

Trip report
Ethiopia with Birdguides/ Birdwatch Magazine
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Guides

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Participants

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DAILY LOG

Day 1, 5th November – Ghion Hotel, Geffersa Reservoir

After we all arrived at Ghion Hotel in Addis Ababa and had breakfast everybody opted for a leisurely birding in the hotel's lush garden. Just at the hotel door we watched endemic Brown-rumped Seedeaters, Baglafaecht Weavers and ubiquitous Tacazze Sunbirds in all types of plumages. After 10 metres we had brief views of an Eastern Grey Woodpecker and then we suddenly heard an Abyssinian Woodpecker calling. This endemic bird is rarely seen in downtown Addis, but we soon had a pair calling to each other in our bins and the male raising its red crest. Later the male started excavating a hole in the dead branch.

Walking a bit further we saw our first Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher, another endemic. Blue-breasted Bee-eaters were spotted hunting for insects while we were looking for Slender-billed Starlings feeding on nectar. A Rüppell's Robin-Chat showed briefly, an endemic Banded Barbet and an African Dusky Flycatcher was also seen. As we started walking back we watched Nyanza Swifts, Rock Martins and Red-rumped Swallows flying above us. Much higher there were Marabou Storks with Hooded Vultures and Yellow-billed Kites in the air. A pair of endemic Wattled Ibis was then found feeding in the soft soil and we finished our walk with wintering Common Whitethroat and Common Chiffchaff.



1 Abyssinian Woodpecker

After lunch and a bit of relaxing we left for a short visit to Geffersa Reservoir. Even though the road was under construction we were surprised to find a pair of African Black Ducks in a roadside pool. We then stopped and walked closer to the shore of the reservoir. There were many birds around with noisy Wattled Ibis, Sacred Ibis, Spur-winged Lapwing, Yellow-billed Ducks, plus two endemic Blue-winged Geese. A Northern Fiscal was perched on a fence posts, while an endemic White-collared Pigeon on another. Yellow Wagtails were flitting around and we discovered a pair of endemic Abyssinian Longclaws. Later we found another pair with endemic Ethiopian Cisticolas, Groundscraper Thrushes and 2 Ortolan Buntings. Endemic Ethiopian Siskins showed nicely and we discovered 2 Abdim's Storks soaring in the distance. Then it was time to drive back to our hotel for dinner.

Day 2, 6th November – Sululta Plains, Debre Libanos area

After breakfast we left for the long drive through Addis and across the mountain to reach the Sululta Plains. On the pass we saw 2 close Thick-billed Ravens feeding on roadside rubbish. A Black Stork was a nice find en route, standing in a field. Later we stopped at some roadside pools and saw a small flock of Common Cranes flying across. At the ponds amongst the commoner ducks and waders we had a Squacco Heron, some very tame Tawny Eagles, our first Temminck'Stint, 2 Abyssinian Longclaws, 2 Stout Cisticolas, our first of many Red-billed Oxpeckers, Village Indigobird, Yellow Bishop and a nice male Pin-tailed Whydah. Just as we were leaving we spotted 2 Lappet-faced Vultures and a bit later another two.

Our next stop was to see Erlanger's Lark that we soon found in the stubble fields. A family of endemic White-winged Cliff Chats was a good find here, as was an Eastern Black-eared Wheatear.

Our next roadside stop produced a Banded Martin in a small flock of Brown-throated Martins. A gorgeous White-headed Vulture circling above a small town made us stop quickly. We then had lunch with delicious Ethiopian coffee just before Debre Libanos. After lunch we went to the Ethio-German hotel overlooking Jemmu Valley and the Portuguese Bridge area. We were amazed by the soaring raptors, which at times were flying below us. There was a colony of Rüppell's Vultures on the cliffs and we could watch these gorges birds flying in and out. A magnificent Bearded Vulture also appeared and glided above us giving spectacular views, as did a Wahlberg's Eagle and two Egyptian Vultures. With the White-backed and Hooded Vultures seen en route we had 7 vulture species today, a great tally.



2 Rüppell's Vulture

A small troop of Gelada Baboons was also at the hotel and a couple of Olive Baboons too as Colin later discovered looking at his photos. We spotted two Rock Hyraxes below us eating prickly pear cactus fruits and a couple of endemic Rüppell's Black Chats. Just as we were leaving the hotel an Erckel's Francolin started calling. Soon we had the bird in the scope having wonderful prolonged views. It was responding to another bird inside the bushes.

Our last birding stop of the day was at Debre Libanos Monastery. We waked past the barracks into the forest. Just as we reached the stream we had a purple patch of bird activity with a Red-fronted Tinkerbird and a Banded Barbet showing well. An Eastern Grey Woodpecker joined in and Brown Woodland Warblers were singing in the trees. A Grey Wagtail and two Mountain Wagtails were walking in the streambed. As we walked uphill Measho called in a massive flock of White-cheeked Turacos numbering around 20 individuals. Then we watched a foraging party of endemic White-rumped Babblers. We finally managed to see Singing Cisticola on the bush top when an Abyssinian Woodpecker appeared. Then Measho heard White-backed Black Tit calling and we soon had another endemic on the growing list. A flyover male Pallid Harrier was a nice find and a Shikra caused havoc among the Baglafecht Weavers. Our last endemic of the day was a perched Black-winged Lovebird. Then it was time for the long drive back to Addis.

Day 3, 7th November – Rift Valley Lakes

After breakfast we left Addis for the Rift Valley. A soaring raptor proved to be our first Steppe Buzzard in the outskirts of Addis. Then we reached Lake Chelekleka and stopped for a walk at the north-western shore. Right at the parking we saw a perched Northern Red Bishop in eclipse plumage with some red still retained. A Blue-naped Mousebird perched atop a tree did not show very well. By reaching the lake we noticed big flocks of Shoveler and Pintail above the lake. There was a flock of Greater Flamingo in the shallow water and Common Cranes kept flying in and landing. Flocks of Glossy Ibis were busy feeding and we scanned the waders finding Black-tailed Godwits, Avocets, Marsh Sandpiper, Temminck's and Little Stint among the commoner species. A single African Wattled Lapwing was interesting. A group of 5 Black-crowned Cranes was found with the Marabouts in the middle of the marshy area. A few White Storks were there too. A few Western Marsh Harriers patrolled the lake and flushed the birds from time to time that helped us discovering species like Garganey. Colin found a sleeping Fulvous Whistling Duck near the group of Red-knobbed Coots, while walking further south Measho found some Red-billed Teal. Then there was a family of White-backed Duck seen, a single Knob-billed Duck and a Great Crested Grebe with a grown chick. A Thekla Lark was singing in the air above us and an African Pipit was displaying above the tomato fields. In the sky above us there were Steppe and Tawny Eagles. We decided to check out the other side of the lake for better views. A short drive and walk took us to the north-eastern shore. The roadside bushes held our first Rattling Cisticolas eventually showing well, plus Rüppell's Weaver, Red-billed Quelea, Mourning Collared Dove and Namaqua Dove. Butterflies kept us entertaining on the short walk to the lake. There were now more than 200 Common Cranes on the ground, but the Crowned Cranes had vanished. A single African Spoonbill was a nice find. A pair of African Fish Eagles were actively calling. We had better views of Red-billed Teal along with Hottentot Teal. Steve and Colin found Kentish and Little Ringed Plover among the waders on the muddy shore.

Then it was time for lunch. As we were waiting for our order at the picturesque restaurant on the shore of Lake Bishoftu we kept seeing birds from the balcony. There was a very

confiding Little Rock Thrush entertaining us. Below us a small flock of Northern House Martins landed in a tree top for a short time. Then we saw a nice White-browed Robin Chat and an Ethiopian Boubou. Willow Warbler and Blackcap was in the top of an acacia tree and our first Grey-backed Camaroptera showed well. Black-winged Lovebird also appeared as did Scarlet-chested Sunbird, but the it was time to eat our delicious fish.

After lunch we drove further south. We drove past a Long-crested Eagle only seen by Colin. Then we arrived to Koka Dam and stopped at the busy roadside. There were many birds around us including a Goliath Heron, many Hamerkops, African Jacana, loads of White-faced Whistling Duck and Spur-winged Goose, flocks of White Pelican with a few Pink-backed Pelican, plus waders, egrets and herons. A small flock of Horus Swifts was a nice addition to the list. Another roadside stop produced a few Kittlitz's Plovers.

Late afternoon we reached huge Lake Ziway and stopped at the pier. Ziway is usually interesting for the sheer numbers of birds present, but we added a few new species to our list such as African Darter, Grey-headed Gull, Malachite Kingfisher, Black Crake and Lesser Moorhen. As the sun went down we still had a 30 minutes drive to our hotel on the shore of Lake Langano. Upon driving into the hotel grounds we watched a perched Slender-tailed Nightjar in the car headlights. It was another day filled with great sightings of many bird species.

