Angola

2018 Tour Report

Text by tour leader Michael Mills
Photos by tour leader Tertius Gous
SUMMARY

The third ever all-hotel-accommodated bird tour of Angola was an overwhelming success, and like our previous hotel-based trips brought a level of comfort that we could not imagine just a few years ago; for all 17 nights of the trip we enjoyed good accommodation and food. It was a pleasure returning to clean, comfortable hotel rooms each night, with running water and electricity (with the occasional exception); quite a change from our earlier trips where camping in dusty and windy conditions was the order of the day. And all this extra comfort came without compromising on the birds. Certainly, Angola can no longer be regarded as a 'hardcore' birding destination.

Besides the logistics running very smoothly we fared exceptionally well on the birds, enjoying good views of all of Angola’s endemic species (including all BirdLife splits) and a whole host of other goodies among the 550 species logged. This was the first ever tour to see Angola White-throated Greenbul/Angola Greenbul and Angola White-headed Barbet/White-bellied Barbet, both newly recognised endemics. The charts were topped by excellent views of a pair of Angola White-headed Barbet/White-bellied Barbet, only the third time the species has been seen since 1971. A usually-secretive male Finsch’s Francolin that stood in the open for at least 10 minutes was voted number two, followed by the attractive White-headed Robin-Chat at three. The surprise of the trip, the first Congo Serpent Eagle for the country in 50 years, came in at four, with a cooperative pair of Gabela Bushshrike rounding out the top five. Lower honours went to Locust Finch, which gave exceptional views on the ground, the striking Braun’s Bushshrike at seven, super views of Margaret’s Batis tied with Schalow’s Turaco at eight, and Red-crested Turaco and Bocage’s Akalat sharing tenth.

There were many other great birds seen too, and the impressive diversity of habitats on offer meant that we logged over 550 species in the 18 days of birding. While most of the endemics and specials are associated with the dry forests of the Angolan escarpment and montane habitats of the western highlands, a good diversity of miombo specials is on offer too, plus Congo Basin forest birds along the northern escarpment, mesic grassland birds in the highlands, and desert and Namibian escarpment species in the far south.

ESSENTIAL DETAILS

DATES
5-22 September 2018

LEADERS
Michael Mills assisted by Tertius Gous

PARTICIPANTS
Nick Davies
Chuck Probst
Jacqui Probst
Bob French
Sue French
John Lobel
Les Holliwell
Markus Lagerqvist

ITINERARY

5 Sep: Luanda to Uíge.
6 Sep: Northern escarpment forest near Uíge.
7 Sep: Uíge to Kalandula.
8 Sep: Woodlands and gallery forests at Kinjila.
9 Sep: Kalandula to N’dalatando.
10 Sep: N’dalatando to Muxima via northern escarpment forests of Tombinga Pass.
11 Sep: Dry forests in Muxima area.
12 Sep: Muxima to Conda via mangroves at the Kwanza River mouth.
13 Sep: Kumbira Forest.
14 Sep: Conda to Mount Moco region.
15 Sep: Miombo woodlands, grasslands and montane forest at Mount Moco.
16 Sep: Dambos and miombo woodlands in the Mount Moco region.
17 Sep: Montane forests and grasslands at Mount Moco.
18 Sep: Mount Moco to Benguela area via wetlands of Lobito.
19 Sep: Benguela to Lubango via rocky hillsides with Namibian escarpment birds.
20 Sep: Day trip to Namibe via escarpment thickets, arid savannas and coastal deserts.
21 Sep: Montane forests and grasslands at Tundavala near Lubango.
26 Sep: Tour ends with flights out of Lubango.
The following day-and-a-half in the northern scarp forests of Uíge province produced an impressive list of species, with special mention deserved by **Angola White-throated Greenbul** that teased us for a while before it was seen by all. It is only the third time that this threatened endemic has been seen since the early 1970s, and the first bird tour to enjoy the privilege. Pigeons behaved well, with both **Western Bronze-naped Pigeon** and **Alep Pigeon** sitting up for good scope views. **Tit Hylia** was a pleasant surprise. **Yellow-spotted Barbet** was seen for the first time in Angola-outside-Cabinda. And we studied a small, plain-faced honeyguide in the scope, the olive wash across the breast suggesting **Willcocks’s Honeyguide**, which would be a first for the country. Other highlights along the northern escarpment included **Brown-backed Scrub Robin**, **Compact Weaver**, **Blue-breasted Bee-eater**, **African Yellow Warbler**, **Red-faced (Lepe) Cisticola**, **Moustached Grass Warbler**, **White-eater**, **African Yellow Warbler**, **Red-faced (Lepe) Cisticola**, **Moustached Grass Warbler**, **White-eater**, **African Yellow Warbler**, **Red-faced (Lepe) Cisticola**, **Moustached Grass Warbler**, **White-eater**, **African Yellow Warbler**, **Red-faced (Lepe) Cisticola**

From the northernmost point of the trip, near Uíge, we turned south-eastwards to the Kalandula Falls area with its broad-leafed woodlands and gallery forests. En route we did well to find **Anchieta’s Barbet**, **Yellow-bellied Hydrota**, **Rufous-backed Tit**, **Ross’s Turaco**, **Pale-billed Hornbill**, **Brown-headed Apalis**, **Senegal Lapwing**, **Green-backed Woodpecker**, **Gorgeous/Perrin’s Bushshrike** and our first **Red-crested Turaco**. The main birding area at Kalandula is 40 km to the north of the falls themselves, near Kinjila Village, and we spent the better part of a day and half here. The gallery forests held the star attraction, and although it wasn’t long before the striking **White-headed Robin-Chat** showed itself, it took a few tries before everyone had enjoyed satisfactory views. The supporting cast included **Black-backed Barbet** (*maclovinii*), **Black-throated Wattle-eye**, **Grey-winged Robin-Chat/Akalat**, **Cabanis’s Greenbul**, **Lemon Dove** (heard), **Bates’s Sunbird**, **Square-tailed Drongo**, **Landana Firefinch** and **African Broadbill**. Bannerman’s **Sunbird** was very tricky this year, possibly due to a lack of flowering, and was greatly outnumbered by the very similar **Green-headed Sunbird**; eventually some of the group spotted and photographed a distinctive female. Surrounding woodlands were home to **Sharp-tailed Starling**, curious **affinis** form of **Brubru**, **Miombo Wren-Warbler**, **Green-

We broke our journey to Muxima with an overnight stay at N’dalatando, finding Rock Pratincole and Giant Kingfisher en route. The next morning we birded the northern escarpment forests near N’dalatando, at Tombinga pass. The open forest was quite birdy and we notched up Superb Sunbird, Yellow-billed Barbet, Cassin’s Honeybird, and Blue-throated Roller. The undoubted highlight of the morning, however, was first hearing and then locating a perched Congo Serpent Eagle which gave excellent views in the scope and then flew directly overhead. Not only is it Africa’s most secretive raptor, but the first record in Angola for 50 years!

Moving on, in the Muxima area we had a day-and-a-half to bird the endemic-rich dry forests of the area. Grey-striped Francolin showed well for everyone, non-breeding Golden-backed Bishop was studied in detail, Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush put in several appearances, Red-backed Mousebird was numerous, a pair of White-fronted Wattle-eye was coaxed from the thickets, and Forest Scrub Robin and Pale-olive Greenbul showed exceptionally well. More widespread highlights included Olive Bee-eater, Brown-backed Honeybird, Little Sparrowhawk, African Cuckoo-Hawk, Mottled Spinetail, Böhmi’s Spinetail, Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Swamp Boubou, Long-billed Crombec (ansorgei), Purple-banded Sunbird and Angola Batis, among a diversity of other savanna and woodland species. Along the river a trio of Egyptian Plover was the most notable sighting, here right at the southern edge of its range, and other wetland birds included Goliath Heron, African Openbill and Spur-winged Goose. After dark an African Scops Owl gave incredible views.

Leaving Muxima for the Kumbira area we first made a detour to the Kwanza River mouth for Mangrove/Brown Sunbird, Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Long-legged Pipit, Western Osprey, Collared Pratincole and a tern roost at the river mouth included Royal Tern, with Cape Gannet fishing offshore.

