



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Angola

Endemics Overland Adventure

9th to 26th September 2016



Brazza's Martin by Lars Petersson

Trip Report compiled by Tour Leader: David Hoddinott

Top 10 bird species as voted for by the participants:

1. Brazza's Martin
2. Red-crested Turaco
3. White-headed Robin Chat
4. Angola Cave Chat
5. Pennant-winged Nightjar
6. Swierstra's Francolin
7. Pulitzer's Longbill
8. Gabela Bushshrike
9. Cinderella Waxbill
10. Monteiro's Bushshrike

Trip Summary



Angola Cave Chat by Lars Petersson

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 arrival, we were greeted by a superb pair of Spotted Eagle Owls which gave a great show.

On our first morning, we awoke early and sipped on a welcome cup of hot coffee with rusks before heading off to the impressive escarpment. Due to a strong early morning wind and only glimpses of the sought after Angolan Cave Chat, we travelled to lower, more sheltered, areas. Here we enjoyed some great birding in the remnant forest

patches, miombo woodland, grassland and wetlands. Sightings included African Black Duck, Three-banded Plover, Booted Eagle, Augur Buzzard at its nest, Alpine and Bradfield's Swift, Malachite Kingfisher, a very confiding Western Tinkerbird, Black-collared Barbet, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Rufous-naped Lark, Rock Martin, Little Rush Warbler, Tinkling and Wing-snapping Cisticola, Grey Apalis, Yellow-bellied and Green-capped Eremomela, Hartlaub's Babbler, Sharp-tailed Starling, Angolan Slaty Flycatcher, Short-toed and Miombo Rock Thrush, Ludwig's Double-collared Sunbird, Violet-eared Waxbill, Buffy Pipit and Cinnamon-breasted and Cape Bunting.

The following morning, after an early breakfast, we set off on the Namibe day trip. This was a truly fabulous day as we descended the very scenic Leba pass and travelled through habitat more typical of Namibia. That is; woodland, semi-desert and the northern end of the Namib Desert. We had numerous great sightings and recorded well in excess of one hundred species for the day. These included a Black Stork soaring along the escarpment, impressive heronry with hundreds of Western Cattle Egret and Black-headed Herons, Black-chested Snake Eagle, a pair of Verreaux's Eagle, Pale Chanting Goshawk, scope views of Rüppell's Korhaan calling, African Olive



Cinderella Waxbill by David Hoddinott



Pigeon and Rosy-faced Lovebird attending a clay lick, Mourning Collared and Namaqua Dove, nomadic Temminck's Courser, Mottled Spinetail, endemic Red-backed Mousebird, Striped Kingfisher, Common Scimitarbill, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, Peregrine Falcon sparring with a



Fülleborn's Longclaw by Lars Petersson

Pied Crow, Rüppell's Parrot, beautiful female Pririt Batis, comical White-tailed Shrike, Bokmakierie, Southern Fiscal of the distinctive *subcoronatus* race, near-endemic Carp's Tit, Cape Penduline Tit, several Benguela Long-billed Lark, African Red-eyed Bulbul, Pale-olive Greenbul, Angolan Swallow, Long-billed Crombec, Black-chested Prinia, superb Bare-cheeked Babbler, Pale-winged Starling, Yellow-billed Oxpecker, Groundscraper Thrush, Kalahari Scrub Robin, Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush, Tractrac Chat, Dusky Sunbird, splendid Cinderella Waxbill, Fülleborn's Longclaw, White-throated Canary and Lark-like Bunting.

Duncan's luggage had been left in Luanda and so he had sadly missed out on some of the birding while retrieving his luggage. Fortunately, our final morning in the area enabled us one last shot at the Cave Chat. Thankfully a pair put on a great show and we were all delighted to see them so well.

Leaving Tundavala, we made our way north to our south Benguela camp. En route we notched up a number of raptors such as majestic Bateleur, Long-crested Eagle, Wahlberg's Eagle, Dark Chanting Goshawk and a magnificent perched Red-necked Buzzard which gave splendid scope views. A birding stop along the way also produced a Pearl-spotted Owlet being mobbed by a host of species, including 15 White-tailed Shrikes. Other species noted here were a family group of White-crested Helmetshrike, Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Yellow-bellied Greenbul, Violet-backed Starling, confiding Miombo Scrub Robin, a female Western Violet-backed Sunbird, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver and Red-headed Weaver.

A short early morning session around our camp yielded great views of the tricky Hartlaub's Spurfowl, Acacia Pied Barbet and Yellow-breasted Apalis. We then continued on to Lobito, finding Brown Snake Eagle and several Monteiro's Hornbill en route. The wetlands around Lobito are most impressive and we notched up a huge array of waterbirds, including Hottentot and Cape Teal, Greater and thousands of Lesser Flamingo (a site to behold), African Spoonbill, Squacco and Black Heron, Intermediate Egret, Great White Pelican, African Darter, Pied Avocet, Blacksmith Lapwing, Kittlitz's Plover, a host of waders, including Marsh and Curlew Sandpiper, Ruff and a rarity in the form of Common Redshank, plus Kelp Gull, Olive Bee-eater and endemic Bubbling Cisticola. Further on we stopped for a lunch break which happened to produce a very confiding pair of Green-winged Pytilia.



Rufous-bellied Tit by Lars Petersson





Bocage's Sunbird by David Hoddinott

We then continued on to Mount Moco, our destination for the next three nights. Our time here was spent exploring the rolling grasslands, miombo woodland, wetlands and forest patches. We recorded a wonderful array of species, many of which were highly sought after. These included Swierstra's Francolin, Harlequin Quail, Blue Quail, African Wattled Lapwing, African Marsh Harrier, a posing Black-bellied Bustard, delightful Schalow's Turaco feasting on some ripe fruit, Ross's Turaco, Coppery-tailed Coucal, amazing male Pennant-winged Nightjar, Fernando Po Swift, a nesting colony of Horus Swift, Purple Roller, White-fronted Bee-eater, Black-backed Barbet, Red-throated Wryneck, Olive Woodpecker, Marsh Tchagra, Tropical Boubou, African Golden Oriole, White-winged Black Tit, handsome Rufous-bellied Tit, Angolan Lark in full song, Black-collared Bulbul, Black-and-rufous Swallow, Mosque Swallow, Greater Striped Swallow collecting nesting material, Moustached Grass Warbler, African Yellow Warbler, Fan-tailed Grassbird, Miombo Wren-Warbler, cryptic African Spotted Creeper, stunning Bocage's Akalat, displaying Capped Wheatear, magnificent male Oustalet's Sunbird, localised Bocage's Sunbird, rare Black-chinned Weaver found nesting, shy Orange-winged Pytilia, Dusky Twinspot, Angolan, Fawn-breasted and Orange-breasted Waxbill Striped Pipit and Cabanis's Bunting.

