

NATURETREK

WESTERN CAPE

* South Africa *

26th September – 6th October 2008

Trip Report



Above: Shy Albatross on Pelagic Trip.

Tour Summary

Tour Participants:

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Claire Joures

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Total Distance Travelled: 1716 km

Temperature Range: 9°C - 27°C

Total Number of Birds Seen: 214

Total Number of Mammals Seen: 18

Trip Report Compiled By:

Leon Marais on behalf of Naturetrek

Below: Blue Cranes near Caledon



Note:

The species mentioned in the report are only some of the species seen at each locality. Please refer to detailed checklists at end of report as to all species seen on this specific tour.

Trip Breakdown

Day 1: Friday, 26th September 2008 ~ Cape Peninsula

Route: CT International Airport to Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens

Distance: 50 km

Weather: cool and breezy, heavy cloud but no rain

Temperature range: 9 – 18 °C

Day 2: Saturday, 27th September 2008 ~ Afton Grove, Simons Town

Route: Simon's Town, Boulder's Beach and Cape Point Nature Reserve (part of Table Mountain National Park).

Distance: 89km

Weather: sunny and cool

Temperature range: 10 – 19 °C

Day 3: Sunday, 28th September 2008 ~ Cape Peninsula

Route: pelagic trip in the morning; Kommetjie in the afternoon.

Distance: 40km

Weather: sunny and warm

Temperature range: 12 – 22 °C

Day 4: Monday, 29th September 2008 ~ Cape Peninsula

Route: Noordhoek to Koeberg Nature Reserve; Durbanville Hills back to Noordhoek

Distance: 176.5 km

Weather: cool and windy with rain

Temperature range: 10 – 15 °C

Day 5: Tuesday, 30th September 2008 ~ Hermanus

Route: Strandfontein Sewage Works; Rooi Els, Harold Porter Botanical Gardens, Hermanus.

Distance: 180 km

Weather: cool and cloudy to start, clearing in the afternoon

Temperature range: 10 – 22 °C

Day 6: Wednesday, 1st October 2008 ~ Hermanus

Route: cliff path walk before breakfast; drive to Caledon via Hemel-en-Aarde Valley

Distance: 136 km

Weather: partly cloudy and cool

Temperature range: 10 – 19 °C

Day 7: Thursday, 2nd October 2008 ~ Swellendam

Route: Hermanus to Swellendam to Bontebok National Park

Distance: 178 km

Weather: cold and windy with rain, some sun in the afternoon.

Temperature range: 9 – 14 °C

Day 8: Friday, 3rd October 2008 ~ Swellendam

Route: Swellendam to De Hoop Nature Reserve

Distance: 190 km

Weather: partly cloudy and cool

Temperature range: 10 – 20 °C

Day 9: Saturday, 4th October 2008 ~ Ceres

Route: Swellendam to Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve; Ceres via Robertson.

Distance: 293 km

Weather: clear and warm

Temperature range: 12 – 23 °C

Day 10: Sunday, 5th October 2008 ~ Ceres

Route: Ceres to Skitterykloof in the Tankwa Karoo

Distance: 198 km

Weather: sunny and clear, with a cool breeze

Temperature range: 9 – 22 °C

Day 11: Monday, 6th October 2008 ~ Departure

Route: Ceres to Cape Town International Airport via Bainskloof Pass and Paarl Bird Sanctuary.

Distance: 185 km

Weather: warm and clear

Temperature range: 13 – 26 °C

TRIP REPORT

Day 1: Friday, 26th September 2008 ~ Afton Grove

The group arrived early on Friday morning and soon we were on our way out of the airport, heading towards the iconic chunk of granite and sandstone known as Table Mountain. We skirted around the eastern side of the mountain and made our way to the famous Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens. Here we got ourselves organised and ready for our first taste of Western Cape birding and forged on into the expansive gardens. The weather was mediocre; quite cool and cloudy but at least not raining! Making our way uphill we were dazzled by the variety of plants, and recorded the first birds such as Cape Turtle Dove, Cape Francolin, Helmeted Guineafowl, Cape Bulbul, Olive Thrush, Cape Robin-Chat, Karoo Prinia, Dusky Flycatcher, Southern Boubou, Forest Canary and Spotted Eagle Owl (not a bad start!). Higher up in the Protea / Leucodendron section we had some dazzling sunbird sightings, which included close-up views of Malachite Sunbird as well as the endemic Orange-Breasted and Southern Double-collared Sunbirds. We then had a wonderful lunch at the restaurant and some time in the shop before heading on to the village of Noordhoek where our guest house for the next four nights awaited. Surprisingly there was still energy to spare and as a last activity for the day we took a stroll around the wetlands across the road from the guesthouse, where we recorded Cape and Hartlaub's Gulls, Red-knobbed Coot, Common Fiscal, Speckled Pigeon and a few other species for the day. Later we met to fill in the first day's log and discuss the following day's plans before enjoying a wonderful dinner and some well-deserved rest.

