



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Angola: **Endemics Overland Adventure** *4th to 21st September 2015*



Bocage's Sunbird by David Hoddinott

Trip Report compiled by Tour Leader: David Hoddinott

Trip Summary

Our wonderful Angolan adventure started off at Lubango. After meeting up with our ground crew we set off on the short trip up to the Tundavala escarpment, where we enjoyed a three-night stay.

On our first morning we awoke early and sipped on a hot cup of coffee with rusks before heading off to the impressive escarpment. Here we enjoyed the wonderful views while watching Angolan Cave Chat – what a superb way to start off our first morning! A good selection of habitats exists here and we explored the area's remnant forest patches, grassland, wetlands and Miombo woodland. During our forays we found several African Black Duck, magnificent Verreaux's Eagle soaring nearby, brief Red-chested Flufftail, a splendid Spotted Eagle-Owl at a day roost, endemic Red-backed and also Red-faced Mousebirds, cute Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, dueting Black-collared Barbet, elusive Brown-backed Honeybird, a pair of Lanner Falcon on the hunt, Lesser Swamp and Little Rush Warblers, Tinkling Cisticola, Grey Apalis building a nest, Green-capped Eremomela, beautiful and obliging Bocage's Akalat, Short-toed Rock Thrush, Angolan Slaty Flycatcher, Ludwig's Double-collared Sunbird, Oustalet's Sunbird, Jameson's Firefinch and Angolan Waxbill.



Tundavala escarpment by Markus Lilje

The following day we explored the road to Namibe where we found many dry country species better known from neighbouring Namibia. Sightings included several Pale Chanting Goshawks, splendid scope views of Rüppell's Korhaan calling, African Olive Pigeon – eating clay on the Leba escarpment, a most confiding Schalow's Turaco, Striped Kingfisher, crest-raising African Hoopoe, Damara Red-billed and Monteiro's Hornbills, Acacia Pied Barbet, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Rüppell's Parrot, comical White-tailed Shrike, a superb Bokmakierie calling from an exposed perch, Southern Fiscal, Ashy Tit, Benguela Long-billed and Sabota Larks, Angolan Swallow, superb trio of Bare-cheeked Babbler, Pale-winged Starling, Kalahari Scrub Robin, Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush, Tractrac



Angola Cave Chat by Markus Lilje

Chat, Dusky Sunbird, the much desired Cinderella Waxbill which gave splendid scope views, Orange-breasted Waxbill, a pair of Fülleborn's Longclaw and numerous Lark-like Buntings. We also notched up some nice mammals in the form of a pair of Klipspringer and impressive Springbok in the really arid areas.

From Tundavala we made our way to our south Benguela Camp. En route we notched up a host of raptors including superb Western Banded Snake Eagle, majestic Bateleur, and both Ayres's and African Hawk-Eagles. Other species noted in the area included fabulous scope views of

Hartlaub's Spurfowl calling in the early morning, Mottled Spinetail, Purple Roller, Brown-hooded Kingfisher, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Pririt Batis, family groups of White-crested Helmetshrike,



Cape Penduline Tit, Sharp-tailed Starling, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Green-winged Pytilia, Violet-eared Waxbill and Golden-breasted Bunting.

From Benguela we made our way to Lobito and thereafter to the birding hotspot of Mount Moco for a three-night stay. A stop at wetlands around Lobito proved remarkable productive and we notched up good numbers of waterbirds. Some of our star sightings here included Spur-winged Goose, Black-necked Grebe, thousands of Lesser Flamingos, White and Yellow-billed Storks, African Spoonbill, Black Heron, Great White Pelican, Water Thick-knee, Pied Avocet, Chestnut-banded Plover, Greater Painted-snipe, Eurasian Curlew, Marsh Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Ruff, Kelp Gull and Caspian Tern.



Cinderella Waxbill by David Hoddinott

En route to Mount Moco we experienced a torrential thunderstorm and unfortunately got stuck in the mud. However, with a good ground operations team and a helpful and co-operative group of participants, we managed to still make it to camp and get a good night's sleep.

Whilst at Mount Moco we explored the grasslands, which had sadly all been burnt, the mountain slopes that everyone handled very well, and patches of miombo woodland. Some of the interesting species seen during our time here included Dark Chanting Goshawk, African Marsh Harrier, Red-necked Buzzard, male Black-bellied Bustard, Common Buttonquail, Coppery-tailed Coucal, fabulous Marsh Owl, Fernando Po Swift, Horus Swift – including several dark-rumped individuals, Half-collared Kingfisher, Western Tinkerbird, Black-backed Barbet nesting, Pallid Honeyguide,



Mount Moco campsite in the mist by David Hoddinott

Red-throated Wryneck, Bennett's and Olive Woodpeckers, Black-throated Wattle-eye, Marsh Tchagra, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, White-winged Black and Miombo Tits, displaying Angolan Lark, Cabanis's Greenbul, Black-collared Bulbul, beautiful Black-and-rufous Swallow, African Yellow Warbler, Fan-tailed Grassbird, Stout Cisticola, African Hill Babbler, confiding African Spotted Creeper, Miombo Rock Thrush, Capped Wheatear, stunning Bocage's Sunbird, elusive Bocage's and Black-chinned Weavers, Dusky Twinspot, Striped Pipit, Thick-billed Seedeater and Black-faced and Yellow-crowned Canaries.

From Mount Moco we travelled to Kumbira Forest for a wonderful three-night stay. This forest is very rewarding and offers a host of species and many specials. We explored a network of trails and found, amongst others, nesting Lizard Buzzard, African Goshawk, Blue-spotted Wood Dove, lovely



male Tambourine Dove, Red-crested Turaco, Blue Malkoha, African Wood Owl, African Pygmy Kingfisher, Trumpeter Hornbill, Hairy-breasted and Yellow-billed Barbets, a splendid calling Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Brown-eared Woodpecker, several confiding African Broadbills, Angolan Batis, striking Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, a quartet of bushshrikes – Monteiro's, Many-coloured, Gorgeous and Gabela, Pink-footed Puffback, Petit's Cuckooshrike, lovely African Blue Flycatcher, Dusky Tit, Yellow-throated Nicator, Falkenstein's and Pale-olive Greenbuls, endangered Pulitzer's Longbill, Bubbling Cisticola, smart Lowland Masked Apalis, Hartert's Camaroptera, Brown Illadopsis, Southern Hyliota, Fraser's Rufous Thrush, cracking Forest Scrub Robin, Gabela Akalat, Little Green, Carmelite and Superb Sunbirds, Thick-billed and Compact Weavers, Red-headed Bluebill and Grey Waxbill.



Many-coloured Bushshrike by David Hoddinott

From Kumbira we made our way to Kinjila, stopping off at Tombingo Forest. En route we found the handsome Blacksmith Lapwing and a superb Grey Kestrel with prey. Tombingo Forest was quite active after a cool start and we quickly added a number of interesting forest species to our ever-growing list. A resplendent pair of Black Bee-eater sat out on an exposed perch giving us fabulous views, a family group of Chestnut Wattle-eye showed well in a vine tangle, a pair of Purple-throated Cuckooshrike gave good views, Black-winged Oriole called throughout the morning and showed well on several occasions, Rufous-crowned Eremomela flitted about in the canopy, Red-headed and Crested Malimbos both showed well as they joined a mixed species flock, and White-breasted and Chestnut-breasted Nigritas gave good scope views. It was then time to move on to Calandula, stopping for lunch at the little-known Calandula Falls (the second most expansive waterfall in Africa). The falls were most impressive and we were entertained with good views of both Mountain and African Pied Wagtails before enjoying a delicious lunch.



White-headed Robin-Chat by Jonathan Rossouw

Excitement mounted as we headed to Kinjila, the home of White-headed Robin-Chat. This is a beautiful species that has only been seen by a select few birders. The Miombo woodlands here were very rewarding, partly due to the overcast conditions, which meant that it didn't get too hot and birds were active throughout the day. Some of the highlights during our stay included the lovely Ross's Turaco, Black Cuckoo sitting up calling near our campsite, superb African Barred Owlet, spectacular male Pennant-winged Nightjar, stunning Narina Trogon, Broad-billed Roller, Grey-headed and Giant Kingfishers, Blue-breasted Bee-eater, Black Scimitarbill, Pale-billed Hornbill,



elusive Anchieta's Barbet, Golden-tailed Woodpecker, Retz's Helmetshrike, White-breasted and Black Cuckooshrikes, African Golden Oriole, Red-throated Cliff Swallow, Chirping Cisticola, Miombo Wren-Warbler, Grey-winged Robin-Chat, Western Violet-backed, beautiful Anchieta's



Anchieta's Sunbird by Jonathan Rossouw

and Bannerman's Sunbirds, Brown Twinspot and Cabanis's Bunting. The White-headed Robin-Chat however was most elusive this year and after numerous attempts we had all eventually seen it, although not at length to really enjoy it. Later though when we least expected it, it popped up and sat out in the open for all of us to enjoy. This was particularly satisfying after all our effort and was aptly named as one of the birds of the trip!

From Kinjila we made our way to Damengola Forest; en route a splendid adult Martial Eagle was seen soaring overhead. Damengola Forest was once again very productive and there were times where so many birds appeared that we didn't quite

know where to look. Some of our star sightings here included Little Sparrowhawk, a lone Great Blue and also Guinea Turacos, Gabon Coucal nonchalantly walking across the road, Blue-throated Roller, Piping and huge Black-casqued Hornbills, Bristle-nosed and Naked-faced Barbets, Red-rumped Tinkerbird, Least Honeyguide, Green-backed and Yellow-crested Woodpeckers, Red-fronted Parrot, African and Black-and-white Shrike-flycatchers, splendid Braun's Bushshrike, brief Tit-Hylia, Banded Prinia, Narrow-tailed Starling at their communal nest, Dusky-blue Flycatcher, Blue-throated Brown Sunbird, Yellow-mantled Weaver and a superb five White-collared Olivebacks, which gave wonderful views.

Heading south we watched a covey of Grey-striped Francolin cross the road and later stopped off at a large wetland near Luanda, where we enjoyed several notable sightings including African Pygmy Goose, Goliath Heron, African Swamphen and several adult Allen's Gallinules.

