



Rockjumper Birding Tours

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Uganda Birds and Gorillas III Trip Report

18th July to 04th August 2008 (18 days)



Trip Report Compiled by: Rainer Summers

Tour Summary



Uganda truly is an astounding country and its faunal, floral and scenic delights never fail to pack a significant punch! Our tour took us from endless *Borassus* palm studded grasslands to dense tropical rainforest, and included the scenic wonders of the Nile, Murchison Falls and the Rift Valley lakes! Avian highlights in this astoundingly diverse country included the incredible Shoebill, Green-breasted Pitta, Grauer's (African Green) Broadbill, Pennant-winged Nightjar, White-backed Night Heron, Western Bronze-naped Pigeon, Black Bee-eater, 10 stunning species of Kingfisher (including Chocolate-backed, Blue-breasted, Dwarf and Shining-blue!), Red-faced Barbet, Papyrus Gonolek, Dwarf Honeyguide, Western Tinkerbird, Neumann's Warbler and Brown Twinspot. On the mammalian front, Leopard, Lion, African Civet, Yellow-backed Duiker, Mountain Gorilla, Chimpanzee and enormous herds of Buffalo stole the show.

The first day of the tour began as we headed for Lake Mburo in the south of Uganda. En route, a few short stops yielded some great birds, with the undeniable highlight of the day however being a pair of Sitatunga, not a bird at all but rather an odd water-dwelling antelope! As an extension of the southern savannas, Lake Mburo hosts a number of birds that do not occur further north into Uganda, and we searched the woodlands dominated by *Acacia hockii*, *Euphorbia* sp. and gnarled *Boscia* trees for these species. Some of the 'specials' we recorded were the highly sought-after Red-faced Barbet, Brown-chested Lapwing, the incomparable Pennant-winged Nightjar, African Scops Owl, Coqui Francolin and African Hawk Eagle. A morning boat trip provided us with superb views of a pair of White-backed Night Heron and the sought-after African Finfoot. This reserve also harbours the only Impala and Plain's Zebra in Uganda, and in addition to numerous sightings of these animals, we were treated to an unusual daytime sighting of a family of Bushpig crossing the road, a rare sighting indeed!

We then moved on to the montane splendours of Ruhija, situated in the south of the rich Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. En route we enjoyed unbelievable views of Papyrus Gonolek, White-winged Warbler and Carruthers's Cisticola. Our time at Ruhija was rewarded with sightings of some excellent birds, including a memorable encounter of one of the most sought-after birds in Africa, Grauer's Broadbill. After a nervous wait, this stunner arrived at the nest, much to the delight of everyone! Additional 'specials' seen here included Dwarf Honeyguide, Western Tinkerbird, Grauer's Warbler, Grauer's Rush Warbler, Archer's Ground Robin, Strange Weaver, Mountain Sooty Boubou, White-headed Woodhoopoe, Dusky Crimsonwing, Brown-capped Weaver and Regal Sunbird.



After the superb montane birding in Ruhija, we headed north to the mid-altitude site of Buhoma, famed for its beautiful forests and healthy population of Mountain Gorillas! Our birding here was centred on walking the broad track through the secondary forest into the primary forest. The beautiful mossy forest here produced the outrageous Bar-tailed Trogon, Petit's Cuckoo-shrike, Black-faced Rufous Warbler (always in association with the skulking Mountain Illadopsis!), scope views of



the difficult Western Bronze-naped Pigeon, Ansorge's Greenbul, Tullberg's Woodpecker and Tiny Sunbird. In addition, we were treated to great views of the enigmatic Neumann's Warbler, a stunning long-legged warbler with a striking head pattern and a tendency to taunt one from deep in the undergrowth! Here too we enjoyed some excellent mammals including a feeding Yellow-backed Duiker, Black-fronted Duiker and an African Civet in broad daylight, an unusual sighting indeed. Surely a highlight (mammal or otherwise!) of any trip to Uganda however is time spent with the Mountain Gorillas, and this year proved to be no exception! The incredible moments spent with these

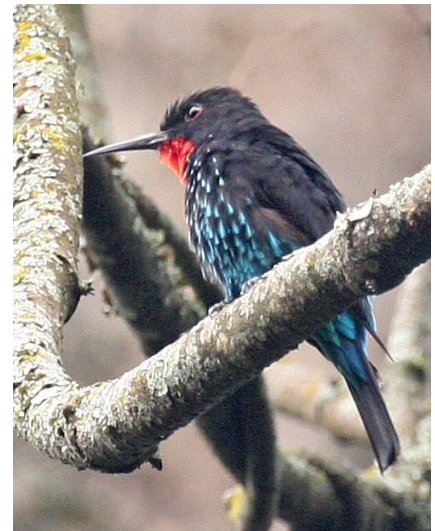
rainforest giants were magical as ever and will be etched into the memories of this group of lucky birders for a long time yet!



Onward from Bwindi we continued to the famed Queen Elizabeth National Park (QENP), which harbours an astounding 600 plus species of birds (the only park in Africa that can boast this amount!). After enjoying lunch alongside the remote Ishasha River, we drove through the southern end of the park across the Kazinga Channel to our wonderful lodge. This park is renowned for its good concentrations of game and we were treated to large numbers of Uganda Kob (a water dependant species), breeding herds of African Elephant (including testosterone

charged bulls!), wallowing herds of African Buffalo, Hippopotamus and playful troops of Banded Mongoose. Our Kazinga Channel boat cruise produced outstanding sightings of African Skimmer and huge numbers of waterbirds in addition to some of the aforementioned mammals. Meal times were dominated by Black-headed (Yellow-backed) and Slender-billed Weavers raiding unattended plates of food! The varied habitats of "QE" offered up other great birds to boot, including African Crake, White-tailed Lark, Compact Weaver, Marsh Tchagra, Moustached Grass Warbler, Rüppell's Vulture, Lesser Black-backed Gull and the gaudy Lesser Flamingo.

Our next stop was the magnificent Kibale National Park, an extensive mid-altitude forest that is contiguous with QENP. This park is renowned for its large primate diversity (the largest in East Africa), and is especially famous for its Chimpanzees, and here we made a concerted effort to connect with these superbly intelligent primates. Apart from the marvellous time spent with Chimpanzees feeding on figs in a huge *Ficus mucoso* tree, a particular highlight was hearing Green-breasted Pitta perform their strange display in the forest, and then coming face to face with this astounding bird! Other excellent birds encountered were Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Joyful Greenbul (calling joyfully from a tree top), Lowland Masked Apalis (strangely range restricted in Uganda), Afep Pigeon and Chestnut-winged Starling.



After Kibale, we travelled north to the town of Masindi, our base from which we would explore the wondrous Budongo Forest. The 'Royal Mile' in Budongo is where we concentrated our efforts and this has to be one of the finest birding tracks in all of Africa. Walking down the beautiful road that runs through tall *Milicia*, *Entandophragma* and *Cynometra* trees is a really special experience, and although the weather was not great, we none-the-less managed to find some excellent birds. Dwarf Kingfisher, Rufous-crowned Eremomela, White-throated Bee-eater, Chestnut-capped Flycatcher, Sabine's Spinetail, Eastern Forest Robin, Jameson's Wattle-eye, Lemon-bellied Crombec, White-thighed



Hornbill and excellent views of Chocolate-backed Kingfisher! Nearby, we were treated to views of Brown Twinspot and Heuglin's Francolin.



Continuing to the famous Murchison Falls NP, we first stopped at Kaniyo Pabidi, a different portion of Budongo Forest. This is the only site in East Africa that harbours Puvell's Illadopsis and, after a search we found this species and its cousin, the Brown Illadopsis. Thereafter, it was the Guinea woodlands and Tsetse flies of Murchison! These biting flies make for an interesting time, but did not deter us from finding the stunning White-crested Turaco and an immature Greater Honeyguide. After checking in to our accommodations in the reserve, we headed off to the mighty Murchison Falls (not before admiring a stunning pair of Abyssinian Ground Hornbill). We enjoyed marvelling at the Nile thundering through a narrow 6m cleft in the rocks and were treated to great views of Rock Pratincole, Red-winged Grey Warbler and Peregrine Falcon. In the late afternoon rain reduced the famed bat emergence to a mere trickle but we more than compensated with an incredible sighting of a Leopard just metres from our vehicle on our way back to camp, wow!

Another day dawned and we were off to look for a very special bird indeed...our Nile River boat cruise led us downstream towards the Albert Nile Delta in a specific attempt to find the incomparable Shoebill. Game abounded with numerous sightings of African Buffalo, Elephant and huge rafts of Hippos. After anxiously searching from the boat without success we hopped off our vessel, appropriately named the 'Shoebill', and proceeded to walk through a stunning floodplain area in search of the bird getting great views of Greater Painted Snipe as we went. As hope was fading, an adequately sized bird cruised in and landed in front of us and, hey presto, there it was...a Shoebill! What a creature, and well worth the effort spent in locating it! Thereafter commenced a game drive on the wild and beautiful north bank of the Nile, an area of endless grasslands and romantic views of the Albert Nile. Some great views were had of Rothschild's Giraffe, Oribi, enormous herds of Buffalo and a pride of eight lazing Lions! Birds abounded, and we saw large numbers of Black-headed Lapwing, Northern Carmine Bee-eater, Speckle-fronted Weaver and the huge Denham's Bustard. Then it was off to catch the Paraa ferry, and drive back to our lodge. Leaving Murchison the following day, we got great views of Brown-backed Woodpecker, and then picked up White-rumped Seedeater, Black-headed Batis, Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver, Cabanis's Bunting, Mocking Cliff-Chat, Foxy Cisticola (a good looking Cisticola!) and Vitelline Masked Weaver before arriving at the Busingiro section of Budongo Forest. The forest offered up excellent views of Yellow-crested Woodpecker and a vocalising Nahan's Francolin before one finally flushed in front of our vehicle.



The last full day of this great adventure dawned and we made our way towards Jinja, a small town of the source of the mighty Nile! Birding en route produced excellent birds, including Purple and Bronze-tailed Starling, Bearded Woodpecker, Red-shouldered Cuckoo-shrike, Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Golden-backed Weaver and Marsh Widowbird. Arriving in Jinja, we had excellent views of perched Pink-banked Pelican and Marabou Stork, before enjoying a sumptuous dinner.





Our final forest birding was had at Mabira Forest, an excellent piece of forest situated between Jinja and Kampala. This day was really 'birdy' (as is frequently the case in this forest), with the forest heaving with birds! Some of the better birds seen include Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike, Yellow-billed Barbet, African Pied Hornbill, Magpie Mannikin, Bat Hawk (a pair flying over the forest in the mid-morning), European Honey Buzzard (an unusual sighting at this time of year), and an excellent sighting of a Grey-cheeked Mangabey family!

Before saying our final goodbyes in Entebbe, we were treated to an excellent going away present in the form of a scoped Orange Weaver, and close-ups of Saddle-billed Stork. A fitting end to an incredible tour!

Annotated List of Birds recorded

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows the IOC List of Please cite: Gill, F. and M. Wright. 2006. Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.

Total species recorded (including heard): 527

An asterisk (*) indicates an Albertine Rift endemic (ARE) species.

QENP = Queen Elizabeth National Park

NP = National Park

Guineafowl Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl

Numida meleagris

Common and ubiquitous, Helmeted Guineafowl were encountered in good numbers at many sites.

Pheasants, Fowl and Allies Phasianidae

Nahan's Francolin

Ptilopachus nahani

Despite calling from a few metres away in the undergrowth, only some saw this species as it flew across the road in front of our convoy.

Coqui Francolin

Peliperdix coqui

This beauty was seen at Lake Mburo NP.

Crested Francolin

Dendroperdix sephaena

Seen well at Lake Mburo and Murchison Falls NP.

Heuglin's Francolin

Pternistis icterorhynchus

A good-looking gamebird, it was scoped near Masindi, and also seen at Murchison Falls NP.

Red-necked Francolin

Pternistis afer

The most frequently recorded francolin of the tour; large numbers seen in Lake Mburo & Queen Elizabeth NP's.

