

# **UGANDA**

**18<sup>th</sup> February -14<sup>th</sup> March 2005**



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# UGANDA 18th FEB – 14th MAR 2005 – TRIP REPORT

## 1 BACKGROUND

Uganda has become a popular destination for birding trips in recent years – with good reason. A high number of species, particularly Central African forest species, are more accessible here than at other popular destinations, there is a fine selection of “restricted range species”, and the incomparable Shoebill is easier to see here than anywhere else. These attractions – in addition to the incomparable mountain gorillas – were also the attractions that lured the six of us into visiting the country in early 2005. Overall, we had an excellent trip, recording 636 species of birds and 10 primates.

This trip report has been extended with some lessons learnt during the trip in order to provide birders contemplating a visit to Uganda with some practical hints and advice. Although we used fine books and trip reports extensively during our preparations, we got a few surprises, and it is our hope that the advice provided here will prove helpful to other birders.

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## 2 REFERENCES

When planning a birding trip to Uganda, there are essentially three main references:

- (1) A general travel guide – by far the best available is the Bradt guide, written by Phillip Biggs. Really excellent – and the author is apparently quite a keen birder himself.
- (2) “Where to Watch Birds in Uganda” by Jonathan Rossouw and Marco Sacchi, published by the Uganda Tourist Board. Includes all the main sites – absolutely indispensable.
- (3) A bird field guide – by far the best available for Uganda is “The Birds of East Africa” by Terry Stevenson and John Fanshawe.

A good online source of general tourist information is:

<http://traveluganda.co.ug/utpcontents.asp>

Additionally, you will probably want to refer to a few good trip reports. The following trip reports were helpful to me (among others):

- (1) <http://www.birdtours.co.uk/tripreports/uganda/uganda7/ugan-04.htm> - July/August 2004 trip report by Geoff Dobbs
- (2) <http://www.birdtours.co.uk/tripreports/uganda/uganda3/ug-aug03.htm> - August 2002 trip report by Sam Woods
- (3) <http://www.birdtours.co.uk/tripreports/uganda/uganda2/ugan2002.htm> - July 2002 trip report by Jan Vermeulen
- (4) [http://www.worldtwitch.com/uganda\\_jh.htm](http://www.worldtwitch.com/uganda_jh.htm) - July/August 2001 trip report by Jon Hornbuckle

## 3 OUR TRIP

Our Uganda trip took place from February 18th (arrival in Entebbe) to March 14th (departure from Entebbe) 2005. The timing was the result of careful studies of several sources although by far the greatest emphasis was awarded the recommendations of Rossouw & Sacchi. Unfortunately, this (otherwise indispensable) reference is quite misleading in this respect – which is one of the reasons I decided to extend this report with some practical advice.

Our group consisted of 4 birders and 2 non-birders. Compared to neighbouring Kenya and Tanzania, much more of the birding time in Uganda is bound to be in forest, meaning you will see much less game than in those countries. We are grateful for the indulgence of the 2 non-birders who felt they saw too many trees and too few mammals during this trip!

## 4 LOCAL ASSISTANCE

Although you could fairly easily visit Uganda independently and simply rent a car upon arrival, I think Uganda is a destination where it is worth considering employing a local agency. Although the country as a whole seems fairly stable at the moment, the situation is somewhat volatile in quite a few excellent birding areas, e.g.:

- Murchison Falls NP – e.g., the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises against visiting this park due to rebel activities in Gulu province. We found the park to be perfectly safe – having a good local operator ensures that security information is always up to date.
- Semliki NP lies in a sensitive border area where conditions may change any time.
- Mgahinga NP was entered by armed men crossing through Uganda on their way from Rwanda to DRC in December 2004.

Mainly because of these concerns - and because we wanted to hire a specific local bird guide – we decided to leave the practical arrangements to Access Uganda Tours, a travel agency in Kampala with a good reputation and experience with birding trips.

I communicated with Access Uganda Tours via e-mail (mutebihassan@yahoo.com), establishing the itinerary, hiring the guide etc. Payment was by international bank transfer (SWIFT). Everything worked quite well and I can definitely recommend you to use Access Uganda Tours for your arrangements. Website: <http://www.accessugandatours.com>.

The cost of our trip was 3,850 USD per person for all ground transportation (excellent driver throughout the trip), accommodations, meals, park entrance fees and guiding, but excluding flight tickets and gorilla permits as well as drinks and tips.

We knew from the start of our planning that we wanted Alfred Twinomujuni from Bwindi to be our guide throughout the trip and he can be hired through Access Uganda Tours. Alfred is a fantastic forest birder and knows all bird calls of all the forests, including Semliki. Although he has a good collection of recordings on minidisc, he is also an incredible imitator and it seemed his whistling often seemed more efficient at attracting birds than the recordings! On top of that, he is a very pleasant person with a good sense of humour. At the time of our trip, he charged 50 USD per day for his guiding services (plus food and lodging) – which might be expensive by Ugandan standards, but we consider it quite a bargain!

Since our trip, Alfred has established his own agency and now offers everything from designing itineraries and booking hotels and gorilla tracking to transport and (of course) expert guiding. You can contact Alfred directly on birdwatchuganda (at) yahoo.com – there are currently no internet facilities in his hometown (Buhoma), but this mail account is monitored from Kampala, so you should receive his replies fairly quickly. Since most of your most wanted birds – apart from Shoebill – are likely to be forest birds, you won't find anyone more capable of planning your trip than Alfred.

## 5 TIMING

### 5.1 Urgency

In the days when Uganda was “truly the Pearl of Africa” (Winston Churchill, 1907), it had one million inhabitants and most of the country was still in a natural state. Although Ugandan travel agencies shamelessly use the “Pearl of Africa” label even today, the country has changed profoundly and does not look significantly different – or more “pearl-like” - than the neighbouring countries. However, Uganda is definitely still a pleasant country to visit anyway.

Uganda today has a population of more than 26 million people and it is very evident to the visitor that the natural resources are under huge pressure almost everywhere. Clearly the country is already overpopulated, and to make matters worse, the population growth of 3.6% per year is one of the highest in the World (possibly *the* highest) and means the population more than doubles every twenty years! Everywhere you go in Uganda, you see incredible numbers of children, and although they are invariably cheerful and friendly, their numbers make them Uganda's disaster number one.

The rapidly increasing human population – and the resulting reduction in forest and woodland cover in the whole Great Lakes region – has started a clear and very dangerous trend towards a hotter and drier climate. The water levels are falling (e.g. in Lake Victoria) and in most years Uganda receives less precipitation than it needs. This increases the pressure on the remaining reserves even further – and the protection of swamps and forest is nominal in most areas.

I may be a pessimist, but I am convinced birding in Uganda will be much poorer in twenty years when the population will be more than 50 million people and the climate is likely to be drier and hotter! Sadly, Uganda seems more than likely to become an ecological disaster area.

Based on the above, my advice would be to visit Uganda as soon as possible.

## 5.2 Time of Year

One of the main factors to consider when deciding when to go is the climate. Uganda's climate is rather variable, but to generalise, one could say that the southern part of the country has two rainy (March-May, September-November) and two dry seasons (June-August, December-February), none of which is usually severe. Going north, there is a transition into one wet (normally late March to early November, June – August somewhat drier) and one dry (and hot) season (November-March) in the Budongo / Murchison Falls area. In a dry year, this long dry season in reality is a drought.

The following recommendations are a summary of my lengthy discussions with Alfred:

The BEST time to go birding in Uganda is from late May through September. To be more specific, probably the very best time overall is late August through early to mid September. The main nesting season in Bwindi and Mgahinga (key sites for the Albertine Rift Endemics) is May and June so this could also be your first choice (depending on your priorities, of course) – e.g. African Green Broadbill is often easier to find in May/June than in August/September.

The northern summer is the main fruiting season in most of the forests and seeds are plentiful in the open areas – in other words, food is abundant and so are the birds. Another advantage of this time of year is that widowbirds, bishops, quealeas etc. are in breeding plumage. Also, there are large numbers of spectacular butterflies to enjoy in the northern summer. Actually, the only disadvantage is that June through September is also a nice time where most birders live (northern Europe and North America).

Another good time to go birding in Uganda is late March through early April, i.e. after the rains have started and cooled down the north a bit and caused the forest birds to start vocalising, but before the rains become too heavy for birding to be pleasant. The food supply is not yet so good, though, and bird populations are low.

The worst time to go birding in Uganda is February (especially mid to late February and early March), particularly in the north (unpleasantly hot and dry and no fruits or seeds). Thus, despite our good intentions, we actually ended up doing our trip at the worst time of year! Let me just quote our excellent Ugandan guide, Alfred Twinomujuni: "February is a *horrible* time to visit Budongo and Murchison Falls!" That being said, late February / early March is a very good time to visit Semliki N.P. which only has one dry season (December through February) and can be unpleasantly wet the rest of the year.