The Kumbira area and surrounding central escarpment near Conda village is arguably the highest priority for conservation in Angola, but is also one of the most rapidly disappearing areas of habitat thanks to slash-and-burn cultivation. Having struggled to find Gabela Bushshrike last year we went straight to the site where we eventually found it in 2017, and within 15 minutes we were watching a pair of Gabela Bushshrikes calling from some dry tangles. They stayed in the scope for some 10 minutes! Pulitzer’s Longbill was also found in short time, and was seen again the next day, and Gabela Akalat was persuaded to leave its thickets after a couple of attempts. Other species of interest along the central escarpment included Falkenstein’s Greenbul, two lovely Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, a low-flying Crowned Eagle, Petit’s Cuckoo-shrike, Brown-eared Woodpecker at the nest, the curious local form of Southern Hyliola (slatini), Dusky Tit, Carmelite Sunbird, Yellow-throated Nicator, Fraser’s Rufous Thrush, Brown Illadopsis, African Wood Owl and Gabon Coucal. Moving on to the highlands of Huambo province, we were now headed for the Mount Moco region. The greater Mount Moco area holds a diverse array of habitats; most of the area is blanketed in miombo woodland, unfortunately quite degraded now by clearing for agriculture and charcoal production, but significant areas of montane grassland can also be found, numerous rivers and associated dambo grasslands criss cross the area, and very small patches of montane forest exist on Mount Moco itself.

In these forests we first turned our attention to the small patch of forest and scrubby habitat above the village of Kanjonde (seeing one all-dark Horus Swift among the white-rumped birds in the village), which is the main focus of a forest rehabilitation project that I run at the mountain. It was pleasing to see that the firebreaks installed earlier in the year had successfully stopped a fire from entering the forest patch, and that the trees in it were growing well. Forest and forest-
edge birds here included Huambo Cisticola (not related to Rock-loving Cisticola, with which previously lumped), White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Ludwig's Double-collared Sunbird, Angola Swee Waxbill, Black-collared Bulbul, Western Green Tinkerbird, Angola Slaty Flycatcher, African Hill Babbler, Grey Apalis, Olive Woodpecker, Dusty Twinspot, Schalow's Turaco, Evergreen Forest Babbler and the sought-after Bocage's Akalat. Swierstra's Francolin was also present, although only Markus managed to set eyes on one here. Also around this forest patch we enjoyed views of a male Black-chinned Weaver, and in the nearby burnt grasslands a Finsch’s Francolin was persuaded to show itself for some 10 minutes! On our second day at the mountain the fit and brave Michael almost certainly saw a male in flight, but Bocage’s Sunbird gave us a real run around. At our target destination we quickly heard and then found Margaret’s Batis, which gave exceptional views at eye level. Other highlights of the outing included Thick-billed Seedeater, African Spotted Creeper, Booted Eagle, Augur Buzzard, Fernando Po Swift and Yellow-crowned Canary.

The rest of our time was spent in the habitats around the base of the mountain, and further afield across the greater region. Grassland and shrubland species included Tinkling Cisticola, Oustalet’s Sunbird, Black-bellied Bustard, Capped Wheatear, Angola Lark and a surprise Secretarybird. In damper areas of dambo grassland (dry at this time of the year) we found several Fülleborn’s Longclaw, good numbers of Locust Finch that showed very well on the ground, Quail-finch on the ground (if split, African Quail-Finch at the mountain itself and Black-chinned Quail-Finch further afield) and the sought-after Black-and-rufous Swallow. Areas of rank growth, mostly around rivers, held Fan-tailed Grassbird, Half-collared Kingfisher, Brown Firefinch, Chirping Cisticola, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Hartlaub’s Babbler, Orange-breasted Waxbill, Fawn-breasted Waxbill, Marsh Widowbird, Stout Cisticola and Bocage’s Weaver in full breeding plumage. A pair of Brazza’s Martin gave excellent views near their nest, but this year Bocage’s Sunbird gave us a real run around. Michael almost certainly saw a male in flight, but we only confirmed the species thanks to a female seen by everyone that was photographed by Nick and Markus.

The miombo woodlands also turned up some good birds, including Anchieta’s Barbet, African Cuckoo-Hawk, Salvadori’s Eremomela, Souza’s Shrike, Red-capped Crombec, Western Miombo Sunbird, Miombo Scrub Robin, Wood Pipit, the snazzy Black-necked Eremomela at the nest, Miombo Pied Barbet, Pearl-breasted Swallow, Red-throated Cliff Swallow, Western Violet-backed Sunbird, Black Cuckoo, African Golden Oriole, African Cuckoo, White-fronted Bee-eater, Green-capped Eremomela, Grey Penduline Tit (of the green ansorgei race) and Miombo Wren-Warbler. After dark Square-tailed Nightjar showed at point-blank range and an excitable Pennant-winged Nightjar dazzled us!

Heading back to the coast again, the Lobito/Benguela area was our next major focus. The coastal wetlands at Lobito allowed us to do some list padding, with more interesting species including Cape Teal, Lesser Flamingo, Greater Flamingo, Water Thick-knee and Black Heron. However, most of our time was spent in an area of arid hills and scrubland some 40 kilometres inland of Benguela, with several species characteristic of the Namibian escarpment found here. A male Hartlaub’s Spurfowl was persuaded to sit up on a rock for good views, but Orange River Francolin stayed out of sight despite being heard. White-throated Shrike was quite conspicuous and we also enjoyed good views of Rockrunner, Rüppell’s Parrot, Cape Penduline Tit, Pirit Batis, Grey Go-away-bird, Acacia Pied Barbet, Carp’s Tit, Böhm’s Spinetail, Verreaux’s Eagle, Bare-checked Babbler, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Monteiro’s Hornbill, Barred Wren-Warbler, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Black-chested Prinia, Rosy-faced Lovebird and Kalahari Scrub Robin. More open areas held Sabota Lark, Double-banded Coursers, Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark, Stark’s Lark, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Great Sparrow, Ashy Tit, Common Scimitarbill, Scaly-feathered Finch and Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler.

Finally we moved onto the Lubango area, where we birded two rather different habitats, separated by the spectacular southern escarpment. On our first full day around Lubango we descended the escarpment at Leba Pass, running a transect across the ever-drier
landscape towards the coast. Our first stop is some dry woodlands produced our main target after some time, a pair of localised Cinderella Waxbill tracked down where they were preening after drinking. In the same general area we found the benguellensis race of Meves’s Starling (now split by BirdLife as Benguela Long-tailed Starling), Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Little Sparrowhawk and distinctive capricorni subspecies of Bennett’s Woodpecker. Further towards the coast the habitat became drier and we found Crimson-breasted Shrike, Grey-backed Cisticola, Red-headed Finch, Karoo Chat, Chat Flycatcher, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Pale-winged Starling, Benguela Long-billed Lark, Lark-like Bunting, Bokmakierie, Monteiro’s Hornbill and Dusky Sunbird. In the sparser areas still we found two groups of Rüppell’s Korhaan, a pair of skittish Ludwig’s Bustard, a single Tractrac Chat and Spike-heeled Lark.