From Mount Moco, we travelled to yet another endemic hotspot at Kumbira Forest. Our very convenient campsite situated right by the forest meant that within moments of leaving the campsite we were watching great forest birds. In fact, our first species we encountered after enjoying an early breakfast was a splendid Angola Batis. Other star sightings during our time here included a Bat Hawk flying past our camp, a pair of displaying Crowned Eagle (rare in Angola), nesting Lizard Buzzard, African Goshawk displaying, Ovambo Sparrowhawk, beautiful Red-crested Turaco, Grey-headed and Brown-hooded Kingfisher, Trumpeter Hornbill, Pallid and Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Elliot's Woodpecker, superb male African Broadbill, stunning Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, rare and most sought after Monteiro's Bushshrike, Gorgeous (Perrin's) Bushshrike, Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher, Dusky Tit, Yellow-throated Nicator, Falkenstein's Greenbul, endangered Pulitzer's Longbill, Lowland Masked Apalis, Southern Hyliota, superb singing Forest Scrub Robin, Ashy Flycatcher, dainty Gabela Akalat, Little Green Sunbird, Superb Sunbird, Compact Weaver, Landana Firefinch, Grey Waxbill, Black-and-white Mannikin and beautiful Black-faced Canary.

It took us some time to track down the elusive Gabela Bushshrike but after patience and perseverance, we finally managed to get good views of one. Leaving Kumbira Forest, we



Red-crested Turaco by Lars Petersson



travelled north to our Tombingo campsite. Yellow-billed Duck, Little Bittern, Palmnut Vulture (the commonest raptor in Angola),



Monteiro's Bushshrike by Lars Petersson

Lucala River we found three pairs of Rock Pratincole which gave splendid views. We then continued on to our campsite at Kinjila for a two-night stay.

The birding around Kinjila was most productive and we explored the gallery forest as well as the miombo woodland and wetland. Some of the highlights included a striking male White-spotted Flufftail, Blue Malkoha, Black Cuckoo, African Cuckoo, fabulous African Scops Owl, African Barred Owllet, superb male Narina Trogon, Blue-breasted Bee-eater, Black Scimitarbill, Pale-billed Hornbill, sought after Anchieta's Barbet, a pair of Green-backed Woodpecker, African Hobby, Black-throated Wattle-eye, Retz's Helmetshrike, Grey-headed Bushshrike, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, White-throated Swallow, hundreds of Red-throated Cliff Swallows, Chirping Cisticola, Yellow-bellied Hylia, Grey-winged Robin-Chat, Anchieta's Sunbird, Bannerman's Sunbird, Bates's Sunbird and Marsh Widowbird. Special mention must go to the localised White-headed Robin-Chat which put on a great show for us as well as the rather unexpected Brazza's Martin.

From Kinjila we continued west to Damengola Forest. En route we had a most unexpected sighting of Finsch's Francolin. Everyone was thrilled as we'd only managed to hear the species at Mount Moco. At our campsite, we noted two juvenile White-backed Night Herons, a very nice surprise indeed.

The forests around Damengola were, once again, very rewarding and we notched up a bunch of new species for the trip, including Ayres's Hawk-Eagle, Western Bronze-naped Pigeon, huge Great Blue and Guinea Turaco, Thick-billed Cuckoo, Blue-throated Roller, a pair of Black Bee-eaters, migrant European Bee-eater, Bristle-nosed and Naked-faced Barbet, Red-rumped Tinkerbird, Brown-eared Woodpecker, Black-and-white Shrike-



White-headed Robin-Chat by Lars Petersson



flycatcher, Bocage's Bushshrike, confiding Yellow Longbill, Banded Prinia, Black-throated Apalis, Yellow-browed Camaroptera, Chestnut-winged Starling, Brown-backed Scrub Robin, Fraser's Rufous Thrush, splendid Carmelite Sunbird, Yellow-mantled Weaver, Crested Malimbe and Chestnut-breasted and rare Pale-fronted Nigrita as well as a small flock of White-collared Oliveback which has only recently been found to occur in Angola.



Anchieta's Barbet by Lars Petersson

Moving on to south Kissama National Park, excitement mounted as we hoped to find the last few endemics we hadn't seen. Notable sightings here included a flock of Helmeted Guineafowl, Grey-striped Francolin, Little Sparrowhawk, several beautiful Lilac-breasted Rollers, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Green Wood Hoopoe, impressive Böhm's Spinetail, Brown-backed Honeybird, Golden-tailed and Bearded Woodpecker, Swamp Boubou, Brubru, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver and Dark-backed Weaver. After a short while, we found the very sought after Gabela Helmetshrike and several small flocks of Golden-backed Bishop. It took us a

while to find the last one but eventually we had good views of a pair of White-fronted Wattle-eye. Delighted, we continued on to Kwanza Lodge where we settled in and enjoyed a great final dinner and a good night's sleep. Around the lodge, we enjoyed some memorable birding which included good sightings of Yellow-billed Stork, Western Osprey, African Fish Eagle, Water Thick-knee, Common Ringed and White-fronted Plover, Caspian, Royal, Sandwich and Common Tern, White-browed Coucal, Mangrove Sunbird and Long-legged Pipit. It was then time to say our farewells and we headed off to the airport to catch our flights home.

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!



Pennant-winged Nightjar by Lars Petersson

For more of Lars Petersson's photos please visit his website on <http://www.larsfoto.se/en/>



BIRDS

Birds: Gill, F. and M. Wright. 2016. IOC Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. Version 6.3. 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

Cape Teal

Anas capensis

We had good views of 6 at a wetland near Lobito and a further pair near Luanda

African Black Duck

Anas sparsa

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

Yellow-billed Duck

Anas undulata

Several were seen on small wetlands whilst en route from Kumbira to Tombingo

Red-billed Teal

Anas erythrorhyncha

A large flock of eighty was seen at a dam near Tundavala and a further ten at a wetland near Lobito.

Hottentot Teal

Anas hottentota

We had great views of two at a wetland near Lobito.

Guineafowl Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl

Numida meleagris

We heard some calling near our south Benguela camp and later had great views of 20 in southern Kissama NP.

Pheasants, Fowl & Allies Phasianidae

Finsch's Francolin

Scleroptila finschi

We heard this species calling near Mount Moco and later had good flight views of one near Lucila

Grey-striped Francolin (E)

Pternistis griseostriatus

This is a very tricky species to see well. Several were seen in flight in Kumbira Forest and later we were lucky to have fair views of five crossing the road in southern Kissama NP. A little known Angolan endemic

Swierstra's Francolin (E)

Pternistis swierstrai

After a great deal of searching, we found two 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 Mount Moco, and a final sighting of several at Kinjila.