Using the bypass road this year was much easier and the traffic was not nearly as congested, after which we then continued on to Kissama NP. The following morning we explored a dry river bed where we had cracking views of Böhm's Spinetail and the much-wanted Gabela Helmetshrike, Swamp Boubou and another target in the form of Golden-backed Bishop. Later we enjoyed good flight views of more Grey-striped Francolin and after some effort were rewarded with good views of the endemic White-fronted Wattle-eye.



Braun's Bushshrike by Jonathan Rossouw

With time to spare we headed on to our comfortable lodge at the Cuanza River, where we enjoyed a lovely dinner and celebrated a great trip over some red wine.



And so ended another fantastic trip to this seldom-visited endemic hotspot! Thanks must go to a wonderful group of enthusiastic and fun participants as well as a superb ground operations team. I am very much looking forward to travelling with you all again!

BIRDS

Birds: Gill, F. and M. Wright. 2015. IOC Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. Version 5.3. When the taxonomy differs from that of Clement's, the Clement's name will be written in brackets or differences will be explained in a note below the species.

E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic

Ducks, Geese & Swans Anatidae

White-faced Whistling Duck

Dendrocygna viduata

We had good scope views of five at a wetland near Lobito and a further two at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Spur-winged Goose

Plectropterus gambensis

We had great views of a flock of six at a wetland near Lobito.

African Pygmy Goose

Nettapus auritas

A pair was seen flying over a wetland near Luanda.

Cape Teal

Anas capensis

We had superb scope views of 40 at a wetland near Lobito.

African Black Duck

Anas sparsa

We had superb views of three at a dam near Tundavala, and a further three at a crater lake south of Quitexe.

Yellow-billed Duck

Anas undulata

We enjoyed superb views of a pair flying low overhead at Mount Moco.

Red-billed Teal

Anas erythrorhyncha

A total of twenty seven were seen at a dam near Tundavala and a further four at a wetland near Lobito.

Pheasants, Fowl & Allies Phasianidae

Finsch's Francolin

Scleroptila finschi

We heard this species calling near Mount Moco. Dogs came in to a recording of this species and so hunting is a problem.

Grey-striped Francolin (E)

Pternistis griseostriatus

This is a very tricky species to see well. We were lucky to have good views of five crossing the road as we drove south from Damengola. A further pair was seen well in flight in southern Kissama NP. A little known Angolan endemic.

Swierstra's Francolin (E)

Pternistis swierstrai

After a great deal of searching we only managed to hear this species at Mount Moco.

Hartlaub's Spurfowl (Francolin) (NE)

Pternistis hartlaubi

We had magnificent scope views of a male and a further pair near Benguela; this was at the northern edge of its range.

Red-necked Spurfowl (Francolin)

Pternistis afer



This is Angola's most widespread and commonly seen francolin. We had good views of several at Tundavala, a further three whilst en route from Tundavala to Benguela and a final sighting of one at Kinjila.

Grebes Podicipedidae

Little Grebe

Tachybaptus ruficollis

Ten were seen at a dam near Tundavala and peak numbers of fifty at Lobito and eight more at the Crater Lake south of Quitexe.

Black-necked Grebe

Podiceps nigricollis

We had good scope views of one at Lobito.

Flamingos Phoenicopteridae

Greater Flamingo

Phoenicopterus roseus

We had good views of four hundred near Lobito and a further one hundred on the mudflats at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Lesser Flamingo

Phoeniconaias minor

We had wonderful views of a spectacle of 4500 at a wetland near Lobito.

Storks Ciconiidae

Yellow-billed Stork

Mycteria ibis

We had great scope views of one at a wetland near Lobito.

African Openbill

Anastomus lamelligerus

Our first sighting was of two near Lobito with a six at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

White Stork

Ciconia ciconia

We had splendid scope views of one at a wetland near Lobito.

Ibises, Spoonbills Threskiornithidae

African Sacred Ibis

Threskiornis aethiopicus

Six birds were seen near Lobito.

NOTE: The Malagasy T. e. bernieri and Aldabran T. e. abbotti are sometimes split off as Malagasy Sacred Ibis (T. bernieri)

Hadada Ibis

Bostrychia hagedash

We had good scope views of one at a crater lake near Damengola.

African Spoonbill

Platalea alba

We enjoyed wonderful views of 40 at a wetland near Lobito and a further one at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Hérons, Bitterns Ardeidae

Black-crowned Night Heron

Nycticorax nycticorax

A juvenile was seen at a wetland near Lobito.

Squacco Heron

Ardeola ralloides

At least six were seen near Lobito and later we enjoyed good scope views of twenty at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

[Western] Cattle Egret

Bubulcus ibis

This cosmopolitan species was seen at scattered sights throughout Angola.

NOTE: This group is sometimes split into 2 species, the nominate Western Cattle Egret and the Asian/Australasian Eastern Cattle Egret (E. coromanda). This split is as yet not recognised by Clements.

Grey Heron

Ardea cinerea



We recorded small numbers at scattered sights in Angola including good views of two in breeding plumage at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala*

We recorded small numbers throughout Angola.

Goliath Heron *Ardea goliath*

We had good scope views of one at a large wetland near Luanda.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

We had good views of two at a wetland near Lobito and six at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

We had good views of 50 at Lobito and one more at a large wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia*

We had good views of one at a wetland near Lobito.

Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca*

We had great scope views of four at Lobito.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Our first sighting was of 20 near Lobito with scattered sightings elsewhere.

NOTE: Clements lumps Little and Madagascar's Dimorphic (E. dimorpha) Egret into a single species. This treatment is not widely accepted.

Hamerkop Scopidae

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta*

One was seen at a dam at Tundavala and another whilst en route from Tombingo Forest to Kinjila.

Pelicans Pelecanidae

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

We had fabulous views of 400 at a wetland near Lobito and a further 20 at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Cormorants Phalacrocoracidae

Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus*

We enjoyed scattered sightings throughout the trip with a peak count of 100 at the wetland near Lobito.

White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax lucidus*

We had good scope views of 100 at a wetland near Lobito and distant views of a large flock at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Darters Anhingidae

[African] Darter *Anhinga rufa*

Our first sighting was of 15 near Lobito and one more at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

NOTE: The resident African form P. rufa is sometimes lumped with the Asian P. melanogaster and the enlarged species called Darter. Clements uses the latter treatment of lumping these forms.

Kites, Hawks & Eagles Accipitridae

Black-winged (-shouldered) Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

Small numbers of this widespread raptor were seen at scattered sites throughout the tour.

NOTE: Most authorities have split this into three species Black-winged Kite (E. caeruleus) of the Old World, Black-shouldered Kite (E. axillaris) of Australasia and White-tailed Kite (E. leucurus) of the New World.

African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene) *Polyboroides typus*

Our first sighting was near Tundavala with almost daily sightings thereafter.



Palmnut Vulture*Gypohierax angolensis*

This attractive vulture was first described from specimens originating in Angola, hence its scientific name. Common in Angola and we enjoyed almost daily sightings throughout the tour with peak numbers of nine during the drive from Damengola to the southern sector of Kissama NP.

Black-chested Snake Eagle*Circaetus pectoralis*

We had good views of one during the drive from Tombingo Forest to Kinjila.

Brown Snake Eagle*Circaetus cinereus*

We had brief views of one during the drive to Namibe and another was seen during the drive from Tombingo Forest to Kinjila.

Western Banded Snake Eagle*Circaetus cinerascens*

We had wonderful sightings of two during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Bateleur*Terathopius ecaudatus*

We enjoyed good sightings of five whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Bat Hawk*Macheiramphus alcinus*

One was seen well whilst at Kumbira Forest.

Martial Eagle*Polemaetus bellicosus*

We had good views of one adult during the drive from Kinjila to Damengola.

Long-crested Eagle*Lophaetus occipitalis*

We had wonderful sightings of 10 individuals at scattered sites throughout the tour.

Wahlberg's Eagle*Aquila wahlbergi*

We had good views of three during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira Forest.

Ayres's Hawk-Eagle*Hieraaetus ayresii*

One was seen at Tundavala, another soaring low overhead at Kumbira Forest and a final sighting of a pale individual at Kinjila.

Verreaux's Eagle*Aquila verreauxii*

We enjoyed wonderful views of a pair during the day trip to Namibe and a single bird at Kumbira Forest.

African Hawk-Eagle*Aquila spilogaster*

We enjoyed superb views of a juvenile at our south Benguela camp.

Lizard Buzzard*Kaupifalco monogrammicus*

Our first sighting was of one at Mount Moco with further sightings of up to three daily at Kumbira Forest where one was seen nesting.

Dark Chanting Goshawk*Melierax metabates*

We had wonderful views of two near Mount Moco.

Pale Chanting Goshawk*Melierax canorus*

We enjoyed good views of three en route to Namibe. This is near the northern limit of its range.

African Goshawk*Accipiter tachiro*

This attractive forest raptor was seen on several days including good views at Kumbira Forest and later seen in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

NOTE: The West African forms are sometimes separated as Red-chested Goshawk (*A. tousseneli*).

Shikra*Accipiter badius*

One sub-adult was seen at Mt Moco.

NOTE: We recorded the Southern Shikra *A. b. polyzonoides* which some authorities consider distinct from Northern Shikra *A. b. sphenurus*. These forms may also be split from the Asian nominate *A. b. badius* and other Asian forms. Clements does not as yet recognize any of these splits.

Little Sparrowhawk*Accipiter minullus*

A superb adult was scoped at Damengola Forest.

Black Sparrowhawk*Accipiter melanoleucus*

An adult was seen near Kinjila, a leader only sighting.



African Marsh Harrier*Circus ranivorus*

Two birds were seen near Mount Moco, this is a rarely recorded species in Angola.

Yellow-billed (Black) Kite*Milvus aegyptius*

Small numbers were encountered at a few sites. Our highest count was six whilst en route from Tombingo Forest to Kinjila village.