Daily Total: 41

Trip Total: 41

Bird of the day: Spotted Eagle Owl

Day 2: Saturday, 27th September 2008 ~ Cape Peninsula

Day 2 dawned as fair and mild as it can get in the Cape, heralding two days of absolutely perfect weather. We began with an early breakfast and afterwards boarded the vehicles for a day of touring and birding on



the Peninsula. Close to Simon's Town we had our first views of what would be the most common mammal seen on the trip – the Southern Right Whale, several of which were resting in shallow water less than 100 yards from the shore. Our next stop was at the Boulder's Beach African Penguin colony (left), the biggest of only two mainland nesting colonies, where of course we had plenty of close-up views of this endemic marine bird. Also visible were Cape and Hartlaub's Gulls, as well as huge flocks of Cape Cormorants flying across False Bay in the direction of the open sea.

Moving on we drove south towards Cape Point, with wonderful views of False Bay on our left. At Cape Point Nature Reserve we took it slow and began some serious birding, recording Common Ostrich, Yellow Bishop, Cape Sugarbird, Malachite Sunbird, Black-headed Heron, Jackal Buzzard, Rock Kestrel, African Black Oystercatcher, Cape Gannet, Rock Martin, White-necked Raven, Cape Grassbird, Zitting and Grey Backed Cisticolas, Cape Longclaw, Bokmakierie, Red-winged Starling, Common Waxbill, Cape Siskin, Cape Bunting and others as birds for the day. At Cape Point itself we had lunch in the Two Oceans Restaurant and then took a trip up the funicular to the lighthouse right on the point. From here we had stunning views of False Bay and the Atlantic Ocean to the south, and spotted a Southern Right Whale and an Ocean Sunfish (probably Mola mola, a species which currently holds the record weight for bony fish). We then headed back down to the cars and drove on to the Cape of Good Hope, which forms the most south-western point on the African continent. Here we set up the scopes and spent some time searching for

marine birds before heading back to Noordhoek for some relaxation after a superb day. In the early evening we then met up for drinks and the day's list before a wonderful dinner at the guest house.

Daily Total: 45
New Birds: 24
Trip Total: 65
Bird of the day: Cape Sugarbird.

Day 3: Sunday, 28th September 2008 ~ Cape Peninsula

We awoke primed for our big day: the pelagic birding trip. Thankfully the weather played along and it was as good a day as one can get in the Cape. We met the boat, the Blue Pointer, at Simon's Town and were soon heading out past the navy ships into the waters of False Bay. We passed several Southern Right Whales and managed to spot Bank Cormorants in flight before the throttles were pushed forward and we made for the open seas. As we passed through the mouth of False Bay the swells became much larger and soon Cape Point was retreating into the distance behind us (right). The trick to a successful pelagic trip is to find a trawler, which is where one will find the birds. We received news over the radio that some trawlers had been found and shortly thereafter we caught sight of one, with a veritable haze in the wake which, upon getting closer, one realises is actually a swarm of birds. As we pulled in behind the trawler we began to identify them: White-chinned Petrel (by far the most common pelagic sea bird here); Wilson's and European Storm Petrels, Pintado Petrel, Shy and Black-browed Albatrosses; Great and Sooty Shearwaters; Subantarctic Skua and Sabine's Gull. Although there were only 10 species or so to be seen, the numbers of birds were absolutely staggering and it was incredibly thrilling to have a huge albatross glide by effortlessly only meters away. Also thrilling were the marine mammals, such as a huge pod of 100+ Common Dolphins swimming right by us, a smaller pod of Bottle-nosed Dolphins and plenty of Cape Fur Seals. After a couple of hours we then turned and headed back to Simon's Town, with a few stops to view the Cape, Bank, Crowned and White-breasted Cormorant nesting sites on small off-shore islands in False Bay. We docked at lunchtime and had some time in Simon's Town for strolling around and finding a bite to eat before heading back to Afton Grove. Some elected to disembark there while the rest drove down to the small village of Kommetjie for some more birding. There's a large tern roost there, and despite studying each individual closely for slight differences we could only find three species among the hundreds: Swift, Common and Sandwich Terns. Other birds recorded included Common Sandpiper, White-fronted Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Common Whimbrel, Little Egret, Sacred Ibis and the usual aggregations of cormorants. Soon the afternoon was drawing to a close and we headed back to the comfort of our guest house and later headed down to The Nag's Head for dinner.