Our second full day was spent at Tundavala at the top of the escarpment, where montane grasslands and shrublands and remnant patches of Afromontane forest produced some of the best birding of the trip in impressive surrounds. Angola White-headed Barbet was certainly the most spectacular find, and constituted only the third record of the species since 1971. Swierstra’s Francolin was well-enjoyed too, with a pair watched on and off by all for several minutes. Rocky areas were home to Rockrunner, striking Angola Cave Chat, Miombo Rock Thrush and Short-toed Rock Thrush and Striped Pipit, and other goodies included Jameson’s Firefinch (Ansorge’s Firefinch), Violet-eared Waxbill, Buffy Pipit, Angolan Slaty Flycatcher, Wailing Cisticola, Freckled Nightjar, Rufous-cheeked Nightjar, Fiery-necked Nightjar, Spotted Eagle-Owl, Angola Swee Waxbill, Bradfield’s Swift, Alpine Swift, Red-capped Crombec and African Black Duck.
Gabela Bushshrike

Western Green Tinkerbird

Egyptian Plover

Erithacus Francolin

Margaret’s Batis
**ANNOTATED SPECIES LIST**

**Anatidae Ducks, Geese & Swans**

- **Ciconiidae Storks**
  - African Openbill *Anastomus lamelligerus* - Seen in the coastal wetlands (lamelligerus)
  -  **Threskiornithidae Ibises, Spoonbills**
  - **African Sacred Ibis** Threskiornis aethiopicus - Most conspicuous at Lobito
  - **African Spoonbill** *Platelia alba* - Seen at Lobito

**Phasianidae Pheasants, Fowl & Allies**

- **Ardeidae Herons, Bitterns**
  - Striated Heron *Butorides striata* - Seen at Lobito
  - Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* - Seen a few times

**Finsch's Francolin Scleroptila finschi** - Incredible views at Mt Moco

**Orange River Francolin Scleroptila gutturalis** - Heard inland of Benguela (*jugariri*)

**Swierstra's Francolin Pternistis swierstrai** - Brief views for Markus at Mt Moco, and both the male and female were seen quite well by everyone at Tundavala (endemic)

**Harlaub's Spurfowl Pternistis hartlaubi** - Good views inland of Benguela (*hartlaubi, endemic*)

**Red-necked Spurfowl Pternistis afer** - Seen in Kissama and elsewhere along the coastal plain (*aferi*), and at Kalandula (cranchi, *Cranch's Spurfowl*)

**Harlequin Quail Coturnix delegorguei** - Seen by Chuck at Mt Moco (*delegorguei*)

**Podicipedidae Grebes**

- **Little Grebe Tachybaptus ruficollis** - Good number at Lobito, and seen elsewhere too (*capensis*)

**Phoenicopteridae Flamingos**

- **Greater Flamingo Phoenicopterus roseus** - Seen at Lobito

**Lesser Flamingo Phoeniconaias minor** - Seen at Lobito

**Sulidae Gannets, Boobies**

- **Cape Gannet Morus capensis** - Seen offshore from Kwanza River

**Phalacrocoracidiae Cormorants, shags**

- **Reed Cormorant** Microcarbo africana - Seen mainly along the coast (*africana*)

**White-breasted Cormorant** Phalacrocorax lucidus - Seen at Lobito

**Anhingidae Anhingas, darters**

- **African Darter Anhinga rufa** - A couple of sightings (*rufa*)

**Sagittariidae Secretarybird**

- **Secretarybird Sagittarius serpentarius** - Seen at Mt Moco, where a new record

**Pandionidae Ospreys**

- **Western Osprey Pandion haliaetus** - Two along the Kwanza River (*haliaetus*)

**Accipitrinae Kites, Hawks & Eagles**

- **Black-winged Kite Elanus caeruleus** - Seen regularly (*caeruleus*)

**African Harrier-Hawk Polyboroides typus** - Seen quite often (*typus*)

**Palm-nut Vulture Gypohierax angolensis** - The most commonly-seen raptor

**African Cuckoo-Hawk Aviceda cuculoides** - Two good sightings, one at Muxima and one in the Mt Moco region (*verreauxii*)

**Black-chested Snake Eagle Circaetus pectoralis** - Seen twice

**Brown Snake Eagle** Circaetus cinereus - Seen a few times

**Western Banded Snake Eagle** Circaetus cinerascens - Brief views at Kalandula

**Congo Serpent Eagle** Circaetus spectabilis - Incredible perched and flight views at Tombinga (*batesii*). The surprise of the trip; last seen in Angola >50 years ago.

**Bateleur Terathopius ecaudatus** - One of the more commonly-seen raptors

**Crowned Eagle** Stephanoaetus coronatus - Great flight views of a young bird at Kumbira. Also in the northern scarp.

**Long-crested Eagle** Lophaetus occipitalis - A few sightings

**Wahlberg’s Eagle Hieraaetus wahlbergi** - Seen en route to Lubango

**Booted Eagle** Hieraaetus pennatus - One pale-phase bird seen at Mt Moco, where a new record

**Tawny Eagle** Aquila rapax - Two seen between Benguela and Lubango (*rapax*)

**Verreaux’s Eagle** Aquila verreauxii - Great views of two inland of Benguela

**Lizard Buzzard Kaupifalco monogrammicus** - Seen a few times (*meridionalis*)

**Dark Chanting Goshawk Melierax metabates** - A couple were seen in the Mt Moco area (*mechowi*)

**Pale Chanting Goshawk Melierax canorus** - Seen in the coastal deserts

**African Goshawk Accipiter tachiro** - A couple of sightings (*sparsimfasciatus*)

**Shikra Accipiter badius** - A couple of sightings (*polyzonioide*)

**Little Sparrowhawk Accipiter minullus** - Seen well at Muxima and the bottom of Leba Pass (*minullus*)

**Black Sparrowhawk Accipiter melanoleucus** - One seen and photographed at Tundavala (teminickii)

**African Marsh Harrier Circus ranivorus** - Seen a few times on the plateau

**Yellow-billed Kite Milvus aegyptius** - Seen in small numbers (*parasitus*)

**African Fish Eagle Haliaeetus vocifer** - Seen along the Kwanza River

**Red-necked Buzzard Buteo auguralis** - A few good sightings

**Augur Buzzard Buteo augur** - Seen several times

**Otididae Bustards**

- **Ludwig’s Bustard Neotis ludwigi** - Two seen in the coastal deserts in flight
Rüppell’s Korhaan *Eupodotis rueppellii* - Two good sightings in the coastal deserts (rueppellii)

Red-crested Korhaan *Lophotis ruficrista* - Heard in the south-west

Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis melanogaster* - Nice views of two males in flight at Mt Moco (melanogaster)

**Sarothuridae Flufftails**

White-spotted Flufftail *Sarotherura pulchra* - Heard at Kalandula and on the northern scarp (centralis)

Red-chested Flufftail *Sarotherura rufa* - Heard only (rufa)

**Rallidae Rails, Crakes & Coots**

Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra* - Seen a couple of times

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* - Seen by Michael and Tertius (meridionalis)

Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata* - Seen at Lobito

**Burhinidae Stone-curlews, Thick-knees**

Water Thick-knee *Burhinus vermiculatus* - Seen at Lobito (vermiculatus)

Recurvirostridae Stilts, Avocets

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* - Seen a few times

**Charadriidae Plovers**

Senegal Lapwing *Vanellus lugubris* - A pair with chicks seen near Kalandula

African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus* - Seen in the Mt Moco region (lateralis)

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* - Seen along the coast (squatarola)

Kittlitz’s Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* - Seen along the coast

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris* - Seen at Lobito (tricollaris)

Egyptian Plover *Pluvianus aegyptius* - It was a real surprise to see three along the Kwanza River

**Jacanidae Jacanas**

African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* - Several sightings

**Scopelopacidae Sandpipers, Snipes**

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* - Seen along the coast (phaeopus)

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* - Seen along the coast

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* - Seen along the coast

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* - Seen at Lobito

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* - Seen a few times

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpreps* - Seen at Lobito (interpreps)

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* - Seen at Lobito

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* - Seen at Lobito

**Glareolidae Coursers, Pratincoles**

Double-banded Coursers *Rhinoptilus africanus* - Fantastic views of three inland of Benguela (bisignatus, endemic)

Collared Pratincole *Glareola pratincola* - Seen along the Kwanza River (riparia)

Rock Pratincole *Glareola nuchalis* - Seen on the Lucala River (nuchalis)

**Laridae Gulls, Terns & Skimmers**

Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* - Seen at Lobito (poiocephalus)

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* - Seen along the coast (vetula)

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* - Seen along the coast

Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus* - Seen along the coast (albididorsalis)

Common Tern *Sternula hirundo* - Seen along the coast

**Columbidae Pigeons, Doves**

Rock Dove *Columba livia* - Feral Pigeons were common in the towns and villages

Afp Pigeon *Columba unicolor* - Good views of perched birds on the northern escarpment