NOTE: This species is now accepted by most authorities. It has been split from Black Kite, M. migrans

African Fish Eagle*Haliaeetus vocifer*

Our first sighting was of one at a crater lake near Damengola, another of these iconic African birds was seen at a large wetland near Luanda and a final sighting of two at the Cuanza River mouth.

Red-necked Buzzard*Buteo auguralis*

We enjoyed wonderful sightings of nine during the tour at scattered sites with good views at Mount Moco and Kumbira Forest.

Augur Buzzard*Buteo augur*

Several of this widespread species were seen at the Tundavala Escarpment and during our drive to Namibe.

Bustards Otididae**Rüppell's Bustard***Eupodotis rueppellii*

A fabulous three birds were seen near Namibe.

Black-bellied Bustard (Korhaan)*Lissotis melanogaster*

A splendid male was seen near Mount Moco and a further one in southern Kissama NP.

Flufftails Sarothruridae**White-spotted Flufftail***Sarothrura pulchra*

We heard this species on a number of occasions near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

Red-chested Flufftail*Sarothrura rufa*

We had brief views of one at Tundavala.

Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae**Black Crake***Amaurornis flavirostra*

One was seen briefly at Tundavala and later we enjoyed good scope views of two whilst en route from Kinjila to Damengola.

African Swamphen*Porphyrio madagascariensis*

We had wonderful views of twenty at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Allen's Gallinule*Porphyrio alleni*

We had great scope views of three adults at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Common Moorhen*Gallinula chloropus*

One was seen near Lobito with a further sighting of at least three at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Red-knobbed Coot*Fulica cristata*

We had scope views of five at a wetland near Luanda.

Buttonquail Turnicidae**Common Buttonquail***Turnix sylvaticus*

We had great views of four during our stay at Mount Moco.

Stilts, Avocets Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt*Himantopus himantopus*

Ten birds were seen near Lobito.

Pied Avocet*Recurvirostra avocetta*

We had wonderful views of over one hundred in Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Stone-curlews, Thick-knees Burhinidae**Water Thick-knee***Burhinus vermiculatus*

We had wonderful views of ten at a wetland near Lobito and a further one at the Cuanza River mouth.

Plovers Charadriidae**Blacksmith Lapwing***Vanellus armatus*

We had great scope views of one at a dam whilst en route from Kumbira Forest to Tombingo Forest.

African Wattled Lapwing*Vanellus senegallus*

We had superb views of two near Mount Moco.

Grey (Black-bellied) Plover*Pluvialis squatarola*

We had superb scope views of eight at a wetland near Lobito and another at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Common Ringed Plover*Charadrius hiaticula*

We saw two at a wetland near Lobito.

Kittlitz's Plover*Charadrius pecuarius*

Ten were seen at a wetland near Lobito and a further two at a dam whilst en route from Kumbira Forest to Tombingo Forest.

White-fronted Plover*Charadrius marginatus*

We had good scope views of two at the Cuanza River mouth.

Chestnut-banded Plover*Charadrius pallidus*

We had good scope views of one at a wetland near Lobito.

Painted Snipes Rostratulidae**Greater Painted-snipe***Rostratula benghalensis*

We had good scope views of a female at a wetland near Lobito.

Jacanas Jacanidae**African Jacana***Actophilornis africanus*

Our first sighting was of two at a wetland near Lobito with further sightings of at least twenty at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Sandpipers, Snipes Scolopacidae**Whimbrel***Numenius phaeopus*

We had good views of five at a wetland near Lobito and several more at the Cuanza River mouth.

Eurasian Curlew*Numenius arquata*

We had wonderful scope views of one at a wetland near Lobito.

Marsh Sandpiper*Tringa stagnatilis*

We enjoyed superb views of four near Lobito.

Common Greenshank*Tringa nebularia*

Fifteen were seen near Lobito and a further two at the Cuanza River mouth.

Common Sandpiper*Actitis hypoleucos*

We enjoyed a number of scattered sightings throughout the trip.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

We had superb scope views of five at a wetland near Lobito and a further one at the Cuanza River mouth.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

We had superb views of fifty at a wetland near Lobito and a further 85 at the Cuanza River mouth.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

We had good views of ten at a wetland near Lobito.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

We had good views of four near Lobito.

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae

Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*

A flock of ten was seen at a wetland near Lobito.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*

We had good views of 380 at a wetland near Lobito and a further 40 at the Cuanza River mouth.

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*

We had superb views of 120 at a wetland near Lobito and another six at the Cuanza River mouth.

Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus*

At least 10 were seen at the Cuanza River mouth.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

A flock of 20 was seen at a large wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Pigeons, Doves Columbidae

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

Commonly encountered in larger towns and cities.

African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix*

We had superb views of four on the Leba escarpment and a further four at Mt. Moco.

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*

This common species was seen on virtually every day of the tour.

Ring-necked (Cape Turtle-) Dove *Streptopelia capicola*

Widespread and common throughout Angola (particularly in the drier woodlands) with a highest count of twenty birds en route to Mount Moco.

Laughing (Palm) Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis*

Only recorded in western Angola in small numbers.

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos*

Small numbers were recorded *en route* to Namibe.

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*

Two birds were seen very well in Kumbira Forest.

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistris*

We recorded small numbers at Kumbira Forest and near Kinjila.

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis*

We recorded small numbers of these delightful doves during the Namibe day trip.

African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus*

This attractive frugivore was seen at most forest sites throughout the trip.

Turacos Musophagidae



Great Blue Turaco*Corythaeola cristata*

We had great scope views of one of these impressive birds at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Guinea Turaco*Tauraco persa*

After some effort we had fair views of one at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Schalow's Turaco*Tauraco schalowi*

We had superb views of one of these stunning birds sporting their elongated crests, at the Leba escarpment.

Red-crested Turaco (E)*Tauraco erythrolophus*

We had excellent views of this, the most spectacular of the Angolan endemics, at Kumbira Forest.

Ross's Turaco*Musophaga rossae*

We had superb scope views of one near Kinjila.

Grey Go-away-bird (Lourie)*Corythaixoides concolor*

A couple was observed during the day trip to Namibe and a further six in south Kissama NP.

Cuckoos Cuculidae**Gabon Coucal***Centropus anselli*

A very elusive species which we heard at Kumbira and Damengola Forests and some of us were fortunate to see one as it hopped across the road at the latter site.

Senegal Coucal*Centropus senegalensis*

We had good views of one in Damengola Forest and another at the Cuanza River mouth.

Blue-headed Coucal*Centropus monachus*

We had cracking views of one at Tundavala.

Coppery-tailed Coucal*Centropus cupreicaudus*

We had a great sighting of one near Mount Moco.

White-browed Coucal*Centropus superciliosus*

We had good scope views of one at Tundavala.

*NOTE: Clements does not recognize the split of the southern dark-browed Burchell's Coucal *C. burchelli* from the northerly White-browed Coucal *C. superciliosus*. We recorded the latter form.*

Blue Malkoha (Yellowbill)*Ceuthmochares aereus*

This skulking species was initially seen at Kumbira Forest and later we enjoyed good views of one at Kinjila.

*NOTE: Yellowbill is sometimes split into two species, Green Malkoha (*C. australis*) occurring in southeastern Africa and Blue Malkoha (*C. aereus*) of Central and Western Africa. We observed the latter form. Clements does not recognize this split.*

Klaas's Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx klaas*

This smart green cuckoo was seen at a number of forest sites including great scope views of a male at Kumbira Forest.

African Emerald Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx cupreus*

We heard this species calling at Kumbira Forest.

Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo*Cercococcyx olivinus*

We heard one calling from some gallery forest near Kinjila.

Black Cuckoo*Cuculus clamosus*

We had fair scope views of one near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

Red-chested Cuckoo*Cuculus solitarius*

We heard this species calling near Kinjila village.

African Cuckoo*Cuculus gularis*

We heard one calling near Kinjila.



Barn Owls Tytonidae

Western Barn Owl *Tyto alba*
We heard this species calling at Kumbira Forest.

Owls Strigidae

African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis*
We heard this species calling near Kinjila village, just north of Calandula.

Spotted Eagle-Owl *Bubo africanus*
We had great views of one during the day at Tundavala.

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii*
We had superb views of one at Kumbira Forest.

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum*
We heard one calling whilst on the drive from Tundavala to Benguela.

African Barred Owlet *Glaucidium capense*
We had superb scope views of one near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

Marsh Owl *Asio capensis*
We had superb views of one at Mount Moco.

Nightjars Caprimulgidae

Fiery-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus pectoralis*
One was heard calling at our south Benguela camp.

Freckled Nightjar *Caprimulgus tristigma*
One was heard calling at Tundavala.

Pennant-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus vexillarius*
We had magnificent views of a male in display flight at Kinjila.

Swifts Apodidae

Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura ussheri*
We had superb views of six during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and another at the crater lake near Damengola.

Böhm's (Bat-like) Spinetail *Neafrapus boehmi*
Our first sighting was views of two en route from Lubango to Benguela and a further five in south Kissama NP.

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus*
Fairly common in any area where large palms occur and recorded almost daily.

Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba*
Small numbers of these huge swifts were seen during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Mottled Swift *Telacanthura ussheri*
At least six birds were seen at Mount Moco.

Fernando Po Swift *Apus sladeniae*
We observed a large flock of dark swifts at Mount Moco. These swifts are quite distinctive being all dark and are similar in size to African Swift. Their calls clearly differ from typical African Swifts.
NOTE: Clements does not recognize the split of Fernando Po Swift A. sladeniae from the widespread African Swift A. barbatus.

Bradfield's Swift (NE) *Apus bradfieldi*

We had a nice flock of twenty at the Tundavala Escarpment.

Little Swift *Apus affinis*



Seen at many localities, peak numbers of twenty were recorded during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira Forest.

Horus Swift *Apus horus*

We enjoyed wonderful sightings of a flock of at least 15 at Mount Moco. Interestingly two individuals had all dark rumps.

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer*

We had good views of two during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela Camp and a further six at Kinjila.

Mousebirds Coliidae

Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus*

We had good views of small numbers at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Red-backed Mousebird (E) *Colius castanotus*

We had superb sightings of many including good views of six at Tundavala. The commonest of the Angolan endemics.