Harlequin Quail

Coturnix delegorguei

A good find, a single was seen by some at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Ducks, Geese and Swans Anatidae

White-faced Whistling-Duck

Dendrocygna viduata



Seen on Lake Victoria and the Victoria Nile in Murchison Falls. Possesses a beautiful call characteristic of many waterways in Africa.

White-backed Duck*Thalassornis leuconatus*

A very rare bird on our Uganda Tours (only the second tour to see it!), we recorded a pair with two chicks in the south of the country.

Spur-winged Goose*Plectropterus gambensis*

Around six of these enormous birds were seen on the Victoria Nile in Murchison Falls NP.

Knob-billed (Comb) Duck*Sarkidiornis melanotos*

Seen in Lake Mburo and Murchison Falls NP.

Egyptian Goose*Alopochen aegyptiacus*

This is another common waterfowl, seen at Murchison Falls NP and on the Kazinga Channel in Queen Elizabeth NP.

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

A total of 58 birds seen on Lake Victoria.

Flamingos Phoenicopteridae**Lesser Flamingo***Phoenicopterus minor*

We saw six birds on Lake Katwe in QENP.

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

Small numbers were recorded at scattered wetland sites, with our first sighting at Lake Mburo.

African Openbill*Anastomus lamelligerus*

A widespread and common species in Uganda, first recorded on the edge of Lake Victoria.

Woolly-necked Stork*Ciconia abdimii*

We saw only four birds en route from Lake Mburo to Ruhija.

Saddle-billed Stork*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*

A stunning bird, we recorded two birds on the Nile in Murchison, and a further two close-ups at the Entebbe Botanical Gardens.

Marabou Stork*Leptoptilos crumeniferus*

This huge bird was seen throughout Uganda.

Ibises & Spoonbills Threskiornithidae**Sacred Ibis***Threskiornis aethiopicus*

Recorded at a few sites, with good views on the Kazinga Channel.

Hadada Ibis*Bostrychia hagedash*

These noisy and conspicuous birds were frequently seen (note these birds pale eye, not present in southern African birds).

Glossy Ibis*Plegadis falcinellus*

We recorded around two dozen of this good looking bird on the floodplain of the Nile River.

African Spoonbill*Platalea alba*

A good looking bird, we recorded two birds very well on the Kazinga Channel.



Hérons & Bitterns Ardeidae

White-backed Night Heron*Gorsachius leuconotus*

A stunning, localised species, we had outrageous views of a pair in the open at Lake Mburo!

Black-crowned Night Heron*Nycticorax nycticorax*

Our best sighting of this species was on our Lake Mburo boat cruise.

Striated Heron*Butorides striata*

Seen in Lake Mburo and on the Nile in Murchison Falls.

NOTE: A polytypic and cosmopolitan superspecies with over 30 recognized forms. Clements recognizes three full species, the North American Green Heron B. virescens, Galapagos Heron B. sundevalli and the most widespread nominate form that we recorded in Uganda. This split is not recognized by Handbook of Birds of the World (del Hoyo et al.) who lump these forms under the nominate.

(Common) Squacco Heron*Ardeola ralloides*

Recorded on the Nile and Kazinga Channel.

Rufous-bellied Heron*Ardeola rufiventris*

Two birds were recorded in a shallow, flooded area at Lake Mburo.

Cattle Egret*Bubulcus ibis*

A common, easily seen species, often in association with big game.

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

Grey Heron*Ardea cinerea*

Seen at scattered localities throughout the tour. An aquatic hunter unlike the following species.

Black-headed Heron*Ardea melanocephala*

The most frequently recorded heron in Uganda, this terrestrial bird was seen on most days.

Goliath Heron*Ardea goliath*

The largest heron on earth, we had excellent views on the Kazinga and the Nile.

Purple Heron*Ardea purpurea*

A handsome bird, a few were seen on the Nile in Murchison.

NOTE: The Cape Verde Islands A. p. bournei is sometimes split off as Cape Verde Purple Heron or Bourne's Heron.

Great (White) Egret*Ardea alba*

A good looking bird, we recorded first recorded it en route to Lake Mburo.

NOTE: The nominate Old World Great Egret may be split from the New World A. a. egretta which would become American Egret. This split is as yet not recognised by Clements.

Yellow-billed (Intermediate) Egret*Egretta intermedia*

Small numbers were seen on the Nile. Generally an uncommon bird.

Little Egret*Egretta garzetta*

First seen on the shores of Lake Victoria.

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

Hamerkop Scopidae

Hamerkop*Scopus umbretta*

In a monotypic family, and endemic to the Afrotropics and Madagascar, we saw it regularly in wetland situations throughout Uganda.

Shoebill Balaenicipitidae

Shoebill*Balaeniceps rex*

Without a doubt one of the prime reasons to visit Uganda, we were treated to excellent views of one on the North Bank of the Nile after some desperate searching. An outrageous bird, and an incredible experience!



Pelicans Pelecanidae**Pink-backed Pelican***Pelecanus rufescens*

Common in Uganda, we had our best views on the Kazinga and in Jinja.

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

First seen along Lake Victoria.

White-breasted Cormorant*Phalacrocorax lucidus*

Our best views were of a flock on the Kazinga in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Anhingas Anhangidae**Darter***Anhinga melanogaster*

The Victoria Nile provided our first views of this piscivore.

Falcons Falconidae**Common Kestrel***Falco tinnunculus*

First recorded on the outskirts of Kampala, with a good view of a female in Queen Elizabeth NP.

NOTE: IOC and Clements have not split the distinctive Rock Kestrel F. t. rupicolis of Southern Africa from the nominate Common Kestrel which we observed in Uganda.

Grey Kestrel*Falco ardosiaceus*

Seen well in a number of places throughout the tour.

Red-necked Falcon*Falco chicquera*

A very handsome falcon, we had a great view of one bird in Murchison Falls on the Nile.

African Hobby*Falco cuvierii*

This sought-after raptor is not uncommon in Uganda, and we saw individuals in Kampala and Jinja.

Peregrine Falcon*Falco peregrinus*

A good find, we scoped an individual in Murchison Falls NP.

Kites Hawks & Eagles Accipitridae**Bat Hawk***Macheiramphus alcinus*

A very sought after bird, we were very fortunate to see a pair over Mabira Forest.

Black-winged Kite*Elanus caeruleus*

One of the more frequently recorded raptors on the tour.

Black Kite*Milvus migrans*

A ubiquitous species; its forked tail was a familiar sight in many open country and city environments. All birds seen were of the resident Yellow-billed form.

NOTE: Many authorities treat the resident African subspecies of this raptor as a separate species, Yellow-billed Kite M. parasitus, bizarrely however IOC does not accept this split.

African Fish Eagle*Haliaeetus vocifer*

A handsome bird with a characteristic and beautiful call of Africa, we had great views in a number of watery habitats.

Palm-nut Vulture*Gypohierax angolensis*

A great looking vulture, it was recorded with the greatest frequency in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Hooded Vulture*Necrosyrtes monachus*

Good numbers were seen around human habitation, especially in and around Kampala.

(African) White-backed Vulture*Gyps africanus*

The common savanna vulture, good numbers were seen in Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's.

Rüppell's Vulture

Single birds were seen at QENP and on the North bank of the Nile Murchison Falls NP.

White-headed Vulture *Aegyptus occipitalis*

A bright vulture, we had good views of this species in QENP.

Lappet-faced Vulture *Aegyptus tracheliotus*

An enormous bird (the biggest Afro-tropical vulture), we recorded it in QENP and Murchison Falls NP.

Black-chested Snake Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis*

A single bird was seen in the Kasenyi area of QENP.

Brown Snake-Eagle *Circaetus cinereus*

A few birds were recorded at scattered savanna sites throughout the country.

Western Banded Snake-Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens*

We had great views of a few birds throughout the country, with first views at QENP.

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus*

Typical raptor of savanna areas across Africa, this beauty was seen in a good numbers in Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's.

African Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*

Seen on the first day of the tour cruising over a reed bed, and later a perched bird between Kibale and Masindi.

African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene) *Polyboroides typus*

Seen at scattered localities throughout the tour.

Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates*

Possessing long orange legs, it was recorded in the vicinity of Murchison Falls NP.

Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar*

Our best sightings of this small savanna raptor were in Lake Mburo NP.

African Goshawk *Accipiter tachiro*

Seen in Lake Mburo, and later near Buhoma, both times performing their high flying "tick" call.

NOTE: The West African forms are sometimes separated as Red-chested Goshawk A. toussenelii. IOC and Clements accepts this controversial split.

Shikra (Little Banded Goshawk) *Accipiter badius*

Our only sighting was one bird that was seen in Murchison Falls NP.

NOTE: We recorded the Northern Shikra A. b. sphenurus which some authorities consider distinct from the southern African Southern Shikra A. b. polyzonoides. These forms may also be split from the Asian nominate A. b. badius and other Asian forms. These splits are not widely recognised.

Black Sparrowhawk (Goshawk) *Accipiter melanoleucus*

A handsome bird, we got good views near Buhoma, later in QENP.

Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*

This good looking bird seen regularly in the latter half of the tour.

Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur*

A good-looking bird, we saw good numbers in the highland areas in the south-west of Uganda.

Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax*

A savanna raptor, we saw it at Lake Mburo.

Wahlberg's Eagle *Aquila wahlbergi*

Frequently seen in the latter half of the tour, its T-shaped silhouette was a common sight from QENP northwards.

African Hawk-Eagle *Hieraaetus spilogaster*

A rapacious bird, (and uncommon in Uganda), we were lucky to find a pair at Lake Mburo NP.



Martial Eagle*Polemaetus bellicosus*

The largest eagle in Africa, we had great views in Lake Mburo, QENP and later on the Butiaba escarpment.

Long-crested Eagle*Lophaetus occipitalis*

Possessing a “punk-style” hair-do, this was a common roadside eagle.

Crowned Eagle*Stephanoaetus coronatus*

After hearing this marvellous bird in Kibale NP, a pair were seen cruising over the forest at Kaniyo Pabidi.

Bustards Otidae**Denham’s Bustard***Neotis denhami*

We had wonderful views of three birds in a short grass area on the North Bank in Murchison Falls NP.

Black-bellied Bustard*Lissotis melanogaster*

Three birds were seen (some flushed by Rothschild’s Giraffe!) in Murchison Falls NP.

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

Some were treated to excellent views of this stunner at Bigodi Swamp.

Red-chested Flufftail*Sarothrura rufa*

A very secretive species, it was heard calling at Mubwindi Swamp.

Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae**African Crake***Crecopsis egregia*

Seen at QENP, with one view proving to be excellent!

Black Crake*Amaurornis flavirostra*

Seen on a number of occasions in wetland situations.

Finfoots Heliornithidae**African Finfoot***Podica senegalensis*

We were treated to excellent views of a male and female at Lake Mburo NP. An outstanding bird!

Cranes Gruidae**Grey Crowned Crane***Balearica regulorum*

This, Uganda’s national bird, was frequently seen throughout the country.

Thick-knees Burhinidae**Senegal Thick-knee***Burhinus senegalensis*

A few individuals were seen on the Victoria Nile in Murchison Falls NP.

Water Thick-knee*Burhinus vermiculatus*

Great views were had of this species on our Kazinga Channel boat cruise.

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

Seen at Lake Katwe, Queen Elizabeth NP.

Pied Avocet*Recurvirostra avocetta*

A few birds were seen at Lake Katwe.



Plovers & Lapwings Charadriidae

Long-toed Lapwing*Vanellus crassirostris*

This species was recorded at Lake Mburo and Murchison Falls NP.

Spur-winged Lapwing*Vanellus spinosus*

First recorded on Lake Victoria, this is the northern counterpart for the Black-smith Lapwing.

Black-headed Lapwing*Vanellus tectus*

A localised bird in Uganda, we recorded 20+ of this handsome species on short grass areas on the North Bank of the Nile in Murchison.

Senegal (Lesser Black-winged) Lapwing*Vanellus lugubris*

Peak numbers were seen in QENP.

Crowned Lapwing*Vanellus coronatus*

First seen en route to Ruhija in fallow piece of ground, good numbers were seen in QENP.

African Wattled Lapwing*Vanellus senegallus*

First seen in Lake Mburo NP, and later recorded at QENP and Murchison Falls NP.