Day 4, 8th November – Simbo Hotel grounds, Bishangari Forest, Hara Langano Lodge

We started the day with a pre-breakfast walk around Simbo Lodge. The lodge is right next to some very productive dry bushland below an escarpment. Just outside our rooms African Thrush, Mocking Cliff Chat and Red-throated Wryneck were the first birds that greeted us. White-bellied Go-away-birds were constant companions as were Northern Red-billed Hornbills. As we started walking we heard Verreaux's Eagle Owl calling and soon Steve found the bird perched in a tree below the rocks. Then Measho heard Clapperton's Francolin and we were watching 3 birds quickly disappearing behind the bushes.



3 Clapperton's Francolin

Behind us Crested Francolin was vocalising and we soon saw 2 birds running in the grass. A flock of Helmeted Guineafowl also joined in the fun. In the acacias smaller birds kept us busy like a pair of Slate-coloured Boubous or a noisy group of Rufous Chatterers. Little Weaver was quietly feeding along with tiny Red-faced Crombec, Buff-bellied Warbler and Yellow-

vented Eremomela. A tiny Cardinal Woodpecker was fun to watch in the canopy. Noisy Boran Cisticolas started calling and were soon spotted. A Blu Rock Thrush was perched on a distant rock found by Colin as we were looking for Rock Hyraxes. Birds kept us busy with Spectacled and Rüppell's Weaver, Crimson-rumped Waxbill, Marico and Beautiful Sunbird seen and a Brubru called in briefly by Measho. Then it was time to turn around, but suddenly a Clapperton's Francolin started calling from a tree and then there it was in the open showing very well. We crept closer for better photos and the bird was amazingly patient with us. On the way back we saw Lesser and Common Whitethroat, a young Dark Chanting Goshawk on the ground and a very cooperative Striped Kingfisher. Before we reached the restaurant we were shown a roosting Greyish Eagle Owl by the hotel staff, which was the icing on the cake of a great morning birding.

As we were eating our delicious breakfast on the terrace we saw a pair of Von der Decken's Hornbills, Rüppell's and Greater Blue-eared Glossy Starlings.

After breakfast we left for Bishangari Forest. On the way Measho spotted a Gabar Goshawk inside a tree from the moving vehicle. We had a good look of the raptor and then discovered a party of gaudy Black-billed Wood Hoopoes. Later on we saw two White-winged Black Tits and some Northern Black Flycatchers. Our first Lilac-breasted Roller and 2 Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters were perched on the wire.

Upon arriving at Bishangari Forest we had a family of Grey-backed Fiscals in the trees and a calling Bearded Woodpecker that proved to be tricky to find. Ethiopian Orioles were calling in the canopy and eventually showed well. Measho tried the call of Narina Trogon and much to our surprise soon we had 3 of these colourful birds above us checking us out. An Unstriped Sun Squirrel was running in the leaf litter around us and as we entered the forest we saw Grivet Monkeys and Guereza Colobuses eating the ripe figs. Huge Silvery-cheeked Hornbills were also feasting on the figs and then we heard the call of Yellow-fronted Parrots. We soon watched three of these endemic birds in the scope.



4 Double-toothed Barbet

We planned to have lunch at Hara Langano Lodge situated on the lake side surrounded by mature trees. While waiting for our lunch we were watching Bare-faced Go-away-birds and White-cheeked Turacos eating the figs. There were 7 Hippos reported from the morning and

we could see three of them from our lunch table. Then a pair of Double-toothed Barbets caught our attention. They were soon joined by a Banded Barbet and a Red-fronted Tinkerbird. A noisy group of White-rumped Babblers were also in the same group of trees and an Ethiopian Boubou showed well. Then we heard the characteristic song of Orange-breasted Bush-shrike. It took a while to locate the bird inside a tree.

After lunch we enjoyed a pair of Senegal Thick-knees by the lake and watched African Fish Eagles and African Harrier-Hawks above the lake. A Giant Kingfisher landing in a tree on the shore was a very welcome sight. Then we were shown a roosting pair of African Scops Owls. What an incredible camouflage!

After driving back to our lodge we met again at dusk to look for nightjars outside the lodge. After a few minutes we watched displaying Slender-tailed Nightjars landing on the track. Then we heard a Freckled Nightjar and soon we had one of them landing in front of us giving great views. We ended another day packed with great birds and mammals.

Day 5, 9th November – Lake Abiyata, Bale Mountains

As we finished too late at Hara Langano Lodge the day before we moved our visit to lake Abiyata to today. On the drive out from Lake Langano Measho spotted a Pygmy Falcon perched atop a tree and we all had good views of this tiny raptor. Reaching Abiyata-Shalla National Park we were first birding the acacia scrub from inside the vehicle seeing 2 Black Scimitarbills, several Northern White-crowned Shrike, more than 10 Crowned Lapwings and no less than 6 Temminck's Coursers that were showing nicely. The lake itself was shallower than usual so we had to walk to get closer to the water. Numbers of Lesser Flamingos were also smaller than usual and we saw no Greater Flamingo here at all. Avocets and a few Kittlitz's Plovers were on the lakeside, Little Stints and Ringed Plovers and then we spotted a Lesser Sand Plover and then another two. We had fairly good scope views of these waders. Then it was time to hit the road. We had lunch in a small town and then we stopped shortly to see Red-chested Swallows under a bridge. Along the drive we saw a nice all black male African Stonechat and then reached a roadside gorge. The locals quickly pointed out a Cape Eagle Owl perched in a juniper and then another owl just flew off the rock wall. While we were watching the owl a Rouget's Rail quietly walked into view just a few meters from us. Another fine endemic.



5 Rouget's Rail

We had to press on, but stopped at a roadside pool that held good numbers of Blue-winged Geese, 2 Garganeys, Red-knobbed Coots and our first Spot-breasted Lapwings of the trip. The nearby Gaysay Grasslands were full of grazing Bohor Reedbucks, Mountain Nyalas and Common Warthogs and much to our surprise there was also a Klipspringer close to the road. Then we arrived to Dinsho just before dark and were shown a roosting African Wood Owl in the forest.

Then it was time to drive to Goba to our hotel. Along the road there was a nice flock of Red-collared Widowbirds feeding on the crops with 2 male Yellow Bishops mixed in. As we arrived to Wabe Shebelle Hotel in Goba a large accipiter flew in and landed atop a tree that turned out to be a Black Sparrowhawk. Before dinner we walked out of the hotel in the hope of seeing Montane Nightjar and we did see 2, one of them perched several times. While spotlighting the nightjar suddenly an owl flew in and there we had our second African Wood Owl of the day in the hotel garden. Wow!

Day 6, 10th November – Bale Mountains, Harenna Forest

A few of us walked in the hotel garden before breakfast. Best new bird was Dark-capped Bulbul. After breakfast we left for Sanetti Plateau, but on the way up stopped looking for Abyssinian Catbird. We quickly found 3 birds showing well in the junipers. While watching them Measho heard an Abyssinian Ground Thrush. After some playback the bird perched in the open and started singing. We watched this very showy bird for 5 minutes through the scope. A rare and amazing experience. A White-backed Black Tit was also showing itself in the trees and while we walked backed to the bus we saw a Verreaux's Eagle flying past us.

A bit further up we stopped again to look for Brown Parisoma. We didn't find it, but had good views instead of Cinnamon Bracken Warbler, Moorland Chat, Ethiopian Cisticola and Rouget's Rail. Just before reaching the plateau Measho spotted a Moorland Francolin inside the heath. There were 4 birds slowly walking into cover, but before that we all had good views.



6 Ethiopian Wolf

Sanetti Plateau was very green this year as it has been raining for a few days. We stopped frequently for the scenery, for the birds including Blue-winged Geese, Wattled Ibis, Spot-breasted Lapwing, flocks of Ethiopian Sisikin. We added Red-billed Cough and Ruddy Shelduck to our list, both species reaching their southernmost limit of distribution here. There were always raptors in the air, mainly Steppe Eagles, but also Augur Buzzards. Their main prey is the abundant Blick's Grass Rat and also Giant Root-Rat. The latter is not that easy to see living in underground burrows and only occasionally coming up into the open. It is the main prey of our most wanted target here, Ethiopian Wolf. We were constantly scanning for them and suddenly a splendid individual appeared very close to the track. We got out of the vehicle slowly and the Ethiopian Wolf remained calm and continued looking for prey. Slowly it started moving away from us and we continued our journey. Then suddenly an animal was spotted disappearing in the ditch below the road. We stopped to investigate and realised that it was a second Ethiopian Wolf. This one was even more obliging. It sat down by the side of the road seemingly totally unconcerned of our presence. We watched it for a long time having the most incredible views.

Then it was time to descend into Harena Forest on the other side of the plateau. Thick clouds were covering the scenery on the drive down. Chestnut-naped Francolins were frequently seen along the roadside in small coveys. We were looking for a place for lunch in the forest when it started raining. This was a bad sign as we passed several places with deep mud. So we opted to turn around and pass the most difficult sections before more rain came down. Still we got stuck and the bus could be freed with the help of some friendly 4x4 drivers. Then we ate our sandwiches seeing 2 Mountain Buzzards and a Crowned Eagle for a short time. As the rain didn't stop, we decided to drive back to the plateau. We saw a third Ethiopian Wolf, but it was a distant individual. We decided to check out the ponds looking for African Snipe. After a while we flushed a snipe, but didn't have good enough views, so we followed it to confirm its ID as an African Snipe. We also disturbed a Starck's Hare that ran away from us with a high speed.