Daily Total: 52
New Birds: 22
Trip Total: 87
Bird of the day: Shy and Black-browed Albatrosses

Day 4: Monday, 29th September 2008 ~ Cape Peninsula

After a weekend of brilliant weather the Cape was back to her old self. We awoke to heavy cloud racing across the sky and plenty of rain, which put paid to our plans of going up Table Mountain. Instead we drove up the West Coast a little way to the Koeberg Nature Reserve, which surrounds the Koeberg Nuclear Power Station. No three-eyed, glowing birds were seen, but we did manage to record some new species such as Great Crested and Little Grebe, Great White Pelican, Reed Cormorant, White-backed Duck, South African Shelduck, Cape Shoveller, Spur-winged Goose, Blue Crane (the first of many), Kittlitz's Plover, Black-winged Stilt, Water Thick-Knee, White-rumped and Little Swifts, White-backed Mousebird, Pied Kingfisher, Capped Wheatear, Karoo Scrub-Robin, Cape Sparrow, Southern Masked Weaver, Southern Red Bishop, Yellow Canary and others on a morning that was surprisingly productive despite the inclement weather. We stopped for lunch at Hillcrest Winery in the Durbanville Hills area, and during lunch it became apparent that the rain was only getting heavier. We drove back in the direction of Cape town and hoped to be able to visit the Strandfontein Sewage Works on the way back, but the rain was just too heavy and we decided to call it a day.

Daily Total: 74

New Birds: 29
Trip Total: 116
Bird of the day: Southern Red Bishop

Day 5: Tuesday, 30th September 2008 ~ Hermanus

Leaving the peninsula: after breakfast we departed for Hermanus, the next stop on the tour. On the Cape Flats we stopped off at Strandfontein for a good dose of water birds (below), and we weren't disappointed either. Highlights included a flock of over a thousand Greater Flamingos in flight and abundant water birds such as Black-necked Grebes by the hundreds, African Darter, Grey, Black-headed and Purple Herons, Black-crowned Night-Heron, many different duck species, African Marsh Harrier, African Purple Swamphen, Spotted Thick-Knee, Grey-headed Gull, White-throated Swallow and others. In the mid-morning we left Strandfontein and drove around False Bay to Rooi Els along one of the top scenic drives in the region, with the Hottentots Holland mountains rising high above us on the left and the ocean crashing onto the rocks below us to the right. At Rooi Els we stopped to look for one of the top birds for the region, the Cape Rockjumper. We found two birds after some patient scanning of the rocky slopes, and also recorded Ground Woodpecker, another fantastic endemic bird. We then headed on to the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens near Betty's Bay, where we had lunch and did some more fynbos birding. Top bird for the afternoon was the skulking Victorin's Warbler, although only a few of the group could claim to have had any decent views of it. We then pushed on to Hermanus, a small seaside town on Walker Bay, where we checked into the Windsor Hotel. Southern Right Whales were common in the bay, and as a last afternoon activity we had a short walk along the sea cliffs in front of the town. Later, after going through the bird list at the bar, we drove a short way down to a restaurant at the new harbour for a fantastic dinner.



Daily Total: 98
New Birds: 29
Trip Total: 145
Bird of the day: Cape Rockjumper

Day 6: Wednesday, 1st October 2008 ~ Hermanus

We began our full day in the area with a walk along the sea cliffs before breakfast. After the meal we hit the shops for some lunch goodies and then set off on a long birding drive into the interior, heading up through the scenic Hemel-en-Aarde Valei (Heave and Earth Valley). Birds recorded included African Spoonbill, South African Shelduck, African Fish Eagle, Black Harrier, African Harrier-Hawk, Alpine Swift, Red-capped Lark, Greater Striped Swallow, African Stonechat, African Pipit, Pied Starling, and hundreds of Blue Cranes. We stopped for a wonderful picnic lunch next to a small stream, where we were entertained by the breeding antics of Southern Red Bishops, Southern Masked and Cape Weavers. After getting a bit lost in the farmlands we headed back to Hermanus via the Bot River estuary, where Three-banded Plover was about the only new record, and arrived back in at the hotel (above) to have some free-time before dinner.