Red-faced Mousebird *Urocolius indicus*

Flocks of these social mousebirds were fairly common, first seen around Tundavala with further sightings during the day trip to Namibe.

Trogons Trogonidae

Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina*

We had stunning scope views of a male in the gallery forest near Kinjila.

Rollers Coraciidae

Purple (Rufous-crowned) Roller *Coracias naevius*

Our first sighting was of one during the day trip to Namibe with peak sightings of three during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira Forest.

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus*

Several of these stunning birds were seen en route from Tundavala to south Benguela. One of Africa's trademark birds!

NOTE: The Ethiopian C. c. lorti might be split as Blue-breasted Roller.

Blue-throated Roller *Eurystomus gularis*

We had cracking views of three at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*

We had great views of four near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

Kingfishers Alcedinidae

Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala*

We had stunning views of one near Kinjila.

Brown-hooded Kingfisher *Halcyon albiventris*

We had a number of good sightings including one during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela, another at Mount Moco and scattered sightings elsewhere.

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti*

We enjoyed several sightings including good views during the day trip to Namibe and another at Kumbira Forest.

Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica*

We heard this species in gallery forest near Kinjila.



Woodland Kingfisher*Halcyon senegalensis*

Several were seen at Damengola Forest and another at the Cuanza River mouth.

African Pygmy Kingfisher*Ispidina picta*

This woodland haunting kingfisher was well seen in Kumbira Forest with further sightings at Damengola Forest.

Malachite Kingfisher*Corythornis cristatus*

One of the brilliant river-dwelling kingfishers was seen during our time at Kinjila and another was seen at the crater lake near Damengola.

Shining-blue Kingfisher*Alcedo quadribrachys*

We had brief views of one during the drive north to Lucila.

Half-collared Kingfisher*Alcedo semitorquata*

We had good views of one at Mount Moco.

Giant Kingfisher*Megaceryle maxima*

We had good views of two males near Kinjila and a further sighting at the crater lake near Quitexe.

Pied Kingfisher*Ceryle rudis*

Small numbers were seen at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda and several at the Cuanza River mouth.

Bee-eaters Meropidae**Black Bee-eater***Merops gularis*

Two of these spectacular birds were seen at Tombingo Forest and a further two at Damengola Forest

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater*Merops hirundineus*

A single bird was seen at our south Benguela camp.

Little Bee-eater*Merops pusillus*

Seen almost daily throughout Angola.

Blue-breasted Bee-eater*Merops variegatus*

We had good views of one near the Lucala River, Calandula.

European Bee-eater*Merops apiaster*

This species was heard calling in the Kinjila area.

Hoopoes Upupidae**African (Eurasian) Hoopoe***Upupa africana*

We had good views of three during the Namibe day trip and a further two near Kinjila.

NOTE: The Hoopoe complex has had a confusing taxonomic history, with one to four species being recognised by various authorities. Clements splits the group into two forms, Madagascar (U. marginalis) and Eurasian U. epops. The white-winged African form is often split by other authorities as West African Hoopoe (U. senegalensis) with the fourth species, the one we observed, being African Hoopoe (U. africana). However, the most generally accepted treatment is that of three species, Madagascar, Eurasian and African.

Wood Hoopoes Phoeniculidae**Green Wood Hoopoe***Phoeniculus purpureus*

Small numbers were seen daily in southern Kissama NP.

Black Scimitarbill*Rhinopomastus aterrimus*

One was seen well near Kinjila, Calandula.

Common Scimitarbill*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*

We had good views of one during the day trip to Namibe.

Hornbills Bucerotidae

Damara Red-billed Hornbill (NE)*Tockus damarensis*

One of this dark-eyed, white faced hornbill was seen in dry country whilst en route to Namibe.

NOTE: Some authorities split the Red-billed Hornbill complex into 5 full species, nominate Northern from northern Tanzania to Mali, Damara *T. damarensis* of northern Namibia and southern Angola, Southern *T. rufirostris* of southern and south-central Africa, Tanzanian *T. ruahae* of central Tanzania and Western *T. kempi* of Senegambia. Clements does not recognize these splits.

Monteiro's Hornbill*Tockus monteiri*

We had superb views of a pair during the day trip to Namibe.

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill (NE)*Tockus leucomelas*

One was seen during the drive to Namibe and several around our south Benguela Camp. Up to six were seen in Kissama NP.

NOTE: The smaller Angolan dry-country form of this widespread species may represent a new species of hornbill based on differences in soft parts, plumage and vocalization.

Crowned Hornbill*Tockus alboterminatus*

We enjoyed good sightings daily whilst in Kumbira Forest and near Kinjila.

African Pied Hornbill*Lophoceros fasciatus*

We had great sightings of six at Tombingo Forest, south of N'Dalatando and again daily sightings at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

African Grey Hornbill*Lophoceros nasutus*

We had great views of two during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Pale-billed Hornbill*Lophoceros pallidirostris*

Three birds were seen very well near Kinjila.

Piping Hornbill*Bycanistes fistulator*

We had great views of up to six daily at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Trumpeter Hornbill*Bycanistes bucinator*

We had good views of three in Kumbira Forest. This species appears to be rarely recorded in the area.

Black-casqued Hornbill*Ceratogymna atrata*

We had distant views of five of these huge hornbills in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

African Barbets Lybiidae**Bristle-nosed Barbet***Gymnobucco peli*

We had great scope views of two at Damengola Forest.

Naked-faced Barbet*Gymnobucco calvus*

Up to a dozen were seen at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

Anchieta's Barbet*Stactolaema anchietae*

A splendid four birds were seen in the woodland near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

Speckled Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus scolopaceus*

We had good views of one at Tombingo Forest and a further two at Damengola Forest.

Western Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus coryphaeus*

We had great views of one on Mount Moco.

Red-rumped Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus atroflavus*

A splendid male was seen very well at Damengola Forest.

Yellow-rumped (Golden-rumped) Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus bilineatus*

This widespread species was seen at Tundavala, Kumbira Forest and at Damengola Forest.

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus chrysoconus*

This dry woodland species was seen at Tundavala.

Hairy-breasted Barbet*Tricholaema hirsuta*

One bird was seen with others heard at Kumbira Forest. The Kumbira birds represent an isolated population not recorded in any prewar literature. A further two were seen at Tombingo Forest.

NOTE: This species is sometimes split into two species, the nominate form restricted to Upper Guinea and Streaky-throated Barbet T. flavipunctata of west-central Africa. We recorded the latter form.

Acacia Pied Barbet (NE) *Tricholaema leucomelas*

Several were seen during the day trip to Namibe and a few near Benguela.

Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus*

We had great views of six at Tundavala.

Black-backed Barbet *Lybius minor*

We had superb views of several at Mount Moco where seen nesting and a further two near Kinjila.

Yellow-billed Barbet *Trachyphonus purpuratus*

This strange forest barbet with a deep hooting call was seen very well at Kumbira Forest and later several more were seen at Damengola Forest.

Honeyguides Indicatoridae

Cassin's Honeybird *Prodotiscus insignis*

We had good views of two displaying over Kumbira Forest.

Brown-backed Honeybird *Prodotiscus regulus*

The first sighting was of one at Tundavala, and another at Kumbira Forest.

Pallid Honeyguide *Indicator meliphilus*

We had good scope views of one at Mount Moco.

Least Honeyguide *Indicator exilis*

One was seen briefly but well at Damengola Forest.

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor*

We had good scope views of one at Kumbira Forest.

Scaly-throated Honeyguide *Indicator variegatus*

We had good scope views of one at Kumbira Forest.

Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator*

One female was seen briefly in Kissama NP.

Woodpeckers Picidae

Red-throated Wryneck *Jynx ruficollis*

We had good views of two daily whilst at Mount Moco.

Bennett's Woodpecker *Campethera bennettii*

One was seen very well at Mount Moco.

Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni*

One bird was seen briefly whilst en route to Namibe and a further one seen well at Kinjila.

Green-backed Woodpecker *Campethera cailliautii*

One was seen exceptionally well at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

Brown-eared Woodpecker *Campethera caroli*

We had good sightings of two in Kumbira Forest.

Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens*

A female of this widespread woodland species was observed during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Yellow-crested Woodpecker *Dendropicos xantholophus*

We enjoyed great sightings of four at Damengola Forest.

Olive Woodpecker *Dendropicos griseocephalus*

We enjoyed good views of one at Mount Moco.



Falcons Falconidae

Rock Kestrel

Falco rupicolus

We had a number of sightings throughout the trip with good views of several at Tundavala.

NOTE: Clements has not split the distinctive Rock Kestrel, F. rupicolis of southern and central Africa, from the more widespread migrant Common Kestrel, F. tinnunculus. This split is accepted by most authorities.

Grey Kestrel

Falco ardosiaceus

We had a good scope views of one during the drive from Tombingo Forest to Kinjila

African Hobby

Falco cuvierii

One was seen by Jürgen in Kissama NP.

Lanner Falcon

Falco biarmicus

We had cracking views of six during the trip including superb sightings at Tundavala.

Parrots Psittacidae

Rosy-faced Lovebird (NE)

Agapornis roseicollis

We enjoyed wonderful sightings of eight during the day trip to Namibe.

Red-fronted Parrot

Poicephalus gulielmi

Up to four were seen at Damengola Forest where we also enjoyed fabulous scope views of a confiding individual.

Meyer's Parrot

Poicephalus meyeri

We had brief views of one during the drive from Tombingo Forest to Kinjila.

Rüppell's Parrot (NE)

Poicephalus rueppellii

One was seen during the Namibe day trip and two more in Kissama NP. A localized species endemic to Namibia and Angola.

Broadbills Eurylaimidae

African Broadbill

Smithornis capensis

Another highlight of the trip was of good views of several in Kumbira Forest. This is often a very tricky species to see.

Wattle-eyes, Batises Platysteiridae

African Shrike-flycatcher

Megabyas flammulatus

We had good views of a male and two females at Damengola Forest.

Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher

Bias musicus

We had superb views of a male at Damengola Forest.

Chinspot Batis

Batis molitor

Our first sighting was of two at Tundavala followed by two at Kinjila.