African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix* - Seen in good numbers at Mt Moco

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iridirostris* - Good views of a perched bird on the northern escarpment

Lemon Dove *Columba larvata* - Heard at Kalandula, a new site for it in Angola (samaliyae)

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* - Common

Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola* - Common, damarenensis in the south-west and tropica elsewhere

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis* - Seen regularly (senegalensis)

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos* - Common in the drier areas

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer* - Common in the moister areas

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria* - Seen in the northern forests

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* - Seen a few times (capensis)

African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus* - Seen on several dates (calvus and ansorgei)

**Musophagidae Turacos**

Great Blue Turaco *Corythaeola cristata* - Seen in the northern scarp forests

Guinea Turaco *Tauraco persa* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (zenkeri)

Schalow’s Turaco *Tauraco schalowi* - Good views in the Mt Moco region

Red-crested Turaco *Tauraco erythrolophus* - Great views en route to and at Kalandula

Ross’s Turaco *Musophaga rossae* - Seen well en route to Kalandula

Grey Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides concolor* - Seen along the coastal plain (pallidiceps)

**Cuculidae Cuckoos**

Gabon Coucal *Centropus anelli* - Almost everyone enjoyed brief views at Kumbira

Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus* - Heard in the north

Coppery-tailed Coucal *Centropus cupreicaudus* - Seen in good numbers in the Mt Moco region (cupreicaudus)

White-browed Coucal *Centropus superciliosus* - Several were seen (loandae)

Blue Malkoha *Cathartochroa aeneus* - Seen in the northern forests (aeneus)

Thick-billed Cuckoo *Pachycephcyx ausberti* - Three flew straight over us, calling, at Kalandula

Diederik Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius* - Heard only

Klaas’s Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* - Seen and heard on several dates

Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* - Seen in the Mt Moco region (clamosus)

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius* - Heard only

African Cuckoo *Cuculus gularis* - Seen in the Mt Moco area and at Kalandula

**Tytonidae Barn Owls**

Western Barn Owl *Tyto alba* - Seen by some near Huambo (affinis)

**Strigidae Owls**

African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis* - Superb views near Mumaxim (senegalensis)

Spotted Eagle-Owl *Bubo africanus* - A nice encounter with a pair at Tundavala (africanus)

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii* - Excellent views near Conda (nuchalis)

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidiurn perlatum* - A few good sightings during the day (liciau)
African Barred Owlet *Glaucidium capense* - Prolonged day-time views at Kalandula (ngamiensis)

Caprimulgidae Nightjars

Rufous-cheeked Nightjar *Caprimulgus ruficena* - Incredible views at Tundavala (rufiglena)

Fiery-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus pectoralis* - Very good views near Lubango and Huambo (fervidus)

Freckled Nightjar *Caprimulgus strutigama* - Good but brief views at Tundavala (lentiginosus)

Square-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus fossor* - Point-blank views near Huambo (welwitschi)

Pennant-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus vexillarius* - A displaying male danced around us near Mt Moco

Apodidae Swifts

Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura ussheri* - Some good views along the coastal plain (benguellensis)

Bõhm’s Spinetail *Neafrapax boehmi* - Some good views along the coastal plain (boehmi)

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* - Common (hyphaenes)

Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba* - Seen at Tundavala (africanaus)

Mottled Swift *Tachymarptis aquatorialis* - Seen regularly (aquatorialis), including in Luanda

Common Swift *Apus apus* - Just a few seen (apus)

Fernando Po Swift *Apus sladeniae* - One swift at Mt Moco among several other species appeared to be this

Bradfield’s Swift *Apus bradfieldi* - Seen at Tundavala (bradfieldi)

Little Swift *Apus affinis* - Seen a few times (thresace)

Horus Swift *Apus horus* - One dark-rumped bird (toulsoni) was seen among the normal white-rumped birds at Mt Moco (horus)

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* - Seen a few times

Coliidae Mousebirds

Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus* - Seen near Quietepe and in the Moco region (nigrilollis)

Red-faced Mousebird *Colius castanotus* - Often along the coastal plain

Red-faced Mousebird *Urociphus indicus* - Seen along the southern coastal plain (lacteifrons)

Trogonidae Trogons

Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina* - Seen in the northern scarp forests and at Kumbira (narina)

Coraciidae Rollers

Purple Roller *Coracias naevius* - Seen a couple of times, including at Mt Moco (mosambicus)

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus* - Seen near the Kwanza River (caudatus)

Blue-throated Roller *Eurystomus gularis* - Perched views of a pair at Tombinga

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* - Seen at Kalandula (suahelicus)

Alcedinidae Kingfishers

Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala* - Seen a few times (paludiventris)

Brown-hooded Kingfisher *Halcyon albiventer* - Seen at the bottom of Leba Pass (prenitisgrayi)

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* - Seen a few times (chelicti)

Blue-breasted Kingfisher *Halcyon malimbica* - Seen along the Kwanza River (malimbica)

Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis* - Seen a few times in the north (fuscipennis)

African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ispidina picta* - Seen a few times (ferrugina)

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus* - Seen along the Kwanza River (galeritus)

Half-collared Kingfisher *Alcedo semitorquata* - Seen briefly at Mt Moco

Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima* - Seen along the Lucala River

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* - Several sightings (rudis)

Meropidae Bee-eaters

Black Bee-eater *Merops gularis* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (austrialis)

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus* - Seen at the bottom of Leba Pass (hirundineus)

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus* - Seen regularly (merrionalis)

Blue-breasted Bee-eater *Merops variegatus* - Seen near Quietepe (variegatus)

White-fronted Bee-eater *Merops bullockoides* - A couple of sightings in the Mt Moco region and near Uige

Olive Bee-eater *Merops superciliosus* - Seen in the Muxima area (alternans)

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* - Recorded twice

Upupidae Hoopoes

African Hoopoe *Upupa africana* - Seen a few times

Phoeniculidae Wood Hoopoes

Green Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculius purpureus* - Seen near Quietepe (angolensis)

Black Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus aterrimus* - Seen in Quietepe and Muxima (anchietae)

Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas* - Seen a couple of times in the south (cyanomelas)

Bucerotidae Hornbills

Damara Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus damaensis* - Seen well in the south-west

Monterio’s Hornbill *Tockus monterio* - Seen well in the coastal deserts, and inland of Benguela

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus leucomelas* - Seen several times along the coastal plain (elegans)

Crowned Hornbill *Lophoceros alboterminatus* - Seen several times (alboterminatus)

African Pied Hornbill *Lophoceros fasciatus* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (fasciatus Congo Pied Hornbill)

Pale-billed Hornbill *Lophoceros pallidirostris* - Good views en route to Kalandula (pallidirostris)

Piping Hornbill *Bycanistes fistulator* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (sharp Eastern Piping Hornbill)

Lybiidae African barbets

Bristle-nosed Barbet *Gymnombucco peli* - Seen well in the northern scarp forests

Naked-faced Barbet *Gymnombucco calvus* - Seen in the northern escarpment forests (conicus) and at Kumbira (vernayi Angola Naked-faced Barbet/ Pale-throated Barbet)

Anchieta’s Barbet *Stactolaema anchietae* - Several good sightings at Kalandula and one at Mt Moco (reu)

Speckled Tinkerbird *Pogonias scolopaceus* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (flaviscapuatus)

Western Tinkerbird *Pogonia coryphaea* - An excellent sighting at Mt Moco (angolensis, endemic)

Red-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogonias atrilavas* - Seen in the northern scarp forests

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogonias bilineatus* - Seen in the northern forests (all leucolaimus)

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogonias chrysococaus* - Seen a few times (extort Miombo Tinkerbird)

Yellow-spotted Barbet *Buccanodon duchaillui* - Seen near Uige. This is the first record for Angola excluding Cabinda.

Hairy-breasted Barbet *Tricholaema hiruta* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (angolensis)

Miombo Pied Barbet *Tricholaema frontata* - A good encounter in the Mt Moco region

Acacia Pied Barbet *Tricholaema leucomelas* - Several sightings along the coastal plain (centralis)
White-headed Barbet *Lybius leucocephalus* - A pair was seen at Tundavala (leucogaster Angola White-headed Barbet/White-bellied Barbet). This is the third time it has been seen since 1971 and is the fist time ever seen on a birding tour.

Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus* - Seen a few times

Black-backed Barbet *Lybius minor* - Seen well at Kalandula (macloouma Eastern Black-backed Barbet/White-faced Barbet)

Yellow-billed Barbet *Trachyphonus purpuratus* - Seen well at Tombinga (purpuratus Eastern Yellow-billed Barbet)

**Indicatoridae Honeyguides**

Cassin’s Honeybird *Prodoticus insignis* - Studied at length at Tombinga (insignis)

Green-backed Honeybird *Prodoticus zambeesi* - Seen displaying at Kalandula and in the Moco region (zambeesi)

Brown-backed Honeybird *Prodoticus regulus* - Seen well at Muxima and also at Tundavala

Willcock’s Honeyguide *Indicator willcockii* - One small, plain-faced honeyguide seen in the northern scarp forests had an olive wash on the breast and appeared to be this species. It would constitute a new country record

Pallid Honeyguide *Indicator meliphilus* - Scoped on its song post in the northern scarp forests

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* - Seen near Mt Moco

Scaly-throated Honeyguide *Indicator variegatus* - Good views at Muxima

Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicitor* - Seen a few times

**Picidae Woodpeckers**

Red-throated Wryneck *Jynx ruficollis* - Nice looks at Kalandula and Mt Moco (ruficollis)

Bennett’s Woodpecker *Campethera bennettii* - Seen well below Leba Pass (capricorni Capricorn Woodpecker)

Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni* - See a few times (abingoni)

Green-backed Woodpecker *Campethera cailliautii* - Seen well in the Kalandula area (permista)

Buff-spotted Woodpecker *Campethera nivosa* - John saw one at Kalandula (nivosa)

Brown-eared Woodpecker *Campethera caroli* - A super encounter at Kumbira (caroli)

Bearded Woodpecker *Chloropicus namaquus* - Seen at Muxima

Yellow-crested Woodpecker *Chloropicus xantholophus* - Seen in the northern scarp forests

Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens* - Seen regularly

Elliot’s Woodpecker *Dendropicos eliotii* - Seen by Michael at Kumbira (gabela, endemic)

Olive Woodpecker *Dendropicos griseocephalus* - Seen at Mto Moco (ruwenzi)

**Falconidae Falcons**

Rock Kestrel *Falco rupicolus* - Seen a couple of times in the south

Grey Kestrel *Falco ardosiaecus* - One good sighting in the Mt Moco region

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* - Seen a couple of times (biarmicus)

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* - One near Lobito (minor)

Psittacidae African & New World Parrots

Red-fronted Parrot *Poicephalus gulielmi* - Several in flight in the northern scarp forests (gulielmi)

Meyer’s Parrot *Poicephalus meyeri* - Seen well at Kalandula (reichenowi)

Rüppell’s Parrot *Poicephalus rueppelli* - Good views inland of Benguela

Psittaculidae Old World Parrots

Rosy-faced Lovebird *Agapornis roseicollis* - Scope views inland of Benguela (catambella)

**Eurylaimidae Broadbills**

African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis* - Great views at Kalandula (albipennis)

**Platysteiridae Wattle-eyes, Batises**

African Shrike-flycatcher *Megabius flammulatus* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (aequatorialis)

Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher *Bias musicus* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (musicus)

Margaret’s Batis *Batis margaritae* - Fantastic views of a male at Mt Moco (margaritae)

Chinspot Batis *Batis molitor* - Seen a few times (pintoi)

Piriit Batis *Batis pririt* - Good views inland of Benguela (affinis)

Angolan Batis *Batis minulla* - Good views near Quitexe and at Muxima and Kumbira

White-tailed Shrike *Lanioturdus torquatus* - Good looks in the Benguela and Leba areas

Chestnut Wattle-eye *Platysteira castanea* - Seen in the scarp forests

Black-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira peltata* - Seen at Kalandula (endemic)

White-fronted Wattle-eye *Platysteira albitrons* - A pair was seen at Muxima (endemic)

Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye *Platysteira concreta* - Seen in the northern scarp forests

**Psittaculidae Old World Parrots**

Great African Shrike-flycatcher *Poicephalus meyeri* - Seen a few times in the scarp forests (endemic)

Crimson-breasted Shrike *Laniarius atrococcineus* - Seen a few times on the coastal plain (gabella)

Tropical Boubou *Laniarius angolensis* - Seen a few times in the scarp forests (angolensis)

Pink-footed Puffback *Dryoscopus angolensis* - Seen regularly (hamatus)

Many-colored Bushshrike *Chlorophonus multicolor* - Heard in the northern escarpment (batesi)

Bocage’s Bushshrike *Chlorophonus bocagei* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (bocagei)

Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophonus sulphurepectus* - Heard only (similis)

Gorgeous Bushshrike *Telophorus viridis* - Nice views en route to Kalandula and at Tundavala (viridis Perrin’s Bushshrike)

Bokmakierie *Telophorus zeylounus* - Seen well in the coastal deserts (phenax)

Marsh Tchagra *Bocagia minuta* - Nice views on the northern scarp (anchietae Anchieta’s Tchagra)

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* - Seen a few times (ansorgei in the south and souzae in the north)

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* - Seen a few times (armenus)

Pink-footed Puffback *Dryoscopus angolensis* - Seen a few times in the scarp forests (angolensis)

Black-backed Puffback *Dryoscopus cubla* - Seen regularly (hamatus)

Braun’s Bushshrike *Laniarius brauni* - Good views in the Quitexe area (endemic)

Gabela Bushshrike *Laniarius anboimensis* - Fantastic views of a pair along the central escarpment (endemic)

Tropical Boubou *Laniarius major* - Seen on the plateau (major)

Swamp Boubou *Laniarius bicolor* - Seen a few times on the coastal plain (guttatus Gabon Boubou)

Crimson-breasted Shrike *Laniarius atrocinus* - Seen on the Namibe Day Trip

Brubru *Nilaus afer* - Good views of the unusual affinis subspecies in the Mt Moco area and at Kalandula, and *brubru* along the coastal plain

**Campephagidae Cuckooshrikes**

White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Coracina pectoralis* - Seen at Kalandula
Bates’s Paradise Flycatcher Terpsiphone batesi - A paradise flycatcher seen briefly at Kumbira was probably this species (bannermani)

African Paradise Flycatcher Terpsiphone viridis - Seen regularly (plumbeiceps)

**Corvidae Crows**

Cape Crow Corvus capensis - Seen in the Mt Moco region

**Pied Crow Corvus albus** - Common

**Stenostiridae Fairy Flycatchers**

African Blue Flycatcher Elminia longicauda - Seen in the scarp forests (tersita)

White-tailed Blue Flycatcher Elminia albicauda - Seen at Mt Moco

**Paridae Tits**

White-winged Black Tit Melaniparus leuconelas - Seen a few times (insignis)

Carp’s Tit Melaniparus carpi - Seen a few times in the south

Dusky Tit Melaniparus funereus - Seen at Kumbira (gabela, endemic)

Rufous-bellied Tit Melaniparus rufiventris - Seen en route to Kalandula (rufiventris)

Ashy Tit Melaniparus cinerascens - Seen well inland of Benguela (benguellensis)

**Remizidae Penduline Tits**

Grey Penduline Tit Anthoscopus caroli - Seen in the Mt Moco area (ansorgei)

**Yellow-throated Penduline Tit** Anthoscopus minutus - Good views inland of Benguela (damarenisis)

**Nicatoridae Nicator**

Yellow-throated Nicator Nicator viréo - A few good sightings along the escarpment

**Alaudidae Larks**

Spike-heeled Lark Chersomanes albofasciata - Seen on the Namibe Day Trip (obscurata)

Benguela Long-billed Lark Certithalauda benguellensis - Several good sightings in the coastal deserts (benguellensis)

Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark Eremopterix verticalis - Good views in the south-west (damanensis)