Harlequin Quail

Coturnix delegorguei

We had great views of four at Mount Moco.

Blue Quail

Excalfactoria adansonii

We had good views of five at Mount Moco.



Grebes Podicipedidae**Little Grebe***Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Four were seen at a dam near Tundavala and peak numbers of 24 at the Crater Lake south of Quitexe.

Flamingos Phoenicopteridae**Greater Flamingo***Phoenicopterus roseus*

We had good views of fifteen near Lobito and many more on the mudflats at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Lesser Flamingo*Phoeniconaias minor*

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

Storks Ciconiidae**Yellow-billed Stork***Mycteria ibis*

We had great scope views of ten at the Kwanza River estuary.

African Openbill*Anastomus lamelligerus*

We had good views of one at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Black Stork*Ciconia nigra*

Two were seen very well at the Leba escarpment.

Ibises, Spoonbills Threskiornithidae**African Sacred Ibis***Threskiornis aethiopicus*

Ten birds were seen near Lobito and several more at the Kwanza River estuary.

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

African Spoonbill*Platalea alba*

We enjoyed wonderful views of 8 at a wetland near Lobito and a further 11 at the Kwanza River estuary.

Hérons, Bitterns Ardeidae**Little Bittern***Ixobrychus minutus*

One was seen by some during the drive from Kumbira to Tombingo

White-backed Night Heron*Nycticorax nycticorax*

Two juveniles were seen at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

Striated Heron*Butorides striata*

One was seen by some at the Lucala River

Squacco Heron*Ardeola ralloides*

At least six were seen near Lobito and later another during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira

[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 peak numbers of 15 at Lobito.

Black-headed Heron*Ardea melanocephala*

We recorded small numbers at scattered sites in Angola. Our first sightings were of several during the Namibe day trip.

Purple Heron*Ardea purpurea*

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

Great Egret*Ardea alba*

We had good views of 20 at Lobito and several more at a large wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia*

We had great views of two at a wetland near Lobito.

Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca*

We had great scope views of ten at Lobito and a further one at the Kwanza River estuary

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Peak numbers of 30 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 several at the crater lake south of Quitexe

Pelicans Pelecanidae

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus*

We had good views of 1 at a wetland near Lobito and a further 3 at the Kwanza River estuary.

Cormorants Phalacrocoracidae

Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus*

We enjoyed scattered sightings throughout the trip with a peak count of 40 at the wetland near Lobito.

White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax lucidus*

We had fair scope views of 20 at a wetland near Lobito.

Darters Anhingidae

[African] Darter *Anhinga rufa*

Our first sighting was of 15 near Lobito and two more at the Kwanza River estuary.

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 fifteen during the drive from Damengola to the southern sector of Kissama NP.

White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus*

A distant bird was seen during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela camp.

Black-chested Snake Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis*

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

Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus*

We had great views of one during the drive from south Benguela camp to Mount Moco

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus*

We enjoyed good sightings of two whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and further daily sightings in Kissama NP



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- Bat Hawk** *Macheiramphus alcinus*
One was seen well but briefly at Kumbira Forest.
- Crowned Eagle** *Stephanoaetus coronatus*
We had a wonderful sighting of a pair displaying over Kumbira Forest. A rare species in Angola!
- Martial Eagle** *Polemaetus bellicosus*
An adult was seen soaring briefly during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira
- 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 two during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela camp and another in south Kissama NP
- Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus*
One was seen flying along the Tundavala escarpment.
- Ayres's Hawk-Eagle** *Hieraaetus ayresii*
We had a great sighting of one over Damengola Forest
- Verreaux's Eagle** *Aquila verreauxii*
A distant pair was seen during the day trip to Namibe.
- African Hawk-Eagle** *Aquila spilogaster*
One was seen briefly at our south Benguela camp.
- Lizard Buzzard** *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*
Our first sighting was of one along the Namibe road with further sightings of two daily at Kumbira Forest where one was seen nesting.
- Dark Chanting Goshawk** *Melierax metabates*
Two were seen soaring during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and another at 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 at Kumbira Forest.
NOTE: The West African forms are sometimes separated as Red-chested Goshawk (A. tousseneli).
- Little Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter minullus*
One was seen flying in south Kissama NP.
- Ovambo Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter ovampensis*
One was seen soaring at Mt Moco. A pleasant surprise!
- Shikra** *Accipiter badius*
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.
- African Marsh Harrier** *Circus ranivorus*
Two birds were seen near Mount Moco and again at Kinjila.
- Yellow-billed (Black) Kite** *Milvus aegyptius*
Small numbers were encountered at a few sites. Our highest count was 12 at Kinjila.
NOTE: This species is now accepted by most authorities. It has been split from Black Kite, M. migrans
- African Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus vocifer*
Two were seen very well at the Kwanza 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.
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Bustards Otididae**Rüppell's Bustard***Eupodotis rueppellii*

A fabulous six birds were seen during the Namibe day trip

Black-bellied Bustard (Korhaan)*Lissotis melanogaster*

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

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

We had good views of this species near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

Red-chested Flufftail*Sarothrura rufa*

We heard this species at Tundavala and Kinjila

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

We enjoyed good scope views of one at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

Red-knobbed Coot*Fulica cristata*

We had scope views of eight at a wetland near Lobito.

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

We had good views of three at the Kwanza River mouth.

Spotted Thick-knee*Burhinus capensis*

We heard one calling at Mount Moco.

Stilts, Avocets Recurvirostridae**Black-winged Stilt***Himantopus himantopus*

Twenty birds were seen near Lobito and several more at wetlands around Luanda

Pied Avocet*Recurvirostra avocetta*

We had wonderful views of one near Lobito

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

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

African Wattled Lapwing*Vanellus senegallus*

We had superb views of two near Mount Moco.

Grey (Black-bellied) Plover*Pluvialis squatarola*

One was seen at a wetland near Lobito and another at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

Common Ringed Plover*Charadrius hiaticula*

We saw two at the Kwanza River estuary.

Kittlitz's Plover*Charadrius pecuarius*

One was seen at a wetland near Lobito.

Three-banded Plover*Charadrius tricollaris*

One was seen at the dam at Tundavala and a further four at the wetland near Lobito

White-fronted Plover*Charadrius marginatus*

We had good scope views of one at the Kwanza River mouth.



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

Our first sighting was of three at a wetland near Lobito with further sightings of at least six during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira

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

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

Common Redshank*Tringa totanus*

We had good views of one at a wetland near Lobito, a rarity for Angola.