Other periods you may want to avoid is mid-April/mid-May and October/mid-November when Bwindi may be *too* wet for birding to be enjoyable and minor roads can become very bad indeed, perhaps impassable (at least in wet years), and you may lose precious birding time. Birds are very active during the rains, though.

If you insist on escaping the northern winter, December/January should normally be fine as the heat and drought is typically not yet too bad in the north. And if it is not a dry year, any time in winter is fine. The southernmost part of the country (Bwindi, Mgahinga, Lake Mburo) should always be good, and Shoebill can be seen at any time of the year!

Bottom line: Any time of year is good for birding – but the northern summer is clearly best.

## 5.3 Duration

If you want to cover as many areas as we did, I would recommend you to spend at least as long time as we did. However, if your group includes non-birders, it should be emphasized that 24 days will probably be too long a trip. Uganda's main attractions for non-birders are the mountain gorillas and the chimpanzees. While the game parks are worth a visit, it must be admitted that they are nowhere near as exciting as the game parks of Kenya and Tanzania. E.g., we found the game viewing in Queen Elizabeth N.P. to be rather disappointing with neither the variety nor the number of animals we have experienced elsewhere in East Africa.

Kidepo Valley N.P. in the far northeast is an additional area which is definitely worth a visit, both for mammals and birds – although for security reasons travel to and from should be by air.

Bottom line: 3-4 weeks are required for a decent birding trip.

## 6 ACCOMMODATIONS

I will make specific recommendations for the individual areas. Here I just want to state that you should never stay more than one hour (by car) from your morning birding site. Driving at night in Uganda is not recommended for security reasons and it seems that the local operators more or less have instructions not to do so. This means that if you use the services of a good and reliable local agency, you won't be able to leave your accommodations until six o'clock in the morning (and sunrise is around seven).

In some areas, you should not even be on the road in the evening. Obviously, this hampers your opportunities for owling, but improves your chances of getting a good night's sleep....

## 7 FOOD

Food is definitely not a reason to visit Uganda, and we had few meals that were memorable. Beef was almost always disappointing and chicken was not impressive either. However, fish was almost always good, so whenever you can get fresh fish, I would recommend you to do so. Apart from fish, the avocados are fantastic. And of course, you can get good fruit.

One thing that may drive you nuts is the slow – sometimes unbelievably slow – service at nearly all restaurants. If possible, order your food beforehand for an agreed serving time – although you will probably still often experience waiting time!

Another thing which may drive you nuts is that apparently you are rarely expected, even with confirmed reservations – which may mean a very limited selection of food on the day of arrival (on top of the long waiting time).

## 8 BIRDS

To list conscious birders like us, the main target species on a Uganda trip are:

- Shoebill, easier here than anywhere else although the population is small
- Ugandan endemics (only one, Fox's Weaver)
- Species restricted to the Albertine Rift mountains EBA, 25 of which occur in Uganda (using the same taxonomy as Stevenson & Fanshawe and Birdlife International) - all 37 species occur in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); these species are referred to as Albertine Rift Endemics, or ARE's, in this report
- Species restricted to the Eastern Zaire EBA, contiguous with the Albertine Rift mountains EBA and sometimes called the Albertine Rift lowlands EBA, only one of which (Oberlaender's Ground-Thrush) occurs in Uganda (where rarely seen – not seen by us) while the remaining five species are restricted to DRC
- Papyrus Endemics, i.e. the five species limited to papyrus swamps in East Africa (not a formal EBA)
- Other restricted range species – in this report completely unscientifically used to mean any species with a limited range outside Uganda (or even a large range if it falls inside DRC which I consider off-limits)

We had several fine observations of the incredible Shoebill – this one is worth travelling to Uganda for alone!

Of the 25 possible ARE's, we saw 24 species with the main highlight undoubtedly being our superb observations of African Green Broadbill. The one ARE we missed is very difficult and rarely seen by anybody (Shelley's Crimsonwing). For an introduction to the Albertine Rift EBA and a complete list of bird species restricted to it, see <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/ebas/?action=EbaHTMDetails.asp&sid=97&m=0>

We did see Fox's Weaver as well as all of the papyrus endemics and most of the other restricted range species.

In return for missing a few of the hoped for restricted range species (as well as a number of Sahelian species), we saw a nice collection of Palearctic winter visitors, the best of which perhaps were Steppe and Lesser Spotted Eagles, Montagu's and Pallid Harriers, Black-winged Pratincole, Isabelline and Pied Wheatears, and Isabelline and Woodchat Shrikes, in addition to tens of thousands of White-winged Terns.

## 9 NOTES ON THE AREAS VISITED

Rossouw & Saachi is the essential reference. Below are some notes which are meant to complement this excellent guide book.

### 9.1.1 Entebbe

Since almost all visitors to Uganda arrive and depart here, it is very convenient indeed that the birding is good. Birding tours typically visit the botanical gardens, but if it is sunny and hot during the visit, I would recommend you to visit the zoo (Entebbe Wildlife Centre) instead since it is much shadier and holds almost the same birds. Orange Weaver is actually both more numerous and easier to see well here.

Regarding accommodations, there are several very expensive hotels and one or two mid-range options. We stayed at the mid-range Sophie's Motel. If you stay there, try to get a room on the upper floor – otherwise you are likely to have a hot night.

### 9.1.2 Lutembe Bay

We visited this site to experience the White-winged Tern roost which used to hold up to a million birds or more. However, the site has recently been destroyed by a ruthless flower company (producing flowers for the European market!) who has filled in part of the swamp, as well as by local villagers who have burnt other parts. Consequently, the tern roost seems to have moved and the site is really not worthwhile although quite a few water birds may be seen.

### 9.1.3 Kampala

The Ugandan capital is completely chaotic and due to the lack of a ring road you are bound to pass through it several times. You will hate it. There is a more or less constant traffic jam and it takes up to two hours to get through although the city is not that large. If possible, pass through on Sundays when traffic is significantly lighter – or *very* early in the morning.

### 9.1.4 Mabamba Swamp

This is still a reliable site for Shoebill despite the obvious human pressure on its habitat. There is a lot of human activity in the swamp, mostly fishing and boating, but sadly even widespread poaching for sitatunga with large areas of the swamp being burnt to flush the poor antelopes from their hides. This is a site you can easily visit on your own – a shoebill guide is always on duty and taking out birders and showing them a shoebill is now a well established business here.

### 9.1.5 Budongo Forest

Good throughout the year, best April through September, worst in February (*contre* Rossouw & Saachi). It was very hot during our visit (up to 39°C). However, despite our bad timing, our only painful miss was Ituri Batis (restricted range species), but the forest seemed completely lifeless most of the time and finding the birds was really hard work. On the other hand, Nahan's Francolin was very cooperative. We were also lucky with the chimps here, seeing them both at Busingiro and the Royal Mile, although they are most reliably found in May through August.

Masindi Hotel is a comfortable base, but beware that it is almost an hour from both Busingiro and the Royal Mile. We were advised NOT to stay out late for night birds because the road was said not to be safe at night. Thus, if you want to do some spotlighting here you must stay in the guest house at the Nyabyeya Forest College. At the time of our visit, they did not have running water and you should definitely be prepared for substandard accommodations here – but it is situated right by the Royal Mile.

There is an excellent local bird guide, Vincent Odama, who was based at Busingiro at the time of our visit. Do not be fooled by his modest and somewhat introvert attitude - Vincent knows all the bird calls of the forest. Busingiro is also where you have to buy your permit for entering the forest.

Budongo Forest is under huge pressure with illegal burning evident along its edges. More eco-tourists are very much needed here! Most of the nearby Bugoma Forest (not developed for tourism) which holds almost the same birdlife (and mammals, including chimps) was illegally burnt down around the time of our visit and many herdsmen and their 40,000 heads of cattle moved in. At the time of writing this (May 2005), they have still not been thrown out – apparently because some of the cattle are owned by government officials....

### 9.1.6 Murchison Falls National Park

Good throughout the year except in February and early March (*contre* Rossouw & Saachi) when the area is often a depressing sight: bone-dry, burnt and unbearably hot, and time may be best spent sailing on the Nile. I definitely concur with Alfred's statement (see above) regarding Murchison – although I do not doubt that it is much better in a wet year.