Sabota Lark Calendulaula sabota - Seen in the coastal deserts (ansorgei)

Rufous-naped Lark Mirafra africana - Seen at Tundavala (occidentalis)

Flappet Lark Mirafra rufoctinnamomea - Seen in the Mt Moco area (fischeri)

Angolan Lark Mirafra angolensis - Great views in the Mt Moco region (angolensis)

Stark’s Lark Spizocorys starki - Excellent views inland of Benguela and on the Namibe Day Trip

Red-capped Lark Calandrella cinerea - Seen in the Mt Moco region and at Tundavala (spleniata)

**Pycnonotidae Bulbuls**

African Red-eyed Bulbul Pycnonotus nigricans - Seen in the south-west (nigricans)

Dark-capped Bulbul Pycnonotus tricolor - Common (tricolor)

Slender-billed Greenbul Stelgidillas gracilirostris - Seen in the northern scarp forests (gracilirostris)

Little Greenbul Euillas vireres - Seen in the north (vireres)

Plain Greenbul Euillas curvirostris - Seen in the northern scarp and heard at Kumbira (curvirostris)

**Grey-rumped Swallow Phedina brazzae** - Several good views, especially in the Mt Moco area (griseopyga)

Brazza’s Martin Phedina brazzae - Excellent views in the Mt Moco area

Angolan Swallow Hirundo angolensis - Common

White-throated Swallow Hirundo albilineatus - Seen in the highlands

Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii - Seen along the coast (smithii)

Black-and-rufous Swallow Hirundo nigrosula - Some good looks in the Mt Moco region

Pearl-breasted Swallow Hirundo dimidiata - Seen in the Mt Moco area (marwilli)

Rock Martin Pternopygopul naturae - Seen south-west and at Mt Moco (andersoni Southern Rock Martin/Large Rock Martin)

Common House Martin Delichon urbicum - Some early migrants seen at Mt Moco
Greater Striped Swallow Cecropis cucullata - Seen at Mt Moco and Tundavala
Lesser Striped Swallow Cecropis abyssinica - Common (unitsiti)
Mosque Swallow Cecropis senegalensis - Seen a few times (monteiri)
Red-throated Cliff Swallow Petrochelidon rufigula - Many seen on the plateau
Macrophoenidae Crombecs, African warblers
Moustached Grass Warbler Melochiola mentalis - A few good sightings (mentalis)
Rockrunner Achetaetus pycnopogus - Good views inland of Benguela and at Tundavala (spadix)
Yellow Longbill Macropheus flavicans - Heard along the northern scarp (flavicans)
Pulitzer’s Longbill Macropeus pulitzeri - Two good sightings along the central escarpment (endemic)
Long-billed Crombec Sylviatta rufescens - Seen near Mumina (ansorgei) and at Tundavala (bleck)
Red-capped Crombec Sylviatta ruficapilla - Nice looks in the Mt Moco region and at Tundavala (ruficapilla)
Green Crombec Sylviatta vires - Common along the escarpment (tando)
Cettidiae Cettia bush warblers and allies
Green Hylia Hylia prasina - Seen along the escarpment (prasina)
Tit Hylia Pholidornis rishiae - Great views near Quixete
Phylloscopidae Leaf warblers and allies
Willow Warbler Phylloscopus trochilus - Seen at Lubango
Acrocephalidae Reed warblers and allies
Greater Swamp Warbler Acrocephalus rufescens - Seen at the Keve River (ansorgei)
Lesser Swamp Warbler Acrocephalus gracillostris - Seen very briefly in the Mt Moco region (winterbottom)
African Yellow Warbler Iduna natalensis - Seen near Quixete and at Mt Moco (major)
Icterine Warbler Hippolais icterina - Seen in Lubango
Locustellidae Grassbirds and allies
Little Rush Warbler Bradypterus banaeola - Seen in the Mt Moco region (banaelensis)
Evergreen Forest Warbler Bradypterus lopezi - Seen by some at Mt Moco (boultoni)
Fan-tailed Grassbird Schoenicola brevirostris - Excellent views in the Mt Moco region (alexinae)
Cisticolidae Cisticolas and allies
Red-faced Cisticola Cisticola erythrops - Seen a few times (lepe)
Whistling Cisticola Cisticola lateralis - Seen at Kalandula (modestus)
Bubbling Cisticola Cisticola bulliens - Seen along the coastal plain and escarpment (septentrionalis and bulliens)
Rock-loving Cisticola Cisticola emini - The endemic Huambo Cisticola Cisticola bauhuinduensis was seen well at Mt Moco. It is not related to Rock-loving Cisticola, although this is not yet widely recognised
Rattling Cisticola Cisticola chiniana - Seen at Leba (smithii)
Tinkling Cisticola Cisticola rufulatus - Seen well in the Mt Moco region (ansorgei)
Grey-backed Cisticola Cisticola subruficapilla - Seen on the Namibe Day Trip (newtoni)
Wailing Cisticola Cisticola lais - Common at Tundavala and Mt Moco (namba)
Chirping Cisticola Cisticola pipiens - Seen several times in the Mt Moco region (piapiens)
Stout Cisticola Cisticola robustus - Seen in the Mt Moco region (angolensis)
Croaking Cisticola Cisticola natalensis - Seen in the Mt Moco region (huambu)
Short-winged Cisticola Cisticola brachypterus - Common on the plateau (loanda)
Neddicky Cisticola fulvicapilla - Seen on the plateau (dispar)
Zitting Cisticola Cisticola juncidis - Seen near Mt Moco (terrestris)
Wing-snapping Cisticola Cisticola ayresii - Seen at Mt Moco and Tundavala (ayresii)
Tawny-flanked Prinia Prinia subflava - Widespread (graueri and bechuanae)
Black-chested Prinia Prinia flavicans - Seen in the south-west (ansorgei)
Banded Prinia Prinia bairdi - Good looks in the northern scarp forests (heinrichi, endemic)
White-chinned Prinia Schistola leucopogon - Seen on the northern scarp (leucopogon)
Yellow-breasted Apalis Apalis flavida - Seen a couple of times along the coastal plain (flavida)
Lowland Masked Apalis Apalis binotata - Seen near Quixete
Black-throated Apalis Apalis jacksoni - Seen on the northern scarp (jacksoni)
Buff-throated Apalis Apalis rufogularis - Seen along the central (browni) and northern escarpment (angolensis)
Grey Apalis Apalis cinerea - Seen at Mt Moco (grandis)
Brown-headed Apalis Apalis alticola - Seen en route to Kalandula (alticola)
Grey-backed Camaroptera Camaroptera brevicaudata - Seen in the south (shapri)
Harter’s Camaroptera Camaroptera harterti - Seen several times (endemic)
Yellow-browed Camaroptera Camaroptera supercilialis - Seen well in the northern scarp forests
Miombo Wren-Warbler Calamoneastes undosus - Several good sightings at Kalandula (cinereus) and in the Mt Moco region (huilae)
Barred Wren-Warbler Calamoneastes fasciolatus - Seen inland of Benguela (pallidior, endemic)
Yellow-bellied Eremomela Eremomela icteropygialis - Seen in the south-west (puellula)
Salvadori’s Eremomela Eremomela salvadorii - Seen a few times in the Mt Moco region
Green-capped Eremomela Eremomela scotops - Seen several times in miombo (pulchra)
Rufous-crowned Eremomela Eremomela bacciceps - Good looks in the northern scarp forests
Black-necked Eremomela Eremomela atricollis - Good views of this smart species in the Mt Moco region, where found breeding
Pellorneidae Ground-Babblers
Scaly-breasted Illadopsis Illadopsis albipectus - Heard on the northern scarp (trensei, endemic)
Brown Illadopsis Illadopsis fulvescens - Seen at Kumbira (dilution, endemic)
Leiothrichidae Typical Babblers
Arrow-marked Babbler Turdoides jardineii - Seen at Kalandula (hyposticta)
Hartlaub’s Babbler Turdoides hartlaubii - Seen in the Mt Moco region (hartlaubii)
Bare-cheeked Babbler Turdoides gymnognys - Seen well inland of Benguela and below Leba pass (gymognys, endemic)
Sylvilagidae Sylvid Babblers
African Hill Babbler Pseudoalcippe abyssinica - Seen well at Mt Moco (ansorgei)
Chestnut-vented Warbler Sylvia subcaerulea - Seen inland of Benguela (ansorgei, endemic)
Zosteropidae White-eyes
African Yellow White-eye Zosterops senegalensis - Many seen (heinrichi in Uige, quanzae at Kumbira and anderssoni at Lubango)
Hyliotidae Hyliotas
Yellow-bellied Hyliotra Hyliotra flavigaster - Three sightings in Miombo (barbozae)
Southern Hyliotra Hyliotra australis - Seen at Kumbira (slatini, Forest Hyliotra)
**Certhiidae Treecreepers**