Then it was time for the drive back. Upon arriving to the hotel we saw again the Montane Nightjar in the hotel garden.

Day 7, 11th November – Hotel grounds, Dinsho, Lake Awassa

As we still haven't seen Brown Parisoma, we decided to look for it in the hotel garden. We saw the usual suspects there with a few Willow Warblers and Chiffchaffs singing. Finally one Brown Parisoma showed itself in the canopy of an acacia tree. Then as we were leaving the hotel we discovered a nest building Yellow-bellied Waxbill.

Our first stop was in Dinsho again where we managed to see a roosting Abyssinian Owl to complete our owl tally in the Bale Mountains. On the outskirts of Dinsho we stopped to photograph Mountain Nyalas and Bohor Reedbucks. To our great surprise an adult Martial Eagle was perched in a tree on the edge of the grassland, a species not expected in the mountains. The roadside pond held a similar composition of birds than on the way up. Later during the drive we saw a nice male Pallid Harrier and then finally a magnificent Golden Eagle.

Our next stop was to photograph Red-breasted Wheatears posing on a roadside rock. On the other side a flock of Black-winged Lapwings were feeding in the fields. A bit later a roadside carcass attracted a huge Lappet-faced Vulture and an immature White-headed Vulture.

We had lunch in a small town and arrived to our next hotel on the shore of Lake Awassa in the afternoon. It was a Sunday and a wedding party was going on in the hotel garden, we

still opted for a lakeside walk. African Pygmy Goose proved to be very common on the lake, just as Malachite and Pied Kingfisher. Black Crakes and African Jacanas were feeding in the shallow water. We watched two Brown-throated Wattle-eyes in the bushes and Common Reed Warblers in the reeds. Then it was time to return to the hotel for dinner.

Day 8, 12th November – Lake Awassa, Wondo Genet

We started the day with a pre-breakfast walk along the lake shore. It was certainly much less disturbed although there was already loud music at a small outdoor café. We saw again many White-faced and a few Fulvous Whistling Ducks, even more African Pygmy Goose, Squacco and Purple Herons, Black Crakes and African Jacanas. An immature Allen's Gallinule was new for the list as were the Common Waxbills feeding in the reedbed. We saw quite a few Sedge, Eurasian and African Reed Warblers and three Lesser Swamp Warblers. Blue-headed Coucals were active this time and we had good views of two birds. We heard a calling Klaas's Cuckoo in the distance and after calling it the bird landed above us in the trees. A group of Thick-billed Weavers was a welcome sight. Then it was time for breakfast. Beautiful Guereza Colobus monkeys provided entertainment during and after breakfast.



7 Guereza Colobus

After breakfast we drove to the famous Awassa fish market. There was some construction going on at the shore, which resulted in less birds attracted to fish offal than usual. There still were many White and Pink-backed Pelicans, cormorants, Hamerkops, Sacred Ibises, plus many White-winged Terns flying above the water and landing. A nice Pied Wheatear attracted the photographers for a while. We walked under the old fig trees and saw a Eurasian Golden Oriole and a young cuckoo. As we got closer and obtained good photos we were able to identify it as an African Cuckoo. Then it was really too hot and we retraced our steps to a nearby Italian restaurant where we had cold drinks and some not too tasty pizzas. After lunch we drove to Wondo Genet in search of Half-collared Kingfisher. We tried the area of the unfinished bottling factory, but no kingfishers there. We saw a nice Tambourine Dove and a Blue-spotted Wood Dove. Black Saw-wings were flying above us giving good views. On the walk back to the vehicle a flock of Yellow-fronted Parakeets landed in a tree giving good views. Then we drove down to the hot pools and as we got out of the bus a Half-

collared Kingfisher was seen perched below us by the stream. We took many pictures and then drove further to reach a nice section of forest. There we walked in the afternoon heat trying to avoid the huge local nettles bordering the trail. There were many nice butterflies around, but not many birds. A nice Narina Trogon was the first notable bird seen. A Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird remained a heard only. We were chasing African Hill Babblers and after several attempts one bird was responding and coming closer. It eventually showed itself for the sharp eyed inside the thicket and then disappeared again. A couple of flyover African Olive Pigeons were recorded and our last new bird was a calling Green-backed Honeybird.

Day 9, 13th November – Lake Ziway, Lake Beseka, Awash NP

It was another travelling day with interesting stops en route. Our first new bird was seen leaving the town of Awassa. Above a small river Wire-tailed Swallows were perched.

Our first destination was another section of Lake Ziway that is usually good for Black Heron. We were shocked by the amount of plastic rubbish lying around on the lakeshore, but the Black Herons were duly found. 3 were standing in the marshy area along with many other egrets, ducks, Spur-winged Goose, ibises and Hamerkops. A Saddle-billed Stork was seen flying away from us and then careful scanning turned up 3 Yellow-billed Storks in the hordes of pelicans and other birds. We were carefully scanning the waders for anything new. There were Temminck's Stints, Wood Sandpipers and Common Snipes and we flushed a Greater Painted-snipe from the water's edge. Reichenow's Seedeaters were running in the grass and we discovered a few great looking Cut-throat Finches in a tree. A female Siberian Stonechat was the last notable species here and then it was time to continue our drive.

Along the way the best bird was a fabulous Abyssinian Ground Hornbill walking in the field. Then we had lunch in a small town. After lunch we were driving among barren looking lava fields before we reached Lake Beseka. We stopped at the lava fields looking for another endemic, Sombre Rock Chat. As we got out of the van we spotted a Madagascar Bee-eater in a small tree along with a Northern Carmine Bee-eater. After some searching we saw a distant Sombre Rock Chat that was followed by two much closer and more obliging birds. A Lesser Masked Weaver was also new to our list as was a brief Striolated Bunting. Then we drove down to the lake and crossed it on a dirt track that held many Kittlitz's Plovers. Then a Striated Heron was spotted and we had good views as it was hunting fish in the shallow water. Then a dark phase Western Reef Heron flew in fairly close, but it was soon flushed by a local fisherman.

It was time to move on and we reached the entrance of Awash National Park before darkness. We settled into our stone huts and had a delicious dinner hearing the Awash River Falls below us.

Day 10, 14th November – Ali Dege Plains, Awash NP

At breakfast we were enjoying the sight of roaring Awash Falls and several Nile Crocodiles lurking in the water. After breakfast we drove out of Awash and it took an hour to reach the Ali Dege Plains. On the way a troop of Sacred Baboons was seen. Our first new bird was the splendid Abyssinian Roller. As we drove into the park it didn't take long to find our first Arabian Bustard that was followed by several birds. Flocks of Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse were seen flying and running on the ground. Black-headed Lapwings were standing in the shade of the few trees and we managed to find two Spotted Thick-knees sitting inside a thick bush. Raptors were around us with a Short-toed Eagle perched in a tree, a Bateleur giving great flight views, Lesser Kestrels hovering and a Brown Snake Eagle hunting from the air.

The star bird however was a Secretarybird that was walking with its ridiculously long feet in the grass. It flushed a Harlequin Quail that we managed to flush again for better views. In the few trees there was a pair of Grey-headed Batis and Measho found two Yellow-breasted Barbets. 3 African Golden Jackals were spotted near the track and we watched them slowly walking away from us. As we reached the more open area there were several grazing herds of Soemmering's Gazelles and a distant Somali Ostrich. Steppe Grey Shrike, Woodchat Shrike and Somali Fiscal was perched along the track. We saw quite a few Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Larks, but as we were watching a Tawny Pipit we found a pair of Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark that is fairly rare in Ethiopia. On the drive out we stopped to watch two Egyptian and two Lappet-faced Vultures on a carcass.



8 Kori Bustard with Northern Carmine Bee-eater

We drove back to Awash town and had lunch and some cold beer in a restaurant. In the afternoon we explored Awash National Park. We saw 3 more bustard species including several Buff-crested, a pair of White-bellied and the largest one, Kori Bustard. It was near a bush with a Northern Carmine Bee-eater and after some time the bee-eater landed on the back of the bustard providing great photography opportunities. Two Abyssinian Ground Hornbills were a welcome sight and we also saw Eastern Yellow-billed and Northern Red-billed Hornbills. Isabelline and Red-tailed Shrike was also found and there were many Somali Fiscals. A short walk was very productive with seeing the loud Grey Wren-Warbler, White-browed Scrub Robin, African Grey Flycatcher, a beautiful Green-winged Pytilia and a Long-tailed Paradise Whydah in display flight. After a long search we finally found a magnificent Beisa Oryx with its long horns grazing amongst the bushes. We saw at least 3 Ethiopian (Scrub) Hares and several Salt's Dikdiks. Time was flying and it was getting dark so we didn't stop to look at the giant Leopard Tortoise along the track. There was a snake by the roadside which we identified as a Somali Puff Adder. Then it was time for dinner at the end of another day packed with great birds and mammals.