Daily Total: 79
New Birds: 14
Trip Total: 159
Bird of the day: Blue Crane

Day 7: Thursday, 2nd October 2008 ~ Swellendam

We awoke to steady rain and low cloud rolling in from the west: the predicted cold front had arrived! We departed after breakfast and drove on to Swellendam, a small agricultural town (dating back to 1745) at the foot of the Langeberg Range. In Swellendam we bought some provisions and headed into Bontebok

National Park for the afternoon. This small park was established to conserve the last remaining Bontebok, a sunning antelope that was nearly hunted to extinction by the early settlers. The gravel plains, limestone ridges and Acacia karoo thickets produced birds such as Common Quail, Denham's Bustard, Southern Black Korhaan, African Hoopoe, Acacia Pied Barbet, Large-billed Lark, Pearl-breasted Swallow, Bar-throated Apalis, Fiscal Flycatcher, White-throated Canary and others, as well as spectacular Bontebok, Red Hartebeest and Cape Mountain Zebra. Amazingly the weather improved drastically and by the afternoon we had full sunshine to end off the day. In the evening we met in the restaurant for drinks and list-duties, and then a wonderful Cape-style dinner at the guest house.

Daily Total: 77
New Birds: 7
Trip Total: 166
Bird of the day: Denham's Bustard

Day 8: Friday, 3rd October 2008 ~ Swellendam

After a good night's rest we met early at the vehicles for a day trip to De Hoop Nature Reserve on the coast. However our first recorded bird for the day was a Spotted Eagle Owl, seen in a large oak tree next to the parking area while we were getting ready. Heading on to De Hoop we passed through extensive agricultural regions on the Agulhas Plain, and recoded Agulhas Long-billed Lark, Large-billed Lark (left), Hamerkop, Giant Kingfisher and Wattled Starling on the way there. We spent most of the day in the reserve, exploring the regions along the Breede River, the fynbos, plains and coastal regions. Birds recorded included Greater Double-collared Sunbird, Brimstone Canary, Streaky-headed Seed-eater, Southern Tchagra, Red-faced Mousebird, Greater Honeyguide, Caspian Tern, Grey-winged Francolin, Karoo Korhaan and Cape Vulture as some exciting new species. All in all De Hoop is a fantastic reserve, with a wide variety of habitats and lots to keep one occupied for a full day. We returned to Swellendam in the late afternoon and as usual had time to relax after a full day of birding before completing the list (with the Spotted Eagle Owl flying onto a roof top across the road as the last bird of the day) and enjoying another wonderful meal.



Daily Total: 103
New Birds: 14
Trip Total: 180
Bird of the day: Agulhas Long-billed Lark

Day 9: Saturday, 4th October 2008 ~ Ceres

Once again we left early with a packed breakfast and headed into Groovadersbosch, a nature reserve with 250 hectares of indigenous forest not far from Swellendam. On the edge of the forest, feeding in a horse paddock, we saw a large flock of Swee Waxbills, Forest and Brimstone Canaries. In the forest we saw Olive Bush Shrike, Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher, Cape Batis, Yellow-throated Woodland-Warbler and Grey Cuckoo-Shrike, making up the predicted five forest species for the morning (South African forests generally hold low numbers of birds, when compared to tropical forests, and one should not expect too much from one morning's birding, though the species one does see are well worth the effort and frustration). We had our picnic breakfast in a hide deep in the forest and then headed back to the cars to continue the journey on to Ceres, which took us through the most wonderfully scenic flowering desert. After checking in to our guest house and having a bit of rest we took a drive up the Gydo Pass to look for Protea Seed-eater, an uncommon and localised species which is found on Protea covered hillsides. We didn't manage to locate any however, and after an hour of searching headed back to town for rest, drinks, list-duties and dinner.

Daily Total: 75
New Birds: 8
Trip Total: 188
Bird of the day: Swee Waxbill

Day 10: Sunday, 5th October 2008 ~ Ceres

On our last full day of the tour we left Ceres very early and headed north into the Tankwa Karoo, a dry, desolate region of the interior that provides good Karoo birding and a chance to rack up quite a few new species. We arrived in the area at sunrise and birded our way slowly to Skitterykloof, a well-wooded ravine

where we had our breakfast. After spending some time birding in Skitterykloof we drove a bit further into the Tankwa Karoo before turning back and heading home slowly to Ceres. Birding highlights included a pair of Verreaux's Eagles flying low overhead, a Spotted Eagle Owl roosting among the rocks, several small flocks of the uncommon and highly nomadic Black-eared Finchlark and a host of new birds which included Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk, Ruff (yes, there are even some water birds out there), Namaqua Dove, European Bee-eater, Karoo and Spike-heeled Larks, Southern Grey Tit, Mountain Wheatear, Tractrac, Karoo and Sickle-winged Chats, Layard's and Chestnut-vented Tit-Babblers, Long-billed Crombec, Karoo Eremomela, Rufous-eared Warbler, Pririt Batis, Fairy Flycatcher, Dusky Sunbird and Black-headed Canary. Not a bad haul for the last full day of the trip, and a testament to the worth of including this region in the itinerary. We arrived back in the late afternoon and, after an official end to the tour, had a wonderful final dinner of chicken and lamb curry.