We missed most of the so-called Murchison specialities which, however, are all widely distributed species. The birding highlight here was undoubtedly the nightjars for which both the access road to the falls and the road from Paraa to Nile Safari Camp were good. If you want to see Shoebill, go for the launch trip to the delta which seems to be the only area where it is seen regularly now. We only did the afternoon launch trip to the base of the falls, a spectacular trip that is highly recommended (sit on the left side) although the hike from there to the top of the falls is not worthwhile – the number of tourists on the track means that you would have to be extremely lucky to see a Pel's Fishing-Owl here!

By far the best place to stay is the Nile Safari Camp which has good food, a fantastic staff and a superb location (although Shoebill does not nest here anymore – but may still be seen feeding, with luck). In contrast, the Sambiya River Lodge seems to be in a less attractive area with lots of tsetse flies. The Paraa Safari Lodge on the north side of the Nile is conveniently located for game drives (there is not much game south of the Nile), but after having had a lousy lunch there, I must say that we did not like this place. Still, you may consider spending a single night here to be able to have an early start on your game drive and then move to the Nile Safari Camp for the rest of your stay.

If you are on a tight budget, the only option seems to be the Red Chili Lodge at Paraa which is where all the beautiful young female backpackers stay, probably making it easier to bear with the lower standards. ☺

Even inside the national park there are problems with human pressure and illegal activities. Many – if not most – of the burns are the deeds of poachers trying to flush the game.

### **9.1.7 Kanyo Pabidi Forest**

Kanyo Pabidi is part of Budongo Forest although it now lies inside the gates of Murchison Falls NP – meaning you must pay national park entrance fee to visit the forest!

Kanyo Pabidi is well known as the only East African locality for Puvel's Illiadopsis (fairly common), but it is actually also good for other exciting species such as Rufous-sided Broadbill, Chocolate-backed Kingfisher and Green-breasted Pitta (difficult!). In addition, it is the best locality in East Africa for the rare Black-eared Ground-Thrush (very difficult, especially in the dry season). There are also habituated chimpanzees here.

A good bird guide, Cyprianou, is available. The nearest accommodations (apart from the basic huts on the spot) are in Masindi, 45 minutes to the south.

### **9.1.8 Kibale National Park**

Supposedly good from late March to November, the best time to visit is July through September if you want to make an effort for Green-breasted Pitta which is regularly heard calling then (and is thus easier located).

Apart from the pitta, the stellar attraction here is White-naped Pigeon which is also uncommon, though usually easier to find.

Another key species is White-collared Oliveback which is hard to miss at the nearby Bigodi Wetland Sanctuary except in February when there are rather few of its favourite flowers.

Bamboo Warbler can be found along the entrance track to park headquarters – but it was too windy when we tried for it.

We managed to miss all of the above and saw little of interest here (rain in the morning and burning sun later did not help), apart from a group of four chimpanzees which we came across by sheer coincidence. According to Alfred, birding in Kibale can be so good that you only move 50 m in an hour (in the summer).

We tried rather hard for the pitta (which is extremely difficult in February), meaning there was no time to search properly for White-naped Pigeon. The latter is often easier to find in the higher part of the forest along the main road from Fort Portal to Kampala.

There is no good bird guide available here, but Harriet (the female ranger) keeps an eye out for pittas and will usually know where it is best to search for them. Kibale NP has several groups of habituated chimpanzees and tracking them is a major tourist attraction here.

We stayed at the CVK Resort near park headquarters, which is a quite basic place, only 8 km from the main tourist and birding area at Kanyanchu. If you want to be positioned for both Kanyanchu and Sebitoli (the upper section) you may prefer to stay in Fort Portal.



### 9.1.9 Semliki National Park

The only site visited where our timing was perfect, and we enjoyed excellent birding here. Some of the highlights were: all of the hornbills (including Black Dwarf), negrofinches and malimbos, Red-rumped Tinkerbird, Yellow-throated Cuckoo, Black-throated Coucal, Bates' Nightjar, Leaflove, Simple Greenbul, Swamp Palm Bulbul and Grant's Bluebill. Further, we saw an unidentified flycatcher which may have been the first Olivaceous Flycatcher for East Africa! If anyone knows the song of the Eastern DRC population of this species, let me know, and I shall be pleased to e-mail you an mp3 file with a recording of our bird for your critical examination. The bird was (of course) found by Alfred who was really in excellent shape here!

In Semliki there is only one dry season (December through February) and the rest of the year it can be very wet indeed. However, it is not quite as important to come at the driest time of year as it used to be because the Kirumia River trail (the main birding trail) has been diverted so that it does not go through the wettest and muddiest area anymore. It can still be extremely muddy outside the late dry season, though.

Birding is good here any time it is not too wet to be pleasant. During our visit, bird activity was good until about 13.30 after which it died out almost completely (because the sun had burnt away the clouds around that time).

During the time of our visit, the Kirumia River trail was completely dry all the way (or at least as far as the third oxbow lake where we turned around). There used to be a good bird guide available here (Godfrey), but he has been transferred to other duties now. The friendly ranger guide who accompanied us in the forest (Samson) knew many bird calls and seemed keen to learn so by the time you get there, he may well be a good bird guide.

Forget about visiting Semliki on day trips from Fort Portal. The road is unsafe at night meaning no reputable local operator will take you down it before daybreak. Thus your only option (if not camping) is to stay at a hotel in Bundibugyo (some 30 minutes from the start of the Kirumia trail). We stayed at the basic Vanilla Hotel which is said to be the best around. However, to us the self-contained rooms looked like single rooms – the bed was approximately one meter wide. If going with a group of hardbirders (typically men only), you will probably have to stay in rooms without a private bathroom since those rooms did have two single beds. The place is very friendly – just not built for European tourists!

Beware that this is a very poor area with many food items in short supply – you should tell the restaurant staff at the hotel what you would like to have for dinner before you go birding, giving them a chance to try to get hold of the necessary ingredients. Also, I would recommend you to buy some bread, avocados, fruit, tinned tuna etc. in Fort Portal for your lunches in the forest – do not expect to be able to buy a nice packed lunch in Bundibugyo.

Think twice before taking non-birders to Semliki National Park. Apart from the hot springs there is not a lot to see or do for the non-birder. The park needs more activities, e.g. forest elephant tracking or chimp tracking.

### 9.1.10 Queen Elizabeth National Park

This is considered the prime game park of Uganda, but if you have been to the Serengeti or Masai Mara, you will not be impressed although it is definitely worth a visit. The best game viewing area is said to be the Kasenyi Plains which are located quite some distance from the lodgings - on the other side of the main road in an area with some local traffic (because Kasenyi village is lying at the far end of the plains). I think the uninhabited southern plains in the Ishasha sector of the park looked far more interesting and with a wonderful feeling of remoteness, the only drawback being there is no good lodging in that sector.

To us, the time best spent here was undoubtedly our afternoon boat trip on the Kazinga channel (sit on the left side of the boat) – highly recommended. This was very good for both birds and mammals (including the incredible Giant Forest Hog).

Although the bird list is the longest in Uganda – and we were even able to add one (Tawny Pipit) to the list – there are few if any specialities, so the very list focused (and narrow-minded birder might want to skip this park when planning his itinerary).

The best time to visit Queen Elizabeth NP is April through January, particularly August/September (Brown-chested Lapwing) and December/January (Palearctic visitors).

Mweya Lodge is a superb place to stay – best rooms of the trip and good food in the restaurant. However, we were not too impressed by the service. E.g., breakfast is only available until 10 making it very difficult to do a morning game drive to the Kasenyi Plains without missing breakfast (we took packed breakfast which was NOT good). And you should definitely NOT buy packed lunch here – it is a complete rip-off, very poor and ridiculously expensive.



Even here human pressure is noticeable with wildlife populations declining markedly due to extensive poaching by local villagers.

### **9.1.11 Kalinzu Forest**

Kalinzu Forest does not seem to be regularly visited by birders despite being mentioned in Rossouw & Saachi - which is a pity. It takes about an hour and a half to get here from Mweya. We spent a couple of hours here in the morning before heading south through Queen Elizabeth NP.

There is good and easy birding in the secondary growth along the entrance road and reputedly (we did not try) difficult birding in the primary forest (which also has habituated chimps) some 5 km from the main road. The entrance road is the best site in Uganda for Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye and it is also good for forest birds in general including Antpecker at times. The rather open habitat makes it easy to see many birds well, including spectacular birds such as Black Bee-eater, turacos, woodhoopoes etc. This locality deserves more time than we spared it.

### **9.1.12 Bwindi National Park**

The most important site in Uganda for birders and non-birders alike! Bwindi is home to all Ugandan Albertine Rift Endemics (ARE's) and it is the best site for nearly all of them. However, unless you are exceptionally narrow-minded the mountain gorillas are bound to be the greatest experience of your entire trip.