Brown-chested Lapwing*Vanellus superciliosus*

This sought-after Intra-African migrant (an east west migrant) was seen in good numbers (around 15) at Lake Mburo, with an excellent later sighting of two birds seen alongside the Kazinga Channel (a rare sighting indeed!).

Kittlitz's Plover*Charadrius pecuarius*

Good numbers were seen in QENP.

Three-banded Plover*Charadrius tricollaris*

A single bird was seen on the Kazinga Channel.

Painted Snipes Rostratulidae

Greater Painted Snipe*Rostratula benghalensis*

We had excellent views of two birds on the Nile floodplain at Murchison Falls NP.

Jacanas Jacanidae

African Jacana*Actophilornis africanus*

This widespread wader was frequently recorded at a number of wetland sites throughout the tour.

Sandpipers & Allies Scolopacidae

Marsh Sandpiper*Tringa stagnatilis*

A single was seen on our Kazinga Channel boat cruise.

Common Greenshank*Tringa nebularia*

Two birds were seen on the Kazinga Channel.

Common Sandpiper*Actitis hypoleucos*

Our first sighting was of a bird riding a Hippo's back in the Ishasha River! Five were later seen on the Kazinga Channel.

Curlew Sandpiper*Calidris ferruginea*

Around five birds were seen on Lake Katwe in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Couriers & Pratincoles Glareolidae

Collared (Red-winged) Pratincole*Glareola pratincola*

A handsome bird, we saw good numbers on our Kazinga Channel boat cruise.

Rock Pratincole*Glareola nuchalis*

Also good looking, we saw good numbers around Murchison Falls.

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*
We saw a large flock (40 to 50 or even more!) on Lake Katwe in QENP.

Grey-headed Gull *Larus cirrocephalus*
Around six birds recorded on the Kazinga Channel.

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*
Good numbers were seen on Lake Katwe and the Kazinga Channel.

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*
We saw birds in non-breeding (and mottled garb) on the Kazinga Channel and the Victoria Nile.

African Skimmer *Rynchops flavirostris*
Possessing incredibly long and elegant wings, we saw this beauty on the Kazinga Channel.

Pigeons and Doves Columbidae

Common Pigeon *Columba livia*
Seen in urban environments and settlements throughout the tour.

Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea*
Small numbers were recorded in Kampala and in a few other towns.

Afep Pigeon *Columba unicincta*
We scoped two individuals on a snag in the Kibale Forest.

African Olive (Rameron) Pigeon *Columba arquatrix*
This bird was seen in the montane forests of Ruhija, Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques*
Possessing a mournful call, some were treated to great scope views of this often skulky canopy species.

Mourning Collared Dove *Streptopelia decipiens*
This savanna species was seen in QENP and later in Murchison Falls NP.

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*
Seen in a number of localities throughout the tour. Probably the frequently recorded Streptopelian.

Ring-necked (Cape Turtle) Dove *Streptopelia capicola*
We saw this species in good numbers in the former half of the tour in savanna environs.

Vinaceous Dove *Streptopelia vinacea*
This species was seen in good numbers in the general Murchison Falls area. Most easily separated from Ring-necked Dove by call.

Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*
A widespread species, we saw it commonly recorded in the former half of the tour.

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos*
Seen at Lake Mburo NP. Restricted to the south and east of Uganda.

Black-billed Wood Dove *Turtur abyssinicus*
This is the common wood dove in northern savannas such as those around Murchison Falls, where we recorded a number of birds.

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*
Common; the most widespread wood dove in Uganda, and frequently seen.

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria*
Seen (and heard) on numerous occasions in forest environments throughout the country. The forest equivalent of the wood doves.



African Green Pigeon*Treron calva*

More parrot-like than pigeon-like, we saw it in wooded environs throughout the tour.

Parrots and Allies Psittacidae**Red-headed Lovebird***Agapornis pullarius*

A lovely little parrot that we saw on several occasions including superb scope views of a couple just outside Masindi.

Grey Parrot*Psittacus erithacus*

A few distant birds seen at Budongo Forest.

Meyer's (Brown) Parrot*Poicephalus meyeri*

Our first encounter was en route to Lake Mburo NP, where a few birds were seen in a fruiting tree.

Turacos Musophagidae**Great Blue Turaco***Corythaeola cristata*

One of the most spectacular birds in Africa, with our most memorable encounter being a wonderful show at the Neck involving six birds calling and flapping about.

Black-billed Turaco*Tauraco schuettii*

After some flight views, some were treated to scope views of this forest species in Kibale NP.

White-crested Turaco*Tauraco leucolophus*

One of the most beautiful Turacos, we had great views in Murchison Falls and near Masindi.

Ross' Turaco*Musophaga rossae*

Another stunning turaco, we saw maximum numbers between Kibale and Masindi.

Bare-faced Go-away-bird*Corythaixoides personatus*

Great views were had in Lake Mburo NP.

Eastern (Grey) Plantain-eater*Crinifer zonurus*

With its crazy call and floppy flight action, this species was seen in good numbers throughout Uganda.

Cuckoos Cuculidae**Blue-headed Coucal***Centropus monachus*

A large wetland coucal, with our best sightings being in Papyrus along the Nile in Murchison.

White-browed Coucal*Centropus superciliosus*

Definitely the most common coucal in Uganda, we had excellent views Lake Mburo and QENP.

NOTE: Clements does not recognise the widely accepted split of the southern dark-browed Burchell's Coucal C. burchelli from the northerly White-browed Coucal C. superciliosus which we recorded in Uganda.

Black Coucal*Centropus grillii*

A species favouring rank grass; we saw two in total at Queen Elizabeth NP.

Green (Blue) Malkoha*Ceuthmochares aereus*

We had great views of this skulking species at the Royal Mile.

Note: Some authorities split this species into Green Malkoha, C. australis that occurs in East and Southern Africa and Blue Malkoha, C. aereus that we observed and occurs in East, West and Central Africa. IOC and Clements do not as yet accept this split.

Dideric Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx caprius*

Only heard by some in the Ishasha section of QENP (seen by guide only). The name is onomatopoeic of the birds call.

Klaas's Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx klaas*

A single seen in Budongo Forest.

African Emerald Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx cupreus*

We had great views of this shy, forest stunner in Budongo Forest. It's "Pretty Georgie!" was also heard.

Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx mechowi*

Heard in a number of forests, this notorious skulker did provide one good fly-by at Kaniyo Pabidi.

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius*

We had great scope views of this species at Lake Mburo NP.

Typical Owls Strigidae

African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis*

This, one of the smallest owls in Africa, was brilliantly seen (scoped!) at Lake Mburo. A great sighting!

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii*

Only heard by some at our accommodation at Kibale NP.

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum*

We had scope views of this endearing bird at Lake Mburo NP.

Red-chested Owlet *Glaucidium tephronotum*

This forest species was heard by some at Buhoma.

Nightjars & Allies Caprimulgidae

Black-shouldered Nightjar *Caprimulgus nigriscapularis*

We had brief views of a bird at Lake Mburo NP.

Ruwenzori Nightjar * *Caprimulgus poliocephalus*

Birds were seen briefly while fluttering past the vehicle at Ruhija.

Swamp Nightjar *Caprimulgus natalensis*

This species was heard by some at Lake Mburo NP.

Square-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus fossii*

An excellent view was had of a bird in the road in Lake Mburo NP.

Pennant-winged Nightjar *Macrodipteryx vexillarius*

Without a doubt a highlight of any trip to Uganda, this amazing bird was seen on a number of occasions during the tour.

Swifts Apodidae

Scarce Swift *Schoutedenapus myoptilus*

This montane species with a long, pointed tail was seen over the forest at Buhoma.

Sabine's Spinetail *Rhaphidura sabini*

A scarce spinetail found over forest, we sighted birds over the Royal Mile.

Cassin's Spinetail *Neafrapus cassini*

Another scarce species. We found 4 flying over the Royal Mile at Budongo Forest.

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus*

Plentiful around palms throughout, we observed large numbers at Murchison Falls NP.

NOTE: The nominate African form of the Palm Swift is considered to be distinct from the Malagasy form C. p. gracilis by some authorities. IOC and Clements does not as yet recognise this split.

Little Swift *Apus affinis*

Commonly seen during the tour, and especially easy to see around large artificial structures like bridges where they often nest.

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer*

Commonly seen on the tour.



Mousebirds Coliidae**Speckled Mousebird***Colius striatus*

One of the most common birds on the tour, seen almost daily.

Blue-naped Mousebird*Urocolius macrourus*

A smart bird (more elegant and faster flying than the previous species!), it was seen in savanna areas fairly regularly, with our first sightings coming in at Lake Mburo.

Trogons Trogonidae**Narina Trogon***Apaloderma narina*

We were lucky to see two separate birds, one at Kaniyo Pabidi (where we got an excellent view), and the other at the Royal Mile.

Bar-tailed Trogon*Apaloderma vittatum*

Possibly a smarter bird than the last, we saw it at Buhoma and later at Ruhija.

Rollers Coraciidae**Lilac-breasted Roller***Coracias caudata*

Birds were seen en route to and in Lake Mburo NP.

Broad-billed Roller*Eurystomus glaucurus*

We saw this species in moist environs throughout the country.

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

This amazing forest kingfisher was seen incredibly well at the Royal Mile after a frustrating morning where an individual would not offer up a decent view!

Grey-headed Kingfisher*Halcyon leucocephala*

Some excellent sightings of this woodland species were had in Lake Mburo and Murchison Falls NP's.

Striped Kingfisher*Halcyon chelicuti*

A noisy woodland species first seen at Lake Mburo NP.

Blue-breasted Kingfisher*Halcyon malimbica*

The forest equivalent of the Woodland Kingfisher, heard in a number of forests and only seen by some at Kibale Forest.

Woodland Kingfisher*Halcyon senegalensis*

A woodland beauty, we regularly heard and saw this species throughout the tour.

African Dwarf Kingfisher*Ispidina lecontei*

A stunning forest kingfisher (and the smallest in Africa). We had excellent views on the Royal Mile.

African Pygmy Kingfisher*Ispidina picta*

Great views were had in QENP, and later along the Royal Mile.

Malachite Kingfisher*Alcedo cristata*

A jewel of the waterways, and seen in aquatic environments throughout the tour.

Shining-blue Kingfisher*Alcedo quadribrachys*

An absolutely incredible bird, we were treated to mind-blowing views of a perched bird in Kibale Forest.

Pied Kingfisher*Ceryle rudis*

Possibly the most common species kingfisher in the world, we saw huge numbers in aquatic environments throughout the tour.



Bee-eaters Meropidae

Black Bee-eater*Merops gularis*

Possessing a most outrageous colour scheme, we were treated to multiple views in Bwindi Impenetrable NP, and later for some in Kibale Forest.

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater*Merops hirundineus*

We had some great sighting of this elegant bird in Murchison Falls NP.

Little Bee-eater*Merops pusillus*

First seen at Lake Mburo NP.

Blue-breasted Bee-eater*Merops variegatus*

First scoped en route to Ruhija from Lake Mburo, and later also seen on the Victoria Nile.

Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater*Merops oreobates*

Good numbers of this higher altitude version of the previous two look-alike species were seen

Red-throated Bee-eater*Merops bulocki*

Another stunning bee-eater, we had excellent views of this northern equivalent of the White-throated Bee-eater in Murchison Falls NP.

White-throated Bee-eater*Merops albicollis*

We had excellent views of this species at the Royal Mile, Budongo Forest.

Olive Bee-eater*Merops superciliosus*

Good numbers were seen in QENP.

Northern Carmine Bee-eater*Merops nubicus*

This superb bee-eater (no bee-eaters are ugly!) was seen in good numbers on the North Bank of the Nile in Murchison Falls NP.

Woodhoopoes Phoeniculidae

White-headed Woodhoopoe*Phoeniculus bollei*

A group of four was seen by some at Buhoma.

Green Woodhoopoe*Phoeniculus purpureus*

We had great views in Lake Mburo NP and later around Masindi.

Black Scimitarbill*Rhinopomastus aterrimus*

Some good views were had at Murchison Falls NP.

Common Scimitarbill*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*

Seen in Lake Mburo NP.