Day 11, 15th November – Awash NP, drive to Addis

On our final morning we had breakfast again at the scenic Awash Falls watching African Pied Wagtails and crocodiles down by the river. We had a good look at Somali Bulbuls and found all identification features to confirm their identity.

After breakfast we first walked close to the lodge along Awash River. The first new bird was Eastern Grey Plantain-eater, a less colourful member of the turaco family. We then found 4 African Grey Hornbills, the last hornbill to complete our list. A Bruce's Green Pigeon gave good views perched in a tree. Measho then found a pair of Northern Puffback. We first heard a Common Nightingale singing and then saw a bird flying across the track. The surprise of the morning though was an unexpected Grey Cuckooshrike perched high in a tree.

Then we drove into the park stopping occasionally. We added Black-crowned Tchagra, the beautiful Rosy-patched Bushshrike to our list and also the small Red-fronted Warbler. A fairly late nice male Red-backed Shrike was a good find. A Pygmy Falcon was perched atop a tree as we were looking for Gillett's Lark in vain. Northern Crombec, Mouse-coloured Penduline Tit, Yellow-spotted Petronia and Somali Bunting were also seen. We saw several large Leopard Tortoises and had time to stop and photograph them this time. We had a new mammal as well in the form of Northern Lesser Kudu.

We decided to have lunch at the lodge and while waiting for the food watched showy Black-billed Barbets eating fruits in the bushes. We then left for Addis stopping shortly at Lake Beseka where a Caspian Tern was added to the list.

On the way we saw a few raptors and recorded Black-winged Kite and Eastern Chanting Goshawk. As we arrived to Addis it started raining and became fairly cool. We had our last dinner together at the Regency Hotel and after dinner we said good bye to those leaving with the late night flight to London.

Day 12, 16th November – extra day at Gibe Gorge

We left early with Frank and Anne to be at Gibe Gorge before it got too hot. It was a long drive and we only stopped for a large gathering of White-backed and Rüppell's Vultures by the roadside. We reached the gorge at around 9 am and drove down to the river. The water level was unusually high due to the rain the day before, so no Egyptian Plovers were present only 4 African Wattled Lapwings and 2 Yellow-billed Storks. We watched a calling Vinaceous Dove and had some Bar-breasted Firefinches and Bush Petronias coming down to drink. We then moved to another site along the river where we walked in the thick vegetation. Measho soon found a small group of Abyssinian Waxbills feeding on seeds in the grass. An Emerald-spotted Wood Dove was seen nearby and after a while we managed to see the Foxy Cisticola that was heard calling from the vegetation.

We tried another spot by the river, but it was full of people having a bath in the river. It was getting hot now and after trying another very busy place by the river we decided to head back to Addis. As we dropped our local guide at the park offices we saw some nice Mosque Swallows on the wire. A Black-chested Snake Eagle flew by causing havoc among the swallows.

On the drive back we saw a Grey Kestrel, two Woolly-necked Storks, a perched Long-crested Eagle and hunting Lanner Falcons. We arrived back to Addis after dark. At dinner we said good bye to Anne and Frank who were to stay another day visiting Addis.

It was a great trip with a long list of birds including all the endemics and regional endemics in the visited area, plus many mammals, butterflies and some interesting reptiles. Thanks for

Measho for being a great local guide with a good knowledge of the places, the birds and other wildlife. Thanks also for Roger for compiling the butterfly list and identifying butterflies from photos.

Ethiopia species checklist – 5-16 November 2018

Species in italics only seen on the extension day at Gibe Gorge

Species in bold italics only seen by the leaders

BIRDS

Somali Ostrich	<i>Struthio molybdophanes</i>	1 on Ali Dege Plains
White-faced Whistling Duck Rift Valley lakes	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	Flocks commonly seen at the
Fulvous Whistling Duck Chelekleka, Ziway and Awassa	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>	In small numbers on Lake
White-backed Duck Chelekleka	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>	A family of 4 birds seen on Lake
Spur-winged Goose Rift Valley lakes	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	In smaller numbers seen at the
Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	1 seen on Lake Chelekleka
Blue-winged Goose numerous on the Sululta Plains and in Bale Mts.	<i>Cyanochen cyanoptera</i>	A pair at Geffersa Reservoir,
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	Common
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	4 birds on the Sanetti Plateau
African Pygmy Goose where fairly common	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>	Only seen at Lake Awassa,
Garganey Chelekleka, Ziway and on a small pond before Dinsho	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	2-3 birds seen at Lake
Hottentot Teal Chelekleka and Ziway	<i>Anas hottentota</i>	Small numbers at Lake
Northern Shoveler Sululta Plains, 100+ at Lake Chelekleka	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	4 at Geffersa Reservoir, 6 on
African Black Duck was a nice surprise	<i>Anas sparsa</i>	A pair at Geffersa Reservoir
Yellow-billed Duck Reservoir, Sululta Plains, Bale Mts. and also some at Lake Chelekleka	<i>Anas undulata</i>	Fairly common at Geffersa
Red-billed Teal Chelekleka and Ziway	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	Small numbers at Lake
Northern Pintail Lake Chelekleka	<i>Anas acuta</i>	1 on the Sululta Plain, 100+ at
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	A couple at Lake Chelekleka

Helmeted Guineafowl Abiyata and Awash	Numida meleagris	Seen at Simbo Lodge, Lake
Moorland Francolin Sanetti Plateau and 2 flushed on the plateau	Scleroptila psilolaema	4 seen well before entering
Crested Francolin 2 in Awash	Dendroperdix sephaena	2 seen well at Simbo Lodge and
Clapperton's Francolin perched in a tree giving incredible views	Pternistis clappertoni	5 at Simbo Lodge and later 1
Chestnut-naped Francolin Sanetti Plateau in both directions	Pternistis castaneicollis	Common along the road below
Erckel's Francolin Lodge at Debre Libanos and another heard calling	Pternistis erckelii	1 seen perched below the
Harlequin Quail and seen in flight on Ali Dege Plains	Coturnix delegorguei	1 flushed by the Secretarybird
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Common on Rift Valley Lakes
Great Crested Grebe Chelekleka	Podiceps cristatus	1 adult and 1 young on Lake
Greater Flamingo Chelekleka	Phoenicopterus roseus	A group of 45 birds at Lake
Lesser Flamingo	Phoeniconaias minor	Hundreds on Lake Abiyata
Yellow-billed Stork Beseka and 2 at the Gibe River on the extension	Mycteria ibis	3 at Lake Ziway, 3 at Lake
Black Stork Dinsho and 1 in flight back from Gibe Gorge	Ciconia nigra	1 on the Sululta Plains, 1 near
Abdim's Stork Reservoir	Ciconia abdimii	2 in flight above Geffersa
<i>Woolly-necked Stork</i> <i>extension day</i>	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	<i>2 seen en route on the</i>
White Stork	Ciconia ciconia	4 at Lake Chelekleka
Saddle-billed Stork	Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis	1 at Lake Ziway on both visits
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumenifer	Common
African Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus	Common
Hadada Ibis Lakes	Bostrychia hagedash	Ones or twos seen at Rift Valley
Wattled Ibis in the Highlands	Bostrychia carunculata	2 seen at Ghion Hotel, common
Glossy Ibis Chelekleka and Ziway	Plegadis falcinellus	Fairly numerous at Lake

African Spoonbill Ziway	<i>Platalea alba</i>	1 at Lake Chelekleka, 2 at Lake
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	1 at Lake Beseka
Squacco Heron Rift Valley Lakes	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	1 on Sululta Plains, common at
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Common
Grey Heron numbers	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Seen on most days in small
Goliath Heron Ziway	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	1 at Koka Dam and 1 at Lake
Purple Heron fairly common	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Only at Lake Awassa, where
Great Egret Langano and Lake Beseka	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Seen at Lake Chelekleka, Lake
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	3 at Lake Ziway
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Fairly common
Western Reef Heron Beseka	<i>Egretta gularis</i>	1 dark morph seen well at Lake
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Common
Great White Pelican Lakes	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	Common at the Rift Valley
Pink-backed Pelican Chelekleka, Koka Dam and Lake Awassa	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>	In small numbers at Lake
Reed Cormorant Ziway and Lake Beseka	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	Seen at Lake Awassa, Lake
White-breasted Cormorant Lake Ziway, Lake Langano and Lake Awassa	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>	2 at Geffersa Reservoir, a few at
African Darter Lake Langano	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	2 and 3 at Lake Ziway, 1 at
Secretarybird Plains	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	1 bird seen well on the Ali Dege
Black-winged Kite from Awash to Addis	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1 seen perched along the road
African Harrier-Hawk Gorge on the extension day	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	2 at Simbo Lodge and 2 at Gibe
Bearded Vulture Portuguese bridge trail soaring above us	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	1 adult seen well from the
Egyptian Vulture on the Ali Dege Plains	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	2 seen at Debre Libanos and 2

Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	Common
White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	Fairly common
Rüppell's Vulture	<i>Gyps rueppelli</i>	Nesting birds seen well from the Portuguese bridge trail, 2 at Lake Chelekleka and several on a carcass along the road to Gibe Gorge
White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>	1 on the Sululta Plains and 1 on the drive from Bale Mts to Awassa
Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>	4 on the Sululta Plains, 1 on the drive from Bale Mts to Awassa, 2 on the Ali Dege Plains
Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	1 perched on the Ali Dege Plains
Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>	1 at Gibe Gorge on the extension day
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	1 in flight on the Ali Dege Plains
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	1 immature on the Ali Dege Plains, 1 adult at Awash and 1 en route back from Gibe Gorge
Crowned Eagle	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	1 briefly above Haremma Forest and 1 at Wondo Genet
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	1 adult was a surprise seen perched at the Gaysay Grasslands near Dinsho
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	1 en route to Lake Langano, 1 en route back from Gibe Gorge
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>	1 at the Ethio-German Lodge at Debre Libanos, 1 at Lake Langano
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	Common
Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	4 at Lake Chelekleka, fairly common on the Sanetti Plateau, 2 en route in Bale Mts.
Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>	1 immature above Awash Fall Lodge a leader only sighting
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	1 on the drive from Dinsho in the Bale Mts.
Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>	1 in the Bale Mountains before reaching Sanetti Plateau
Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>	1 at Lake Langano
Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>	Fairly common in the Rift Valley and Awash area
Eastern Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax poliopterus</i>	1 perched along the road on the way back from Awash

Shikra Awash	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	1 at Debre Libanos and 1 at
Black Sparrowhawk Wabe Shebelle Hotel in Goba	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	1 perched in the garden of
Western Marsh Harrier back from Gibe Gorge	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	4 at Lake Chelekleka, 2 en route
Pallid Harrier the drive in Bale Mts.	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	1 at the Portuguese Bridge, 1 on
Montagu's Harrier route to Dinsho and 1 en route back from Gibe Gorge	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	1 en route to Langano, 1 en
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	Common
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	Common in the Rift Valley
Common Buzzard the Gaysay Grasslands near Dinsho	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1 en route leaving Addis, 1 at
Mountain Buzzard	<i>Buteo oreophilus</i>	2 above Harenna Forest
Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>	Fairly common in the Highlands
Arabian Bustard	<i>Ardeotis arabs</i>	7 on the Ali Dege Plains
Kori Bustard Northern Carmine Bee-eater on its back	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>	3 in Awash NP, 1 with a
White-bellied Bustard in Awash	<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>	2 on the Ali Dege Plains and 2
Buff-crested Bustard 3 on the second	<i>Lophotis gindiana</i>	2 in Awash on the first day and
Rouget's Rail and several in the Bale Mountains	<i>Rougetius rougetii</i>	1 at the Cape Eagle Owl site
Black Crake Lake Awassa	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>	2 at Lake Ziway and many at
Allen's Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio alleni</i>	1 immature at Lake Awassa
Common Moorhen lakes	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Recorded at the Rift Valley
Lesser Moorhen	<i>Gallinula angulata</i>	At least 2 at Lake Ziway
Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	Common at the Rift Valley lakes
Black Crowned Crane Marabou Storks	<i>Balearica pavonina</i>	5 at Lake Chelekleka with
Common Crane Plains, 200+ at Lake Chelekleka and 20 flying above Simbo Lodge	<i>Grus grus</i>	Small flocks on the Sululta
Senegal Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>	2 at Hara Langano Lodge

Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>	2 on the Ali Dege Plains
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Fairly common at wetlands
Pied Avocet many at Lake Abiyata	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	About 20 at Lake Chelekleka,
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	Common
Black-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus tectus</i>	Only seen at the Ali Dege Plains
Black-winged Lapwing Dinsho and Dodola	<i>Vanellus melanopterus</i>	19 seen en route between
Crowned Lapwing Abiyata	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	2 at Lake Langano, 20 at Lake
African Wattled Lapwing Gibe Gorge	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	1 at Lake Chelekleka and 4 at
Spot-breasted Lapwing many on the Sanetti Plateau	<i>Vanellus melanocephalus</i>	24 at the Gaysay Wetlands,
Common Ringed Plover Ziway and Abiyata	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Seen at Lakes Chelekleka,
Little Ringed Plover Chelekleka	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	Only recorded at Lake
Kittlitz's Plover Abiyata and 12 at Lake Beseka	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	3 at Koka Dam, 2 at Lake
Three-banded Plover Lake Ziway	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	1 at Geffersa Reservoir, 1+2 at
Kentish Plover Chelekleka	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Only 1 recorded at Lake
Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	3 at Lake Abiyata
Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	1 flushed at Lake Ziway
African Jacana Lake Awassa	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	1 at Koka Dam and many at
African Snipe Plateau	<i>Gallinago nigripennis</i>	1 flushed twice on the Sanetti
Common Snipe Koka Dam and Lake Ziway	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Recorded at Lake Chelekleka,
Black-tailed Godwit Lake Ziway	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	50 at Lake Chelekleka and 2 at
Marsh Sandpiper the Rift Valley lakes	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	Recorded in small numbers at
Common Greenshank the Rift Valley lakes and on the Sanetti Plateau	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Recorded in small numbers at

Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	Common
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	Common
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common
Little Stint Lake Abiyata	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	5 at Lake Chelekleka and 10 at Lake Abiyata
Temminck's Stint common at Lake Chelekleka, 1-1 at Lake Ziway and Beseka	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	2 on Sululta Plains, fairly common at Lake Chelekleka, 1-1 at Lake Ziway and Beseka
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Common
Temminck's Courser	<i>Cursorius temminckii</i>	6 at Lake Abiyata
Three-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus cinctus</i>	A family of 4 birds at Awash
Black-headed Gull and Langano	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	Small numbers at Lake Ziway
Grey-headed Gull and Awassa	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	Seen at lakes Ziway, Langano and Awassa
Gull-billed Tern Langano, 3 at Lake Abiyata and 1 at Lake Beseka	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	2 at Lake Chelekleka, 1 at Lake Langano, 3 at Lake Abiyata and 1 at Lake Beseka
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	1 at Lake Beseka
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	Common at the Rift Valley lakes
White-winged Tern Awassa and Ziway	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	Seen at lakes Langano, Abiyata, Awassa and Ziway
Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse Plains	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>	Several groups on Ali Dege Plains
Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles lichtensteinii</i>	A pair at Awash
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	Seen every day
White-collared Pigeon and in the Bale Mountains	<i>Columba albitorques</i>	Fairly common around Addis
African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>	4 seen at Wondo Genet
Lemon Dove	<i>Columba larvata</i>	1 at Bishangari
Dusky Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia lugens</i>	Common in the highlands
Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	Common in the Rift Valley
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	Seen every day
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	Seen at Langano and Awash
<i>Vinaceous Dove</i>	<i>Streptopelia vinacea</i>	<i>Several at Gibe Gorge</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	Common
<i>Emerald-spotted Wood Dove</i>	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>	<i>1 at Gibe Gorge</i>

Blue-spotted Wood Dove	Turtur afer	1 at Wondo Genet
Tambourine Dove Genet	Turtur tympanistria	2 at Bishangari and 2 at Wondo
Namaqua Dove Awash	Oena capensis	Common in the Rift Valley and
Bruce's Green Pigeon Awash river	Treron waalia	2 at Bishangari and 1 at the
White-cheeked Turaco Monastery, 2 at the Hara Langanu Lodge and 6 at Wondo Genet	Tauraco leucotis	20+ seen at Debre Libanos
Bare-faced Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides personatus	3 at Hara Langanu Lodge
White-bellied Go-away-bird several at the Awash river	Corythaixoides leucogaster	Common at Simbo Lodge,
Eastern Plantain-eater	Crinifer zonurus	6 at the Awash river
Blue-headed Coucal morning	Centropus monachus	3 at Lake Awassa in the
Diederik Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius	1 calling at Simbo Lodge
Klaas's Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx klaas	1 at Lake Awassa
African Emerald Cuckoo leader only	Chrysococcyx cupreus	1 in flight at Hareenna Forest, a
African Cuckoo	Cuculus gularis	1 immature at Lake Awassa
African Scops Owl Langanu Lodge	Otus senegalensis	2 perched in the garden of Hara
Cape Eagle-Owl Dinsho	Bubo capensis	2 at the traditional site near
Greyish Eagle-Owl	Bubo cinerascens	1 at the roost at Simbo Lodge
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl Simbo Lodge	Bubo lacteus	1 on the 7 th and 2 on the 8 th at
African Wood Owl	Strix woodfordii	1 roosting bird at Dinsho
Abyssinian Owl	Asio abyssinicus	1 roosting bird at Dinsho
Montane Nightjar Goba	Caprimulgus poliocephalus	1 at the Wabe Shebelle Hotel in
Freckled Nightjar	Caprimulgus tristigma	2 at Simbo Lodge at dusk
Slender-tailed Nightjar Simbo Lodge	Caprimulgus clarus	At least 4 displaying at dusk at
Common Swift forest	Apus apus	A group above Wondo Genet