Bwindi is very well covered by Rossouw & Saachi so all I want to say is this:

In the late dry season, birds tend to concentrate in the valleys whereas the ridges may be more or less deserted. E.g., when in Ruhija, we found the birding in the Mubwindi Swamp valley to be very good – but the bamboo zone was a complete waste of time.

Ruhija is the prime area for most ARE's – but there is nothing to do for non-birders. Unfortunately, the verges of the road from Ruhija towards Kabale (i.e. through the bamboo zone) are now cut regularly meaning so do not expect to see Handsome Francolin – and especially not Shelley's Crimsonwing (which Alfred has never seen here) – feeding at the edge of the road.

The other nearly impossible ARE is Oberlaender's Ground-Thrush which Alfred has seen less than ten times (usually at Buhoma).

The best time to go birding in Bwindi is late March through September (mid April through mid May often very wet) with May/June being the peak nesting season – but birding can be good all year. Gorilla tracking (very expensive, but definitely worthwhile) is handled very professionally here and you are virtually guaranteed to see the gorillas at any time of year although it may be physically more challenging when the vegetation is driest (January/February and July/August), because the gorillas move around quite a bit then. And a friend of mine who went in July told me that the gorillas had just been sitting in the treetops when he was with them – not so exciting.

Bwindi NP is the crown jewel among Ugandan nature reserves and is apparently the only Ugandan reserve to be well guarded and well protected. We saw no signs of illegal activities here.

### **9.1.13 Echuya Forest Reserve**

This is a small forest reserve straddling the main road from Kabale to Kisoro. According to Alfred, there are plans for a birding trail which would be most welcome because the road carries quite a lot of traffic. A very nice forest with good birding and the only place we saw Kivu Ground-Thrush (common in Bwindi, but silent at the time of our visit).

### **9.1.14 Mgahinga National Park**

Three ARE's are easier here than in Bwindi: Rwenzori Double-collared Sunbird (common), Rwenzori Turaco (fairly common though not easy in February/March) and Shelley's Crimsonwing. The latter is very difficult even here, but in June last year, park staff found an active nest in the bamboo zone and was able to reliably show the crimsonwing to visitors for a few weeks. That could happen again – so if visiting in May/June, do inquire about this (nearly impossible) species.

There is a crazily overpriced upmarket camp at the park entrance. We stayed at the Traveller's Rest in Kisoro, "Dian Fossey's second home" and a quite comfortable place with adequate food, located about half an hour from the park.

### 9.1.15 Lake Bunyonyi

We included Lake Bunyonyi in our itinerary to look for Papyrus Yellow Warbler in the Ruvuma Swamp (mentioned in the Bradt guide) at the northern end of the lake, about mid-way between Kabale and Kisoro.

Much to our surprise (and dismay), the swamp had been nearly completely drained during the last couple of years and is definitely not the place to look for papyrus specialities anymore. All natural habitats are under pressure in Uganda, but none more than the swamps which in reality are completely unprotected outside the major cities. However, there is still a papyrus swamp at the far southern end of the lake, reached by a long boat trip from Rutinda near Kabale and this was where we were taken. Alfred thought this was what we had asked for....

Since it is a long trip, you should only go if you *really* want to see a Papyrus Yellow Warbler. And if you do go, make sure you hire the boat from the boat jetty – and NOT from the restaurant (Karibuni?) a few 100 meters closer to Kabale as we did since this is a completely incompetent operation. We ran out of fuel a long way from home and did not exactly feel good (drifting under the merciless sun with no drinking water) until a boat from the Overland Camp passed by and offered us a lift back! Also, we had to trample through fields along the partly burnt inner margin of the swamp because our boat could not go close to the outer (lake-side) edge because the aquatic vegetation would get stuck in the screw (take a boat that can be paddled!).

The swamp also holds the other “papyrus endemics” (Papyrus Gonolek and Canary, White-winged Warbler, Carruther’s Cisticola). Lake Bunyonyi is also the home of an interesting population of weavers looking like Northern Masked Weaver and reported as such by several bird tour companies. However, Alfred told us that others think this is a hybrid population between Northern Brown-throated and Yellow-backed Weavers. Apparently a blood sample has been taken and sent for DNA analysis so hopefully the problem is resolved in the near future.

If you decide to visit this swamp, stay in Kabale the night before rather than in Kisoro as it is much closer to Rutinda.

### 9.1.16 Lake Mburo National Park

Although not large, this is a very nice savanna park with many antelopes and very good birding. This park can be visited with good result all year. Make sure you take a boat trip on the lake for easy finfoots and excellent papyrus swamp birding. All the “papyrus endemics” occur here although Papyrus Yellow Warbler is rarely reported. However, the habitat looks a lot better than the swamp we visited at Lake Bunyoni.

The stellar ornithological attraction of this park is perhaps Red-faced Barbet which is found nowhere else in Uganda and is only known from a handful of localities outside Uganda. It can occur almost anywhere in the park although it might be most reliable in Rwonyo Camp where we found it along the track to the museum.

The only upmarket accommodation in the park is the Mantana Tented Camp where we stayed. Unfortunately, it does not live up to the high standard set by the Mantana Camp in Bwindi (and Kibale NP, I am told). The service and food were not good. If going again, I think I would opt for the best accommodations available in the (basic) Rwonyo Camp (run by the park authorities)!

This is another park under huge human pressure. The park boundaries do not seem to be respected by the local population and we saw lots of cattle inside the park. Either the park management is incompetent or corrupt.

### 9.1.17 Lake Bisina

Lake Bisina is a rather large shallow lake north of Mbale in eastern Uganda described in Rossouw & Saachi. Boats can be hired on the southern shore near the western end of the lake. You are highly unlikely to be able to find the track going there from the main road on your own – it starts as a very insignificant gravel road and after several forks turns into a bike path before the lake is even visible!

The best time to visit is April through August when the main target species (Fox’s Weaver, of course) is nesting and easy to find. We struggled for quite a while before finding a few females or immatures because no nesting activity had yet begun. The highlight of our visit was a fantastic Shoebill sighting. We also saw quite a few Lesser Jacana and Pygmy-Goose.

However, the (too) large human population has nearly emptied the lake for fish meaning there are not so much food and therefore not so many birds. According to Alfred, the local villagers also catch and eat all birds (of all kinds!) they can get hold of which does not exactly improve the opportunities for birding, either.

We visited on a day trip from Jinja (3+ hours each way), but good accommodations are available in Mbale if you prefer to stay closer to the locality.

### **9.1.18 Mabira Forest**

This forest reserve between Kampala and Jinja provides excellent birding all year round. It is the best place in Uganda for Forest Woodhoopoe, Purple-throated Cuckoo-Shrike, Blue-headed Crested-Flycatcher and Tit Hylia – and a good locality for Nahan's Francolin. If Tit Hylia is a priority, you should come in August when they are feeding their fledged young. The rest of the year this is a very inconspicuous species.

An advantage of Mabira Forest is that an excellent bird guide is available here. Ibrahim Senfuma knows the forest and all its avian inhabitants extremely well and he is strongly recommended as a guide.

Basic accommodations are available near the office. We stayed at the comfortable Jinja Nile Resort (with excellent birding in the garden) in Jinja, less than half an hour from the forest.

This is yet another reserve under huge human pressure and the forest is literally stolen tree by tree, every night. When the reserve was established the villages were allowed to remain and the result is that the reserve is impossible to protect effectively against thievish villagers.