Daily Total: 88
 New Birds: 23
 Trip Total: 211
 Bird of the day: Verreaux's Eagle

Day 11: Sunday, 6th October 2008 ~ Departure

On our final morning about half of the group decided to join in on a last try for the Protea Seed-eater on the Gydo Pass. We left at 7:30 AM and stopped at one of the view sites on the pass high above the Ceres Valley. A quick play of the call brought in a pair from the slope below us, and we were rewarded with good close-up views of one of the birds, making the effort most worthwhile. We then headed back to the guesthouse for a final cooked breakfast before departing for Cape Town and the airport. Our route took us up the spectacular Bainskloof Pass, down through Wellington and Paarl to the Paarl Bird Sanctuary, the fancy name for the town's sewage treatment plant. There were lots of water birds about, but the only new species recorded were Malachite Kingfisher, Lesser Swamp and African Reed Warblers. For lunch we headed on to Siedelberg Winery for lunch with a fantastic view of the winelands, Franschhoek Valley and Table Mountain in the distance. After lunch it was time to head on to the airport, where we said farewells and ended a most fantastic Western Cape birding and wildlife tour.

Daily Total: 74
 New Birds: 4
 Trip Total: 214
 Bird of the day: Protea Seed-eater

BIRD LIST

	COMMON NAME	26-Sep-08	27-Sep-08	28-Sep-08	29-Sep-08	30-Sep-08	01-Oct-08	02-Oct-08	03-Oct-08	04-Oct-08	05-Oct-08	06-Oct-08	Days seen	SCIENTIFIC NAME
1	Common Ostrich		X					X	X				3	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
3	African Penguin (E)		X	X									2	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>
6	Great Crested Grebe				X	X	X		X		X	X	6	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
7	Black-necked Grebe					X					X	X	3	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>
8	Little Grebe				X	X	X	X			X	X	7	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
11	Shy Albatross			X									1	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>
12	Black-Browed Albatross			X									1	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>
21	Pintado Petrel			X									1	<i>Daption capense</i>
32	White-Chinned Petrel			X									1	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>
35	Great Shearwater			X									1	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>
37	Sooty Shearwater			X									1	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>
42	European Storm-Petrel			X									1	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>
44	Wilson's Storm-Petrel			X									1	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>
49	Great White Pelican				X	X			X				3	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
53	Cape Gannet (E)		X	X									2	<i>Morus capensis</i>
55	White-breasted Cormorant		X	X	X	X	X		X			X	7	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>
56	Cape Cormorant (E)		X	X			X						3	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>
57	Bank Cormorant (E)			X									1	<i>Phalacrocorax neglectus</i>
58	Reed Cormorant				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		7	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>

	COMMON NAME	26-Sep-08	27-Sep-08	28-Sep-08	29-Sep-08	30-Sep-08	01-Oct-08	02-Oct-08	03-Oct-08	04-Oct-08	05-Oct-08	06-Oct-08	Days seen	SCIENTIFIC NAME
59	Crowned Cormorant (E)			X									1	<i>Phalacrocorax coronatus</i>
60	African Darter			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	7	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>
62	Grey Heron			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	8	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
63	Black-headed Heron		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	8	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
65	Purple Heron	X				X							2	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
67	Little Egret	X		X	X	X			X			X	6	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
71	Cattle Egret				X	X			X	X	X	X	6	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
76	Black-crowned Night-Heron					X			X			X	3	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
81	Hamerkop								X				1	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
91	African Sacred Ibis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
93	Glossy Ibis					X					X	X	3	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
94	Hadeda Ibis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
95	African Spoonbill						X		X			X	3	<i>Platalea alba</i>
96	Greater Flamingo					X							1	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
99	White-faced Duck					X						X	2	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
101	White-backed Duck				X	X							2	<i>Thalassornis leucotis</i>
102	Egyptian Goose	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
103	South African Shelduck (E)				X		X				X	X	4	<i>Tadorna cana</i>
104	Yellow-billed Duck	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	<i>Anas undulata</i>
923	Mallard				X								1	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
106	Cape Teal					X					X	X	3	<i>Anas capensis</i>
108	Red-billed Teal					X						X	2	<i>Anas erythrorhynchos</i>
112	Cape Shoveler (E)				X	X	X		X		X	X	6	<i>Anas smithii</i>
113	Southern Pochard					X						X	2	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>
116	Spur-winged Goose				X	X	X	X	X	X			6	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>
117	Maccoa Duck					X			X			X	3	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>
122	Cape Vulture								X				1	<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>
126b	Yellow-billed Kite				X	X	X	X	X	X			6	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
127	Black-shouldered Kite			X	X	X	X	X		X	X		7	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
131	Verreaux's Eagle										X		1	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>
136	Booted Eagle									X	X		2	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>
148	African Fish Eagle						X		X		X		3	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
149	Steppe Buzzard	X						X			X	X	4	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
152	Jackal Buzzard (E)		X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	8	<i>Buteo rufufuscus</i>
162	Southern Pale Chantrelle Goshawk (NE)									X	X		2	<i>Melierax canorus</i>
165	African Marsh-Harrier					X							1	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>
168	Black Harrier (E)						X	X	X		X	X	5	<i>Circus maurus</i>
169	African Harrier-Hawk						X			X		X	3	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>
181	Rock Kestrel		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	<i>Falco rupicolis</i>
190	Grey-winged Francolin (E)								X				1	<i>Scleroptila africana</i>
195	Cape Francolin (E)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	10	<i>Pternistes capensis</i>
200	Common Quail							X					1	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>
203	Helmeted Guineafowl	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
208	Blue Crane (E)				X	X	X	X	X				6	<i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>
223	African Purple Swamphen					X						X	2	<i>Porphyrion madagascariensis</i>
226	Common Moorhen			X	X	X				X	X	X	6	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
228	Red-knobbed Coot	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	<i>Fulica cristata</i>
231	Denham's Bustard						X	X	X	X			4	<i>Neotis denhami</i>
235	Karoo Korhaan (E)								X				1	<i>Eupodotis vigorsii</i>
239a	Southern Black Korhaan (E)							X					1	<i>Eupodotis afra</i>
244	African Black Oystercatcher (E)		X	X	X		X		X				5	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>
246	White-fronted Plover			X									1	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>