Pirit Batis

Batis pririt

We had good views of several during the day trip to Namibe and several near Benguela.

Angolan Batis (NE)

Batis minulla

Several birds were seen at Kumbira Forest and Kissama NP, a lovely little batis with a very pretty song.

White-tailed Shrike (NE)

Lanioturdus torquatus

This stunning dry-country bird was commonly encountered during the day trip to Namibe. Another species traditionally regarded as only to be seen in Namibia.

Chestnut Wattle-eye

Platysteira castanea

We had good views of a male, female and juvenile in Tombingo Forest.

Black-throated Wattle-eye

Platysteira peltata



We had great views of a pair at Mount Moco, and several near Kinjila.

White-fronted Wattle-eye (E) *Platysteira albifrons*

We had to work a little for this one. We enjoyed sightings of a pair in Kissama NP.

Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye *Platysteira concreta*

Three were seen in Kumbira Forest, a real beauty that showed fairly well. Several others were seen in gallery forest in southern Kissama NP.

Helmetshrikes Prionopidae

White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus*

Two flocks were seen during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela, a further four at Kinjila and a final sighting of five in Kissama NP.

Retz's Helmetshrike *Prionops retzii*

We had good views of a flock of five near Kinjila.

Gabela (Angola) Helmetshrike (E) *Prionops gabela*

This was certainly one of the prize finds of our tour, a species previously only seen by a select few people. We had great views of a flock of five of these attractive Helmetshrikes in a dry riverbed in southern Kissama NP.

Bushshrikes Malaconotidae

Monteiro's Bushshrike (NE) *Malaconotus monteiri*

We had good views of one in Kumbira Forest.

Many-coloured Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus multicolor*

We had a wonderful sighting of one in Kumbira Forest.

Bocage's (Gray-green) Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus bocagei*

We heard this species on several occasions during the drive from Kinjila to Damengola.

Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus*

This attractive species with a very distinctive call was first seen during the day trip to Namibe and at Damengola Forest.

Gorgeous (Perrin's) Bushshrike (NE) *Telophorus viridis*

Another shockingly beautiful bushshrike that was observed at Mount Moco and in Kumbira Forest.

This localized form occurs only in remote parts of Africa and is difficult to observe.

NOTE: This species is currently lumped by Clements with Four-coloured Bushshrike (T. quadricolor) of East and Southern Africa. Most authorities regard these birds as separate species.

Bokmakierie *Telophorus zeylonus*

We enjoyed wonderful scope views of one during the day trip to Namibe.

Marsh (Anchieta's) Tchagra *Bocagia minuta*

A pair was seen very well at Mount Moco.

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis*

We had great views of several at Tundavala and again at south Benguela camp.

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus*

One was seen very well at Mount Moco.

Pink-footed Puffback *Dryoscopus angolensis*

This generally uncommon forest puffback was pleasantly common in Kumbira Forest and we enjoyed good views on numerous occasions with further sightings in Damengola Forest.

Black-backed Puffback *Dryoscopus cubla*

Seen in small numbers at Tundavala and during the day trip to Namibe

Braun's Bushshrike (E) *Laniarius brauni*



This magnificent species was seen very well at Damengola Forest. This was certainly one of the highlights of the trip and was voted bird of the trip by some participants! A species which has been seen by only a handful of birders!

Gabela Bushshrike (E)*Laniarius amboimensis*

This attractive endemic was seen in Kumbira Forest.

NOTE: This species of the Gabela or Southern Angolan scarp and Braun's Bushshrike L. brauni were lumped with the similar Luehder's Bushshrike L. luehderi. This three way split is now recognized by most authorities.

Tropical Boubou*Laniarius major*

We enjoyed good views of two at Mount Moco.

Swamp (Gabon) Boubou*Laniarius bicolor*

A common bird to hear but sometimes a very difficult species to observe, we had good sightings near Benguela, Kinjila and again in Kissama NP.

Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae**White-breasted Cuckooshrike***Coracina pectoralis*

Two were seen in the miombo woodland near Kinjila.

Black Cuckooshrike*Campephaga flava*

We had good views of a male in the Kinjila area.

Petit's Cuckooshrike*Campephaga petiti*

A male was seen in Kumbira Forest.

Purple-throated Cuckooshrike*Campephaga quiscalina*

We enjoyed good views of a male in Kumbira Forest and a further pair of this normally scarce species at Tombingo Forest.

Shrikes Laniidae**Southern White-crowned Shrike***Eurocephalus anguitemens*

One was seen in Kissama NP.

Northern Fiscal (Shrike)*Lanius humeralis*

We had good views of several in the Kinjila and Damengola Forest areas.

NOTE: Common Fiscal has recently been split by IOC. Northern Fiscal, L. humeralis occurs in Sub-saharan Africa south to Southern Africa. Southern Fiscal, L. collaris is virtually restricted to Southern Africa. We recorded both species during this tour. Clements does not accept this split.

Southern Fiscal (Shrike)*Lanius collaris*

We recorded small numbers of the race *subcoronatus* during the trip to Namibe.

NOTE: The form L. marwitzi is sometimes split off as Uhehe Fiscal occurring in East Africa.

Orioles Oriolidae**African Golden Oriole***Oriolus auratus*

We had good views of one near Kinjila.

Black-headed Oriole*Oriolus larvatus*

This widespread woodland species was observed on many days and included good views of several in Kumbira Forest.

Black-winged Oriole*Oriolus nigripennis*

We had superb scope views of several at Tombingo Forest and again in Damengola Forest.

Drongos Dicruridae**Square-tailed Drongo***Dicrurus ludwigii*

We saw two birds in the gallery forest at Kinjila, Calandula.



Fork-tailed Drongo*Dicrurus adsimilis*

This species was seen virtually daily in suitable habitat throughout the trip.

NOTE: The forest dwelling Velvet-mantled Drongo, *D. modestus* of East and West Africa is now split from Fork-tailed Drongo *D. adsimilis*.

Velvet-mantled Drongo*Dicrurus modestus*

We had good views of up to six daily in Damengola Forest.

Monarchs Monarchidae**Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher***Trochocercus nitens*

A male of this scarce, skulking bird was seen at Kumbira Forest.

Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher*Terpsiphone rufocinerea*

We had good views of several in Kumbira Forest and at Damengola Forest.

African Paradise Flycatcher*Terpsiphone viridis*

We enjoyed several sightings near Mount Moco and again at Kinjila.

Crows, Jays Corvidae**Pied Crow***Corvus albus*

Regularly seen in small numbers throughout Angola with highest count of 50+ around Luanda

Fairy Flycatchers Stenostiridae**African Blue Flycatcher***Elminia longicauda*

This lovely bird was first encountered in Kumbira Forest with a further three seen in Damengola Forest.

White-tailed Blue Flycatcher*Elminia albicauda*

We had good views of several at Mount Moco.

Tits Paridae**White-winged Black Tit***Parus leucomelas*

Several were seen well at Mount Moco and two near Damengola Forest.

Dusky Tit*Parus funereus*

We enjoyed good views of three birds at Kumbira Forest, a scarce bird this far south. These distinctive birds belong to a long-isolated race *gabala* restricted to the Gabela Scarp forests.

Miombo Tit*Parus griseiventris*

We had great views of one on Mount Moco.

Ashy Tit*Parus cinerascens*

We had good views of one during the day trip to Namibe.

Penduline Tits Remizidae**Cape Penduline Tit***Anthoscopus minutus*

We had wonderful views of three birds at our south Benguela camp.

Nicators Nicatoridae**Yellow-throated Nicator***Nicator vireo*

We enjoyed excellent views of this very attractive diminutive Nicator at Kumbira Forest and again at Damengola Forest. This is one of the Angolan specials as it is very rarely seen anywhere outside of Angola, however in Kumbira it is very common, vocal and fairly easy to see.



Larks Alaudidae

Benguela Long-billed Lark (NE) *Certhilauda benguelensis*

Three of these extremely localized larks (only occurring in seldom visited far-northern Namibia and southern Angola) were observed in the gravel plains east of Namibe.

Sabota Lark (NE) *Calendulauda sabota*

We had good views of one during the day trip to Namibe.

NOTE: The western races of Sabota Lark are sometimes considered a separate species, Bradfield's Lark M. bradfieldi and the form we saw in Angola would fall into this grouping. This split is not recognized by most authorities.

Rufous-naped Lark *Mirafra africana*

We had scope views of one at Tundavala.

NOTE: The Rufous-naped Lark is divided by Clements into twenty-three subspecies throughout most of Africa. Several of the northern forms have been proposed as full species including Sharpe's Lark M. sharpii of Somalia and Malbrant's Lark M. malbranti of Central Africa.

Angola Lark (NE) *Mirafra angolensis*

We had wonderful views of six in the grasslands around Mount Moco.

Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea*

We had good views of two at Mount Moco.

Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

African Red-eyed (Black-fronted) Bulbul (NE) *Pycnonotus nigricans*

This dry country southern bulbul was recorded in the scrub at the base of the Leba Scarp en route to Namibe.

Dark-capped (Black-eyed) Bulbul *Pycnonotus tricolor*

Recorded daily at all locations visited in Angola, highest count of 50+ on the edge of Kumbira Forest.

NOTE: Another very confusing polytypic species complex. Several Asian and African forms have already been recognised as distinct species within the super-species Common Bulbul P. barbatus. The form that we saw in Angola, P. tricolor has been split as Dark-capped Bulbul by some authorities. Clements does not recognize this split.

Slender-billed Greenbul *Stelgidillas gracilirostris*

We had good views of this canopy species at Tombingo Forest.

Little Greenbul *Eurillas virens*

This usually common forest edge greenbul was heard at Kinjila and seen well at Damengola Forest.

Plain Greenbul *Eurillas curvirostris*

Two were seen well at Tombingo Forest.

Yellow-whiskered Bulbul *Eurillas latirostris*

Several birds were seen in Kumbira Forest where it's chattering call was commonly encountered.

Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator*

He heard this species at Tombingo and Damengola Forests.

Yellow-bellied Greenbul *Chlorocichla flaviventris*

This large noisy greenbul was seen during our day trip to Namibe and at Tundavala.