## 10 TRIP SUMMARY

Under this heading the following is provided:

- Itinerary of the trip
- Trip lists:
  - Bird list
  - Mammal list
  - Reptile list

### 10.1 Itinerary

18/2	Arrival Entebbe 8.30. Entebbe Wildlife Centre 9.30-11.45. Lutembe Bay 16.00-18.45 (boat trip there). Weather: Sunny and warm to hot.
19/2	Morning trip to Mabamba Swamp with boat trip there 8.30-10.45. 14.00-18.45 drive from Kampala to Masindi with long birding stop 35 km from Masindi. Weather: Sunny and hot.
20/2	Budongo Forest: Busingiro 7.00-18.00, including chimp tracking. Waterhole 5 km east of there (through the sugar cane farm, at the edge of the forest) 18.10-19.00. Weather: Sunny and hot (max 39°C).
21/2	Budongo Forest: Royal Mile 7.00-12.00. At the waterhole 16.00-17.10. Fields near Nyabyeya 17.30-19.00. Weather: Sunny and hot.
22/2	Butiaba Escarpment 7.00-10.00. Nile Safari Camp from 11.30 with boat trip there 17.00-19.00. Weather: Sunny and hot.
23/2	Murchison Falls NP: Sambiya River Lodge and the road to Murchison Falls 6.00-12.00. Launch trip to the base of the falls 14.00-16.15. Above falls until 19.15 and night drive back to camp. Weather: Sunny and hot.
24/2	Murchison Falls NP: Game drive north of the Nile 7.30-13.00. Lunch at Paraa Safari Lodge. Nile Safari Camp from 16.00, birding in the vicinity. Weather: Sunny and hot.
25/2	Kanyo Pabidi Forest 7.45-9.30. Brief birding stop along the main road through the northern (Sebitoli) sector of Kibale NP at 16.00. CVK Resort from 16.30. Weather: Sunny and hot until we reached Kibale NP where it turned nice and cloudy. Very windy at the CVK Resort due to upcoming rain.
26/2	Kibale NP at Kanyanchu 7.00-15.00. Bigodi Swamp 15.15-18.30. Weather: Early morning overcast, then rain. After that sunny and warm.
27/2	Semliki NP 9.25-18.00: Sempaya / Ntandi. Weather: Overcast until about 13.00. After that sunny (and warm).
28/2	Semliki NP 7.15-17.55: Kirumia River trail. Weather: Overcast until about 13.00. After that sunny (and warm).
1/3	Semliki NP 7.00-9.15: Kirumia River trail. Fort Portal 11.25-13.10. Mweya Lodge in Queen Elizabeth NP from 15.50. Game drive 17.15-19.30. Weather: Sunny and warm to hot.
2/3	Queen Elizabeth NP: Game drive to Kasenyi plains 6.40-11.40. Kazinga channel launch trip 15.00-17.00. Game drive near the lodge 17.30-19.50. Weather: Sunny and warm to hot. Thunderstorms in the evening.
3/3	Kalinzu Forest 8.30-10.45. South through Queen Elizabeth NP with a game drive in the Ishasha sector. Arrival Buhoma 18.00. Weather: Sunny in the morning, later variable cloudiness, warm.
4/3	Bwindi NP: Buhoma: Gorilla tracking. In the late afternoon a birding walk near the village. Weather: Overcast in the morning, rain showers in the afternoon, nice temperature.
5/3	Bwindi NP: Buhoma: Birding the main trail 7.30-15.45. Weather: Variable cloudiness and rain showers, nice temperature.
6/3:	Bwindi NP: Departure Buhoma 7.35. The Neck 9.45-11.40. Arrival Ruhija 14.20. Late afternoon walk in the vicinity. Weather: Variable cloudiness, nice temperature.
7/3	Bwindi NP: Ruhija: Mubwindi Swamp trail 7.30-14.30. Weather: Sunny in the morning, rain showers in the afternoon, nice and cool.
8/3	Bwindi NP: Ruhija bamboo zone 7.45-11.15. Lunch in Kabale. Echuya Forest 15.50-17.10. Weather: Sunny and cool – warm in the afternoon.
9/3	Mgahinga NP 7.30-16.00. Weather: Variable cloudiness, rain showers, cool.
10/3	Lake Bunyoni 8.45-14.45. Lake Mburo NP from 18.40. Weather: Sunny and warm.
11/3	Lake Mburo NP until 13.40 (bird walk, boat trip and game drive). Arrival in Jinja 19.50. Weather: Sunny and warm.
12/3	Lake Bisina 9.40-12.20. Jinja from 16.25. Weather: Sunny and warm.
13/3	Mabira Forest “pond track” 7.30-11.00. Mabamba Swamp boat trip 15.00-18.00. Weather: Sunny and warm to hot.
14/3	Departure from Entebbe 10.05.

## **10.2 Trip lists**

In the trip lists all observations of a species are listed if it was recorded at less than five localities. Otherwise a summary is given to avoid long boring listings of sightings.

The bird list comprises 636 species, including an unidentified kestrel, a flycatcher not yet identified and a weaver, the correct taxonomy of which is in doubt. On the other hand, the total of 636 species does **not** include Feral Pigeon and Fischer's Lovebird (of which almost certainly only feral populations are found in Uganda). Given the extremely dry conditions at the time of our trip, I believe that 650 species is a realistic target if visiting during the northern winter in a wet or normal year.

In the bird list, a "restricted range species" simply (and completely unscientifically) means a species with a quite limited range - although I tend to use the term even for species with a large range if outside Uganda it almost only occurs in DRC which I consider off-limits.

## ***Bird list***

### **Little Grebe**

10 Lake Bunyoni.

### **Tachybaptus ruficollis**

### **African Darter**

10 Nile Safari Camp and 5 Murchison Falls NP.

### **Anhinga rufa**

### **Great Cormorant**

Common, highest numbers were 200 Queen Elizabeth NP and 75+ Jinja.

### **Phalacrocorax carbo**

### **Long-tailed Cormorant**

Only seen near Lake Victoria, highest number was 150 Jinja.

### **Phalacrocorax africanus**

### **Shoebill**

2-3 Mabamba Swamp and 1 Lake Bisina. Seen well at both localities.  
Status: Near threatened.

### **Balaeniceps rex**

### **Great White Pelican**

20 Queen Elizabeth NP.

### **Pelecanus onocrotalus**

### **Pink-backed Pelican**

45 Entebbe, 20 Lutembe Bay, 20 Queen Elizabeth NP and 10 Jinja.

### **Pelecanus rufescens**

### **Grey Heron**

Fairly common, highest number was 50 Lutembe Bay, total app. 100.

### **Ardea cinerea**

### **Black-headed Heron**

Widespread though not numerous – 23 were seen.

### **Ardea melanocephala**

### **Goliath Heron**

13 were seen, 10 of which in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area, with singles in Queen Elizabeth NP, Lake Mburo NP and Mabamba Swamp.

### **Ardea goliath**

### **Purple Heron**

Widespread but not numerous, 21 were seen.

### **Ardea purpurea**

### **Cattle Egret**

Widespread and numerous, highest number recorded was 700 Lake Mburo NP, and the total was more than 1000.

### **Bubulcus ibis**

### **Great Egret**

A total of 10 were seen at 5 localities.

### **Casmerodius albus**

### **Intermediate Egret**

1 Lutembe Bay, 10 Murchison Falls NP, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Bisina.

### **Mesophoyx intermedia**

### **Little Egret**

A total of 24 were seen at 5 localities.

### **Egretta garzetta**

### **Squacco Heron**

Widespread and fairly numerous, app. 135 were seen, half of which in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area.

### **Ardeola ralloides**

### **Striated Heron**

1 Entebbe, 5 Murchison Falls NP, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 4 Lake Mburo NP.

### **Butorides striatus**

**Little Bittern**

1 Nile Safari Camp.

***Ixobrychus minutus*****Hamerkop**

Widespread and fairly numerous, a total of 83 were recorded.

***Scopus umbretta*****Yellow-billed Stork**

1 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Mycteria ibis*****African Openbill**

Widespread and fairly numerous, a total of 148 were recorded.

***Anastomus lamelligerus*****Abdim's Stork**

About 123 were seen migrating in the Budongo area, while an astonishing 5000+ were seen feeding in Murchison Falls NP and 75 between Jinja and Mbale.

***Ciconia abdimii*****European White Stork**

3 Kabale – Mbarara and 1 Lake Mburo NP – Kampala were disappointingly few.

***Ciconia ciconia*****Saddle-billed Stork**

9 of these spectacular birds were seen at 5 localities.

***Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*****Marabou**

Widespread and numerous, 600+ were seen.

***Leptoptilos crumeniferus*****Sacred Ibis**

6 were seen in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area, 5 Queen Elizabeth NP and 2 Lake Mburo NP.

***Threskiornis aethiopicus*****Hadada Ibis**

Widespread and numerous, a total of 200 were recorded.