	COMMON NAME	26-Sep-08	27-Sep-08	28-Sep-08	29-Sep-08	30-Sep-08	01-Oct-08	02-Oct-08	03-Oct-08	04-Oct-08	05-Oct-08	06-Oct-08	Days seen	SCIENTIFIC NAME
248	Kittlitz's Plover				X						X		2	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
249	Three-banded Plover						X		X		X	X	4	<i>Charadrius tricoloris</i>
255	Crowned Lapwing		X	X	X				X	X			5	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
258	Blacksmith Lapwing	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10	<i>Vanellus amatus</i>
262	Ruddy Turnstone			X									1	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
264	Common Sandpiper			X								X	2	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
270	Common Greenshank				X	X					X		3	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
284	Ruff										X		1	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
286	African Snipe					X							1	<i>Gallinago nigripennis</i>
290	Common Whimbrel			X									1	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
294	Pied Avocet										X		1	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
295	Black-winged Stilt				X	X		X			X		4	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
297	Spotted Thick-knee					X		X					2	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>
298	Water Thick-Knee				X								1	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
310	Subantarctic Skua			X									1	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>
312	Cape Gull	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	9	<i>Larus vetula</i>
315	Grey-headed Gull					X							1	<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>
316	Hartlaub's Gull (E)	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	8	<i>Larus hartlaubii</i>
318	Sabine's Gull			X									1	<i>Larus sabini</i>
322	Caspian Tern								X				1	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
324	Swift Tern			X	X	X	X		X				5	<i>Sterna bergii</i>
326	Sandwich Tern		X	X	X		X						4	<i>Sterna sandwicensis</i>
327	Common Tern			X	X		X						3	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
348	Rock Dove	X			X	X							3	<i>Columba livia</i>
349	Speckled Pigeon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				9	<i>Columba guinea</i>
350	African Olive-Pigeon									X			1	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>
352	Red-eyed Dove	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
354	Cape Turtle-Dove	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
355	Laughing Dove	X			X	X	X		X	X		X	7	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
356	Namaqua Dove										X		1	<i>Oena capensis</i>
401	Spotted Eagle-Owl	X							X		X		3	<i>Bubo africanus</i>
412	African Black Swift						X	X					2	<i>Apus barbatus</i>
415	White-rumped Swift				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	<i>Apus caffer</i>
417	Little Swift				X	X	X	X				X	5	<i>Apus affinis</i>
418	Alpine Swift						X	X	X	X			4	<i>Apus melba</i>
424	Speckled Mousebird					X		X	X	X			4	<i>Colius striatus</i>
425	White-backed Mousebird (E)				X						X		2	<i>Colius colius</i>
426	Red-faced Mousebird								X				1	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>
428	Pied Kingfisher				X								1	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
429	Giant Kingfisher								X				1	<i>Ceryle maxima</i>
431	Malachite Kingfisher											X	1	<i>Alcedo cristata</i>
438	European Bee-eater									€	X		1	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
451	African Hoopoe							X	X	X			3	<i>Upupa africana</i>
465	Acacia Pied Barbet (NE)							X			X		2	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>
474	Greater Honeyguide								X				1	<i>Indicator indicator</i>
480	Ground Woodpecker (E)					X							1	<i>Geocolaptes olivaceus</i>
488	Olive Woodpecker									X			1	<i>Dendropicos griseacephalus</i>
500	Agulhas Long-billed Lark (E)								X				1	<i>Certhilauda brevirostris</i>
502	Karoo Lark (E)										X		1	<i>Certhilauda albescens</i>
506	Spike-heeled Lark										X		1	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>
507	Red-capped Lark						X	X					2	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>
512	Large-billed Lark (E)							X	X		X		3	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>