Hornbills Bucerotidae

Crowned Hornbill*Tockus alboterminatus*

First seen in the Ishasha section of QENP, and on a few occasions thereafter.

African Pied Hornbill*Tockus fasciatus*

We had great scope views of a pair in Mabira Forest.

African Grey Hornbill*Tockus nasutus*

The common savanna hornbill in Uganda, with birds seen in Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's.

White-thighed Hornbill*Bycanistes albotibialis*

Good views were had of birds outside the Royal Mile, Budongo Forest.

Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill*Bycanistes subcylindricus*

A spectacular bird, and relatively common in forested areas throughout the country.



Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae

Abyssinian Ground Hornbill*Bucorvus abyssinicus*

This prehistoric looking bird was well seen on a number of occasions in Murchison Falls NP.

Barbets Ramphastidae

Grey-throated Barbet*Gymnobucco bonapartei*

This species with a “tufted nose” was first encountered in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Speckled Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus scolopaceus*

This scruffy bird was heard regularly, with a solitary sighting at Buhoma.

Western Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus coryphaeus*

A handsome but difficult bird, of which we had excellent views at Ruhija.

Yellow-throated Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus subsulphureus*

Possessing a more rapid call than the following species, it was seen in Kibale and Budongo Forests. Moustachial stripes are yellow, with a yellow throat and grey underparts.

Yellow (Golden)-rumped Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus bilineatus*

The most common forest tinkerbird in Uganda, we had multiple sightings throughout the tour. Although similar to the previous species, has white moustachial stripes and yellow washed underparts.

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird*Pogoniulus chrysoconus*

A savanna Tinkerbird, with sightings at Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's.

Yellow-spotted Barbet*Buccanodon duchailui*

This beautiful bird with a purring call was seen by some in Kibale Forest.

Hairy-breasted Barbet*Tricholaema hirsuta*

We had some excellent views of this species in Kibale, Bwindi and Mabira.

Note: Some authorities split this species into Hairy-breasted Barbet T. hirsuta that occurs in West Africa and Streaky-throated Barbet T. flavipunctata that we observed and occurs in East and Central Africa. IOC and Clements does not as yet accept this split (see Ryan and Sinclair 2003).

Spot-flanked Barbet*Tricholaema lacrymosa*

A savanna species, with an excellent views at Lake Mburo NP.

White-headed Barbet*Lybius leucocephalus*

Small groups were seen very in bush clumps well near Masindi.

Red-faced Barbet*Lybius rubrifacies*

A very special bird that in Uganda can only be seen at Lake Mburo NP. We were fortunate to see at least three birds.

Black-billed Barbet*Lybius guifsobalito*

Seen in Murchison Falls NP, and later near Masindi.

Double-toothed Barbet*Lybius bidentatus*

This spectacular bird of moist habitats was first seen in the Ishasha section of QENP.

Yellow-billed Barbet*Trachyphonus purpuratus*

After hearing this species in a few forests, we were treated to excellent views in Mabira Forest.

Honeyguides Indicatoridae

Dwarf Honeyguide*Indicator pumilio*

We were treated to excellent views of this sought after and range restricted species at Ruhija.

Thick-billed Honeyguide*Indicator conirostris*

A bird was heard calling in Kaniyo Pabidi section of Budongo Forest.

Lesser Honeyguide*Indicator minor*

Heard in the Kibale area.



Scaly-throated Honeyguide*Indicator variegatus*

A very tough bird in Uganda, we were very fortunate to get great views of a single bird near Masindi.

Greater Honeyguide*Indicator indicator*

A single immature bird was well seen in Murchison Falls NP.

Woodpeckers Picidae**Red-throated Wryneck***Jynx ruficollis*

We had superb views of 2 shortly after leaving Buhoma.

Nubian Woodpecker*Campethera nubica*

A common savanna woodpecker in Uganda, we first recorded it at Lake Mburo NP.

Tullberg's Woodpecker*Campethera tullbergi*

A handsome forest woodpecker, with a total of two seen in Buhoma.

Buff-spotted Woodpecker*Campethera nivosa*

Seen at Buhoma and Kaniyo Pabidi.

Cardinal Woodpecker*Dendropicos fuscescens*

Our best views were of a pair at Ruhija. A widespread African woodpecker.

Bearded Woodpecker*Dendropicos namaquus*

We had excellent views of this large species (by African standards!) near Masindi.

Yellow-crested (Golden-crowned) Woodpecker *Dendropicos xantholophus*

The forest version of Bearded Woodpecker, we had a particularly good sighting at Busingiro of a bird low down on a fallen trunk.

Elliot's Woodpecker*Dendropicos elliotii*

Good views were had of birds at Buhoma.

African Grey Woodpecker*Dendropicos goertae*

A handsome bird, with lovely views both at and near Masindi.

Brown-backed Woodpecker*Dendropicos obsoletus*

This uncommon broad-leaved woodland inhabitant was well seen in Murchison Falls NP.

Broadbills Eurylaimidae**Grauer's Broadbill ****Pseudocalyptomena graueri*

The only accessible place in the world to see this highly prized species, some were lucky enough to get great scope views of an individual at Ruhija. A tour highlight!

Pittas Pittidae**Green-breasted Pitta***Pitta reichenowi*

Some were treated to amazing views of a pair of this outrageous bird while doing the Chimp track at Kibale. An added dimension was listening to individuals calling in the forest. Definitely one of Africa's most sought-after avians!

Wattle-eyes, Batises Platysteiridae**(African) Shrike-flycatcher***Megabias flammulatus*

A large forest flycatcher, with a curious side-to-side tail wag. Birds were seen at Buhoma and Mabira.

Black-and-white (Shrike-) Flycatcher*Bias musicus*

An interesting bird, with a hammer shaped head, it was seen at Buhoma and in Entebbe.

Note: Also known as Vanga Flycatcher.

Chestnut Wattle-eye*Dyaphorophyia castanea*

This species (performing its whip cracking display) was well seen at the Royal Mile.



Jameson's Wattle-eye*Dyaphorophya jamesoni*

Some got views of this beauty at the Royal Mile.

NOTE: This species is sometimes lumped into the West African Red-cheeked Wattle-eye *D. blissetti*.

Ruwenzori Batis **Batis diops*

Seen in Ruhija and Buhoma, an attractive bird with bright white "stars" on the forecrown.

Chinspot Batis*Batis molitor*

We observed this species at Lake Mburo and at Ruhija (a strange montane site for this species!).

Black-headed Batis*Batis minor*

Seen on the Butiaba Escarpment, this species replaces Chinspot Batis in the northern savannas in Uganda.

Brown-throated Wattle-eye*Platysteira cyanea*

Its beautiful call was heard quite frequently, with our best sighting being of a male at Lake Mburo.

Helmetshrikes and Bushshrikes Malaconotidae**White-crested Helmsrike***Prionops plumatus*

We had great views of about ten birds at Murchison Falls.

Grey-headed Bushshrike*Malaconotus blanchoti*

A monster bushshrike, we had excellent views of this species near Masindi.

Lagden's Bushshrike*Malaconotus lagdeni*

The forest version of Grey-headed Bushshrike, this mega was unfortunately only heard at Ruhija.

Bocage's Bushshrike*Chlorophoneus bocagei*

Excellent views were had at Buhoma in secondary forest.

Orange-breasted Bushshrike*Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus*

A bird was seen in *Acacia* scrub at Lake Mburo NP.

Doherty's Bushshrike*Chlorophoneus doherlyi*

This stunner was really well seen at Ruhija.

Marsh Tchagra*Tchagra minuta*

First encountered in QENP. Has a preference for rank grass areas.

NOTE: The more southerly forms of this species are often separated as Anchieta's Tchagra *T. anchietae* with the Ugandan form retained in the nominate group.

Brown-crowned Tchagra*Tchagra australis*

Our initial encounter with this species was near Ruhija, where good views were obtained.

Black-crowned Tchagra*Tchagra senegalus*

First encountered at Lake Mburo, and encountered at several savanna localities thereafter.

Pink-footed Puffback*Dryoscopus angolensis*

An uncommon forest shrike, we saw a pair at Buhoma.

Northern Puffback*Dryoscopus gambensis*

The most common Puffback in Uganda, we first encountered it near Ruhija.

Mountain Sooty Boubou*Laniarius poensis*

Some obtained great views of this skulky species at Ruhija.

Lühder's Bushshrike*Laniarius luehderi*

A good-looking bird, we obtained great views at both Ruhija and Buhoma.

Tropical Boubou*Laniarius aethiopicus*

A widespread species, of which we encountered maximum numbers at Murchison Falls NP.

Papyrus Gonolek*Laniarius mufumbiri*

We were treated to outrageous views of this sought-after stunner en route to Ruhija from Lake Mburo.

Black-headed Gonolek*Laniarius erythrogaster*

The common, savanna equivalent of the previous species, we had numerous good views in savanna areas starting with Lake Mburo NP.

Brubru *Nilaus afer*

First encountered at in *Acacia* woodland at Lake Mburo.

Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae

Grey Cuckooshrike *Coracina caesia*

A number of good sightings in the higher areas of Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava*

First seen at Lake Mburo, with a bird seen on the edge of secondary forest at Buhoma.

Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike *Campephaga phoenicea*

We had stunning views of a male near Masindi (quite an apt name!).

Petit's Cuckooshrike *Campephaga petiti*

An uncommon forest cuckooshrike, of which we had good views of at Buhoma (both males and the distinctive females).

Purple-throated Cuckooshrike *Campephaga quiscalina*

First seen by some at Kibale Forest, and later also recorded at Mabira Forest where a few birds were seen.

Shrikes Laniidae

Mackinnon's Shrike (Fiscal) *Lanius mackinnoni*

A forest edge bird, we recorded a female on the edge of Bwindi Impenetrable NP near Ruhija.

Grey-backed Fiscal *Lanius excubitoroides*

The commonest fiscal (by far!) in Uganda. Seen on most days in moist woodland habitats.

Common Fiscal *Lanius collaris*

Despite its name, not the most common shrike in the country, with us recording maximum numbers in QENP.

Old World Orioles

Western Oriole *Oriolus brachyrhynchus*

We had great views of this forest interior bird at the Royal Mile, Budongo Forest.

Mountain (Black-tailed) Oriole *Oriolus percivali*

Recorded at the montane forest site of Ruhija.

(African) Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus*

Generally a woodland and savanna species in Uganda, we saw a few at Lake Mburo NP.

Drongos

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis*

A common (and feisty) bird of savanna habitats throughout the tour. Often seen mobbing raptors.

Velvet-mantled Drongo *Dicrurus modestus*

The forest version of Fork-tailed Drongo, with a single bird seen by some at Buhoma.

Monarch Flycatchers

White-bellied Crested Flycatcher *Elminia albiventris*

Two birds were seen at Buhoma.

Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone rufiventer*



A handsome bird; we saw it along the Royal Mile, and later in Mabira Forest.

African Paradise Flycatcher*Terpsiphone viridis*

Also a good-looking creature, and seen frequently throughout the trip.

Crows Corvidae**Piapiac***Ptilostomus afer*

First observed near Masindi, and later in good numbers in Murchison Falls NP. Often associated with cattle and game (as we saw them on Buffalo and Warthogs in the reserve).

Pied Crow*Corvus albus*

Widespread, and often seen in towns and along roadsides.

White-necked Raven*Corvus albicollis*

Two birds were seen at Ruhija.

Tits Paridae**White-shouldered Black Tit***Melaniparus guineensis*

A few birds were seen en route from Murchison to Busingiro in dry woodland. Possesses a pale eye, and is found in woodland in the northern part of Uganda.

White-winged Black Tit*Melaniparus leucomelas*

Birds were well seen in Lake Mburo NP. Found in the south of the country, and separated from the previous species by its dark eye.

Dusky Tit*Melaniparus funereus*

Good looks were had in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Stripe-breasted Tit **Melaniparus fasciiventer*

This handsome Albertine Rift endemic was seen at Ruhija.

Penduline Tits Remizidae**Grey (African) Penduline Tit***Anthoscopus caroli*

We were fortunate to find a single bird in a huge bird flock at Lake Mburo NP. One of Africa's smallest birds!

Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae**White-headed Saw-wing***Psalidoprocne albiceps*

A good-looking bird, which was found regularly throughout the country.

Black Saw-wing*Psalidoprocne holomelas*

Completely black as the name suggests, it generally replaces the previous species at high altitude sites in the country where we saw it.

NOTE: The Black Saw-wing complex is sometimes split into eight full species with the Ugandan form being retained in P. holomelas.

Brown-throated (Plain) Martin*Riparia paludicola*

We had a big flock on the Kazinga Channel, QENP.

Banded Martin*Riparia cincta*

A few small flocks were seen hawking insects over grasslands in the Kasenyi area, QENP.

Barn Swallow*Hirundo rustica*

A Palearctic migrant, of which we saw a few birds over grassland at QENP. Possibly these were the first early arrivals from Eurasia?

Angola Swallow*Hirundo angolensis*

Seen on most days (and often in villages); a “dirty” version of the Barn Swallow, with an incomplete dark breast band.

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii*

Small numbers were seen along large waterways, with our best views along the Nile in Murchison Falls NP allowing us to appreciate how smart these agile fliers are!

Rock Martin *Ptyonoprogne fuligula*

This dark hirundine was seen in good numbers on the outskirts of Bwindi Impenetrable Forest.

NOTE: This confusing polytypic complex is being reviewed for multi-species splitting. Within the African populations, three potential species exist. The southern African nominate form H. f. fuligula would remain as Rock Martin and the more northern populations would become Red-throated Rock Martin H. pusilla which is resident in Uganda. Palearctic birds would become Pale Crag Martin H. obsolete. IOC and Clements do not as yet recognise any of these splits.

Lesser Striped Swallow *Cecropis abyssinica*

This species was seen regularly throughout the tour.

Red-breasted Swallow *Cecropis semirufa*

Small numbers were seen at savanna sites starting with Lake Mburo NP.

Mosque Swallow *Cecropis senegalensis*

Also a large attractive swallow, some saw this bird at the Entebbe Botanical Gardens.

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*

Generally uncommon in Uganda, we saw our first specimens on our travel day en route from Ruhija to Buhoma. Its black vent is distinctive.

Larks Alaudidae

White-tailed Lark *Mirafraga albicauda*

We had excellent views of two birds in Queen Elizabeth NP.

Rufous-naped Lark *Mirafraga africana*

Decent numbers of this great songster were seen in QENP.

Flappet Lark *Mirafraga rufocinnamomea*

Definitely the most frequently encountered lark in Uganda, we saw this bird along with its “buzzing” display flight in savanna areas all over the country.

Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea*

A pair of birds were seen near Queen Elizabeth NP. Generally a scarce bird in the country.

Cisticolas & Allies

Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops*

A widespread species in Uganda, its “squeezy toy” call was frequently heard, with our best views near Buhoma.

Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans*

Great scope views were had near the Royal Mile.

Whistling Cisticola *Cisticola lateralis*

Has a pleasant call, and was well seen near the Royal Mile.

Trilling Cisticola *Cisticola woosnami*

A widespread woodland cisticola, it was well seen at Lake Mburo. Its distinctive call was often heard in drier savanna areas.

Chubb's Cisticola *Cisticola chubbi*

A noisy inhabitant of the higher lying areas of Uganda, we saw numerous individuals in and around Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola cheniana*

Encountered on the North Bank of the Nile, where this noisy bird responded well to “spishing”.



Winding Cisticola*Cisticola galactotes*

Associated with wetland environs (and virtually any damp locality) throughout the country, we first encountered this species at Lake Mburo NP.

NOTE: Some authorities split this widespread African species into five species. Winding Cisticola C. marginatus, which occurs in East, Central and West Africa. The other four species are Coastal Cisticola C. haematocephalus that occurs in coastal East Africa, Luapula Cisticola C. luapula occurring largely in Zambia, Rufous-winged Cisticola C. galactotes of coastal Southern Africa and Ethiopian Cisticola C. lugubris endemic to Ethiopia. IOC ratifies this split (however Clements does not as yet recognise these splits).

Carruthers's Cisticola*Cisticola carruthersi*

Generally associated with Papyrus, we had excellent views of this species en route to Ruhija from Lake Mburo, and later were afforded more views at Mubwindi Swamp (where strangely, there is no Papyrus).

Croaking Cisticola*Cisticola natalensis*

A big, large billed cisticola, its croaking call was heard at a number of rank grass localities, with good views at QENP.

Long-tailed (Tabora) Cisticola*Cisticola angusticaudus*

Very range restricted in Uganda, we saw an individual in a huge mixed flock at Lake Mburo NP.

Short-winged (Siffling) Cisticola*Cisticola brachypterus*

We had good views (along with a number of other cisticolas!) near the Royal Mile.

Foxy Cisticola*Cisticola troglodytes*

A handsome Cisticola (!), with excellent views had on the Butiaba Escarpment.

Zitting (Fan-tailed) Cisticola*Cisticola juncidis*

The most widespread cisticola in the world, this grassland species was seen in good numbers in QENP.

Tawny-flanked Prinia*Prinia subflava*

A noisy tail cocking bird, we saw a number of individuals in scattered sites throughout the country.

Banded Prinia*Prinia bairdii*

Quite a smart bird (if not somewhat skulky), we saw a number of birds in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

NOTE: The Ugandan form is sometimes split off as Black-faced Prinia P. melanops.

White-chinned Prinia*Schistolais leucopogon*

Everyone had great views at Buhoma, with some even witnessing a peculiar little show involving a small group of birds.

Red-winged Warbler*Heliolais erythropterus*

Fairly local in Uganda, we scoped this species at Murchison Falls NP.

Red-winged Grey Warbler*Drymocichla incana*

A most subtle (stunning actually!) and very localised bird, we had excellent views in Murchison Falls NP (and later outside of the park too).

Buff-bellied Warbler*Phyllolais pulchella*

A few birds were seen (characteristically) working through *Acacia*'s in Lake Mburo NP.

Ruwenzori (Collared) Apalis **Apalis ruwenzorii*

A single bird was seen by some at Ruhija.

NOTE: This species is sometimes lumped into Black-collared Apalis A. pulchra.

Yellow-breasted Apalis*Apalis flavida*

A pair were well seen in *Acacia* woodland at Lake Mburo NP, with a single later near Masindi.

NOTE: This widespread polytypic African species is likely to be split into two or more species, with the central Ugandan form becoming Green-tailed Apalis A. caniceps. IOC and Clements do not as yet recognise this split.

Lowland Masked Apalis*Apalis binotata*

Strangely, it quite range restricted in Uganda. A total of three were seen by some in Kibale Forest.

Mountain Masked Apalis **Apalis personata*

Restricted to the southwest of Uganda (and an ARE), we recorded a number of individuals around Ruhija.

Black-throated Apalis *Apalis jacksoni*

Probably the commonest forest (and forest edge) apalis in Uganda, we had excellent views of numerous individuals, especially in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Chestnut-throated Apalis *Apalis porphyrolaema*

Seen at Ruhija, its “ringing telephone” call was a frequently heard sound in these montane forests.

Buff-throated Apalis *Apalis rufogularis*

Another common forest apalis, we recorded decent numbers in lower altitude forest (e.g. Buhoma, Royal Mile).

Grey Apalis *Apalis cinerea*

An individual was seen at Buhoma.

Grey-capped Warbler *Eminia lepida*

More frequently heard than seen, this beauty was well seen in a wetland area en route to Ruhija from Buhoma.

Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brevicaudata*

A widespread bird in Uganda, we first recorded it on a travel day en route to Lake Mburo.

Yellow-browed Camaroptera *Camaroptera supercilialis*

Definitely the most handsome camaroptera, we were treated to good views at the Royal Mile and Mabira Forest.

Olive-green Camaroptera *Camaroptera chloronota*

A skulky bird, and usually more often heard than seen, we had good views of this species at Buhoma.

Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

Dark-capped Bulbul *Pycnonotus tricolor*

Probably the most common bird of the trip, and recorded virtually every day.

Note: A confusing genus, the birds we saw have been split from Common Bulbul P. barbatus which is found further north in Africa.

Kakamega Greenbul *Andropadus kakamegae*

A number were seen at Buhoma. Often seen as it works mossy stems and vines in small groups.

Note: A recent split from Shelley's Greenbul A. masukuensis, which is restricted to the Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania and northern Malawi. Kakamega Greenbul is restricted to the Albertine Rift and a few scattered forest sites in East Africa, and named for the forest in western Kenya from which it was described.

Olive-breasted (Mountain) Greenbul *Andropadus nigriceps*

A conspicuous bird of the montane forests of Ruhija, and of which we recorded good numbers.

Note: The Mountain Greenbuls have recently been split into a number of species scattered in higher altitude forest patches across Africa. The birds we saw are endemic to the Albertine Rift and central Kenya.

Little Greenbul *Andropadus virens*

Along with Yellow-whiskered Greenbul, the most common and vocal greenbul of the tour. We first recorded it at lower altitudes in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Little Grey Greenbul *Andropadus gracilis*

Seen by guide only at Mabira Forest.

Ansorge's Greenbul *Andropadus ansorgei*

Only recently discovered in Uganda (first confirmed record in August 2001 by Nik Borrow and Adam Riley). We had excellent views of this indistinct species at Buhoma (its call is its most distinctive trait).



Plain (Cameroon Sombre) Greenbul *Andropadus curvirostris*

Seen by some in Kibale Forest. A largish greenbul with an indistinct broken white eyering.

Slender-billed Greenbul *Andropadus gracilirostris*

Quite a common species, with many birds seen in a number of forests starting at Buhoma. A bicoloured bird with a reddish eye, and often perches conspicuously on the outer edge of the canopy.

Yellow-whiskered Greenbul *Andropadus latirostris*

A “distinctive” greenbul generally found in undergrowth and mid-storey. It was frequently recorded starting at Ruhija.

Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator*

Possessing a pale iris, white outer tail feathers and beautiful call, this interesting bird was first recorded at Buhoma.

Spotted Greenbul *Ixonotus guttatus*

A flock of birds was only heard while at the Royal Mile.

Joyful Greenbul *Chlorocichla laetissima*

Strangely a local bird in Uganda, some witnessed its “joyful” call and excited wing flicking in Kibale Forest.

Yellow-throated Leaflove (Greenbul) *Chlorocichla flavicollis*

A noisy species, we first recorded near Buhoma. Inhabits moist woodland and thickets, with the birds seen here displaying white (not yellow) throats.

Note: Birds in Uganda belong to the subspecies flavigula (also known as pallidigula).

White-throated Greenbul *Phyllastrephus albigularis*

A shy greenbul that often forages in small groups. We recorded it along the Royal Mile.

Yellow-streaked Greenbul *Phyllastrephus flavostriatus*

A large, wing and tail flicking greenbul that was well seen at Buhoma as it foraged in small groups. The yellow streaking on the underside of the bird is virtually impossible to see!

Red-tailed Bristlebill *Bleda syndactylus*

Has a relatively inconspicuous call, some saw this species at Buhoma.

Red-tailed Greenbul *Criniger calurus*

First recorded at Buhoma, this handsome bird is one of the more common greenbuls in Uganda.

Family Uncertain Incertae sedis**Western Nicator** *Nicator chloris*

We enjoyed our best views of this good-looking species at Mabira.

Chestnut-capped Flycatcher *Erythrocerus mccallii*

A superb bird, we saw around six birds while at the Royal Mile.

African Blue Flycatcher *Elminia longicauda*

A beautiful, lively avian! We had excellent views of this species at Buhoma.

White-tailed Blue Flycatcher *Elminia albicauda*

This montane equivalent of the previous species was well seen around Buhoma. Constantly fans its tail, exposing white outer tail feathers.

Old World Warblers Sylviidae**Fan-tailed Grassbird (Broad-tailed Warbler)** *Schoenicola brevirostris*

A distant bird was seen in QENP.

Neumann's (Short-tailed) Warbler * *Hemitesia neumanni*

A delightful little bird, this Albertine Rift endemic was excellently seen at Buhoma.

Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus baboecala*

Heard while doing our boat cruise on the Nile at Murchison Falls NP.