Marsh Sandpiper*Tringa stagnatilis*

We enjoyed superb views of three near Lobito.

Common Greenshank*Tringa nebularia*

Three were seen near Lobito and a further one at the Kwanza River mouth.

Wood Sandpiper*Tringa glareola*

We had great views of fifteen at the wetlands near Lobito

Common Sandpiper*Actitis hypoleucos*

We enjoyed a number of scattered sightings throughout the trip.

Ruddy Turnstone*Arenaria interpres*

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

Sanderling*Calidris alba*

We had good scope views of one at the Kwanza River mouth

Little Stint*Calidris minuta*

We had superb views of 45 at a wetland near Lobito.

Curlew Sandpiper*Calidris ferruginea*

We had good views of six at a wetland near Lobito and a further 10 at a wetland near Luanda

Ruff*Philomachus pugnax*

We had good views of 15 near Lobito.

Courasers, Pratincoles Glareolidae**Temminck's Courser***Cursorius temminckii*

We enjoyed great scope views of a sub-adult during the day trip to Namibe

Rock Pratincole*Glareola nuchalis*

We had great views of three pairs at the Lucala River.

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae**Kelp Gull***Larus dominicanus*

We had good views of 9 at a wetland near Lobito and a further 40 at the Kwanza River mouth.

Caspian Tern*Hydroprogne caspia*

We had superb views of 10 at the Kwanza River mouth.

Royal Tern*Thalasseus maximus*

At least 300 were seen at the Kwanza River mouth.

Sandwich Tern*Thalasseus sandvicensis*

We had great views of 20 at the Kwanza River mouth.

Common Tern*Sterna hirundo*

A flock of 20 was seen at the Kwanza River mouth



Sandgrouse Pteroclididae

Namaqua Sandgrouse *Pterocles namaqua*
We heard this species calling during our day trip to Namibe

Pigeons, Doves Columbidae

Rock Dove *Columba livia*
Commonly encountered in larger towns and cities

Afep Pigeon *Columba unicincta*
We heard this species calling at Damengola Forest.

African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix*
We had superb views of four on the Leba escarpment.

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques*
We enjoyed good scope views of two in Damengola Forest.

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*
This common species was seen on many days 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 in south Kissama NP

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 and in south Kissama NP

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*
Two birds were seen very well in Kumbira Forest and again at Damengola

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria*
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 three of these impressive birds at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Guinea Turaco *Tauraco persa*
After some effort we had good views of one at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Schalow's Turaco *Tauraco schalowi*
We had superb views of three of these stunning birds sporting their elongated crests, at Mount Moco

Red-crested Turaco (E) *Tauraco erythrolophus*
We had excellent views of this, the most spectacular of the Angolan endemics, at Kumbira Forest and again at Kinjila

Ross's Turaco *Musophaga rossae*
We had superb scope views of one at Mount Moco.

Grey Go-away-bird (Lourie) *Corythaixoides concolor*
A couple was observed during the day trip to Namibe and a further eight in south Kissama NP.

Cuckoos Cuculidae

Gabon Coucal *Centropus anselli*
A very elusive species which we heard at Tombingo, Kumbira and Damengola Forests



Senegal Coucal

Two were seen near Damengola Forest.

Centropus senegalensis

Blue-headed Coucal

We had cracking views of one at the Lucala River.

Centropus monachus

Coppery-tailed Coucal

We had a great sighting of one near Mount Moco.

Centropus cupreicaudus

White-browed Coucal

We had good views of one at the Kwanza River Mouth.

Centropus superciliosus

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)

This skulking species was initially seen at Kinjila and later we enjoyed good views of two at Damengola.

Ceuthmochares aereus

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.

Thick-billed Cuckoo

We had distant views of one at Damengola Forest

Pachycoccyx audeberti

Klaas's Cuckoo

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

Chrysococcyx klaas

Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo

We heard one calling from some gallery forest near Kinjila.

Cercococcyx olivinus

Black Cuckoo

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

Cuculus clamosus

Red-chested Cuckoo

We had brief views of one near Kinjila and another was seen in the mangroves at the Kwanza River estuary.

Cuculus solitarius

African Cuckoo

We had fairly good views of two at Kinjila.

Cuculus gularis

Barn Owls Tytonidae**Western Barn Owl**

We heard this species calling at Tundavala.

Tyto alba

Owls Strigidae**African Scops Owl**

We had simply amazing views of one near Kinjila village, just north of Calandula.

Otus senegalensis

Spotted Eagle-Owl

We had great views of two on our first evening at Tundavala.

Bubo africanus

African Wood Owl

We heard several calling at Kumbira Forest.

Strix woodfordii

Pearl-spotted Owlet

We had great views of two near our Benguela camp and a further one in south Kissama NP

Glaucidium perlatum

African Barred Owlet

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

Glaucidium capense

Nightjars Caprimulgidae**Fiery-necked Nightjar**

One was heard calling at our south Kissama camp.

Caprimulgus pectoralis



Freckled Nightjar*Caprimulgus tristigma*

Two were seen by some at Tundavala.

Square-tailed Nightjar*Caprimulgus fossii*

We heard one calling at our campsite near Tombingo Forest.

Pennant-winged Nightjar*Caprimulgus vexillarius*

We had magnificent views of two males and a female at Mount Moco

Swifts Apodidae**Mottled Spinetail***Telacanthura ussheri*

We had good views of three during the day trip to Namibe

Böhm's (Bat-like) Spinetail*Neafrapus boehmi*

We enjoyed a fabulous sighting of three 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*

Up to fifty of these huge swifts were seen at Tundavala

Mottled Swift*Telacanthura ussheri*

Small numbers were seen near Kumbira Forest and in south Kissama NP

Common Swift*Apus apus*

Several were seen in south Kissama NP

Fernando Po Swift*Apus sladeniae*

We observed a flock of ten 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*

Up to 40 were seen at the Tundavala Escarpment.

Little Swift*Apus affinis*

Seen at many localities.

Horus Swift*Apus horus*

We enjoyed wonderful sightings of a flock of at least 8 at Mount Moco.

White-rumped Swift*Apus caffer*

We had good views of five at Kinjila.

Bates's Swift*Apus batesi*

A flock of ten birds was seen over forest south of Quitexe

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 good scope views of a male in miombo woodland near Kinjila.



Rollers Coraciidae**Purple (Rufous-crowned) Roller***Coracias naevius*

Our first sighting was of one at Mount Moco and a further one in Kissama NP.