* African Spotted Creeper *Salpornis salvadori* - Seen at Mt Moco (salvadori)

**Sturnidae Starlings**

* Cape Starling *Lamprotornis nitens* - Common along the coastal plain (nitens)

**Splendid Starling** *Lamprotornis splendidus* - Seen in the north (splendidus)

**Meves’s Starling** *Lamprotornis mevesii* - Seen well near Leba (benguellensis Benguela Long-tailed Starling, endemic)

**Sharp-tailed Starling** *Lamprotornis acuticaudus* - Many good sightings in the miombo woodlands, at Kalandula and in the Mt Moco region (acuticaudus)

**Violet-backed Starling** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* - Many seen (vereuxyi)

**Chestnut-winged Starling** *Onychognathus fulgidus* - Some good views along the northern escarpment (intermedius)

**Pale-winged Starling** *Onychognathus nabouroop* - Seen in the south-west

**Narrow-tailed Starling** *Poeoptera lugubris* - Seen in the northern scarp forests

**Buphagidae Oxeckers**

* Yellow-billed Oxecker *Buphagus africanus* - A few seen in the south-west (langi)

**Turdidae Thrushes**

* White-tailed Ant Thrush *Neoscytopyrhus poensis* - Seen briefly in northern scarp forests (praepectoralis)

* Fraser’s Rufous Thrush *Stizorhina fraseri* - Seen a few times in the scarp forests (rubricauda)

* Groundscraper Thrush *Turdus litsitsirupa* - Seen in the south (pauciguttatus)

* African Thrush *Turdus pelios* - Seen several times (bocagei)

* Kurrikhane Thrush *Turdus libonyana* - Seen at Lubango (verreauxii)

**Musicipidae Chats, Old World Flycatchers**

* Forest Scrub Robin *Cercomacra leucosticta* - Super views at Muxima (reichenowi, endemic)

* Miombo Scrub Robin *Cercomacra barbata* - Nice views at Kalandula and in the Mt Moco region

* Kalahari Scrub Robin *Cercomacra paena* - Seen inland of Benguela (benguellensis)

* Brown-backed Scrub Robin *Cercomacra hartlaubi* - Seen near Quibaxe

* White-browed Scrub Robin *Cercomacra leucophrys* - Seen a few times, including near Quiteix (manda) and inland of Benguela (ovaombeana)

* Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher *Myioparus griseigeralis* - Heard only

* Grey Tit-Flycatcher *Myioparus plumbeus* - Seen at Muxima and Kalandula (catelocus)

* Angolan Slaty Flycatcher *Melaenornis brunneus* - Good looks at Tundavala and Mt Moco (endemic)

* Southern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis pammeleina* - Several sightings (pammeleina)

* Pale Flycatcher *Melaenornis pallidus* - Seen several times (mimusus)

* Chat Flycatcher *Melaenornis infuscatus* - Common in the south-west (benguellensis)

* Ashy Flycatcher *Musripipra caerulescens* - Seen along the escarpment (impavida)

* Cassin’s Flycatcher *Musripipra cassinii* - Seen on the drive to Uige

* Dusky-blue Flycatcher *Musripipra comitata* - Seen in the Quiteixe area (comitata)

* Sooty Flycatcher *Musripipra infuscata* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (infuscata)

* Brown-chested Alethe *Pseudalethe poliocephala* - Heard at Kumbira (hulle, endemic)

* Angolan Cave Chat *Cossypa ansorgei* - Superb views at Tundavala

* Grey-winged Robin-Chat *Cossypa polioptera* - Seen well at Kalandula (polioptera). Now called Grey-winged Akalat.

**White-browed Robin-Chat** *Cossypa heuglini* - Heard often and seen occasionally (subrubescens)

**White-headed Robin-Chat** *Cossypa heinrichi* - Reasonable views at Kalandula

**Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat** *Cossypa niveicapilla* - Seen briefly by some near Quibaxe

**Bocage’s Akalat** *Sheppardia bocagei* - Amazing views at Mt Moco (bocagei)

**Gabela Akalat** *Sheppardia gabela* - Amazing views at Kumbira

**Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush** *Cichladusa rugicuda* - A few good sightings along the coastal plain

**Collared Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicollis* - Terti saw one at Tundavala

**Short-toed Rock Thrush** *Monticola brevipes* - Nice looks at Tundavala (brevipes)

**Miombo Rock Thrush** *Monticola angolensis* - Nice views at Tundavala and Mt Moco (angolensis)

**African Stonechat** *Saxicola torquatus* - Regular in the highlands (stonei)

**Karoo Chat** *Emarginata schlegeli* - Several seen in the Namibe Day Trip (benguellensis). May prove to be a distinct species from the South African birds

**Tractrac Chat** *Emarginata trachrac* - One seen on the Namibe Day Trip (hoeschi)

**Sooty Chat** *Myrmecocichla nigra* - Several seen in the highlands

**Mountain Wheatear** *Myrmecocichla monticola* - Seen along the coastal plain (albipileata, endemic) and at Mt Moco (nigricauda, endemic)

**Capped Wheatear** *Oenanthe pileata* - Seen at Mt Moco (neseri)

**Familiar Chat** *Oenanthe familiaris* - Seen a few times in the south (angolensis)

**Nectariniidae Sunbirds**

* Mangrove Sunbird *Anthreptes gabanicus* - Good views at the Kwanza River

* Western Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes longuemarei* - Seen a few times in miombo (angolensis)

* Little Green Sunbird *Anthreptes seimundi* - Seen at Kumbira and in the northern escarpment (minor)

* Grey-chinned Sunbird *Anthreptes rectirostris* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (tephroalaeus)

* Collared Sunbird *Hedydipina collaris* - Seen along the escarpment (somereni)

**Green-headed Sunbird** *Cyanomitra verticalis* - Seen along the escarpment and Kalandula (cyanoccephala)

**Bannerman’s Sunbird** *Cyanomitra bannermanni* - Just one female seen and photographed by some of the group at Kalandula, where it was well outnumbered by Green-headed Sunbird

**Blue-throated Brown Sunbird** *Cyanomitra cyanolaema* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (octaviæ)

**Olive Sunbird** *Cyanomitra olivacea* - Common in forest (cephales)

**Carmelite Sunbird** *Chalcomitra fuliginosa* - Nice looks at Kumbira (fuliginosa)

**Green-throated Sunbird** *Chalcomitra rubescens* - Seen in the northern scarp forests (rubescens)

**Amethyst Sunbird** *Chalcomitra amethystina* - Seen in miombo (deminuta)

**Scarlet-chested Sunbird** *Chalcomitra senegalensis* - Several seen (saturator)

**Bocage’s Sunbird** *Nectarinia bocagii* - Michael almost certainly saw a male at Mt Moco in flight, but it could not be relocated. Everyone saw a female at Mt Moco which was later identified from photos

**Bronzy Sunbird** *Nectarinia kilimensis* - Good views in the Mt Moco region (gadowi, endemic)

**Olive-bellied Sunbird** *Cinnys chloropygius* - Seen along the escarpment (orphogaster)

**Miombo Double-collared Sunbird** *Cinnys manoeensis* - Good views in the Mt Moco region (pintoi, Western Miombo Sunbird)
Ludwig’s Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris ludovicensis* - Seen well at Tundavala and Mt Moco (endemic)