Grauer's Swamp Warbler * *Bradypterus graueri*

An Albertine Rift endemic, we obtained views of three birds while at Mubwindi Swamp, Ruhija.

White-winged Swamp Warbler *Bradypterus carpalis*

Some got excellent views of this Papyrus skulker en route to Ruhija from Lake Mburo.

Cinnamon Bracken Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus*

Another skulky *Bradypterus*, this one was only heard at Ruhija.

Black-faced Rufous Warbler *Bathmocercus rufus*

A particularly handsome bird, its "reversing truck" call was frequently heard at Buhoma, and we achieved a good number of excellent sightings of this species.

Moustached Grass Warbler *Melocichla mentalis*

A large warbler of which we had superb views in rank grassland at QENP.

Greater Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus rufescens*

This species was only heard in Papyrus at Lake Mburo.

Lesser Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus gracilirostris*

Generally a scarce bird in Uganda, we recorded a single bird en route to Ruhija from Lake Mburo.

Dark-capped Yellow Warbler *Chloropeta natalensis*

A single bird was seen in rank grass near the Royal Mile.

Mountain Yellow Warbler *Chloropeta similis*

This montane species was seen in bracken at Ruhija.

Yellow Longbill *Macrosphenus flavicans*

This species was heard at Kaniyo Pabidi.

Grey Longbill *Macrosphenus concolor*

Often tough to see, we recorded a single bird at Kaniyo Pabidi.

Green Hylia *Hylia prasina*

We had excellent views at Buhoma. Its distinctive "HEE-lia!" call was frequently heard in forest patches throughout the country.

Red-faced Woodland Warbler * *Phylloscopus laetus*

A delightful Albertine Rift endemic, which we had excellent views of at Ruhija and Buhoma.

Grauer's Warbler * *Graueria vittata*

An unusual ARE, with a call very similar to Scaly-throated Honeyguide. This small birds with indistinct barring on the underside was really well seen at Ruhija.

Rufous-crowned Eremomela *Eremomela badiceps*

A localised species in east Africa (only found in western Uganda), we recorded it at Budongo Forest.

Northern Crombec *Sylvietta brachyura*

A few birds were seen on the Butiaba Escarpment and near Masindi. Has a dark eye line.

Red-faced Crombec *Sylvietta whytii*

Has a plain face, and was seen at Lake Mburo.

Green Crombec *Sylvietta virens*

Seen at Kibale Forest; the commonly heard forest crombec throughout Uganda.

Lemon-bellied Crombec *Sylvietta denti*

Locally common in Budongo Forest, we recorded a single bird along the Royal Mile.

White-browed Crombec *Sylvietta leucophrys*

Some had excellent views of this attractive crombec at Ruhija and Buhoma.

Babblers Timaliidae

Scaly-breasted Illadopsis *Illadopsis albipectus*

One of the characteristic calls of rainforest in the Afrotropics, its was frequently heard, and seen by some at Mabira Forest.

Puvel's Illadopsis *Illadopsis puveli*

Known only from Kaniyo Pabidi section of Budongo Forest, where we had excellent views of this skulker.

Brown Illadopsis *Illadopsis fulvescens*

Seen while searching for Puvel's Illadopsis at Kaniyo Pabidi.

Mountain Illadopsis *Illadopsis pyrrhoptera*

This species was initially seen at Ruhija, with excellent views at Buhoma. Is usually found in loose groups alongside Black-faced Rufous Warbler.

Grey-chested Babbler (Illadopsis) *Kakamega poliothorax*

An extremely tough bird, we heard this species (and saw maybe the briefest flashes) of a bird at Buhoma.

African Hill Babbler *Pseudoalcippe abyssinica*

A skulky bird, of which we obtained excellent views at Ruhija.

NOTE: The black-headed Rwenzori form that we saw in south-western Uganda, I. a. atriceps is sometimes split off as Rwenzori Hill Babbler. The subspecies occurring in East Africa from Zambia to Eritrea remain with the nominate grouping I. a. abyssinica African Hill Babbler. IOC and Clements do not recognize this split.

Black-lored Babbler *Turdoides sharpei*

A number of birds were well seen at Lake Mburo NP.

Brown Babbler *Turdoides plebejus*

After our initial sighting near the Royal Mile, three birds were seen near Masindi.

Arrow-marked Babbler *Turdoides jardineii*

A noisy, widespread bird first recorded at Lake Mburo NP.

White-eyes Zosteropidae

African Yellow White-eye *Zosterops senegalensis*

This delicate bird was commonly recorded in forest and woodland. The only white-eye in Uganda.

Starlings Sturnidae

Wattled Starling *Creatophora cinerea*

A small flock were briefly seen at QENP.

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus*

Restricted to the south of the country, a total of five birds were seen in Lake Mburo NP. A glistening jewel when seen in the sun!

Lesser Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chloropterus*

This species is common in the northern savannas of Uganda, and we saw large numbers in Murchison Falls NP and around Masindi.

NOTE: This species complex is widely treated as two distinct species, the nominate group which we recorded in Uganda, remains as Lesser Blue-eared Starling and the southern broad-leafed woodland form becomes Miombo Blue-eared Starling L. elisabeth. IOC recognises this split (but Clements does not).

Bronze-tailed Starling *Lamprotornis chalcurus*

Seen near Masindi, and distinguished from the previous species by its beautiful purple central tail feathers contrasting with greeny blue outer tail feathers. Generally an uncommon species.

Splendid Starling *Lamprotornis splendidus*

We had great views of two birds at Lake Mburo NP.

Purple Starling *Lamprotornis purpureus*

A stunning bird! Three were seen near Masindi.



Rüppell's Starling*Lamprotornis purpuroptera*

Definitely the commonest starling in Uganda, with good numbers of this noisy bird throughout the country.

Purple-headed Starling*Lamprotornis purpureiceps*

Our best views of this forest starling were at Kibale Forest, where we had large numbers at the roadside.

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

An exquisite bird that was first encountered in Ishasha.

Slender-billed Starling*Onychognathus tenuirostris*

A fairly large, long tailed forest starling. We saw scoped a large flock near Ruhija.

Chestnut-winged Starling*Onychognathus fulgidus*

A pair of this large forest starling were scoped in Kibale Forest.

Waller's Starling*Onychognathus walleri*

A few birds were seen at Ruhija. A medium-small forest starling.

Stuhlmann's Starling*Poeoptera stuhlmanni*

Another forest starling (!), and similar to the previous species, with a few were seen at Buhoma.

Narrow-tailed Starling*Poeoptera lugubris*

A delightfully tiny, long tailed forest starling that was seen in good numbers at Buhoma and Kibale Forest.

Yellow-billed Oxpecker*Buphagus africanus*

Associated with game, we recorded it in Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's.

Thrushes Turdidae**Red-tailed Rufous (Ant-) Thrush***Neocossyphus rufus*

We were treated to great views at Kibale, Royal Mile and Kaniyo Pabidi of this often tough bird.

White-tailed Rufous (Ant-) Thrush*Neocossyphus poensis*

Some enjoyed excellent views of this forest bird at Kaniyo Pabidi.

Fraser's Rufous Thrush (Rufous Flycatcher-Thrush) *Stizorhina fraseri*

Its beautiful and distinctive whistle is a common sound in Ugandan forests, with us first encountering this species in Kibale Forest.

African Thrush*Turdus pelios*

Without a doubt the most common thrush in Uganda, and recorded frequently throughout the tour.

Olive Thrush*Turdus olivaceus*

Very well seen at Ruhija.

NOTE: The Ugandan form is sometimes split off as Mountain Thrush, *Turdus abyssinicus*. IOC and Clements do not as yet accept this split.

Fire-crested Alethe*Alethe diademata*

An ant follower, we heard at Busingiro and Mabira.

NOTE: The Ugandan form is sometimes split from the nominate White-tailed Alethe of West Africa, becoming *A. castanea*.

Red-throated Alethe **Alethe poliophrys*

Seen along the forest trail at Buhoma.

Brown-chested Alethe*Alethe poliocephala*

A shy forest species that was heard in Kibale Forest and at the Royal Mile.

Chats and Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae**White-starred Robin***Pogonocichla stellata*

A beautiful Afromontane species that was well seen at Ruhija.

Eastern Forest Robin *Stiphornis xanthogaster*

A shy but vocal gem of the forest understory, we obtained excellent views at the Royal Mile.

NOTE: This widespread tropical genus has been split into four species (which IOC accepts), which are variably distributed from east across to west Africa. Clements does not as yet recognize these splits. Interestingly, a new species, Olive-backed Forest Robin Stiphornis pyrrholaemus has been discovered in Gabon, bringing the Stiphornis genus to a total of five species.

Equatorial Akalat *Sheppardia aequatorialis*

A few birds were excellently seen at Buhoma.

White-bellied Robin-Chat *Cossyphicula roberti*

Superficially similar to the previous species, we saw a total of two at Buhoma.

Archer's Ground Robin (Robin-Chat) * *Cossypha archeri*

We were treated to excellent views of this sought after Albertine Rift endemic at Ruhija.

Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat *Cossypha cyanocampter*

An accomplished songster, that was unfortunately only heard at Mabira Forest.

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

One of the most frequently heard sounds in woodland areas of Uganda, this smart bird was first seen at Lake Mburo NP.

Red-capped Robin-Chat *Cossypha natalensis*

Well seen at Buhoma, and later at the Royal Mile, where we witnessed a chick being fed by an adult.

Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat *Cossypha niveicapilla*

First encountered by some in Kibale Forest.

Spotted Palm (Morning-) Thrush *Cichladusa guttata*

A beautiful songster that was heard and very well seen in the vicinity of Murchison Falls NP.

Brown-backed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas hartlaubi*

Encountered en route to Ruhija from Lake Mburo, and later seen even better near Masindi.

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

This widespread African bushveld bird was first seen at Lake Mburo.

Eurasian Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus*

A widespread bird of higher lying areas that we first recorded en route from Lake Mburo to Ruhija.

NOTE: Many authorities (including Clements but not IOC) recognise the split of African S. torquatus and Common S. rubicola Stonechats (the latter a Palaearctic species), which is not followed by all authorities. Further splitting may occur in both groups including the highland Ethiopian form S. t. albofasciata that may become Ethiopian Stonechat.

Sooty Chat *Myrmecocichla nigra*

Very common in grassy areas in savanna throughout the country.

Mocking Cliff Chat *Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris*

A particularly handsome bird that was very well seen on the Butiaba Escarpment.

Fraser's Forest Flycatcher *Fraseria ocreata*

Generally a scarce bird, of which we recorded two at the Royal Mile.

White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher *Dioptrornis fischeri*

Frequently seen in Bwindi Impenetrable NP. Interestingly, the birds of the race *toruensis* which occurs here lacks a white eye-ring!

Northern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides*

We first recorded this woodland species in QENP.

Southern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis pammelaina*

Restricted to the southern savanna area of Uganda, and hence only found at Lake Mburo, where we had great views of a few birds.

Pale Flycatcher *Bradornis pallidus*

A few birds were recorded in Murchison Falls NP.



Silverbird*Empidonax hammondi*

Quite a beautiful dry country bird, of which we obtained excellent views in Murchison Falls NP.

Ashy Flycatcher*Muscicapa caerulescens*

Seen by some in Budongo Forest and Murchison Falls NP.

Swamp Flycatcher*Muscicapa aquatica*

Usually associated with papyrus in swamps, we had our best views of the bird around our accommodations at Mweya Lodge, QENP.

Cassin's Flycatcher*Muscicapa cassini*

Always seen in the vicinity of streams, we had excellent views of a pair hawking insects and sitting on a nest on the Ishasha River, QENP.

African Dusky Flycatcher*Muscicapa adusta*

A widespread bird that frequents forest edge, and frequently encountered in and around Bwindi Impenetrable Forest NP.

Dusky-blue Flycatcher*Muscicapa comitata*

We got great views of this species at Buhoma and Bigodi Swamp.

Sooty Flycatcher*Muscicapa infusata*

This forest species was excellently seen at the Royal Mile.

Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher*Myioparus griseigularis*

This is an active forest species that was seen by some at Buhoma.

Grey Tit-Flycatcher*Myioparus plumbeus*

The woodland version of the previous species, which we saw Lake Mburo NP.