Nyanza Swift Hotel and Debre Libanos	<i>Apus niansae</i>	Small numbers above Ghion
Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>	Recorded at Koka Dam
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	Common
Blue-naped Mousebird Gibe Gorge	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>	Seen at Chelekleka, Awash and
Narina Trogon Genet	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>	3 at Bishangari and 1 at Wondo
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>	2 at Lake Langano only
Abyssinian Roller and at Awash	<i>Coracias abyssinicus</i>	Several on the Ali Dege Plains
<i>Grey-headed Kingfisher</i>	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>	1 at Gibe Gorge
Striped Kingfisher and 1 at Gibe Gorge	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, 1 at Awash
Woodland Kingfisher at the Awash river	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>	Several at Lake Awassa and 1
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	Common at the Rift Valley lakes
Half-collared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo semitorquata</i>	1 at Wondo Genet hot springs
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	1 at Hara Langano Lodge
Pied Kingfisher lakes, 1 at Gibe Gorge	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Fairly common at Rift Valley
Little Bee-eater on the Ali Dege Plains	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	2 at Simbo Lodge and several
Blue-breasted Bee-eater Rift Valley	<i>Merops variegatus</i>	Seen at Ghion Hotel and in the
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>	2 at Lake Langano
Olive Bee-eater Awash	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	8 at Lake Beseka and 13 at
Northern Carmine Bee-eater and Awash	<i>Merops nubicus</i>	Seen at Awassa, Lake Ziway
Eurasian Hoopoe Awash	<i>Upupa epops</i>	Common in the Rift Valley and
Black-billed Wood Hoopoe route	<i>Phoeniculus somaliensis</i>	5 at Lake Langano and 1 en
Black Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus aterrimus</i>	2 at Lake Abiyata
Hemprich's Hornbill Lodge	<i>Tockus hemprichii</i>	2 at Debre Libanos, 2 at Simbo

African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>	Only seen at Awash
Northern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>	Fairly common in the Rift Valley
Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus flavirostris</i>	Only seen at Awash
Von der Decken's Hornbill 2 days	<i>Tockus deckeni</i>	A pair seen at Simbo Lodge on
Silvery-cheeked Hornbill Langano Lodge, Wondo Genet and Awassa	<i>Bycanistes brevis</i>	Seen at Bishangari, Hara
Abyssinian Ground Hornbill Awash	<i>Bucorvus abyssinicus</i>	1 en route near Mojo, 2 in
Red-fronted Tinkerbird the Rift Valley	<i>Pogoniulus pusillus</i>	Seen at Debre Libanos and in
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	Only heard at Wondo Genet
Red-fronted Barbet	<i>Tricholaema diademata</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, 1 at Awash
Banded Barbet Libanos, Hara Langano Lodge and Awassa	<i>Lybius undatus</i>	Seen at Ghion Hotel, Debre
Black-billed Barbet Abiyata, 5 at Awash	<i>Lybius guifsobalito</i>	2 at Lake Langano, 2 at Lake
Double-toothed Barbet	<i>Lybius bidentatus</i>	4 at Hara Langano Lodge
Yellow-breasted Barbet Awash	<i>Trachyphonus margaritatus</i>	4 on the Ali Dege Plains, 5 at
Green-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus zambesiae</i>	1 at Wondo Genet
Greater Honeyguide Gorge	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	1 at Bishangari and 1 at Gibe
Red-throated Wryneck Bishangari	<i>Jynx ruficollis</i>	2 at Simbo Lodge and 1 at
Nubian Woodpecker and 1 at Awash	<i>Campethera nubica</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, 1 at Awassa
Abyssinian Woodpecker Debre Libanos Monastery	<i>Dendropicos abyssinicus</i>	A pair at Ghion Hotel, 1 at
Cardinal Woodpecker Dege Plains	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, 2 on the Ali
Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>	1 at Bishangari
Eastern Grey Woodpecker Libanos, 1 at Simbo Lodge, 2 at Bishangari, 1 at Hareenna Forest	<i>Dendropicos spodocephalus</i>	1 at Ghion Hotel, 1 at Debre
Pygmy Falcon Awash	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>	A pair at Lake Langano, 1 at
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	2 on the Ali Dege Plains

Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Fairly common throughout
<i>Grey Kestrel</i>	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>	1 en route to Gibe Gorge
Lanner Falcon route from Awash and 3 en route to Gibe Gorge	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	2 on the Sanetti Plateau, 1 en
Peregrine Falcon near Debre Libanos, 1 in Awash	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1 perched bird on the roadside
Black-winged Lovebird	<i>Agapornis taranta</i>	Fairly common
Red-bellied Parrot	<i>Poicephalus rufiventris</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge only
Yellow-fronted Parrot Genet	<i>Poicephalus flavifrons</i>	4 at Bishangari, 6 at Wondo
Grey-headed Batis Awash	<i>Batis orientalis</i>	2 on the Ali Dege Plains, 2 in
Western Black-headed Batis	<i>Batis erlangeri</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, 2 at Awassa
Brown-throated Wattle-eye Lake Awassa	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>	1 at Hara Langano Lodge, 3 at
Grey-headed Bushshrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	1 at Awash
Orange-breasted Bushshrike Awash	<i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>	2 at Hara Langano Lodge, 1 at
Rosy-patched Bushshrike	<i>Telophorus cruentus</i>	3 at Awash
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>	1 at Awash, 1 at Gibe Gorge
Northern Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>	2 at Awash river
Slate-colored Boubou	<i>Laniarius funebris</i>	2 at Simbo Lodge
Ethiopian Boubou Langano, 2 at Lake Awassa, heard at Awash and Gibe Gorge	<i>Laniarius aethiopicus</i>	1 at Lake Bishoftu, 1 at Hara
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge
Grey Cuckooshrike river	<i>Coracina caesia</i>	1 surprise sighting at Awash
Northern White-crowned Shrike Dege Plains and 6 at Awash	<i>Eurocephalus ruppelli</i>	4 at Lake Abiyata, 4 on the Ali
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1 male at Awash
Isabelline Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus</i>	1 at Awash on 2 days
Red-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius phoenicuroides</i>	1 at Awash
Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>	6 on the Ali Dege Plains
Grey-backed Fiscal Langano, Awassa	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>	Seen at Bishangari, Hara

Somali Fiscal Awash	<i>Lanius somalicus</i>	1 on the Ali Dege Plains, 9 at
Northern Fiscal	<i>Lanius humeralis</i>	Common
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	Seen en route and at Awash
Eurasian Golden Oriole and 1 at Awash	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	2 at Hara Langano, 1 at Awassa
Ethiopian Oriole	<i>Oriolus monacha</i>	4 at Bishangari
Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	6 at Wondo Genet
Fork-tailed Drongo Plains and Awash	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	Seen at Lake Langano, Ali Dege
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	Fairly common
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	6 seen on the Sanetti Plateau
Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	Fairly common throughout
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	Common
Fan-tailed Raven	<i>Corvus rhipidurus</i>	Fairly common
Thick-billed Raven highlands	<i>Corvus crassirostris</i>	Seen on most days in the
White-winged Black Tit Langano, 2 at Lake Abiyata	<i>Melaniparus leucomelas</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, 2 near Hara
White-backed Black Tit near Goba	<i>Melaniparus leuconotus</i>	2 at Debre Libanos Gorge, 1
Mouse-coloured Penduline Tit...Anthoscopus musculus		1 at Awash
Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix nigriceps</i>	2 on the Ali Dege Plains
Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark and at Awash	<i>Eremopterix leucotis</i>	Common on the Ali Dege Plains
Thekla Lark the Sanetti Plateau	<i>Galerida theklae</i>	1 at Lake Chelekleka, many on
Erlanger's Lark	<i>Calandrella erlangeri</i>	2 on the Sululta Plains
Common Bulbul Valley	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	Common in Addis and in the Rift
Somali Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus somaliensis</i>	Seen at Awash
Dark-capped Bulbul hotel in Goba	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>	A few at the Wabe Shebelle
Black Saw-wing Genet	<i>Psalidoprocne pristoptera</i>	3 at Hareenna, 20 at Wondo
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Common