***Bostrychia hagedash*****Glossy Ibis**

15 Lutembe Bay.

***Plegadis falcinellus*****African Spoonbill**

1 Nile Safari Camp and 2 Lake Bisina – Mbale.

***Platalea alba*****Lesser Flamingo**

5 Queen Elizabeth NP.  
Status: Near threatened.

***Phoeniconaias minor*****White-faced Whistling-Duck**

10 Entebbe, 100 Murchison Falls NP and 30 Lake Bisina.

***Dendrocygna viduata*****Egyptian Goose**

10 Entebbe, 2 Murchison Falls NP and 40 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Alopochen aegyptiacus*****Spur-winged Goose**

2 Mabamba Swamp and 10 Murchison Falls NP.

***Plectropterus gambensis*****Comb Duck**

1 Lutembe Bay.

***Sarkidiornis melanotos*****African Pygmy-Goose**

2 Lutembe Bay, 2 Mabamba Swamp and 25 Lake Bisina.

***Nettapus auritus***



<b>Yellow-billed Duck</b>	<b>Anas undulata</b>
100 were recorded, 75 of which at Lutembe Bay.	
<b>Garganey</b>	<b>Anas querquedula</b>
200 Lutembe Bay.	
<b>Osprey</b>	<b>Pandion haliaetus</b>
5 Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP and 2 Jinja.	
<b>African Cuckoo-Hawk</b>	<b>Aviceda cuculoides</b>
1 Butiaba Escarpment. Seen close – flying – but unfortunately flew far....	
<b>European Honey-Buzzard</b>	<b>Pernis apivorus</b>
1 Semliki NP.	
<b>Bat Hawk</b>	<b>Macheiramphus alcinus</b>
1 Murchison Falls NP and 2 The Neck. The former was seen catching a bat at dusk above the falls, the latter just flew over.	
<b>Black-shouldered Kite</b>	<b>Elanus caeruleus</b>
3 in the Budongo area, 3 Lake Mburo NP – Kampala and 2 Jinja.	
<b>Yellow-billed Kite</b>	<b>Milvus aegyptius</b>
Common and widespread. Particularly numerous around Kampala and Jinja with 100 and 110 recorded, respectively.	
<b>Black Kite</b>	<b>Milvus migrans</b>
50+ migrating north Ruhija, 5 Ruhija – Kabale and 60 migrating Lake Bunyoni.	
<b>African Fish-Eagle</b>	<b>Haliaeetus vocifer</b>
App. 50 were seen. Numerous Entebbe/Lutembe/Mabamba Swamp, Murchison Falls NP, Queen Elizabeth NP and Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Lappet-faced Vulture</b>	<b>Torgos tracheliotus</b>
2 Queen Elizabeth NP and 4 Lake Mburo NP. Status: Vulnerable.	
<b>White-headed Vulture</b>	<b>Trigonoceps occipitalis</b>
1 Kampala – Masindi, 1 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Hooded Vulture</b>	<b>Necrosyrtes monachus</b>
2 Entebbe, 6 Queen Elizabeth NP and 15+ Jinja – Kampala.	
<b>African White-backed Vulture</b>	<b>Gyps africanus</b>
10 Murchison Falls NP, 110 Queen Elizabeth NP and 30 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Palm-nut Vulture</b>	<b>Gypohierax angolensis</b>
Widespread though not numerous, 18 were recorded.	
<b>Black-chested Snake-Eagle</b>	<b>Circaetus pectoralis</b>
1 Kampala – Mabamba Swamp, 1 Butiaba Escarpment – Nile Safari Camp, 1 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Brown Snake-Eagle</b>	<b>Circaetus cinereus</b>
1 Murchison Falls NP, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Western Banded Snake-Eagle</b>	<b>Circaetus cinerascens</b>
1 Semliki NP.	

**Bateleur**

1 Butiaba Escarpment – Nile Safari Camp, 2 Murchison Falls NP, 3 Queen Elizabeth NP and 2 Lake Mburo NP.

**Terathopius ecaudatus****Dark Chanting-Goshawk**

1 Butiaba Escarpment – Nile Safari Camp and 1 Murchison Falls NP.

**Melierax metabates****Gabar Goshawk**

1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Melierax gabar****African Harrier-Hawk**

1 Entebbe, 1 Busingiro, 2 Buhoma and 1 Mabamba Swamp.

**Polyboroides typus****Lizard Buzzard**

2 near Mabamba Swamp.

**Kaupifalco monogrammicus****Grasshopper Buzzard**

App. 55 in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area. This species likes burnt areas – so Murchison Falls NP must have been optimal habitat at the time of our visit!

**Butastur rufipennis****Pallid Harrier**

1 Butiaba Escarpment - Nile Safari Camp (near the latter), 2 Murchison Falls NP and 3 Queen Elizabeth NP.  
Status: Near threatened.

**Circus macrourus****Montagu's Harrier**

4 Murchison Falls NP and 4 Queen Elizabeth NP. In addition, 5 unidentified *C. macrourus/pygargus* were recorded.

**Circus pygargus****Eurasian Marsh Harrier**

A total of 15 were seen at 8 localities.

**Circus aeruginosus****African Marsh Harrier**

1 Lutembe Bay, 4 Mabamba Swamp and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Circus ranivorus****African Goshawk**

1 Bigodi Swamp.

**Accipiter tachiro****Shikra**

1 Entebbe, 1 Murchison Falls NP, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Jinja.

**Accipiter badius****Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk**

2 Ruhija, 2 Mgahinga NP and 1 Lake Bunyoni.

**Accipiter rufiventris****Great Sparrowhawk**

1 Echuya FR and 1 Mabira Forest.

**Accipiter melanoleucus****Common Buzzard**

App. 90 were recorded, 50 of which were migrating north over Busingiro.

**Buteo buteo****Mountain Buzzard**

1 Ruhija.

**Buteo oreophilus****Augur Buzzard**

4 Buhoma, 2 Ruhija and 1 Lake Bunyoni.

**Buteo augur****Lesser Spotted Eagle**

1 Murchison Falls NP and at least 10 migrating north Lake Mburo NP.

**Aquila pomarina**

<b>Tawny Eagle</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Ruhija – Kabale.	<b>Aquila rapax</b>
<b>Steppe Eagle</b> 2 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Aquila nipalensis</b>
<b>Wahlberg's Eagle</b> A total of 17 were seen, 13 of which in Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b>Aquila wahlbergi</b>
<b>Booted Eagle</b> 1 near Mabamba Swamp and 1 Echuya Forest, both light phase.	<b>Hieraaetus pennatus</b>
<b>Martial Eagle</b> 1 Butiaba Escarpment – Nile Safari Camp, 2 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Polemaetus bellicosus</b>
<b>Long-crested Eagle</b> Widespread, at least 20 were seen throughout the country.	<b>Lophaetus occipitalis</b>
<b>Cassin's Hawk-Eagle</b> 2 Buhoma and 1 Ruhija.	<b>Spizaetus africanus</b>
<b>African Crowned Eagle</b> 1 Budongo Forest (Busingiro), 2 Buhoma and 1 Mabira Forest.	<b>Stephanoaetus coronatus</b>
<b>Secretary Bird</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Sagittarius serpentarius</b>
<b>Grey Kestrel</b> A total of 10 were seen, scattered.	<b>Falco ardosiaceus</b>
<b>Kestrel sp.</b> 3 Mbale – Lake Bisina.	<b>Falco naumanni/tinnunculus</b>
<b>Red-necked Falcon</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Falco chicquera</b>
<b>Eurasian Hobby</b> 1 Entebbe, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP, 1 Ruhija and 1 Jinja.	<b>Falco subbuteo</b>
<b>African Hobby</b> 1 Jinja.	<b>Falco cuvierii</b>
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b> 1 Kabale – Kisoro and 1 Lake Bunyoni.	<b>Falco peregrinus</b>
<b>Red-necked Spurfowl</b> 30+ Queen Elizabeth NP and 15+ Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Francolinus afer</b>
<b>Handsome Francolin</b> 1 heard Buhoma, 1 heard Ruhija and 1 seen Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b>Francolinus nobilis</b>
<b>Heuglin's Francolin</b> 15 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Francolinus icterorhynchus</b>
<b>Crested Francolin</b> 4 Kampala – Masindi, 4 Butiaba Escarpment, 4 Butiaba Escarpment – Nile Safari Camp and 2 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Francolinus sephaena</b>

**Coqui Francolin**

Heard Lake Mburo NP.

***Francolinus coqui*****Nahan's Francolin**

7-8 Royal Mile (most of them seen well!) and heard in Mabira Forest. Restricted range species, only found in Uganda and far northeastern DRC with Budongo Forest perhaps its main stronghold.  
Status: Endangered.

***Francolinus nahani*****Blue Quail**

1 ♂ Queen Elizabeth NP. This is a rain migrant and had probably just arrived since it was seen in habitat that was too dry for nesting.

***Coturnix adansonii*****Helmeted Guineafowl**

Surprisingly few: 2 Kampala – Masindi, 1 Murchison Falls NP, 40 Queen Elizabeth NP and 20 Lake Mburo NP.

***Numida meleagris*****Crested Guineafowl**

2 at the edge of the road through Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 10 Kibale NP.

***Guttera pucherani*****Gray Crowned Crane**

Fairly common, especially in the southwestern part of the country, app. 60 were seen.

***Balearica regulorum*****White-spotted Flufftail**

1 Kibale NP and 3 Semliki NP. Alfred could easily whistle this one into view.

***Sarothrura pulchra*****Buff-spotted Flufftail**

1 Buhoma (heard only).

***Sarothrura elegans*****African Crake**

2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Crecopsis egregia*****Black Crake**

Fairly common in wetlands, 19 were seen.

