seen on both visits. A brightly and boldly marked canary.
235)	Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>	Seen on four days, most notably at Harold Porter botanical gardens.
236)	<i>Yellow Canary</i>	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>	Seen on five days, an easy species to connect with. Most notably seen at Abrahamskraal Waterhole when the species was first encountered.

237)	<i>White-throated Canary</i>	<i>Crithagra albogularis</i>	Seen on two days, can be a difficult species to catch up with. Though chance encounters are likely during a tour of the Western Cape.
238)	Streaky-headed Seed eater	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>	Seen or heard on three days, the species remained hard to connect with during the first half of the tour.
239)	Cape Siskin	<i>Crithagra totta</i>	Family parties seen well at Rooi Els on one day only.
240)	Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>	Seen or heard on nine days, a brightly coloured canary with green and grey.
241)	<i>Cape Bunting</i>	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>	Seen on five days, an attractive species.
242)	<i>Lark-like Bunting</i>	<i>Emberiza impetruani</i>	Seen around dry river beds and the roadside around Tankwa Karoo National Park. Seen on one day only.



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