Sand Martin on the Ali Dege Plains	Riparia riparia	Many at Lake Chelekleka and
Banded Martin	Riparia cincta	1 on the Sululta Plains
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	Common
Red-chested Swallow to Dinsho	Hirundo lucida	2 seen at the roadside en route
Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii	5 seen at Awassa
Rock Martin and Simbo Lodge	Ptyonoprogne fuligula	Seen in Addis, at Lake Bishoftu,
Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	A small flock at Lake Bishoftu
<i>Mosque Swallow</i>	<i>Cecropis senegalensis</i>	2 at Gibe Gorge
Red-rumped Swallow Libanos and Lake Bishoftu	Cecropis daurica	Seen at Ghion Hotel, Debre
Northern Crombec	Sylvietta brachyura	1 at Awash
Red-faced Crombec Lodge and 2 at Gibe Gorge	Sylvietta whytii	1 at Lake Bishoftu, 4 at Simbo
Brown Woodland Warbler Libanos and Dinsho	Phylloscopus umbrovirens	Seen and heard at Debre
Willow Warbler Bishoftu, Bishangari, Goba and Awash	Phylloscopus trochilus	Seen and heard at Lake
Common Chiffchaff Shebelle Hotel in Goba	Phylloscopus collybita	1 at Ghion Hotel, 2 at Wabe
Lesser Swamp Warbler	Acrocephalus gracilirostris	3 at Lake Awassa
Sedge Warbler	Acrocephalus schoenobaenus	Several at Lake Awassa
Eurasian Reed Warbler Awassa	Acrocephalus scirpaceus	Seen at Lakes Chelekleka and
African Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus baeticatus	4 at Lake Awassa
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler Awash river	Iduna pallida	1 at Simbo Lodge, 1 at the
Cinnamon Bracken Warbler	Bradypterus cinnamomeus	2 at the Goba Escarpment
Singing Cisticola	Cisticola cantans	2 at Debre Libanos Monastery
Rattling Cisticola Langano	Cisticola chiniana	Seen at Lake Chelekleka and
Boran Cisticola	Cisticola bodessa	2 at Simbo Lodge
Ethiopian Cisticola Goba Escarpment	Cisticola lugubris	4 at Geffersa Reservoir, 4 at the
Stout Cisticola	Cisticola robustus	2 on the Sululta Plains

<i>Foxy Cisticola</i>	<i>Cisticola troglodytes</i>	1 at Gibe Gorge
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	Fairly common in the Rift Valley
Buff-bellied Warbler Awassa and 4 at Lake Ziway	<i>Phyllolais pulchella</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, 6 at Lake
Red-fronted Warbler	<i>Urorhipis rufifrons</i>	4 at Awash
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>	Fairly common in the Rift Valley
Grey Wren-Warbler	<i>Calamonastes simplex</i>	Seen in Awash on 2 days
Yellow-bellied Eremomela Awash	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge, several at
Rufous Chatterer several groups at Awash	<i>Turdoides rubiginosa</i>	A group at Simbo Lodge,
White-rumped Babbler Monastery, Hara Langano Lodge and Lake Awassa	<i>Turdoides leucopygia</i>	Seen at Debre Libanos
Abyssinian Catbird 2 at Dinsho	<i>Parophasma galinieri</i>	3 at the Goba Escarpement and
African Hill Babbler Wondo Genet	<i>Pseudoalcippe abyssinica</i>	1 bird inside the tangles at
Eurasian Blackcap Bishoftu and Lake Awassa	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	A few at Debre Libanos, Lake
Lesser Whitethroat Awash	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge and 1 at
Common Whitethroat Lodge and 2 at Awash	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	1 at Hotel Ghion, 1 at Simbo
Brown Parisoma Shebelle Hotel in Goba	<i>Sylvia lugens</i>	1 bird showing well at Wabe
Abyssinian White-eye Abiyata and Awassa and at	<i>Zosterops abyssinicus</i>	Seen at Lake Bishoftu, Lake
Montane White-eye	<i>Zosterops poliogastrus</i>	Common in the highlands
African Spotted Creeper at Lake Awassa	<i>Salpornis salvadori</i>	2 in the garden of National Hotel
Wattled Starling Valley	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	Seen several times in the Rift
Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>	Common
Rüppell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuroptera</i>	Common in the Rift Valley
Superb Starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i>	Common in the Rift Valley
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	2 only at Lake Langano

Red-winged Starling Awassa and Gibe Gorge	Onychognathus morio	Seen at Lake Langano, Lake
Slender-billed Starling at Bishangari Forest and Wondo Genet	Onychognathus tenuirostris	First seen at Ghion Hotel, then
White-billed Starling Monastery	Onychognathus albirostris	Seen at Debre Libanos
Red-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus erythrorhynchus	Common
Abyssinian Ground Thrush the Goba Escarpement	Geokichla piaggiae	1 showing well and for long at
Groundscraper Thrush	Turdus litsitsirupa	Common in the highlands
African Thrush Awassa and Gibe Gorge	Turdus pelios	Seen at Simbo Lodge, Lake
Abyssinian Thrush	Turdus abyssinicus	Common in the highlands
Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	Cercotrichas galactotes	1 leader only at Awash
White-browed Scrub Robin	Cercotrichas leucophrys	3 birds seen at Awash
Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher	Melaenornis chocolatinus	3 at Ghion Hotel, 2 at Debre Libanos, 1 at Dinsho
Northern Black Flycatcher	Melaenornis edolioides	Only seen at Simbo Lodge
African Grey Flycatcher	Melaenornis microrhynchus	Fairly common at Awash
African Dusky Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta	Fairly common in the highlands
Rüppell's Robin-Chat Libanos and 2 at Wabe Shebelle Hotel in Goba	Cossypha semirufa	1 at Ghion Hotel, 2 at Debre
White-browed Robin-Chat Lodge, 2 at Lake Awassa	Cossypha heuglini	1 at Lake Bishoftu, 1 at Simbo
Common Nightingale Awash	Luscinia megarhynchos	Heard and 1 seen briefly at
Common Redstart	Phoenicurus phoenicurus	Several at Lake Langano
White-winged Cliff Chat route to Gibe Gorge	Monticola semirufus	3 on the Sululta Plains and 1 en
Little Rock Thrush Lake Langano	Monticola rufocinereus	1 at Lake Bishoftu, several at
Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius	1 at Simbo Lodge
Siberian Stonechat	Saxicola maurus	1 female at Lake Ziway
African Stonechat Bale Mountains	Saxicola torquatus	Seen twice along the road in the
Moorland Chat and in the Bale Mountains	Pinarochroa sordida	Common on the Sululta Plains

Mocking Cliff Chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>	2 at Simbo Lodge
Rüppell's Black Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla melaena</i>	Several at Debre Libanos
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Only seen on the Sululta Plains
Red-breasted Wheatear Mountains	<i>Oenanthe bottae</i>	Seen on the way back from Bale
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	Common
Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>	1 bird on the Sululta Plains
Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>	Common
Sombre Rock Chat	<i>Oenanthe dubia</i>	3 at Lake Beseka
Scarlet-chested Sunbird Chelekleka and Awassa	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>	Seen at Lake Bishoftu,
Tacazze Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia tacazze</i>	Common in the highlands
Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>	Common in the Rift Valley
Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>	Several at Simbo Lodge
Variable Sunbird Genet and Awash	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>	Seen at Debre Libanos, Wondo
Swainson's Sparrow	<i>Passer swainsonii</i>	Common
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>	Common in the Rift Valley
Bush Petronia Gibe Gorge	<i>Gymnoris dentata</i>	2 at Lake Langano and 4 at
Yellow-spotted Petronia	<i>Gymnoris pyrgita</i>	4 at Awash
Red-billed Buffalo Weaver at Awash	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>	Seen on the Ali Dege Plains and
White-headed Buffalo Weaver Awash	<i>Dinemellia dinemelli</i>	Seen at Lake Langano and
Thick-billed Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>	A big group at Lake Awassa
Baglafaecht Weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafaecht</i>	Common in the highlands
Little Weaver Awassa	<i>Ploceus luteolus</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge and 1 at Lake
Spectacled Weaver Lake Awassa and 1 at Awash	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>	2 at Simbo Lodge, several at
Rüppell's Weaver Simbo Lodge	<i>Ploceus galbula</i>	Seen at Lake Chelekleka and
Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>	1 at Lake Beseka
Vitelline Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>	2 at Lake Bishoftu
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	Seen at Awash and Gibe Gorge

Red-billed Quelea Awash and Gibe Gorge	Quelea quelea	Seen at Lake Chelekleka,
Northern Red Bishop Chelekleka	Euplectes franciscanus	1 eclipse male at Lake
Yellow Bishop males at Dinsho	Euplectes capensis	2 on the Sululta Plains and 2
Red-collared Widowbird	Euplectes ardens	A big flock near Dinsho
Green-winged Pytilia	Pytilia melba	2 at Awash
Cut-throat Finch Awash	Amadina fasciata	6 at Lake Ziway and up to 10 at
<i>Bar-breasted Firefinch</i>	<i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i>	<i>4 at Gibe Gorge</i>
Red-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegala	Fairly common in the Rift Valley
Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu	Uraeginthus bengalus	Fairly common in the Rift Valley
Yellow-bellied Waxbill Shebelle Hotel in Goba	Coccopygia quartinia	1 nest building at Wabe
<i>Abyssinian Waxbill</i>	<i>Estrilda ochrogaster</i>	<i>6 at Gibe Gorge</i>
Crimson-rumped Waxbill	Estrilda rhodopyga	4 at Simbo Lodge
Common Waxbill	Estrilda astrild	A flock at Lake Awassa
Bronze Mannikin	Lonchura cucullata	Fairly common
Village Indigobird Lake Chelekleka, Simbo Lodge and Gibe Gorge	Vidua chalybeata	Seen on the Sululta Plains,
Pin-tailed Whydah Lake Awassa and 1 at Awash	Vidua macroura	2 on the Sululta Plains, 1 at
Long-tailed Paradise Whydah	Vidua paradisaea	Several at Awash
Western Yellow Wagtail subspecies seen: flava, feldegg, thunbergi and beema	Motacilla flava	Fairly common with several
Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	1 at Debre Libanos Monastery
Mountain Wagtail and 1 at Awash River	Motacilla clara	2 at Debre Libanos Monastery
White Wagtail	Motacilla alba	1 on the Sanetti Plateau
African Pied Wagtail Gibe Gorge	Motacilla aguimp	2 at Awash River and 4 at the
Abyssinian Longclaw on the Sululta Plains	Macronyx flavicollis	4 at Geffersa Reservoir and 2
African Pipit	Anthus cinnamomeus	1 displaying at Lake Chelekleka
Tawny Pipit	Anthus campestris	2 on the Ali Dege Plains