Falkenstein's (Yellow-necked) Greenbul *Chlorocichla falkensteini*

This species was seen regularly during our time in Kumbira Forest.

Yellow-throated Leaflove *Atimastillas flavicollis*

We had good views of two whilst en route from Kumbira to Tombingo and another was seen in the gallery forest at Kinjila.

Pale-olive Greenbul (NE) *Phyllastrephus fulviventris*

We had superb views of two of this little known Angolan near-endemic at Kumbira Forest with further sightings in south Kissama NP. It is far more attractive than illustrations show.

Cabanis's Greenbul *Phyllastrephus cabanisi*



We enjoyed superb views of two on Mount Moco and later a further two were seen at Kinjila.

Black-collared Bulbul*Neolestes torquatus*

We had good scope views of three near Mount Moco. A highly sought after species and not common anywhere.

Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae**Black Saw-wing***Psalidoprocne pristoptera*

Small numbers of these forest edge swallows were seen around Kumbira Forest, Mount Moco and at Kinjila.

NOTE: The "black" saw-wing complex, which occurs throughout Sub-Saharan Africa, has recently been lumped into a single species by most authorities.

Grey-rumped Swallow*Pseudhirundo griseopyga*

We had good views of several at Mount Moco and Kinjila.

Banded Martin*Riparia cincta*

One was seen near Mount Moco and later we enjoyed good views of several near Damengola Forest.

Angola Swallow*Hirundo angolensis*

We had good views of small numbers on 5 days.

Wire-tailed Swallow*Hirundo smithii*

We had good views of several during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Black-and-rufous Swallow*Hirundo nigrorufa*

We had superb views of this magnificent swallow at Mount Moco. We observed at least six over three days in the area. What a beauty and certainly one of the highlights of the trip!

Rock Martin*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*

Over thirty were seen during one day in the Tundavala area.

NOTE: This confusing polytypic complex is being reviewed for multi-species splitting. Within the African populations, two potential species exist. The southern African nominate form *P. fuligula* would remain as Rock Martin (including the birds we saw in Angola) and the north African birds would become Pale Crag Martin, *P. obsoleta*. Clements does not as yet recognise this split.

Greater Striped Swallow*Cecropis cucullata*

Up to thirty were seen at Mount Moco.

Lesser Striped Swallow*Cecropis abyssinica*

Another commonly seen hirundine, we had virtually daily sightings throughout the trip.

Red-throated Cliff Swallow*Petrochelidon rufigula*

We had wonderful views of many at various bridge crossings in northern Angola.

Crombecs, African warblers Macrosphenidae**Moustached Grass Warbler***Melocichla mentalis*

We had wonderful views of several at Mount Moco.

Yellow Longbill*Macrosphenus flavicans*

We heard this elusive species at Tombingo and Damengola Forests.

Pulitzer's Longbill*Macrosphenus pulitzeri*

We had simply outrageous views of two and heard another at Kumbira Forest. This is a very rare and localized species which is considered endangered.

Long-billed (Cape) Crombec*Sylvietta rufescens*

This drier country crombec was observed during the Namibe day trip and again near Benguela.

Green Crombec*Sylvietta virens*

First seen at Kumbira Forest with further sightings in Damengola Forest. A real little cutie!



Cettia bush warblers and allies Cettiidae**Green Hylia***Hylia prasina*

Seen well and commonly heard in Kumbira Forest with further sightings in Damengola Forest. A species which is far more often heard than seen.

Tit Hylia*Pholidornis rushiae*

We had good but brief views of one in the forest south of Damengola.

Leaf warblers and allies Phylloscopidae**Willow Warbler***Phylloscopus trochilus*

This newly arrived migrant was seen only once at Damengola Forest.

Reed warblers and allies Acrocephalidae**Lesser Swamp Warbler***Acrocephalus gracilirostris*

We had good views of two at Tundavala.

African Yellow Warbler*Iduna natalensis*

We found several at Mount Moco and a further one near Damengola.

Grassbirds and allies Locustellidae**Little Rush Warbler***Bradypterus baboecala*

We had superb views of one at a small wetland near Tundavala.

Evergreen Forest Warbler*Bradypterus lopezi*

We heard two at Mount Moco.

Fan-tailed Grassbird*Schoenicola brevirostris*

We had superb views of two at Mount Moco

Cisticolas and allies Cisticolidae**Red-faced Cisticola***Cisticola erythrops*

We had brief views of two at Mount Moco and another whilst en route from Kinjila to Damengola.

NOTE: This species is often split from Red-faced Cisticola C. erythrops. Clements does not accept this split.

Whistling Cisticola*Cisticola lateralis*

We had good views of one in miombo woodland near Kinjila.

Bubbling Cisticola (NE)*Cisticola bulliens*

Another of Angola's near-endemics, this cisticola was commonly encountered in moist woodlands and scrub throughout western and central Angola. We observed our first of these noisy birds near Lobito.

Rattling Cisticola*Cisticola chiniana*

This widespread species was seen during our day trip to Namibe.

Tinkling Cisticola*Cisticola rufilatus*

We had good views of one at Tundavala.

Wailing Cisticola*Cisticola lais*

Several birds were seen on grassy hillsides at Tundavala and on Mount Moco.

NOTE: This species is often split from Lynes's Cisticola C. distinctus which occurs in East Africa.

Winding Cisticola*Cisticola marginatus*

We had good views of one near Tundavala.

Chirping Cisticola*Cisticola pipiens*

We had good views of several at a wetland near Kinjila.

Stout Cisticola*Cisticola robustus*

We had superb views of two at Mount Moco.

Croaking Cisticola *Cisticola natalensis*

We had superb views of one at Mount Moco.

Short-winged (Siffling) Cisticola *Cisticola brachypterus*

This tiny woodland species was observed on many days of the tour and was a constant sound around our camp at the crater lake south of Quitexe with many sightings at Mount Moco.

Neddicky (Piping Cisticola) *Cisticola fulvicapilla*

We had good views of one during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*

We heard this species calling near the Cuanza River

Wing-snapping Cisticola *Cisticola ayresii*

We had good views of three at Mount Moco.

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava*

Several sightings including good views at Mount Moco

Black-chested Prinia (NE) *Prinia flavicans*

This dry country species was seen on the plains approaching Namibe and near Benguela.

Banded Prinia *Prinia bairdii*

We had good views of two in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

White-chinned Prinia *Schistolais leucopogon*

We had great views of one during the drive from Kinjila to Damengola.

Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis flavida*

We had great views of one at Tundavala and a further two in south Kissama NP.

Lowland Masked Apalis *Apalis binotata*

We had cracking views of one at Kumbira Forest and another at Damengola Forest.

Buff-throated Apalis *Apalis rufogularis*

Small numbers were seen daily at Kumbira Forest, a vocal canopy species.

Grey Apalis *Apalis cinerea*

Two were seen building a nest at Tundavala and up to four daily on Mount Moco.

Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brevicaudata*

First recorded at Tundavala with further sightings at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

NOTE: Most authorities now recognise the nominate green-backed forms of this widespread African warbler as distinct from the grey-backed forms C. brevicaudata. We encountered the grey-backed form in scrubby habitat throughout Angola. Clements still lumps these forms together with the recently recognized Hartert's Camaroptera, C. harterti.

Hartert's Camaroptera (E) *Camaroptera harterti*

We had excellent views of several birds in Kumbira Forest, where they are one of the most vocal and commonest forest understorey species.

Yellow-browed Camaroptera *Camaroptera superciliaris*

We had good views of a pair at Tombingo Forest.

Miombo Wren-Warbler *Calamonastes undosus*

We had great views of one near Kinjila.

Yellow-bellied Eremomela *Eremomela icteropygialis*

We had great views of two during the day trip to Namibe.

Green-capped Eremomela *Eremomela scotops*

We had good views of three at Tundavala and two near Kinjila.

Rufous-crowned Eremomela *Eremomela badiceps*

A flock of four was seen in Tombingo Forest and a further six in Damengola Forest.

Fulvettas, Ground Babblers Pellorneidae



Brown Illadopsis *Illadopsis fulvescens.*

Seen briefly in Kumbira Forest, a skulking understorey species

Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae**Arrow-marked Babbler** *Turdoides jardineii*

One was seen near our south Benguela camp by Jürgen

Hartlaub's Babbler *Turdoides hartlaubii*

We had good views of up to eight at Tundavala.

Bare-cheeked Babbler (NE) *Turdoides gymnogenys*

We had a wonderful sighting of three during our day trip to Namibe.

Sylviid Babblers Sylviidae**African Hill Babbler** *Pseudoalcippe abyssinica*

We had cracking views of one on Mount Moco.

White-eyes Zosteropidae**African Yellow White-eye** *Zosterops senegalensis*

Seen almost daily in small numbers with good views of several at Mount Moco.

Hyliotas Hylotiidae**Southern (Mashona) Hyliota** *Hyliota australis*

Several were seen daily at Kumbira Forest some individuals were pale and others showing particularly yellow underparts. None however showed white extending onto the tertials and secondaries as shown in Yellow-bellied Hyliota, *H. flavigaster*. More detailed study of the hyliotas in Kumbira Forest may produce some interesting results.

Treecreepers Certhiidae**African Spotted Creeper** *Salpornis salvadori*

We had cracking views of several obliging individuals on Mount Moco.

Starlings Sturnidae**Cape (Red-shouldered) Starling** *Lamprotornis nitens*

Commonly seen in western and southern Angola with highest daily count of 50+ during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela.

Splendid Starling *Lamprotornis splendidus*

Up to fifteen were seen at Damengola Forest.

Sharp-tailed Starling *Lamprotornis acuticaudus*

Our first sighting was of four whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and up to ten daily in the woodlands near Kinjila.

Violet-backed (Plum-coloured) Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*

We enjoyed good sightings near Tundavala and in Kumbira Forest, seen on most days of the trip.

Chestnut-winged Starling *Onychognathus fulgidus*

Two were seen in Damengola Forest, a leader only sighting.

Pale-winged Starling (NE) *Onychognathus naboroupp*

Another dry country starling seen at Tundavala and en route to Namibe where at least three counted.