Lilac-breasted Roller*Coracias caudatus*

Several of these stunning birds were seen in Kissama NP. 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 two at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Broad-billed Roller*Eurystomus glaucurus*

We had great views of two near Kinjila village, north of Calandula and several more at Damengola

Kingfishers Alcedinidae**Chocolate-backed Kingfisher***Halcyon badia*

We heard one calling at Damengola Forest.

Grey-headed Kingfisher*Halcyon leucocephala*

Some of us had brief views of one at Mount Moco

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 Kinjila.

Blue-breasted Kingfisher*Halcyon malimbica*

We heard this species at the Kwanza River estuary and Alain saw one there

Woodland Kingfisher*Halcyon senegalensis*

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

African Pygmy Kingfisher*Ispidina picta*

This woodland haunting kingfisher was well seen in Kumbira Forest with further sightings at Damengola Forest and in Kissama NP

Malachite Kingfisher*Corythornis cristatus*

One of these brilliant river-dwelling kingfishers was seen during our time at Tundavala and another near Kinjila.

Giant Kingfisher*Megaceryle maxima*

We had good views of a pair near Tombingo Forest and further sightings at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

Pied Kingfisher*Ceryle rudis*

Small numbers were seen at a wetland near Lobito and several at the Kwanza River mouth.

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

Two pairs of these spectacular birds were seen at Damengola Forest

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater*Merops hirundineus*

Two birds were seen at south Kissama NP.

Little Bee-eater*Merops pusillus*

Seen almost daily throughout Angola

Blue-breasted Bee-eater*Merops variegatus*

We had good views of two near Kinjila and four near the Lucala River, Calandula.

White-fronted Bee-eater*Merops bullockoides*

We had good views of one at Mount Moco



Olive Bee-eater *Merops superciliosus*

At least 10 birds were seen around a wetland near Lobito

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*

We saw several flocks in the Damengola area

Hoopoes Upupidae

African (Eurasian) Hoopoe *Upupa africana*

We had good views of one during the Namibe day trip and scattered sightings elsewhere

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 in southern Kissama NP.

Black Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus aterrimus*

Two were seen near Kinjila, Calandula.

Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*

We had good views of three 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, with further sightings near our south Benguela camp.

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. kempfi of Senegambia. Clements does not recognize these splits.

Monteiro's Hornbill *Tockus monteiri*

We had fair views of three during the drive north to Benguela

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

Two were seen during the drive to Namibe and several around our south Benguela Camp. Up to ten 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 daily sightings at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

Pale-billed Hornbill *Lophoceros pallidirostris*

Two birds were seen very well near Kinjila.

Piping Hornbill *Bycanistes fistulator*

We had great views of up to eight at Tombingo Forest and daily sightings at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

Trumpeter Hornbill *Bycanistes bucinator*

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

Black-casqued Hornbill *Ceratogymna atrata*

We heard two calling and glimpsed them as they flew through the canopy 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 six were seen at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.
- Anchieta's Barbet** *Stactolaema anchietae*
A splendid three 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 at Tundavala and another 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 Kumbira Forest and at Kinjila.
- 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*
Two were seen near our south Benguela camp.
- Black-collared Barbet** *Lybius torquatus*
We had great views of two at Tundavala and another whilst en route from Kinjila to Damengola
- Black-backed Barbet** *Lybius minor*
We had superb views of two at Mount Moco and a further one at Kumbira Forest.
- Yellow-billed Barbet** *Trachyphonus purpuratus*
This strange forest barbet with a deep hooting call was seen very well at Tombingo Forest

Honeyguides Indicatoridae

- Brown-backed Honeybird** *Prodotiscus regulus*
We had good views of one in south Kissama NP.
- Pallid Honeyguide** *Indicator meliphilus*
We had brief views of one at Mount Moco and great views of another in Kumbira Forest
- Scaly-throated Honeyguide** *Indicator variegatus*
Two were seen at Kumbira Forest.

Woodpeckers Picidae

- Red-throated Wryneck** *Jynx ruficollis*
We had good views of two whilst at Mount Moco and another was seen at Kinjila
- Golden-tailed Woodpecker** *Campethera abingoni*
One was seen well in south Kissama NP
- Green-backed Woodpecker** *Campethera cailliautii*
A pair was seen exceptionally well at Kinjila and another at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.
- Brown-eared Woodpecker** *Campethera caroli*
One was seen by some at Tombingo Forest and later we had great scope views of one at Damengola Forest.



- Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens*
This widespread woodland species was observed during the day trip to Namibe and again at Kwanza River estuary
- Bearded Woodpecker** *Dendropicos namaquus*
We had great scope views of a pair in south Kissama NP.
- Yellow-crested Woodpecker** *Dendropicos xantholophus*
We enjoyed great sightings of a pair at Tombingo Forest.
- Elliot's Woodpecker** *Dendropicos elliotii*
One was seen briefly in Kumbira Forest.
- Olive Woodpecker** *Dendropicos griseocephalus*
We enjoyed good views of a pair 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. rupicolus of southern and central Africa, from the more widespread migrant Common Kestrel, F. tinnunculus. This split is accepted by most authorities.
- African Hobby** *Falco cuvierii*
One was seen near Calandula and another flying past our camp in south Kissama NP.
- Lanner Falcon** *Falco biarmicus*
We had cracking views of six during the trip including superb sightings near Kumbira Forest.
- Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*
We had good views of one at the Leba escarpment.

Parrots Psittacidae

- Rosy-faced Lovebird (NE)** *Agapornis roseicollis*
We enjoyed wonderful sightings of fifty during the day trip to Namibe.
- Red-fronted Parrot** *Poicephalus gularis*
Some were seen flying over Tombingo Forest and later we enjoyed our best views of two at Damengola Forest.
- Meyer's Parrot** *Poicephalus meyeri*
We had fair scope views of several during the drive from Tombingo Forest to Kinjila with further sightings at Kinjila
- Rüppell's Parrot (NE)** *Poicephalus rueppellii*
One was seen well during the Namibe day trip. A localized species endemic to Namibia and Angola.

Broadbills Eurylaimidae

- African Broadbill** *Smithornis capensis*
Another highlight of the trip was of good views of a male in Kumbira Forest. This is often a very tricky species to see.

Wattle-eyes, Batises Platysteiridae

- Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher** *Bias musicus*
We had superb views of a male and female at Damengola Forest.
- Margaret's Batis** *Batis margaritae*
We heard one calling at Mount Moco
- Chinspot Batis** *Batis molitor*
Our first sighting was of a female at Mount Moco and a further two at Kinjila.
- Pirit Batis** *Batis pririt*



We had good views of a female during the day trip to Namibe and a male near Benguela.

Western Black-headed Batis *Batis erlangeri*

We had good but brief views of one at Damengola Forest

Angolan Batis (NE) *Batis minulla*

Several birds were seen at Kumbira Forest, 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 in Kumbira Forest.