**Purple-banded Sunbird** *Cinnyris bifasciatus* - Seen along the length of the coastal plain (bifasciatus)

**Orange-tufted Sunbird** *Cinnyris bouvieri* - One male seen fairly briefly along the northern escarpment

**Superb Sunbird** *Cinnyris superbus* - Several seen along the escarpment (superbus)

**Oustale’s Sunbird** *Cinnyris oustaleti* - Nice looks in the highlands, especially in the Mt Moco region (oustaleti)

**White-bellied Sunbird** *Cinnyris talatala* - Seen in the southern lowlands (talatala)

**Variable Sunbird** *Cinnyris venustus* - Seen at Mt Moco and Tundavala (falkensteini)

**Dusky Sunbird** *Cinnyris fuscus* - Seen in the coastal deserts (inclusus)

**Bates’s Sunbird** *Cinnyris batesi* - In many towns (batesi)

**Copper Sunbird** *Cinnyris capreus* - A few seen (chalcceus)

**Passeridae Old World Sparrows**

**White-browed Sparrow-Weaver** *Plocepasser mahali* - Seen in the south-west (ansorgei)

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* - In many towns and villages

**Great Sparrow** *Passer montitensis* - Several seen inland of Benguela (benguellensis)

**Cape Sparrow** *Passer melanurus* - Seen in the south-west (damanensis)

**Northern Grey-headed Sparrow** *Passer griseus* - Seen from Muxima northwards (ugandae)

**Southern Grey-headed Sparrow** *Passer diffusus* - Seen in the south (diffusus)

**Yellow-throated Petronia** *Gymnoris superscilariis* - Seen in miombo (ruftergum)

**Ploceidae Weavers, Widowbirds**

**Red-billed Buffalo Weaver** *Bubalornis niger* - Seen inland of Benguela (niger)

**Scaly-feathered Weaver** *Sporopipes squamifrons* - Seen inland of Benguela (squamifrons)

**Thick-billed Weaver** *Amblyospiza albifrons* - Seen near Quixe (tandae)

**Black-chinned Weaver** *Ploceus nigrimentus* - Seen twice at the nest at Mt Moco

**Spectacled Weaver** *Ploceus ocularis* - Several sightings (crocutus)

**Black-necked Weaver** *Ploceus nigricolis* - Most common at Kumbira (nigricolis)

**Bogace’s Weaver** *Ploceus temporalis* - Great views of a lovely male in the Mt Moco region

**Holub’s Golden Weaver** *Ploceus xanthops* - Several sightings

**Southern Masked Weaver** *Ploceus velatus* - Non-breeding birds seen in the south (velatus)

**Village Weaver** *Ploceus cucullatus* - Fairly common and seen in breeding plumage in the north (cucullus) and below Leba Pass (nigriceps, Spotted-backed Weaver)

**Vieillo’s Black Weaver** *Ploceus nigerrimus* - Seen in the northern areas (nigerrimus)

**Yellow-mantled Weaver** *Ploceus tricolor* - Seen in the northern scarps (interscapularis)

**Compact Weaver** *Ploceus superciliosus* - Seen near Quibaxe

**Dark-backed Weaver** *Ploceus bicolor* - Seen in the scarps (amaurocephalus)

**Red-headed Malimbe** *Malimbus rubricollis* - Seen well in the scarps forests (praedi)

**Crested Malimbe** *Malimbus malimbicus* - One seen by Tertius along the northern escarpment (malimbicus)

**Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea* - Seen on the coastal plain (lathamii)

**Black-winged Red Bishop** *Euplectes hordeaceus* - Seen on the drive to Uige (hordeaceus)

**Golden-backed Bishop** *Euplectes aureus* - Non-breeding birds seen well at Muxima

**Yellow Bishop** *Euplectes capensis* - Quite common in the highlands (angolensis)

**Fan-tailed Widowbird** *Euplectes axillaris* - A few seen in the highlands (bogacei)

**Yellow-mantled Widowbird** *Euplectes macroura* - Non-breeding males seen along the northern escarpment (macroura)

**Marsh Widowbird** *Euplectes hartlaubi* - Several non-breeding males seen well in the Mt Moco region (hartlaubi)

**White-winged Widowbird** *Euplectes albonotatus* - Non-breeding males seen at Muxima (asymmetrurus)

**Red-collared Widowbird** *Euplectes ardens* - Seen at Mt Moco

**Estrildidae Waxbills, Munias & Allies**

**White-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita fusconotus* - Common along the northern scarp (fusconotus)

**Grey-headed Nigrita** *Nigrita canicapillus* - Seen along the escarpment (angolensis)

**Orange-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia atra* - A couple of sightings in the Mt Moco region and at Kalandula

**Green-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia melba* - Seen along the coastal plain (melba)

**Red-headed Finch** *Amadina erythrocephala* - Seen on the Namibe Day Trip

**Red-headed Bluebill** *Spermophaga ruficapilla* - Heard at Kumbira and seen briefly near Quixe (ruficapilla)

**Brown Twospot** *Clytospiza monteiri* - Seen near Quibaxe

**Dusky Twospot** *Estrilda paludicola* - Seen at Mt Moco (muelleri; African Quailfinch) and in the surrounding region (fuscata; Black-chinned Quailfinch)

**Locust Finch** *Paludipasser locustella* - Good views of males and females on the ground in the Mt Moco region (wolterisi)

**Bronze Mannikin** *Lonchura bicolor* - Seen several times (scutata)

**Black-and-white Mannikin** *Lonchura bicolor* - Seen along the escarpment (wolterisi)

**Viduidae Indigobirds, Whydahs**

**Dusky Indigobird** *Vidua funerea* - Seen at Kalandula (nigerrima). Identification based on it being the only indigobird there

**Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura* - Only non-breeding birds seen

**Broad-tailed Paradise Whydah** *Vidua obtusa* - Seen at Kalandula in non-breeding plumage
Motacillidae Wagtails, Pipits
Cape Wagtail *Motacilla capensis* - Seen by Michael and Tertius en route to Huambo (simplicissima)
African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* - Seen on the drive to Uíge (vidua)
Fülleborn’s Longclaw *Macronyx fueleborni* - Seen a few times in the Mt Moco area and at Tundavala (ascensi)
African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus* - Seen a few times (bocagei)
Long-billed Pipit *Anthus similis* - Seen on top of Mt Moco (moco)
Wood Pipit *Anthus nyasae* - Seen a few times in the Mt Moco region (schoutedeni)
Buffy Pipit *Anthus vaalensis* - Seen at Tundavala (neumannii)
Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys* - Several sightings (bohndorffi)
Long-legged Pipit *Anthus pallidiventris* - One at the Kwanza River
Striped Pipit *Anthus lineiventris* - Seen very well at Mt Moco and Tundavala

**Fringillidae Finches**
Black-faced Canary *Crithagra capistrata* - Good sightings on several occasions (hildegardae at Moco, capistratus elsewhere)

**Black-throated Canary** *Crithagra atragularis* - Seen in the Mt Moco region (lwenarum)
**Yellow-fronted Canary** *Crithagra mozambica* - Several sightings (tando in the north, samaliyae in the south)
**Brimstone Canary** *Crithagra sulphurata* - Seen a few times (sharpii)
**White-throated Canary** *Crithagra albogularis* - Seen in the south-west (crocopygia)
**Thick-billed Seedeater** *Crithagra burtoni* - Seen at Mt Moco (tanganjicae)
**Yellow-crowned Canary** *Serinus flavivertex* - Seen at Tundavala and Mt Moco (huillensis, endemic)

**Emberizidae Buntings**
Lark-like Bunting *Emberiza impetuani* - Seen in the coastal deserts (eremica)
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting *Emberiza tahapisi* - Seen at Tundavala and Mt Moco (nivenorum)
Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris* - Seen at Tundavala (princeps)
Cabanis’s Bunting *Emberiza cabanisi* - Seen at Kalandula (orientalis)
Angola Lark

Monteiro’s Bushshrike

Pale-olive Greenbul

Gabela Akalat