Narrow-tailed Starling *Poeoptera lugubris*

We had superb views of twenty at a nesting colony in Damengola Forest.



Thrushes Turdidae

Fraser's Rufous Thrush*Stizorhina fraseri*

We had great scope views of one in Kumbira Forest, a further one at Tombingo Forest and a final sighting of one at Damengola.

African Thrush*Turdus pelios*

Small numbers were seen daily in Kumbira Forest, with scattered sightings elsewhere.

Chats, Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae

Forest Scrub Robin*Cercotrichas leucosticta*

We heard this lovely songster daily in Kumbira Forest and after some effort obtained fantastic views of one. Angola is certainly one of the best places to see this elusive species.

Miombo Scrub Robin*Cercotrichas barbata*

We heard this species in woodland near Kinjila.

Kalahari Scrub Robin (NE)*Cercotrichas paena*

Two of this semi-desert species were seen on the dry plains *en route* to Namibe.

Brown-backed Scrub Robin*Cercotrichas hartlaubi*

We had superb scope views of two from our camp near the crater lake south of Quitexe.

White-browed (Red-backed) Scrub Robin*Cercotrichas leucophrys*

We had good views of two during the day trip to Namibe and another near Benguela.

NOTE: This widespread African complex is being reviewed for a 3-way split, the Southern African E. leucophrys group would remain as White-browed Scrub-Robin, the Central African (E. zambesiana) would become Red-backed Scrub-Robin and the Northern African (E. leucoptera) would become White-winged Scrub-Robin. Few authorities accept these splits.

Grey Tit-Flycatcher*Myioparus plumbeus*

We heard this species calling at Kinjila.

Angola Slaty Flycatcher (E)*Dioptornis brunneus*

We were treated to incredible views of one of these endemic flycatchers on the Tundavala Escarpment. A further two were seen on Mount Moco. This is a little known species.

Southern Black Flycatcher*Melaenornis pammelaina*

We had good views of two during our day trip to Namibe and a further two at Kinjila.

Pale Flycatcher*Bradornis pallidus*

One was seen at Mount Moco.

Chat Flycatcher (NE)*Bradornis infuscatus*

Three of these large desert flycatchers were observed *en route* to Namibe.

Ashy (Blue-Grey) Flycatcher*Muscicapa caerulescens*

We heard one during the day trip to Namibe and had good views of one in Kumbira Forest.

African Dusky Flycatcher*Muscicapa adusta*

We had good views of one on Mount Moco.

Dusky-blue Flycatcher*Muscicapa comitata*

We had stunning views of two in Damengola Forest.

Sooty Flycatcher*Muscicapa infuscate*

We had superb views of three in Damengola Forest.

Angola Cave Chat (E)*Cossypha ansorgei*

We enjoyed excellent scope views of two of these stunning songsters on the Tundavala Escarpment. This is certainly one of Angola's most striking near-endemics and one of the trip favorites.

Grey-winged Robin-Chat*Cossypha polioptera*

We had superb views of two near Kinjila.



White-browed (Heuglin's) Robin-Chat*Cossypha heuglini*

We had good views of five at Tundavala, four at Mount Moco and several at Kinjila.

White-headed Robin-Chat (NE)*Cossypha heinrichi*

At least one bird was seen near Kinjila where this species was discovered. This highly localized and incredibly beautiful bird was seen well but only briefly here. Later however we were extremely fortunate to have superb views of one sitting out in the open. Only a handful of birders have had the privilege of seeing this bird and so we counted ourselves extremely fortunate to have been able to visit the site and see this wonderful gem! This was certainly one of the highlights of the trip!

Bocage's Akalat*Sheppardia bocagei*

We were very fortunate to have the most amazing views of one of these skulkers at Tundavala with several further sightings at Mount Moco. A beautiful bird indeed and another highlight of the trip.

Gabela Akalat (E)*Sheppardia gabela*

Supposedly one of the most difficult of the Gabela Scarp specials. We were fortunate to all get cracking views of two of this shy and retiring species in Kumbira Forest.

Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush (NE)*Cichladusa ruficauda*

Our first sighting was during our day trip to Namibe and we enjoyed a further sighting near Benguela with a final sighting of one at the Cuanza River mouth

Short-toed Rock Thrush (NE)*Monticola brevipes*

Up to three birds were seen in the Tundavala area, an attractive southern species.

NOTE: Some authorities regard the localized race from northern South Africa, called Pretoria Rock Thrush (M. pretoriae), to be distinct from the nominate Western populations. We observed the nominate form. This split is not accepted by IOC or Clements.

Miombo Rock Thrush*Monticola angolensis*

A pair was seen at Tundavala and a further pair showed well for all, on Mount Moco.

African Stonechat*Saxicola torquatus*

We had good views of up to ten daily at Mount Moco.

Tractrac Chat (NE)*Emarginata tractrac*

Another desert species seen on the plains close to Namibe, we counted six individuals.

Sooty Chat*Myrmecocichla nigra*

We had good views of several at Mount Moco and three during the drive from Kinjila to Damengola

Mountain Wheatear (NE)*Myrmecocichla monticola*

This species was quite common on the dry coastal plain near Namibe. The birds observed belonged to the endemic coastal Angolan race *albipileata*.

Capped Wheatear*Oenanthe pileata*

We had superb views of six near Mount Moco.

Familiar Chat*Oenanthe familiaris*

This rock-loving species was observed at Mount Moco.

Sunbirds Nectariniidae**Anchieta's Sunbird***Anthreptes anchietae*

A superb male was seen near Kinjila. This striking species was highly sought-after and another real highlight of the trip!

Western Violet-backed Sunbird*Anthreptes longuemarei*

We had wonderful views of several daily in the Kinjila area.

Little Green Sunbird*Anthreptes seimundi*

We found three in Kumbira Forest and one in Damengola Forest.

Grey-chinned Sunbird*Anthreptes rectirostris*

One was seen at Tombingo Forest and a pair in Damengola Forest.



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- Collared Sunbird** *Hedydipna collaris*
We had good sightings of several in Kumbira Forest and commonly encountered at most forest sites thereafter.
- Green-headed Sunbird** *Cyanomitra verticalis*
We found several at Kumbira Forest.
- Bannerman's Sunbird** *Cyanomitra bannermani*
We had good views of a pair near Kinjila, but you had to be quick.
- Blue-throated Brown Sunbird** *Cyanomitra cyanolaema*
We had great views of three in Damengola Forest.
- (Western) Olive Sunbird** *Cyanomitra olivacea*
Fairly commonly seen at Kumbira Forest
NOTE: The Olive Sunbird species complex is sometimes split into two full species, namely the nominate Eastern Olive-Sunbird C. obscura and the form in East and West Africa, Western Olive Sunbird (C. olivacea). There has been a review of this split and several authorities are in doubt of the validity, which is based upon the presence, or lack thereof, of pectoral tufts in the females of the various subspecies within the complex.
- Carmelite Sunbird** *Chalcomitra fuliginosa*
Another sought-after species, we obtained good views of a male in Kumbira Forest.
- Green-throated Sunbird** *Chalcomitra rubescens*
We had wonderful views of several at Kinjila
- Amethyst (African Black) Sunbird** *Chalcomitra amethystina*
We had good views of small numbers daily in the Tundavala area and a couple near Kinjila.
- Scarlet-chested Sunbird** *Chalcomitra senegalensis*
Several were seen during the drive to Namibe and six during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela.
- Bocage's Sunbird** *Nectarinia kilimensis*
We found a fabulous male at Mount Moco. This iridescent purple species is generally not correctly depicted in field guides and is often illustrated as being all black.
- Bronzy Sunbird** *Nectarinia kilimensis*
We had superb views of up to eight males at Mount Moco.
- Olive-bellied Sunbird** *Cinnyris chloropygius*
We had numerous sightings from forest edge in Kumbira Forest and forest sites thereafter.
- Ludwig's (Montane) Double-collared Sunbird (NE)** *Cinnyris ludovicensis*
Six were seen on the Tundavala escarpment and a further two on Mount Moco. Two isolated races of this species exist, the nominate from montane forests of Western Angola and *whytei* from montane Malawi and ne Zambia.
- Purple-banded Sunbird** *Cinnyris bifasciatus*
We enjoyed wonderful sightings in Kumbira Forest and Kissama NP. At the latter site it was particularly common.
NOTE: The form N. e. tsavoensis of Kenya is sometimes split off as Tsavo Sunbird.
- Superb Sunbird** *Cinnyris superbus*
We enjoyed good sightings at Kumbira Forest and again at Tombingo Forest.
- Oustalet's (Angola White-bellied) Sunbird (NE)** *Cinnyris oustaleti*
We enjoyed superb views of two birds at Tundavala and a further three at Mount Moco. This is another very localized species.
- White-bellied (-breasted) Sunbird** *Cinnyris talatala*
This widespread southern counterpart of the previous species was commonly encountered in the dry lowlands *en route* to Namibe and near Benguela.
- Variable Sunbird** *Cinnyris venustus*
We had good views of three in the Tundavala area and several more at Mount Moco.
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Dusky Sunbird *Cinnyris fuscus*

We had great views of several during the day trip to Namibe.

Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cupreus*

We had good views of three at Mount Moco and several more near Kinjila.

Old World Sparrows Passeridae

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali*

Several of these noisy, dry country weavers were seen near Benguela.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

This introduced species was seen in small numbers at scattered towns and villages throughout.

Cape Sparrow *Passer melanurus*

We had good views of four during our day trip to Namibe.

Northern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus*

We had good views of two at Lobito.

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer diffusus*

We found several individuals during the day trip to Namibe.

NOTE: The Grey-headed Sparrow complex P. griseus has been split into five full species with the South African form being given the name P. diffusus.

Yellow-throated Petronia *Gymnoris superciliaris*

We had great views of a pair whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and another was seen at Mount Moco.

Weavers, Widowbirds Ploceidae

Thick-billed Weaver *Amblyospiza albifrons*

We had good views of a two females in Kumbira Forest.