Black-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira peltata*

We had good views of a male 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 south Kissama NP.

Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye *Platysteira concreta*

Three were seen in Kumbira Forest, a real beauty that eventually showed very well.

Helmetsrikes Prionopidae

White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus*

A flock was seen during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela and a final sighting in south Kissama NP.

Retz's Helmetshrike *Prionops retzii*

We had good views of three 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 just one 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.

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti*

We had good views of one during our time at Kinjila

Many-coloured Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus multicolor*

We heard one in Kumbira Forest.

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

We had great sightings 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 drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp with further sightings at Kumbira and Kinjila.

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 views of a pair during the day trip to Namibe.

Marsh (Anchieta's) Tchagra *Bocagia minuta*

A single bird was seen very well at Mount Moco and another near Kinjila



Brown-crowned Tchagra*Tchagra australis*

We had great views of several at Kinjila

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 with scattered sightings elsewhere

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! A species which has been seen by only a handful of birders!

Gabela Bushshrike (E)*Laniarius amboimensis*

This attractive endemic was hard to locate but eventually we managed to see it 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 one 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.

Brubru*Nilaus afer*

We had great scope views of one in south Kissama NP.

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

One was seen in the miombo woodland near Kinjila.

Black Cuckooshrike*Campephaga flava*

We had good views of a male and female 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 this normally scarce species at Kinjila and Damengola Forest.

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

One was seen during the day trip to Namibe and another 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 three 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 two 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 a bird in the gallery forest at Kinjila, Calandula and later enjoyed good scope views of two at Damengola Forest

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 great views of a splendid male at the N^o Dalatando Botanical Gardens.

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 Tundavala and Mount Moco.

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

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

Carp's Tit*Melaniparus carpi*

We had good views of one during the Namibe day trip

Dusky Tit*Melaniparus funereus*

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

Rufous-bellied Tit*Melaniparus rufiventris*

We had great views of one on Mount Moco.

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

We had wonderful views of three birds during the Namibe day trip. Another was seen briefly at our south Benguela camp.



Nicator 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

Eight 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.

Rufous-naped Lark

Mirafra africana

We had good views of one at Tundavala.

Angolan 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 seen at Kinjila and again at Damengola 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 where it was seen briefly

Yellow-bellied Greenbul

Chlorocichla flaviventris

This large noisy greenbul was seen during our day trip to Namibe, at Tundavala and in south Kissama NP.

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 at Mount Moco and another was seen in the gallery forest at Kinjila.

Pale-olive Greenbul (NE)

Phyllastrephus fulviventris

We had superb views of this little known Angolan near-endemic during the day trip to Namibe, at Kumbira Forest and at our south Benguela camp. It is far more attractive than illustrations show.

Cabanis's Greenbul

Phyllastrephus cabanisi

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



Red-tailed Bristlebill*Bleda syndactylus*

We heard one calling in Kumbira Forest and another in Damengola Forest

Black-collared Bulbul*Neolestes torquatus*

We had good scope views of three near Mount Moco, with further sightings at Kumbira Forest and Kinjila. A highly sought after species and not common anywhere.

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

Fair 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.

Brazza's Martin*Phedina brazzae*

We had wonderful views of three birds, yet another highlight of the tour!

Sand Martin*Riparia riparia*

One was seen near Kinjila

Barn Swallow*Hirundo rustica*

Up to six birds were seen at Kinjila

Angola Swallow*Hirundo angolensis*

We had good views of small numbers on 8 days.

White-throated Swallow*Hirundo albigularis*

We had good views of two near Kinjila

Wire-tailed Swallow*Hirundo smithii*

We had good views of several during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and again near Tombingo Forest.

White-bibbed Swallow*Hirundo nigrita*

Some of us had good views of one whilst en route from Mount Moco to Kumbira

Black-and-rufous Swallow*Hirundo nigrorufa*

We had fair views of this magnificent swallow at Mount Moco and another near Kinjila.

Rock Martin*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*

Several were seen during our time 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.

Common House Martin*Delichon urbicum*

One was seen at Mount Moco

Greater Striped Swallow*Cecropis cucullata*

Small numbers were seen at Mount Moco and Kinjila

Lesser Striped Swallow*Cecropis abyssinica*

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

Mosque Swallow*Cecropis senegalensis*

We had great sightings of several at Mount Moco

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 two at Mount Moco.

Rockrunner*Achaetops pycnopygius*

Three birds showed well during our time at Tundavala

Yellow Longbill *Macrosphenus flavicans*

We heard this elusive species at Tombingo and Damengola Forests and it showed very well at the latter site.

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 Kumbira.

Red-capped Crombec *Sylvietta ruficapilla*

We had great views of two at Tundavala

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*

This species was heard at Kumbira and Damengola Forests. A species which is far more often heard than seen.

Reed warblers and allies Acrocephalidae

Greater Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus rufescens*

We heard one calling near Kinjila and another at the Lucala River.

Lesser Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus gracilirostris*

We had good views of one at Tundavala.

African Yellow Warbler *Iduna natalensis*

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

Grassbirds and allies Locustellidae

Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus baboecala*

We had fair views of two 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 one at Mount Moco

Cisticolas and allies Cisticolidae

Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops*

We had good 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 six 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.



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- 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.
- Chirping Cisticola** *Cisticola pipiens*
 We had good views of several at a wetland near Kinjila.
- Croaking Cisticola** *Cisticola natalensis*
 We had superb views of two 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 en route from Kinjila to Damengola
- Neddicky (Piping Cisticola)** *Cisticola fulvicapilla*
 We had good views of one during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and several more at Kinjila
- Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*
 We had good views of one during the day trip to Namibe
- Wing-snapping Cisticola** *Cisticola ayresii*
 We had good scope views of one at Tundavala.
- 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.
- Banded Prinia** *Prinia bairdii*
 We had good views of two in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.
- Yellow-breasted Apalis** *Apalis flavida*
 We had great views of several near our south Benguela camp and a further three in south Kissama NP.
- Lowland Masked Apalis** *Apalis binotata*
 We had cracking views of one at Kumbira Forest.
- Black-throated Apalis** *Apalis jacksoni*
 We had wonderful views of five during the drive from Kinjila to Damengola.
- Buff-throated Apalis** *Apalis rufogularis*
 Small numbers were seen daily at Kumbira Forest, a vocal canopy species and again at Damengola
- Grey Apalis** *Apalis cinerea*
 Two were seen building a nest at Tundavala and up to six daily on Mount Moco.
- Grey-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brevicaudata*
 We had many 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 great 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 one at Tombingo Forest and several at Damengola
- Miombo Wren-Warbler** *Calamonastes undosus*
 We had great views of one at Mount Moco and heard others near Kinjila.
- Yellow-bellied Eremomela** *Eremomela icteropygialis*
 We had splendid views of one at Tundavala.
- Green-capped Eremomela** *Eremomela scotops*
 We had good views of three at Tundavala, three at Mount Moco and two near Kinjila.
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Rufous-crowned Eremomela*Eremomela badiceps*

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

Fulvettas, Ground Babblers Pellorneidae**Brown Illadopsis***Illadopsis fulvescens.*

Seen very well in Kumbira Forest, a skulking understorey species

Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae**Hartlaub's Babbler***Turdoides hartlaubii*

We had good views of two at Tundavala.