	COMMON NAME	26-Sep-08	27-Sep-08	28-Sep-08	29-Sep-08	30-Sep-08	01-Oct-08	02-Oct-08	03-Oct-08	04-Oct-08	05-Oct-08	06-Oct-08	Days seen	SCIENTIFIC NAME
517	Black-eared Sparrowlark (E)										X		1	<i>Eremopterix australis</i>
520	White-throated Swallow					X				X		X	3	<i>Hirundo albicollis</i>
523	Pearl-breasted Swallow							X	X				2	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>
526	Greater Striped Swallow (E)						X	X	X	X	X	X	6	<i>Hirundo cucullata</i>
529	Rock Martin		X			X	X	X	X	X	X		7	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>
533	Brown-throated Martin				X	X		X		X		X	5	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
536	Black Saw-wing					X		X	X				3	<i>Psalidoprocne holomelas</i>
540	Grey Cuckoo-Shrike									X			1	<i>Coracina caesia</i>
541	Fork-tailed Drongo					X	X	X	X	X		X	6	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
547	Cape Crow						X	X	X	X			4	<i>Corvus capensis</i>
548	Pied Crow	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	10	<i>Corvus albus</i>
549	House Crow	X											1	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
550	White-necked Raven	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>
551	Grey Tit (E)										X		1	<i>Parus afer</i>
566	Cape Bulbul (E)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>
572	Sombre Greenbul					X		X	X				3	<i>Andropadus imberbus</i>
577	Olive Thrush	X				X		X		X		X	5	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>
581	Cape Rock-Thrush (E)					X							1	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>
586	Mountain Wheatear (NE)										X		1	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>
587	Capped Wheatear				X		X		X		X		4	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>
589	Familiar Chat					X					X		2	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>
590	Tractrac Chat (NE)										X		1	<i>Cercomela tractrac</i>
591	Sickle-winged Chat (E)										X		1	<i>Cercomela sinuata</i>
592	Karoo Chat (NE)										X		1	<i>Cercomela schlegelii</i>
596	African Stonechat						X	X	X	X			4	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>
601	Cape Robin-Chat	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>
611	Cape Rock-Jumper (E)					X							1	<i>Chaetops frenatus</i>
614	Karoo Scrub-Robin (E)				X			X	X		X		4	<i>Erythropygia coryphoetus</i>
621	Chestnut-vented Tit-babbler (NE)										X		1	<i>Parisoma subcaeruleum</i>
622	Layard's Tit-babbler (E)										X		1	<i>Parisoma layardi</i>
631	African Reed-Warbler											X	1	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>
635	Lesser Swamp-Warbler											X	1	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>
638	Little Rush-Warbler					X						X	2	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>
641	Victorin's Warbler (E)					X							1	<i>Bradypterus victorini</i>
644	Yellow-throated Woodland-Warbler									X			1	<i>Phylloscopus ruficapilla</i>
645	Bar-throated Apalis							X	X	X			3	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>
651	Long-billed Crombec										X		1	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>
654	Karoo Eremomela (NE)										X		1	<i>Eremomela gregalis</i>
661	Cape Grassbird (E)		X						X				2	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>
664	Zitting Cisticola		X			X	X						3	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
669	Grey-backed Cisticola (NE)		X		X	X		X	X	X	X		7	<i>Cisticola subnubicapillus</i>
677	Levaillant's Cisticola	X											1	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>
681	Neddicky					X							1	<i>Cisticola fulvicapillus</i>
686a	Karoo Prinia (E)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>
688	Rufous-eared Warbler (E)										X		1	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>
690	African Dusky Flycatcher	X			X	X	X			X			5	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>
698	Fiscal Flycatcher (E)					X	X	X	X	X		X	6	<i>Sigelus silens</i>
700	Cape Batis (E)					X				X			2	<i>Batis capensis</i>
703	Priit Batis (NE)										X		1	<i>Batis priit</i>
706	Fairy Flycatcher (E)										X		1	<i>Stenostira scita</i>
708	Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher									X			1	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>