Sunbirds Nectariniidae

Grey-headed Sunbird*Deleornis (Anthreptes) axillaris*

An inconspicuous forest sunbird that was seen at Buhoma and Kaniyo Pabidi.

Little Green Sunbird*Anthreptes seimundi*

This small, inconspicuous and drab forest species was seen in Bwindi Impenetrable NP and Mabira Forest.

Grey-chinned (Green) Sunbird*Anthreptes rectirostris*

A forest edge species that was well first encountered in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

NOTE: This species is sometimes split into two forms, the eastern (including Ugandan) Grey-chinned Sunbird A. tephrolaemus and the nominate western Yellow-chinned Sunbird. This is not accepted by IOC

Collared Sunbird*Hedydipna collaris*

One of the most frequently recorded forest sunbirds in Uganda, with good numbers seen throughout.

Green-headed Sunbird*Cyanomitra verticalis*

A good looking secondary growth and forest edge species, seen at Buhoma and Kibale NP.

Blue-throated Brown Sunbird*Cyanomitra cyanoaema*

A large, noisy forest sunbird that usually inhabits the forest canopy. We had excellent views of a male and distinctive female in the undergrowth at the Royal Mile.

Blue-headed Sunbird * *Cyanomitra alinae*

An Albertine Rift endemic, which was seen at Ruhija.

Western Olive Sunbird*Cyanomitra obscura*

Frequently heard, and less often seen in lower altitude forest throughout the country. First seen at Buhoma.

NOTE: The Olive Sunbird species complex has been split into two full species by IOC and Clements and some other authorities, namely the nominate Eastern Olive Sunbird C. olivacea and the form which we recorded in Uganda, Western Olive Sunbird. 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 there-of, of pectoral tufts in the females of the various forms within the complex.



Scarlet-chested Sunbird*Chalcomitra senegalensis*

A few individuals were seen in and around Murchison Falls NP and Masindi. A very appropriately named bird!

Bronzy Sunbird*Nectarinia kilimensis*

We recorded good numbers in highland areas, with peak numbers at Buhoma.

Olive-bellied Sunbird*Cinnyris chloropygius*

This common forest edge sunbird was seen in good numbers in at lower altitude sites at Buhoma and Mabira Forests.

Tiny Sunbird*Cinnyris minullus*

Some were very fortunate to see this scarce canopy bird at Buhoma.

Northern Double-collared Sunbird*Cinnyris reichenowi*

Good numbers were seen in forest edge habitats at Ruhija.

Regal Sunbird **Cinnyris regius*

A gorgeous Albertine Rift endemic (certainly a highlight of Ruhija!) was excellently seen along the School Trail at Ruhija.

Beautiful Sunbird*Cinnyris pulchella*

Another stunner, this dry country bird was seen in good numbers in and around Murchison Falls NP.

Marico Sunbird*Cinnyris mariquensis*

This dry country species was found in the Masindi area.

NOTE: Some authorities split this complex into 2 full species. C. m. suahelica, which we recorded in Uganda would become Swahili Sunbird as opposed to the nominate form which would remain as Marico Sunbird. IOC and Clements do not as yet recognize this split.

Red-chested Sunbird*Cinnyris erythrocerus*

A wetland associated species that was commonly seen in Entebbe, Lake Mburo NP and QENP.

Superb Sunbird*Cinnyris superbus*

We were treated to an outrageous view of a male near the Royal Mile, mind blowing indeed!

Variable Sunbird*Cinnyris venustus*

Also a good looking sunbird (!), which was commonly recorded in the former half of the tour.

Copper Sunbird*Cinnyris cupreus*

First seen at QENP, and then seen fairly frequently thereafter.

Old World Sparrows Passeridae**Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver***Plocepasser superciliosus*

We saw this handsome species on the Butiaba Escarpment.

House Sparrow*Passer domesticus*

A Rockjumper first for Uganda, we recorded this species in the south of the country in a small town near Lake Mburo.

Kenya Sparrow*Passer rufocinctus*

We observed a number of birds on the north bank of the Nile in Murchison Falls NP.

NOTE: Some authorities including Clements split this African sparrow into five species. Shelley's Rufous Sparrow P. shelleyi that we observed occurs largely in Ethiopia, Great Sparrow P. motitensis occurs in Southern Africa, Kenya Rufous Sparrow P. rufocinctus occurs in East Africa, Kordofan Rufous Sparrow P. cordofanicus occurs in Sudan and Socotra Sparrow is endemic to Socotra. IOC however, only accepts Great, Kenya and Socotra Sparrows as full species, and according to their classification the birds we recorded (Shelley's Rufous Sparrow) are treated as Kenya Sparrow.

Northern Grey-headed Sparrow*Passer griseus*

By far the commonest sparrow in Uganda, and seen almost daily throughout the tour.

Weavers, Widowbirds Ploceidae**Speckle-fronted Weaver***Sporopipes frontalis*

This uncommon species was seen on the Butiaba Escarpment.

Thick-billed (Grosbeak) Weaver *Amblyospiza albifrons*

Possesses a monster beak, with our first sightings being of flocks over Kibale Forest.

Baglafaecht Weaver *Ploceus baglafaecht*

A common weaver of moister, open habitats, we found several in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Slender-billed Weaver *Ploceus pelzelni*

We had excellent views of this tiny weaver on the dinner tables at Mweya Lodge, QENP.

Little Weaver *Ploceus luteolus*

A dry country species that was seen outside of Murchison Falls NP.

Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis*

An undergrowth species, first recorded on a travel day en route to Ruhija from Lake Mburo.

Black-necked Weaver *Ploceus nigricollis*

This forest edge species was seen at Buhoma, Kibale and the Royal Mile. The smart looking males and female are distinctly different!

Strange Weaver * *Ploceus alienus*

An often elusive Albertine Rift endemic that was seen at Ruhija. Its call is quite similar Spectacled Weaver's.

Black-billed Weaver *Ploceus melanogaster*

A really good looking and sought after species that excellently seen at Buhoma.

African (Holub's) Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops*

This is a large, brightly coloured weaver of rank grassland and reedbeds, and was first recorded on a travel day between Lake Mburo and Ruhija.

Orange Weaver *Ploceus aurantius*

Some saw a male of this stunning species (restricted to the Lake Victoria basin) at the Entebbe Botanical Gardens.

Northern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus castanops*

Associated with wetland environs, we first encountered this species at Lake Mburo NP.

Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus ocularis*

A scarce bird in Uganda, we saw this species in woodland at Lake Mburo NP.

Vitelline Masked Weaver *Ploceus velatus*

This species was seen on the Butiaba Escarpment.

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus*

The distinctive *bohndorffi* subspecies that we recorded was a conspicuous and common species.

NOTE: This widespread African complex is a candidate for multi-species splitting and the subspecies P. c. bohndorffi which we recorded in Uganda will probably remain within the nominate Village Weaver P. cucullatus group. These splits are not as yet recognized by IOC or Clements.

Vieillot's Black Weaver *Ploceus nigerrimus*

Another extremely common Ugandan weaver, which we recorded frequently.

NOTE: The distinctive West African form of this weaver is sometimes split off as Chestnut-and-black Weaver P. castaneofuscus.

Weyns' Weaver *Ploceus weynsi*

We were very fortunate to see large numbers of this very nomadic forest wanderer at Mabira Forest.

Black-headed (Yellow-backed) Weaver *Ploceus melanocephalus*

Good numbers of this wetland associated species were seen in the latter half of the tour.

Golden-backed Weaver *Ploceus jacksoni*

This scarce weaver was seen by some at Luwero Swamp.

Yellow-mantled Weaver *Ploceus tricolor*

We scoped a single male of this species at Kibale Forest.



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- Compact Weaver** *Pachyphantes superciliosus*
Associated with rank grassland, this uncommon species was seen at QENP and later near Masindi.
- Brown-capped Weaver** *Ploceus insignis*
A very handsome bird that was well seen at Mubwindi Swamp and Buhoma.
- Red-headed Malimbe** *Malimbus rubricollis*
A very colourful forest weaver that was seen in Bwindi Impenetrable forest.
- Red-headed Weaver** *Anaplectes rubriceps*
A colourful bushveld weaver that was seen at Lake Mburo NP.
- Cardinal Quelea** *Quelea cardinalis*
A few birds (including a male in breeding plumage) were seen in rank grassland near the Royal Mile.
- Red-headed Quelea** *Quelea erythrops*
Large flocks, with many individuals in breeding plumage were seen near the Royal Mile.
- Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea*
This, the most abundant bird on earth was seen in maximum numbers at Murchison Falls NP.
- Black Bishop** *Euplectes gierowii*
A number of birds were seen in rank areas, with our first sighting being near Buhoma.
- Black-winged Red Bishop** *Euplectes hordeaceus*
Good views were had of this species at Murchison Falls NP.
- Southern Red Bishop** *Euplectes orix*
We had great close-ups of flocks dotted with breeding males at QENP.
- Northern Red Bishop** *Euplectes franciscanus*
Another stunning bishop, we saw maximum numbers of this species at Murchison Falls NP. Replaces the previous species in the more northern grasslands.
- Yellow Bishop (Yellow-rumped Widow)** *Euplectes capensis*
Two males were seen in rank cultivation in the south west of the country.
- Fan-tailed (Red-shouldered) Widowbird** *Euplectes axillaris*
A widespread widowbird in Uganda, we first encountered this species in the form of a large flock en route from Lake Mburo to Ruhija.
- Yellow-mantled Widowbird** *Euplectes macrourus*
A smart euplect, we saw this one around Masindi, and in Murchison Falls NP.
NOTE: We also observed a potential split, Yellow-shouldered Widowbird, currently classified as Euplectes macrourus macrocercus (which has a black mantle in place of the yellow, and has yellow shoulders only) near Masindi. This split is not recognised by IOC or Clements.
- Marsh Widowbird** *Euplectes hartlaubi*
A localised bird in Uganda, we observed birds near Masindi and Luwero Swamp.
- Red-collared Widowbird** *Euplectes ardens*
A few good looking males were seen near Masindi.

Waxbills & Allies Estrildidae

- White-breasted Negrita** *Nigrita fusconotus*
Our initial sighting of this interesting species was in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest. Its descending call was heard in a number of forests throughout the tour.
- Grey-headed Negrita** *Nigrita canicapillus*
Also commonly seen and heard in forests throughout the country.
- Dusky Crimsonwing *** *Cryptospiza jacksoni*
A single male was seen by some at Ruhija. This Albertine Rift endemic is quite stunning!
- Red-headed Bluebill** *Spermophaga ruficapilla*
Some were treated to extended close-up views of this outrageous bird at Buhoma.



Brown Twinspot*Clytospiza monteiri*

This beautiful bird was seen on a few occasions around Masindi.

Red-billed Firefinch*Lagonosticta senegala*

Uganda's most common firefinch, it was recorded fairly regularly, with maximum numbers in QENP.

African (Blue-billed) Firefinch*Lagonosticta rubricata*

This widespread African bird was seen near Buhoma.

Red-cheeked Cordonbleu*Uraeginthus bengalus*

An attractive savanna species, we recorded it in Lake Mburo and Murchison Falls NP's.

Yellow-bellied Waxbill*Estrilda quartinia*

This species was seen in the highland area of Ruhija.

Fawn-breasted Waxbill*Estrilda paludicola*

This species was recorded fairly regularly in

NOTE: The Ethiopian near-endemic E. p. ochrogaster is sometimes recognized as a distinct species, Abyssinian Waxbill.

Common Waxbill*Estrilda astrild*

One of the most widespread waxbills in Africa, we first recorded it en route to QENP from Buhoma.

Black-crowned Waxbill*Estrilda nonnula*

This species was seen at Buhoma and later near Masindi.

Black-faced Waxbill*Estrilda erythronotus*

We saw this handsome dry country species outside of Murchison Falls NP.

African Quail-Finch*Ortygospiza fuscocrissa*

We saw a number of scattered flocks in Murchison Falls NP.

Bronze Mannikin*Lonchura cucullata*

A common and regularly recorded species in moister habitats throughout Uganda.

Black-and-white Mannikin*Lonchura bicolor*

First seen near Buhoma, and then later near Masindi and Mabira Forest.