Black-chinned Weaver *Ploceus nigrimentus*

We had wonderful views of one collecting nesting material, at Mount Moco

Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis*

Several were seen at Mount Moco

Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus nigricollis*

This species was particularly common in Kumbira Forest where we recorded up to twenty daily.

Bocage's Weaver *Ploceus temporalis*

We had great views of one at Mount Moco.

Holub's Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops*

First recorded at Tundavala with further sightings en route to Namibe and at Mount Moco. Our highest count was of ten in southern Kissama NP.

Southern Masked Weaver *Ploceus velatus*

At least six were seen during our lunch stop near Namibe.

NOTE: Clements has recently accepted the split of northern Vitelline Masked-Weaver P. vitellinus from Southern Masked Weaver P. velatus.

Village (Spotted-backed) Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus*

Up to twenty seen daily in the Kinjila area. Africa's commonest and most widespread weaver.

Vieillot's Black Weaver *Ploceus nigerrimus*

Small numbers were seen in Kumbira Forest with large numbers seen at Damengola Forest.

Yellow-mantled Weaver *Ploceus tricolor*

We had superb views of two at Damengola Forest.

Dark-backed (Forest) Weaver *Ploceus bicolor*

First seen in Kumbira Forest with further sightings near Kinjila.



Brown-capped Weaver	<i>Ploceus insignis</i>
One bird was seen in Kumbira Forest, a beautiful forest dwelling weaver, here at its most southerly range extension.	
Red-headed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus rubricollis</i>
We had superb views of a one at Tombingo Forest and another in Damengola Forest.	
Crested Malimbe	<i>Malimbus malimbicus</i>
We had good views of two at Tombingo Forest.	
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>
A flock of thirty was seen at Mount Moco.	
Golden-backed Bishop (NE)	<i>Euplectes aureus</i>
We had good views of small flocks in southern Kissama NP.	
Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>
At least ten were seen at Mount Moco.	
Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>
We had great scope views of eight at Tundavala.	
Yellow-mantled Widowbird	<i>Euplectes macroura</i>
At least ten were seen in a wetland near Damengola Forest.	
White-winged Widowbird	<i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>
Three were seen near Kinjila	
Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>
A flock of thirty was seen in rank grassland near Mount Moco.	

Waxbills, Munias & Allies Estrildidae

Woodhouse's Antpecker	<i>Parmoptila woodhousei</i>
Two were seen near Damengola, a leader only sighting.	
White-breasted Nigrita	<i>Nigrita fusconotus</i>
We had superb views of one at Tombingo Forest and a further three in Damengola Forest.	
Chestnut-breasted Nigrita	<i>Nigrita bicolor</i>
We had good views of one in Tombingo Forest and later superb views of one at Damengola Forest.	
Grey-headed Nigrita	<i>Nigrita canicapillus</i>
We enjoyed excellent views of several birds in Kumbira and Damengola Forests.	
White-collared Oliveback	<i>Nesocharis ansorgei</i>
We had a wonderful sighting of five in Damengola Forest.	
Green-winged Pytilia (Melba Finch)	<i>Pytilia melba</i>
We had good views of six near Benguela.	
Black-bellied Seedcracker	<i>Pyrenestes ostrinus</i>
We had brief views of a male flying across the road in Damengola Forest.	
Red-headed Bluebill	<i>Spermophaga ruficapilla</i>
Two of these stunning birds were seen in Kumbira Forest.	
Brown Twinspot	<i>Clytospiza monteiri</i>
We had fantastic views of a flock of nine birds at Kinjila	
Dusky Twinspot	<i>Euschistospiza cinereovinacea</i>
Up to five of these beauties were seen daily at Mount Moco. This must be one of the best countries to observe this shy and highly localized species.	
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>
We had good views of a pair during the Namibe day trip.	
Landana (Pale-billed) Firefinch (E)	<i>Lagonosticta landanae</i>
Several birds were seen at Kumbira Forest. An uncommon Angolan endemic.	



- Jameson's Firefinch** *Lagonosticta rhodopareia*
Several were seen at Tundavala and more in the Kinjila area.
- Blue Waxbill (Blue-breasted Cordonbleu)** *Uraeginthus angolensis*
Seen at Tundavala, during the drive to Namibe and in Kissama NP
- Violet-eared Waxbill** *Uraeginthus granatinus*
We had good sightings of several near Benguela. A stunning seedeater!
- Angola (Yellow-bellied) Waxbill (E)** *Coccygia bocagei*
At least five of these lovely waxbills were seen at Tundavala and several at Mount Moco.
NOTE: The isolated Angolan race is very distinctive and has recently been split from Yellow-bellied Waxbill, C. quartinia. Clements does not yet accept this split.
- Grey (Black-tailed) Waxbill** *Estrilda perreini*
We had superb views of three at Kumbira Forest with further sightings near Kinjila.
- Cinderella Waxbill (NE)** *Estrilda thomensis*
We had splendid views of three during the day trip to Namibe.
- Fawn-breasted Waxbill** *Estrilda paludicola*
We had good views of six at Mount Moco.
- Orange-cheeked Waxbill** *Estrilda melpoda*
Up to ten were seen near Damengola
- Common Waxbill** *Estrilda astrild*
A flock of fifteen was seen in Kumbira Forest and a further thirty in south Kissama NP
- Orange-breasted (Zebra) Waxbill** *Amandava subflava*
A flock of thirty was seen during our day trip to Namibe and a further six at Mount Moco.
- Bronze Mannikin (Munia)** *Lonchura cucullata*
We enjoyed scattered sightings throughout.
- Black-and-white (Bicolored) Mannikin** *Lonchura bicolor*
Small groups were recorded in Kumbira Forest with peak numbers of ten at Damengola Forest.
NOTE: Clements does not accept the two-way split of the southern and eastern Red-backed Mannikin (L. nigriceps) and the northern and western nominate group.

Indigobirds, Whydahs Viduidae

- Dusky Indigobird** *Vidua funereal*
We had great views of two during the drive from Kinjila to Damengola.
- Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura*
We had good views of six during our day trip to Namibe with scattered sightings elsewhere.

Wagtails, Pipits Motacillidae

- Cape Wagtail** *Motacilla capensis*
We had good views of two at Tundavala.
- Mountain Wagtail** *Motacilla clara*
We had good scope views of two at the Calandula Falls.
- African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp*
We had good views of three at the Calandula Falls.
- Fülleborn's Longclaw** *Macronyx füllebornii*
A pair was seen very well near Tundavala, we obtained superb scope views of this sought-after species.
- African (Grassveld) Pipit** *Anthus cinnamomeus*
We found eight during the day trip to Namibe.
NOTE: African pipit taxonomy is in rather a disarray and much further research is required in the phylogeny of this grouping. Several forms which are considered subspecies are likely to become full species in their own right and



several new forms are surely still to be described. The identification of two new species of pipits from an urban hockey field in Kimberley, South Africa, provides an excellent illustration regarding how little is known about African pipits and how little attention has been paid to them.

Buffy Pipit *Anthus vaalensis*

We had good views of up to six birds at Tundavala.

Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys*

Three were seen near Mount Moco.

Striped Pipit *Anthus lineiventris*

We had excellent views of one on Mount Moco.

Finches Fringillidae

Black-faced Canary (NE) *Crithagra capistrata*

This localized canary was seen first at Kumbira Forest with a further sighting of three at Mount Moco.

Black-throated Canary *Crithagra atrogularis*

Two were seen during the day trip to Namibe.

Yellow-fronted (Yellow-eyed) Canary *Crithagra mozambica*

We had good views of two during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and a further six at Mount Moco.

Brimstone (Bully) Canary *Crithagra sulphurata*

Several birds were seen at Tundavala and a further eight at Mount Moco.

White-throated Canary *Crithagra albogularis*

We had good views of one during the day trip to Namibe.

Thick-billed Seedeater *Crithagra burtoni*

We had good views of two on Mount Moco.

Yellow-crowned Canary *Serinus flavivertex*

Two were seen at Mount Moco.

NOTE: The Cape Canary species complex has been split into two, the nominate southern group would remain as Cape Canary S. canicollis and the form which occurs in East Africa and Angola has become Yellow-crowned Canary (S. flavivertex.) Clements does recognise this split.

NOTE: This species complex is sometimes split with the Angolan form remaining in the Black-throated Canary group as opposed to Reichenow's or Kenya Yellow-rumped Canary (S. reichenowi).

Buntings & Allies Emberizidae

Lark-like Bunting *Emberiza impetuani*

We had great views of 70 during the day trip to Namibe.

Cinnamon-breasted Bunting *Emberiza tahapisi*

Four were seen at Tundavala and a further four at Mount Moco

Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris*

We had good views of two during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Cabanis's Bunting *Emberiza cabanisi*

One was seen in the miombo woodland near Kinjila.

MAMMALS (14 species)

Yellow Baboon *Papio cynocephalus*

We had great views of four on Mount Moco.



Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>
We had good views of five near Benguela.	
Vervet Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>
Two of these inquisitive monkeys were seen en route from Tundavala to south Benguela and a further two in Kumbira Forest.	
Samango (Blue/Gentle) Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>
At least five of these smart monkeys were seen in the mangroves at the Cuanza River.	
Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>
We had good views of one at Mount Moco.	
Damara Ground Squirrel	<i>Geosciurus princeps</i>
We had good views of one during the Namibe day trip.	
Congo Rope Squirrel	<i>Funisciurus congicus</i>
We had good views of several near Damengola Forest.	
Gambian Sun Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>
We had good views of several in Kumbira Forest.	
Smith's Bush Squirrel	<i>Xerus inauris</i>
Three were seen at Tundavala.	
Smith's Rock Elephant Shrew	<i>Elephantulus rupestris</i>
Several were seen by some participants near Benguela.	
Yellow-spotted Hyrax (Dassie)	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>
Two were seen during the Namibe day trip.	
Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>
We had superb scope views of two during the Namibe day trip and a further one at our south Benguela camp.	
Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>
We had good views of one at Mount Moco.	
Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>
We had good views of two during the Namibe day trip.	

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

Red-headed Rock Agama	<i>Agama agama</i>
We had good views of several at Tundavala and during the day trip to Namibe.	
Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>
We had fantastic views of a large adult at the Cuanza River mouth.	



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