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710	African Paradise Fly catcher					X	X		X				3	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>
713	Cape Wagtail		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
716	African Pipit						X	X	X				3	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>
727	Cape Longclaw (E)		X						X				2	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>
732	Common Fiscal	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	9	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
736	Southern Boubou (E)	X							X				2	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>
742	Southern Tchagra (E)								X				1	<i>Tchagra tchagra</i>
746	Bokmakierie (E)		X		X			X	X		X		5	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>
750	Olive Bush-Shrike									X			1	<i>Telophorus olivaceus</i>
757	Common Starling	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10	<i>Stumus vulgaris</i>
759	Pied Starling (E)				X		X	X	X	X	X	X	7	<i>Spreo bicolor</i>
760	Wattled Starling								X				1	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>
769	Red-winged Starling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	10	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>
773	Cape Sugarbird (E)		X			X			X	X			4	<i>Promerops cafer</i>
775	Malachite Sunbird	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	9	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>
777	Orange-breasted Sunbird (E)	X	X			X			X	X		X	6	<i>Nectarinia violacea</i>
783	Southern Double-collared Sunbird (E)	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		8	<i>Nectarinia chalybea</i>
785	Greater Double-collared Sunbird (E)								X	X			2	<i>Nectarinia afra</i>
788	Dusky Sunbird (NE)										X		1	<i>Nectarinia fusca</i>
796	Cape White-eye (E)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	11	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>
801	House Sparrow		X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	8	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
803	Cape Sparrow (NE)				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	<i>Passer melanurus</i>
804	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow						X	X					2	<i>Passer diffusus</i>
813	Cape Weaver (E)	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	9	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>
814	Southern Masked-Weaver				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
824	Southern Red Bishop				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	<i>Euplectes orix</i>
827	Yellow Bishop		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		8	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>
846	Common Waxbill		X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	8	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
850	Sweet Waxbill (E)	X								X			2	<i>Estrilda melanotis</i>
868	Common Chaffinch	X	X		X	X							4	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
872	Cape Canary	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	10	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>
873	Forest Canary (E)	X								X			2	<i>Serinus scotopsis</i>
874	Cape Siskin (E)		X			X							2	<i>Pseudochloroptila totta</i>
876	Black-headed Canary (E)										X		1	<i>Serinus alario</i>
877	Brimstone Canary								X	X			2	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>
878	Yellow Canary (NE)				X			X	X		X		4	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>
879	White-throated Canary (NE)										X		1	<i>Serinus albogularis</i>
880	Protea Seed-Eater (E)											X	1	<i>Serinus leucopterus</i>
881	Streaky-headed Seed-Eater								X				1	<i>Serinus gujaris</i>
885	Cape Bunting (NE)		X			X	X		X		X		5	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>
		41	45	52	74	98	79	77	103	75	88	74		

MAMMAL LIST

	COMMON NAME	26-Sep-08	27-Sep-08	28-Sep-08	29-Sep-08	30-Sep-08	01-Oct-08	02-Oct-08	03-Oct-08	04-Oct-08	05-Oct-08	06-Oct-08	Days seen	SCIENTIFIC NAME
3	Baboon, Chacma		1			1			1	1				<i>Papio ursinus</i>
5	Bontebok		1					1	1					<i>Damaliscus dorcas dorcas</i>

9	Dassie, Rock (Hyrax)		1			1	1					<i>Procavia capensis</i>
10	Dolphin, Bottlenosed			1								<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>
11	Dolphin, Common			1								<i>Delphinus delphis</i>
15	Duiker, Common								1			<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>
16	Eland	1		1					1			<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>
24	Hartebeest, Red		1					1				<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>
29	Mongoose, Small Grey				1	1			1			<i>Galerella pulverulenta</i>
31	Mongoose, Yellow								1			<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>
32	Mouse, Striped								1			<i>Rhabdomys pumilio</i>
39	Rhebok, Grey							1	1			<i>Palaea capreolus</i>
40	Seal, Cape Fur		1	1								<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>
42	Springbok				1							<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>
44	Steenbok								1			<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>
48	Whale, Southern Right		1	1		1	1	1	1			<i>Balaena glacialis</i>
49	Zebra, Burchell's				1							<i>Equus burchelli</i>
50	Zebra, Cape Mountain		1					1	1			<i>Equus zebra zebra</i>

Clockwise from top left: Bontebok, Bontebok National Park; Hartlaub's Gulls, Hermanus; Picnic Lunch, Caledon Area; Birding on the Gydo Pass, Ceres.