Red-throated Pipit Lake Chelekleka and on the	<i>Anthus cervinus</i> Sanetti Plateau	Seen on the Sululta Plains, at
African Citril Lake Awassa	<i>Crithagra citrinelloides</i>	1 at Debre Libanos, several at
Reichenow's Seedeater Ziway	<i>Crithagra reichenowi</i>	1 at Simbo Lodge and 6 at Lake
Brown-rumped Seedeater	<i>Crithagra tristriata</i>	Common in the highlands
Streaky Seedeater	<i>Crithagra striolata</i>	Common in the highlands
Yellow-crowned Canary Mountains	<i>Serinus flavivertex</i>	1 at Ghion Hotel, several in Bale
Ethiopian Siskin	<i>Serinus nigriceps</i>	Common in the highlands
Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	2 at Geffersa Reservoir
Striolated Bunting	<i>Emberiza striolata</i>	1 at Lake Beseka
Somali Bunting	<i>Emberiza poliopleura</i>	1 at Awash

MAMMALS

Guereza Colobus Awassa and at Awash River	<i>Colobus guereza</i>	Seen at Bishangari Forest, Lake
Sacred Baboon Plains	<i>Papio hamadryas</i>	1 troupe on the way to Ali Dege
Olive Baboon Langano and Awash	<i>Papio anubis</i>	Seen at Debre Libanos, Lake
Gelada Baboon	<i>Papio gelada</i>	Seen well at Debre Libanos
Grivet Monkey Awassa and Awash	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>	Seen at Bishangari, Lake
Ethiopian Epauletted Fruit Bat ...	<i>Epomophorus labiatus</i>	A few roosting at Lake Awassa
Ethiopian Hare	<i>Lepus fagani</i>	Several at Awash
Starck's Hare	<i>Lepus starcki</i>	1 on the Sanetti Plateau
Unstriped Ground Squirrel Dege Plains	<i>Xerus rutilus</i>	1 at Bishangari and 2 on the Ali
Gambian Sun Squirrel Awassa	<i>Heliosciurus gambianus</i>	Seen at Bishangari and Lake
Giant Root-rat	<i>Tachyoryctes macrocephalus</i>	Several on the Sanetti Plateau
Blick's Grass Rat	<i>Arvicanthis blicki</i>	Common on the Sanetti Plateau

Common Jackal Ali Dege Plains	<i>Canis aureus</i>	1 at Lake Langano and 3 on the
Ethiopian Wolf Plateau	<i>Canis simensis</i>	3 seen from close on the Sanetti
Ichneumon Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>	1 en route near Dinsho
Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguinea</i>	1 at Lake Abiyata
African Clawless Otter	<i>Aonyx capensis</i>	1 at Lake Awassa
Spotted Hyaena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	2 seen as a roadkill
Ethiopian Rock Hyrax Lodge and Lake Beseka	<i>Procavia habessinica</i>	Seen at Debre Libanos, Simbo
Hippopotamus Langano Lodge	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	5 in Lake Langano at Hara
Common Warthog Wondo Genet and Awash	<i>Phacochoerus africana</i>	Seen in the Bale Mountains, at
Menelik's Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus meneliki</i>	1 at Dinsho
Northern Lesser Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus imberbis</i>	4 at Awash
Mountain Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus buxtoni</i>	Common in the Bale Mountains
Ethiopian Klipspringer Bale Mountains	<i>Oreotragus saltatrixoides</i>	1 at the Gaysay Wetlands in the
Salt's Dikdik	<i>Madoqua saltiana</i>	Several in Awash
Bohor Reedbuck the Bale Mountains	<i>Redunca bohor</i>	Many at the Gaysay Wetlands in
Bright's Gazelle	<i>Nanger notatus</i>	Seen at Lake Abiyata
Soemmering's Gazelle at Awash	<i>Gazella soemmeringi</i>	Seen on the Ali Dege Plains and
Northern Gerenuk	<i>Litocranius sclateri</i>	4 on the Ali Dege Plains
Beisa Oryx	<i>Oryx beisa</i>	Just 1 at Awash

REPTILES

Leopard Tortoise	<i>Stigmochelys pardalis</i>	3 large individuals in Awash
Spotted House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus brookii</i>	Simbo Lodge
Southern Long-tailed Lizard	<i>Latastia longicaudata</i>	Awash NP
Puff Adder	<i>Bitis arietans</i>	1 in Awash NP
Nile Crocodile Awash Falls Lodge, 1 at Gibe Gorge	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	14 seen in the river below

BUTTERFLIES

Family Papilionidae

Sub-family Papilioninae

Papilio dardanus, Mocker Swallowtail – Wando Genet [seen but not photographed]

Papilio echerioides, White-banded Swallowtail – Wando Genet [photos by A. Steiner, R. Payne]

Family Pieridae

Sub-family Coliadinae

Catopsilia florella, African Migrant – several places, common [seen but not photographed]

Colias electo, African Clouded Yellow – Sululta Plain etc. [photographed by R Payne]

Eurema hecabe, Common Grass Yellow – Jemmu River Gorge, IMG 3411 [photographed by R Payne, A. Steiner]

Sub-family Pierinae

Eronia cleodora, Vine Leaf Vagrant – Awash NP, near river [photographed by R Payne]

Colotis amata, Salmon Arab – IMG3371 [photographed by A Steiner]

Colotis aurora, Plain or Sulphur Orange-tip – Ali Bege Plain [photographed by R Payne]

Belenois gidica, African Veined White – Awash NP, IMG 3370 [photographed by R Payne, A Steiner]

Family Lycaenidae

Sub-family Lycaeninae

Lycaena phlaeas pseudophaeas, Small Copper – Jemmu River Gorge [photographed by R Payne]

Sub-family Polyommatainae

Anthene definita, Ciliate Blue – IMG2554 [photographed by A Steiner]

Cacyreus lingeus, Common Bush Blue – Jemmu River Gorge [photographed by R Payne]

Leptotes pirithous, Common Zebra Blue – United Africa Hotel grounds (Awassa), Gibe Gorge (IMG3407, 3421, 3119) [photographed by R Payne, A Steiner]

Tuxentius melaena, Dark Pied Pierrot or Black Pie – Bishangari Forest [photographed by R Payne]

Tarucus rosacea, Mediterranean Pierrot – IMG3331 [photographed by A Steiner]

Euchrysops malathana, Smokey Bean Cupid – United Africa Hotel grounds (Awassa), Gibe Gorge (IMG3407), IMG 3119, IMG 3121 [photographed by R Payne, A Steiner]

Azanus ubaldus, Desert Babul Blue – Awash NP (several attracted to my fingers!) [photographed by R Payne]

Zizeeria knysa, African Grass Blue – Bishangari Forest, Lake Chelekaleka, Awash NP, Gibe Gorge (IMG3408) [photographed by R Payne, A Steiner]

Zizina antanossa Clover Blue – Awash NP, Gibe Gorge

Family Nymphalidae

Sub-family Satyrinae

Bycyclus campa, Hill Bush Brown – Wando Genet, IMG 3188 [photographed by R Payne, A Steiner]

Sub-family Nymphalinae

Antanartia dimorphica, Mountain or Dimorphic Admiral – Bale Mountains NP [photographed by R Payne]

Vanessa abyssinica, Abyssinian Red Admiral – Lake Chelekaleka [photographed by R Payne]

Protogoniomorpha parhassus, Mother of Pearl - Wando Genet

Precis oenone, Blue Pansy – Bishangari Forest [photographed by R Payne]

Junonia chorimene, Golden Pansy – Jemmu River Gorge [photographed by R Payne]

Junonia hierta, Yellow Pansy – Jemmu River Gorge [photographed by R Payne]

Junonia terea, Soldier Commodore – Wando Genet [photographed by R Payne]

Sub-family Biblidinae

Byblia ilithya, Joker – IMG3380 [Photographed by A Steiner]

Sub-family Limenitidinae

Neptis saclava, Small Spotted Sailor – United Africa Hotel grounds (Awassa) [photographed by R Payne]

Aterica galene, Forest Glade Nymph – IMG3404 [photographed by A Steiner]

Sub-family Heliconiinae

Acraea encedon, Encedon Acraea – United Africa Hotel grounds (Awassa), IMG3118, 3399 [photographed by R Payne, A Steiner]

Family Hesperidae

Sub-family Pyrginae

Caprona pillaana, Ragged Skipper – IMG3389, 3387 [photographed by A Steiner]