Bare-cheeked Babbler (NE)*Turdoides gymnogenys*

We had a wonderful sighting of two during our day trip to Namibe and a further sighting of five at our south Benguela camp.

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

We had fair views of one on Mount Moco.

Chestnut-vented Warbler*Sylvia subcaerulea*

One was seen by Angie during the Namibe day trip.

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

Seen on many days in small numbers with good views of several at Mount Moco

Hyliotas Hylotiidae**Yellow-bellied Hyliota***Hyliota flavigaster*

One was seen very well in woodland near Kinjila

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 thirty were seen at Damengola Forest.

Sharp-tailed Starling*Lamprotornis acuticaudus*

Our first sighting was of one at Tundavala with further sightings of six during the drive from Tundavala to south Benguela and up to 15 daily at 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*

Several were seen in Damengola Forest.

Pale-winged Starling (NE)*Onychognathus naboroupp*

Another dry country starling seen *en route* to Namibe where at least twenty counted.

Oxpeckers Buphagidae**Yellow-billed Oxpecker***Buphagus africanus*

We had good views of 8 during the day trip to Namibe

Thrushes Turdidae**Fraser's Rufous Thrush***Stizorhina fraseri*

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

Groundscraper Thrush*Turdus litsitsirupa*

We had good views of two during the day trip to Namibe

African Thrush*Turdus pelios*

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

Chats, Old World Flycatchers Muscipidae**Forest Scrub Robin***Cercotrichas leucosticta*

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

Miombo Scrub Robin*Cercotrichas barbata*

We had splendid views of this smart species in woodland whilst *en route* from Tundavala to south Benguela.

Kalahari Scrub Robin (NE)*Cercotrichas paena*

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

Brown-backed Scrub Robin*Cercotrichas hartlaubi*

We had superb scope views of one near Damengola Forest.

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.

Angolan Slaty Flycatcher (E)*Dioptrornis brunneus*

We were treated to incredible views of two of these endemic flycatchers on the Tundavala Escarpment. Several 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*

Two were seen at Tundavala.

Chat Flycatcher (NE)*Bradornis infuscatus*

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

Ashy (Blue-Grey) Flycatcher*Muscicapa caerulescens*

We had good views of two in Kumbira Forest and another in Damengola Forest

Cassin's Flycatcher*Muscicapa cassini*

We had great views of one near Tombingo 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 one in Damengola Forest.
- Sooty Flycatcher** *Muscicapa infusate*
We had superb views of two at Tombingo Forest and a further two in Damengola Forest.
- Angolan 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 one near Kinjila.
- White-browed (Heuglin's) Robin-Chat** *Cossypha heuglini*
We had good views of one at Tundavala, three 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 very well indeed. 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!
- Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat** *Cossypha niveicapilla*
One was seen by some at Tundavala
- Bocage's Akalat** *Sheppardia bocagei*
We were very fortunate to have the most amazing views of one of these skulkers 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 one 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 Kwanza 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 male showed very well at Tundavala.
- 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 eight individuals.
- Sooty Chat** *Myrmecocichla nigra*
We had good views of a male while en route 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*. Several others were seen at Mount Moco
- Capped Wheatear** *Oenanthe pileata*
We had superb views of several near Mount Moco.
- Familiar Chat** *Oenanthe familiaris*
This rock-loving species was observed at Mount Moco.

Sunbirds Nectariniidae

- Anchieta's Sunbird** *Anthreptes anchietae*



Three birds including a splendid male were seen near Kinjila. This striking species was highly sought-after and another real highlight of the trip!

Mangrove Sunbird *Anthreptes gabonicus*

Three birds were seen well at the Kwanza River estuary

Western Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes longuemarei*

A female was seen whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and later we had wonderful views of a pair in the Kinjila area.

Little Green Sunbird *Anthreptes seimundi*

We found two in Kumbira Forest.

Grey-chinned Sunbird *Anthreptes rectirostris*

A male was seen in the gallery forest at Kinjila

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 one near Kinjila, but you had to be quick.

Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Cyanomitra cyanolaema*

A male was seen at the N'Dalatando Botanical Gardens and another at Damengola Forest.

(Western) Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea*

Fairly commonly seen at Kumbira and Damengola Forests

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 forest south of Quitexe.

Green-throated Sunbird *Chalcomitra rubescens*

We had good views of a male at Tombingo Forest

Amethyst (African Black) Sunbird *Chalcomitra amethystina*

We had good views of small numbers daily in the Kinjila area

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis*

Several were seen during the drive to Namibe and again 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 several males at Mount Moco.

Olive-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris chloropygius*

We had several sightings from forest edge in Kumbira Forest and forest sites thereafter.

Ludwig's (Montane) Double-collared Sunbird (NE) *Cinnyris ludovicensis*

Two 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 good but brief views of a male at Tundavala and later had awesome views of another at Mount Moco. This is another very localized species.

White-bellied (-breasted) Sunbird*Cinnyris talatala*

This widespread southern counterpart of the previous species was encountered in the dry lowlands en route to Namibe and near Benguela.

Variable Sunbird*Cinnyris venustus*

We had good views of six in the Tundavala area and another at Mount Moco.

Dusky Sunbird*Cinnyris fuscus*

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

Bates's Sunbird*Cinnyris batesi*

We were delighted to find two birds near Kinjila, a rarely recorded species in Angola

Copper Sunbird*Cinnyris cupreus*

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

Northern Grey-headed Sparrow*Passer griseus*

We had good views of two at Kumbira Forest and scattered sightings elsewhere.

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow*Passer diffusus*

We found six 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 one whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp and a pair was seen at Mount Moco.

Weavers, Widowbirds Ploceidae**Red-billed Buffalo Weaver***Bubalornis niger*

We had great views of a flock of ten in south Kissama NP.

Thick-billed Weaver*Amblyospiza albifrons*

A flock of six was seen in Tombingo Forest.