Magpie Mannikin*Lonchura fringilloides*

A great find, this localised species was excellently seen near Mabira Forest.

Indigobirds, Whydahs Viduidae**Village Indigobird***Vidua chalybeata*

We encountered this brood parasite (it parasitizes the Red-billed Firefinch) in small towns between Lake Mburo and Ruhija, and later outside of Murchison Falls NP.

Pin-tailed Whydah*Vidua macroura*

This aggressive bird (which parasitizes the Common Waxbill) was seen in good numbers in the latter half of the tour.

Wagtails & Pipits Motacillidae**Cape Wagtail***Motacilla capensis*

A few birds were seen in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

African Pied Wagtail*Motacilla aguimp*

One of the more common birds of the tour, seen almost daily.

Yellow-throated Longclaw*Macronyx croceus*

This noisy inhabitant of open, grassy habitats was seen quite regularly in suitable habitat throughout the tour. A meadow lark look-alike, it was first seen at Lake Mburo NP.

African Pipit*Anthus cinnamomeus*

The "default" pipit in many areas in Africa, we first recorded it between Ruhija and Buhoma, and later in QENP.

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 rights 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.

Plain-backed Pipit*Anthus leucophrys*

We got great views of this species at Lake Mburo NP and later in QENP.

NOTE: *A. l. goodsoni* of central and SW Kenya may be split off from the nominate group *A. leucophrys*. The Ugandan races we recorded would probably remain within the nominate complex. Clements does not recognise this split.

Finches Fringillidae**Yellow-crowned Canary***Serinus flavivertex*

We found this highland species near Ruhija.

NOTE: This species complex has been split into two, the nominate southern group would remain as Cape Canary *Serinus canicollis* and the form which we recorded in Uganda becomes Yellow-crowned Canary *S. flavivertex*. IOC and Clements both recognize this split.

Western Citril*Crithagra frontalis*

This bird was seen in QENP and later near the Royal Mile.

NOTE: This complex is now split into three distinct species, the eastern Southern Citril *C. hyposticta*, the western Western Citril *C. frontalis* (which is the form occurring in Uganda) and the nominate African Citril *C. citrinelloides*. IOC and Clements does recognize these splits.

White-rumped Seedeater*Crithagra leucopygia*

Excellent views were had of this scarce species outside of Murchison Falls NP.

Black-throated Canary*Crithagra atrogularis*

Also an uncommon species, it was seen alongside agricultural land near Buhoma.

Yellow-fronted Canary*Crithagra mozambica*

A widespread species in Africa, we first recorded it in open country en route from Lake Mburo to Ruhija.

Brimstone (Bully) Canary*Crithagra sulphurata*

This large canary was seen while travelling from Buhoma to QENP, and later in Kibale NP.

Streaky Seedeater*Crithagra striolata*

We got multiple views of this highland forest edge species while at Ruhija.

Thick-billed Seedeater*Crithagra burtoni*

Another highland canary common in Bwindi Impenetrable NP, where we recorded a few individuals.

NOTE: The Tanzanian endemic *S. b. melanochrous* is sometimes split off as Kipengere Seed-eater.

Buntings Emberizidae**Cinnamon-breasted Bunting***Emberiza tahapisi*

A good looking species recorded near Lake Mburo and later on the Butiaba Escarpment.

Golden-breasted Bunting*Emberiza flaviventris*

Seen in several localities throughout the country, but never as common as further south in Africa.

Cabanis's Bunting*Emberiza cabanisi*

We had excellent views of a single bird on the Butiaba Escarpment.

Annotated List of Mammal Species recorded

Taxonomy and nomenclature follows "The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals" by Jonathan Kingdon, Academic Press, 1997.

Total species recorded: 44



Apes Hominidae

Chimpanzee*Pan troglodytes*

This amazing ape was watched for an extended period as they fed in large fig trees while in Kibale Forest. A special experience was watching a few individuals walking along the forest floor, going about moving from one foraging area to another. Time spent listening to their hair raising vocalisations was an eerie but very worthwhile experience as well!

(Mountain) Gorilla*Gorilla gorilla*

This incredible mammal is one of the primary reasons that we travel to Uganda, and the one invaluable hour with them did not disappoint! This together with setting in Bwindi is incredible, and is without a doubt one of the greatest wildlife experiences on earth.

Colobid Monkeys Colobidae

Central African Red Colobus*Piliocolobus oustaleti*

A leaf feeding monkey that is present in good numbers in Kibale Forest. This forest holds by far the largest population of these monkeys in East Africa, and despite the supposed large off-take by chimps each year, the population seems to be doing well. Some saw this monkey while on the main forest trail.

Guereza Colobus*Colobus guereza*

A stunning creature that is delightfully common in any areas with small patches of forest. We were treated to multiple excellent views of this monkey, including haunting calls from deep within some forests.

Cheek-Pouch Monkeys Cercopithecidae

Olive (Anubis) Baboon*Papio anubis*

A common primate in Uganda, we saw large numbers in woodland and forest edge, with particularly large numbers in the Ishasha section of QENP.

Grey-cheeked Mangabey*Lophocebus albigena*

This primate with interesting facial markings (like war paint!) was seen in Kibale and Mabira Forests.

Vervet Monkey*Cercopithecus pygerythrus*

Widespread throughout Uganda, and large areas of Africa, these are very adaptable monkeys, and are found in both suburbia and in the wilds. We saw them quite frequently throughout the trip.

L'Hoest's Monkey*Cercopithecus lhoesti*

Probably the most handsome of Uganda's primates, we recorded it in Bwindi Impenetrable NP and later Kibale NP. It is essentially a terrestrial species, but ascends trees to feed or to escape danger.

Blue (Gentle) Monkey*Cercopithecus mitis stuhlmanni*

Their loud barking call was often the only give away as to their presence, however we good views of this large monkey in Bwindi Impenetrable Forest and Budongo Forest.

Red-tailed Monkey*Cercopithecus ascanius*

Also very common and quite colourful, we saw this species in a number of forest patches throughout the tour.

Flying –Foxes Pteropidae

Straw-coloured Fruit Bat*Eidolon helvum*

We saw good numbers of this impressive bat in the late afternoon and early evening at Jinja.

Large-Winged Bats Megadermatidae

Yellow-winged Bat*Lavia frons*

A surprisingly good looking animal, we had great views of these mammals at Lake Mburo and QENP.



Hares & Rabbits Leporidae

Uganda Grass-Hare*Poelagus marjorita*

A decent number of these were seen at Murchison Falls NP.

Squirrels Sciuridae

Striped Ground Squirrel*Xerus erythropus*

These large squirrels were recorded in Murchison Falls NP.

Carruther's Mountain Squirrel*Funisciurus carruthersi*

A few specimens were seen in Bwindi Impenetrable NP.

Boehm's Squirrel*Paraxerus boehmi*

We saw this tiny, "cute" squirrel at Ruhija, and later in Budongo Forest.

African Giant Squirrel*Protoxerus stangeri*

A huge forest squirrel, which we observed feeding at a roadside in Kibale Forest.

Dogs and Allies Canidae

Side-striped Jackal*Canis adustus*

A single individual was seen resting beneath a bush while on the north bank of the Nile in Murchison Falls NP.

Mongoose Herpestidae

Slender Mongoose*Herpestes sanguinea*

A widespread African mongoose, it was seen in Murchison Falls NP.

Dwarf Mongoose*Helogale parvula*

This delightful little mongoose was well seen in Lake Mburo NP.

Banded Mongoose*Mungos mungo*

This social mongoose was seen in Lake Mburo, QENP and Murchison Falls NP.

White-tailed Mongoose*Ichneumia albicauda*

Some saw a single individual while in our lodge grounds in Murchison Falls NP.

Genets and Civets Viverridae

African Civet*Civettictus civetta*

We were very fortunate to get a sighting of an individual in broad daylight on the trail at Buhoma. Another individual was seen by some while leaving Kibale Forest in the dark.

Cats Felidae

Leopard*Panthera pardus*

A highlight of the tour, we had an outstanding view of a single individual right alongside the road while in Murchison Falls NP.

Lion*Panthera leo*

While on the north bank of the Nile in Murchison Falls NP, we had a great sighting of a pride of eight lazing in the road.

Elephants Elephantidae

African Elephant*Loxodonta africana*

These intelligent creatures were seen in good numbers (from lone males to breeding herds with calves) in QENP and Murchison Falls NP.



Horses Equidae

Common (Burchell's) Zebra*Equus quagga*

This species is restricted to the southern savannas, and as a result is only found in Uganda at Lake Mburo. We recorded good numbers within the park.

Hippopotamuses Hippopotamidae

Hippopotamus*Hippopotamus amphibius*

We had excellent views of these huge, often docile but potentially very dangerous beasts at Lake Mburo, The Kazinga Channel and on the Nile in Murchison Falls NP. The close-up sightings that one is guaranteed of in Uganda make it one of the best places anywhere to view these curious animals.

Pigs Suidae

Bush Pig*Potamochoerus larvatus*

A family group of six ran in front of our vehicle at Lake Mburo while in broad daylight, a particularly rare event indeed!

Common Warthog*Phacochoerus africanus*

A common savanna inhabitant seen at Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's.

Giraffes Giraffidae

Giraffe*Giraffa camelopardalis*

We had several excellent views of this bizarre animal while on the north bank of the Nile River while in Murchison Falls NP. We recorded the distinctive Rothschild's form, which, if some recent taxonomy is to be believed, may be split into a separate species! Based on coat pattern and range differences, as well as genetic work, the one species of giraffe currently accepted may be split into six distinct species!

Bovids & Horned Ungulates

African Buffalo*Syncerus caffer*

We saw numerous individuals in Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's. This bovid provided excellent photographic opportunities along the Kazinga Channel and the Nile in Murchison Falls NP, but definite highlights were the enormous herds scattered across vast areas of luscious grassland on the north bank of the Nile.

Bushbuck*Tragelaphus scriptus*

An oft nervous, but beautifully patterned antelope, which was first encountered in Lake Mburo NP.

Sitatunga*Tragelaphus spekei*

One of the shyest of Africa's antelope, we were extremely fortunate to watch a pair stalking through an open glade in a papyrus swamp in the south of the country.

Black-fronted Duiker*Cephalophus nigrifrons*

Some saw this smart forest antelope at Buhoma.

Peter's Duiker*Cephalophus callipygus weynsi*

A single animal was seen in Kibale Forest. Specimens in this area belong to the subspecies *weynsi*, which is sometimes known as Weyns' Duiker. Kibale forest represents a regional stronghold for this species.

Yellow-backed Duiker*Cephalophus silvicultor*

We were treated to two separate but great sightings of this enormous duiker at Buhoma. The largest duiker species in the world, dwarfing its smaller Ugandan kin!



Oribi*Ourebia ourebi*

A threatened species elsewhere in Africa, we were treated to large numbers in the grasslands north of the Nile in Murchison Falls NP.

Bohor Reedbuck*Redunca redunca*

Generally uncommon, we saw individuals in Lake Mburo NP and later in QENP.

Uganda Kob*Kobus kob thomasi*

A handsome, water dependant species that we saw in large numbers in QENP on the Kasenyi Track, and later on the north bank of the Nile in Murchison Falls NP.

Defassa Waterbuck*Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa*

We saw this large antelope in good number in Lake Mburo, Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Falls NP's.

Impala*Aepyceros melampus*

A special of the southern savannas, and as such only occurring at Lake Mburo where we saw numerous individuals. These animals are much longer horned than those from southern Africa.

Topi*Damaliscus lunatus*

One of the swiftest of African antelopes, we saw good numbers in Lake Mburo and Queen Elizabeth NP's.

Kongoni (Jackson's Hartebeest)*Alcelaphus buselaphus*

We saw a few individuals on the north bank of the Nile in Murchison Falls NP's.

Photo credits

Cover Page: Shoebill and Yellow-billed Egret by Rainer Summers. **In text:** Grauer's Broadbill, Brown-capped Weaver and Royal Swallowtail by Rainer Summers. Western Tinkerbird, Black Bee-eater, Red-throated Bee-eater and Denham's Bustard by Merl Arnot.

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