Black-chinned Weaver*Ploceus nigrimentus*

We had wonderful views of a pair at their nest, at Mount Moco

Spectacled Weaver*Ploceus ocularis*

Several were seen at the Kwanza River estuary

Black-necked Weaver*Ploceus nigricollis*

This species was seen in Kumbira Forest and at the Kwanza River estuary.

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*

A superb male was 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 a male at Damengola Forest.

Dark-backed (Forest) Weaver *Ploceus bicolor*
We had great views of one in south Kissama NP.

Red-headed Malimbe *Malimbus rubricollis*
We had superb views of one at Tombingo Forest and another in Damengola Forest.

Crested Malimbe *Malimbus malimbicus*
We had good views of two at Damengola Forest.

Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps*
A female showed briefly whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea*
A flock of thirty was seen at Mount Moco.

Black-winged Red Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus*
One was seen near Kumbira Forest.

Southern Red Bishop *Euplectes orix*
One was seen during our day trip along the Namibe road.

Golden-backed Bishop (NE) *Euplectes aureus*
We had good views of small flocks in southern Kissama NP.

Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis*
At least ten were seen at Mount Moco.

Fan-tailed Widowbird *Euplectes axillaris*
We had great scope views of eight at Tundavala.

Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes macroura*
One was seen near a wetland at Kinjila

Marsh Widowbird *Euplectes hartlaubi*
We had great views of 15 at the Lucala wetland near Kinjila

Red-collared Widowbird *Euplectes ardens*
A flock of twenty was seen in rank grassland near Mount Moco.

Waxbills, Munias & Allies Estrildidae

White-breasted Nigrita *Nigrita fusconotus*
We had superb views of four in Damengola Forest.

Chestnut-breasted Nigrita *Nigrita bicolor*
We had good views of one in Tombingo Forest and later superb views of two at Damengola Forest.

Grey-headed Nigrita *Nigrita canicapillus*
We enjoyed excellent views of several birds in Kumbira and Damengola Forests.

Pale-fronted Nigrita *Nigrita luteifrons*
We had great views of a pair in forest south of Quitexe

White-collared Oliveback *Nesocharis ansorgei*
We had a good sighting of six in Damengola Forest.

Orange-winged Pytilia *Pytilia afra*
We had good looks at three at Mount Moco

Green-winged Pytilia (Melba Finch) *Pytilia melba*
At our lunch stop en route from Benguela to Mount Moco we enjoyed fabulous views of a pair.



Green Twinspot *Mandingoa nitidula*

Two birds were seen briefly in the gallery forest at Kinjila

Black-bellied Seedcracker *Pyrenestes ostrinus*

We had brief views of a male at a wetland near Kinjila.

Brown Twinspot *Clytospiza monteiri*

We had glimpses of one near Damengola Forest

Dusky Twinspot *Euschistospiza cinereovinacea*

Up to ten 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 *Lagonosticta senegala*

We had good views of several during the Namibe day trip

Landana (Pale-billed) Firefinch (E) *Lagonosticta landanae*

Several birds were seen near Kumbira Forest. An uncommon Angolan endemic.

Jameson's Firefinch *Lagonosticta rhodopareia*

Three were seen at Tundavala.

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 six at Tundavala. A stunning seedeater!

Angola (Yellow-bellied) Waxbill (E) *Coccygia bocagei*

At least three of these lovely waxbills were seen at Tundavala and twenty 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 two near Kumbira Forest with a further sighting 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 sixty at Mount Moco.

Orange-cheeked Waxbill *Estrilda melpoda*

Six were seen near Damengola Forest

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 twenty was seen 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.

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**Purple Indigobird** *Vidua purpurascens*

Three birds in non-breeding plumage were seen during the day trip to Namibe

Dusky Indigobird *Vidua funereal*

We had good views of two at Mount Moco

Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura*

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



Wagtails, Pipits Motacillidae**African Pied Wagtail***Motacilla aguimp*

We had good views of two at the Calandula Falls.

Fülleborn's Longclaw*Macronyx fuellebornii*

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 two 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.

Long-billed Pipit*Anthus similis*

We had good views of two at Mount Moco

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.

Long-legged Pipit*Anthus pallidiventris*

We had great views of two birds at the Kwanza River estuary

Striped Pipit*Anthus lineiventris*

We had good scope views of one on Mount Moco.

Finches Fringillidae**Black-faced Canary (NE)***Crithagra capistrata*

This localized canary was seen first at Mount Moco with further sightings at Kumbira Forest.

Black-throated Canary*Crithagra atrogularis*

Five were seen during the day trip to Namibe and several more at Mount Moco

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

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

Brimstone (Bully) Canary*Crithagra sulphurata*

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

White-throated Canary*Crithagra albogularis*

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

Yellow-crowned Canary*Serinus flavivertex*

Two were seen at Tundavala.

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 good views of two during the day trip to Namibe.

Cinnamon-breasted Bunting*Emberiza tahapisi*

Several were seen at Tundavala

Cape Bunting*Emberiza capensis*

Two birds were seen at Tundavala

Golden-breasted Bunting*Emberiza flaviventris*

We had good views of two at Mount Moco.

Cabanis's Bunting*Emberiza cabanisi*

One was seen in the miombo woodland at Mount Moco.

MAMMALS (11 species)**Vervet Monkey***Cercopithecus aethiops*

One of these inquisitive monkeys was seen en route from Tundavala to south Benguela and a further three in Kumbira Forest.

Blue (Samango/Gentle) Monkey*Cercopithecus mitis*

At least fifteen of these smart monkeys were seen at the Queve Falls and several more in the mangroves at the Kwanza River.

Thick-tailed Greater Galago*Otolemur crassicaudatus*

We heard one calling near our camp at Kumbira Forest

Common Dwarf Mongoose*Helogale parvula*

We had good views of two at a small woodland whilst en route from Tundavala to south Benguela camp.

Slender Mongoose*Galerella sanguinea*

Two were seen during the Namibe day trip and another at Kinjila

Congo Rope Squirrel*Funisciurus congicus*

We had good views of one near Kinjila.

Gambian Sun Squirrel*Paraxerus cepapi*

We had good views of several in Kumbira Forest.

Smith's Bush Squirrel*Xerus inauris*

One was seen during the day trip to Namibe

Smith's Rock Elephant Shrew*Elephantulus rupestris*

One was seen at Tundavala.

Unstriped Grass Mouse*Lemniscomys sp.*

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

Yellow-spotted Hyrax (Dassie)*Heterohyrax brucei*

Three were seen during the Namibe day trip.

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS**Red-headed Rock Agama***Agama agama*

We had good views of several at Tundavala and during the day trip to Namibe.



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