***Amaurornis flavirostra*****Common Moorhen**

4 Lake Bunyoni.

***Gallinula chloropus*****Purple Swamphen**

1 Murchison Falls NP, 2 Lake Bunyoni, 5 Lake Bisina and 3 Mabamba Swamp.

***Porphyrio porphyrio*****African Finfoot**

2 Lake Mburo NP.

***Podica senegalensis*****Black-bellied Bustard**

3 Murchison Falls NP and 2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Lissotis melanogaster*****Lesser Jacana**

20 Lake Bisina.

***Microparra capensis*****African Jacana**

Common in wetlands, 60 were seen.

***Actophilornis africanus*****Black-winged Stilt**

App. 100 were recorded with 50 at Lutembe Bay being the highest count.

***Himantopus himantopus*****Pied Avocet**

50 Queen Elizabeth NP (Katwe Lake).

***Recurvirostra avosetta***

<b>Senegal Thick-knee</b>	<b>Burhinus senegalensis</b>
1 Nile Safari Camp and 1 on the launch trip to the base of Murchison Falls.	
<b>Water Thick-knee</b>	<b>Burhinus vermiculatus</b>
5 Murchison Falls NP, 30 Queen Elizabeth NP and 12 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Temminck's Courser</b>	<b>Cursorius temminckii</b>
3 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Collared Pratincole</b>	<b>Glareola pratincola</b>
10 Nile Safari Camp, 80 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Bisina.	
<b>Black-winged Pratincole</b>	<b>Glareola nordmanni</b>
10 Queen Elizabeth NP, 6 on the boat trip and 4 with the 80 G. pratincola seen in the Ishasha sector.	
<b>Rock Pratincole</b>	<b>Glareola nuchalis</b>
35 Murchison Falls NP.	
<b>Long-toed Lapwing</b>	<b>Vanellus crassirostris</b>
6 Lutembe Bay, 10 Mabamba Swamp and 10 in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area.	
<b>Spur-winged Lapwing</b>	<b>Vanellus spinosus</b>
A total of 48 were seen, 25 of which in Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Senegal Lapwing</b>	<b>Vanellus lugubris</b>
3 en route to Mabamba Swamp and 15 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Crowned Lapwing</b>	<b>Vanellus coronatus</b>
22 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Wattled Lapwing</b>	<b>Vanellus senegallus</b>
2 Butiaba Escarpment – Nile Safari Camp, 5 Murchison Falls NP, 17 Queen Elizabeth NP and 15 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Common Ringed Plover</b>	<b>Charadrius hiaticula</b>
2 Entebbe, 1 Lutembe Bay and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Little Ringed Plover</b>	<b>Charadrius dubius</b>
10 Entebbe, 20 Lutembe Bay, 1 Semliki NP and 5 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Kittlitz's Sandplover</b>	<b>Charadrius pecuarius</b>
50 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Three-banded Plover</b>	<b>Charadrius tricollaris</b>
3 Semliki NP – at the hot springs!	
<b>White-fronted Plover</b>	<b>Charadrius marginatus</b>
1 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Caspian Plover</b>	<b>Charadrius asiaticus</b>
200 Murchison Falls NP and 11 Queen Elizabeth NP (Katwe Lake). All in beautiful fresh plumage!	
<b>Black-tailed Godwit</b>	<b>Limosa limosa</b>
1 Nile Safari Camp and 3 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Spotted Redshank</b>	<b>Tringa erythropus</b>
2 Lutembe Bay.	

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

1 Entebbe, 3 Lutembe Bay and 5 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

4 Lutembe Bay and 5 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*

Seen at 5 localities with a total of 9 birds, 5 of which in Lake Mburo NP.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*

A total of 85 were seen with 40 Entebbe as the highest individual count.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

A total of 32 were seen at 5 localities.

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus*

1 Semliki NP – at the hot springs!

**Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

A total of 30 were seen at 5 localities.

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*

50 Entebbe, 20 Lutembe Bay, 20 Semliki NP and 100 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*

1 Entebbe.

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

5 Lutembe Bay and 3 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*

1 Lutembe Bay.

**Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*

50 Entebbe, 10 Lutembe Bay and 10 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Heuglin's Gull** *Larus heuglini*

2 Lutembe Bay and 2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** *Larus fuscus*

2 Entebbe, 50 Lutembe Bay, 200 Queen Elizabeth NP (Katwe Lake) and 1 Jinja.

**Gray-headed Gull** *Larus cirrocephalus*

1 Entebbe and 50 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus*

1 Lutembe Bay.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida*

20 Lake Bisina and 10 Entebbe.

**White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Tens of thousands in the Entebbe / Lutembe Bay area, but only a combined total of 110 elsewhere. We had hoped to see a million terns come in to roost in Lutembe Bay, but the roost appeared to have moved, probably due to the ruthless destruction that was evident at the site, and we just saw a smoke-like cloud of terns far away.

**Gull-billed Tern**

20 Entebbe, 100 Lutembe Bay, 200 Queen Elizabeth NP and 5 Mabamba Swamp.

***Gelochelidon nilotica*****African Skimmer**

22 Murchison Falls NP and 300 Queen Elizabeth NP.

Status: Near threatened.

***Rynchops flavirostris*****Feral Pigeon**

A few Entebbe and Kampala.

***Columba livia*****Speckled (Rock) Pigeon**

5 Semliki NP.

***Columba guinea*****Afep Pigeon**

1 heard Kibale NP and 6 seen Kalinzu Forest.

***Columba unicincta*****Olive (Rameron) Pigeon**

3 Semliki NP, 5 Ruhija and 5 Mgahinga NP.

***Columba arquatrix*****Western Bronze-naped Pigeon**

10 Semliki NP and 3 Buhoma.

***Columba iriditorques*****Dusky Turtle-Dove**

15 Mgahinga NP.

***Streptopelia lugens*****African Mourning Dove**

10 Nile Safari Camp, 10 Queen Elizabeth NP and a few elsewhere. Undoubtedly under-recorded.

***Streptopelia decipiens*****Red-eyed Dove**

Abundant throughout – in all habitats.

***Streptopelia semitorquata*****Ring-necked Dove**

Common and widespread in open habitats.

***Streptopelia capicola*****Vinaceous Dove**

10 Butiaba Escarpment, 5 Nile Safari Camp and 5 Murchison Falls NP.

***Streptopelia vinacea*****Laughing Dove**

Widespread though not numerous.

***Streptopelia senegalensis*****Black-billed Wood-Dove**

5 Butiaba Escarpment, 5 Nile Safari Camp and 20 Murchison Falls NP.

***Turtur abyssinicus*****Blue-spotted Wood-Dove**

A total of 28 were recorded at 6 localities.

***Turtur afer*****Tambourine Dove**

A total of 23 were seen at 5 localities, 13 of them in Semliki NP.

***Turtur tympanistria*****Namaqua Dove**

1 Murchison Falls NP.

***Oena capensis*****African Green-Pigeon**

A total of 17 were seen at 5 localities, 10 of them in Semliki NP.

***Treron calva***



<b>Grey Parrot</b>	<b><i>Psittacus erithacus</i></b>
9 Budongo Forest, 1 CVK Resort, 2 The Neck and 3 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Brown (Meyer's) Parrot</b>	<b><i>Poicephalus meyeri</i></b>
2 Kampala – Masindi, 3 Lake Mburo NP and 4 Jinja.	
<b>Red-headed Lovebird</b>	<b><i>Agapornis pullarius</i></b>
3 near Mabamba Swamp, 1 Buhoma – The Neck and 2 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Fischer's Lovebird</b>	<b><i>Agapornis fischeri</i></b>
2 Entebbe. Almost certainly a feral population.	
<b>Great Blue Turaco</b>	<b><i>Corythaeola cristata</i></b>
At least 45 were seen of this wonderful species which is widespread and fairly common in southern and southwestern Uganda.	
<b>Eastern Grey Plantain-eater</b>	<b><i>Crinifer zonurus</i></b>
A total of 21 were seen in 6 localities, 10 of them in Jinja.	
<b>Bare-faced Go-away-bird</b>	<b><i>Corythaixoides personata</i></b>
1 Queen Elizabeth NP, 2 Mbarara – Lake Mburo NP and 3 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Ross's Turaco</b>	<b><i>Musophaga rossae</i></b>
A total of 9 were seen in 5 localities.	
<b>Ruwenzori Turaco</b>	<b><i>Tauraco johnstoni</i></b>
3 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic. Difficult to find in February/March when there are no fruiting trees.	
<b>Black-billed Turaco</b>	<b><i>Tauraco schuettii</i></b>
A total of 25 were seen in 5 localities in the southwest, 11 of them at Ruhija.	
<b>White-crested Turaco</b>	<b><i>Tauraco leucolophus</i></b>
8 Kampala – Masindi.	
<b>Levaillant's Cuckoo</b>	<b><i>Oxylophus levaillantii</i></b>
1 Butiaba Escarpment, 2 Queen Elizabeth NP, 3 Buhoma and 1 The Neck.	
<b>Thick-billed Cuckoo</b>	<b><i>Pachycoccyx audeberti</i></b>
1 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Red-chested Cuckoo</b>	<b><i>Cuculus solitarius</i></b>
The most widespread cuckoo, 16 recorded in 9 localities.	
<b>Black Cuckoo</b>	<b><i>Cuculus clamosus</i></b>
2 heard Ruhija. The local race is the western gabonensis (which is not black).	
<b>Common Cuckoo</b>	<b><i>Cuculus canorus</i></b>
1 Semliki NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>African Cuckoo</b>	<b><i>Cuculus gularis</i></b>
1 Murchison Falls NP.	
<b>Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo</b>	<b><i>Cercococcyx mehowi</i></b>
1 Busingiro, 1 Kibale NP, 1 Semliki NP and 1 heard Mabira Forest.	

**Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo**

1 heard Buhoma.

***Cercococcyx olivinus*****Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo**

10+ Ruhija and 1 heard Echuya Forest.

***Cercococcyx montanus*****African Emerald Cuckoo**

A total of 20 were recorded at 6 localities, 10 of them in Semliki NP.

***Chrysococcyx cupreus*****Yellow-throated Cuckoo**

2 Semliki NP.

***Chrysococcyx flavigularis*****Klaas's Cuckoo**

A total of 11 were recorded at 8 localities.

***Chrysococcyx klaas*****Diederik Cuckoo**

A total of 19 were recorded at 6 localities.

***Chrysococcyx caprius*****Yellowbill**

A total of 13 were recorded at 6 (forest) localities.

***Ceuthmochares aereus*****Black-throated Coucal**

2 heard Semliki NP (1 Sempaya and 1 Kirumia River trail). The subspecies found in Semliki (and DRC) was previously regarded as a separate species, *C. neumanni*, Neumann's Coucal - and could be split again (it is in fact split in "Birds of Africa south of the Sahara" by Ian Sinclair & Peter Ryan).

***Centropus leucogaster neumanni*****Blue-headed Coucal**

2 Mabamba Swamp, 3 Nile Safari Camp and 2 Lake Bunyoni.

***Centropus monachus*****Senegal Coucal**

2 Murchison Falls NP, 1 Bigodi Swamp 4 Semliki NP and 1 Jinja – Mbale.

***Centropus senegalensis*****White-browed Coucal**

1 Busingiro, 2 Nile Safari Camp, 10 Queen Elizabeth NP and 5 Lake Mburo NP.

***Centropus superciliosus*****African Scops-Owl**

1 heard Lake Mburo NP.

***Otus senegalensis*****Greyish Eagle-Owl**

2 Murchison Falls NP. Often regarded as a subspecies of Spotted Eagle-Owl (*B. africanus*).

***Bubo cinerascens*****Verreaux's Eagle-Owl**

1 Busingiro.

***Bubo lacteus*****African Wood-Owl**

2 Ruhija.

***Strix woodfordii*****Red-chested Owlet**

1 heard Buhoma.

***Glaucidium tephronotum*****Black-shouldered Nightjar**

2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Caprimulgus nigriscapularis*****Ruwenzori Nightjar**

2 Ruhija. Albertine Rift Endemic – although sometimes lumped with *C. guttifer* (Usambara Nightjar).

***Caprimulgus ruwenzorii***

<b>Swamp Nightjar</b> 6 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Caprimulgus natalensis</b>
<b>Bates's Nightjar</b> 1♂ Semliki NP.	<b>Caprimulgus batesi</b>
<b>Square-tailed Nightjar</b> 10 Murchison Falls NP, 3 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Scotornis fossii</b>
<b>Long-tailed Nightjar</b> 8 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Scotornis climacurus</b>
<b>Standard-winged Nightjar</b> 15 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Macrodipteryx longipennis</b>
<b>Scarce Swift</b> 75 Buhoma.	<b>Schoutedenapus myoptilus</b>
<b>Mottled Spinetail</b> 4 Budongo Forest (over the waterhole) and 1 Mabira Forest.	<b>Telacanthura ussheri</b>
<b>Sabine's Spinetail</b> 10 Budongo Forest (over the waterhole), 2 Kalinzu Forest and 2 Mabira Forest.	<b>Rhaphidura sabini</b>
<b>Cassin's Spinetail</b> 2 Budongo Forest (over the waterhole).	<b>Neafrapus cassini</b>
<b>African Palm-Swift</b> Common and widespread, at least 230 were recorded.	<b>Cypsiurus parvus</b>
<b>Alpine Swift</b> 10 Kibale NP and 1 Mgahinga NP.	<b>Tachymarptis melba</b>
<b>Common Swift</b> 10 Nile Safari Camp and 5 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b>Apus apus</b>
<b>Little Swift</b> App. 60 were recorded in 5 localities.	<b>Apus affinis</b>
<b>White-rumped Swift</b> 2 Budongo Forest and 10 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Apus caffer</b>
<b>Speckled Mousebird</b> Widespread and numerous, several hundred were seen.	<b>Colius striatus</b>
<b>Blue-naped Mousebird</b> 20 Murchison Falls NP, 40 Queen Elizabeth NP and 4 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Urocolius macrourus</b>
<b>Narina Trogon</b> 2 Budongo Forest, 1 Kibale NP, 1 Semliki NP and 1 heard Ruhija.	<b>Apaloderma narina</b>
<b>Bar-tailed Trogon</b> 1 Buhoma and 1 heard Ruhija.	<b>Apaloderma vittatum</b>
<b>Giant Kingfisher</b> 2 Nile Safari Camp, 1 Murchison Falls NP and 2 CVK Resort.	<b>Megaceryle maxima</b>

**Pied Kingfisher*****Ceryle rudis***

Common in all wetlands, several hundred were seen.

**Shining-blue Kingfisher*****Alcedo quadribrachys***

1 Budongo Forest (by the waterhole) and 1 Kibale NP (by the main road through the Sebitoli sector).

**Malachite Kingfisher*****Alcedo cristata***

Common in all wetlands, app. 60 were seen.

**African Dwarf-Kingfisher*****Ispidina lecontei***

3 Budongo Forest and 3 Semliki NP.

**African Pygmy-Kingfisher*****Ispidina picta***

A total of 18 were seen at 5 localities, 8 of them in Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Chocolate-backed Kingfisher*****Halcyon badia***

1 Budongo Forest, 1 Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 1 Semliki NP.

**Grey-headed Kingfisher*****Halcyon leucocephala***

Fairly common, especially in the northwest. 20 of the 36 recorded were in Murchison Falls NP.

**Woodland Kingfisher*****Halcyon senegalensis***

A total of 14 were recorded at 5 localities.

**Blue-breasted Kingfisher*****Halcyon malimbica***

4 Budongo Forest, 2 Kibale NP and 6 Semliki NP.

**Striped Kingfisher*****Halcyon chelicuti***

A total of 11 were recorded at 5 localities.

**Black Bee-eater*****Merops gularis***

1 Semliki NP, 2 Kalinzu Forest, 2 Buhoma and 3 The Neck.

**Red-throated Bee-eater*****Merops bulocki***

100+ in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area, most of them nesting along the Nile.

**Little Bee-eater*****Merops pusillus***

3 Nile Safari Camp, 5 Murchison Falls NP, 4 Queen Elizabeth NP and 4 Lake Mburo NP.

**Blue-breasted Bee-eater*****Merops variegatus***

8 Mabamba Swamp, 1 Nile Safari Camp and 1 Lake Bunyoni.

**Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater*****Merops oreobates***

3 Kalinzu Forest, 1 Buhoma, 7 Ruhija and 5 Kisoro.

**Swallow-tailed Bee-eater*****Merops hirundineus***

1 Kampala – Masindi and 20 Murchison Falls NP.

**White-throated Bee-eater*****Merops albicollis***

18 Budongo Forest, 30 Semliki NP and 30 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater*****Merops persicus***

App. 100 were recorded, scattered across the country.

**Northern Carmine Bee-eater*****Merops nubicus***

20 Nile Safari Camp and 10 Murchison Falls NP.

<b>European Roller</b>	<b>Coracias garrulus</b>
1 Lake Mburo NP and 2 Lake Mburo NP – Kampala.	
<b>Abyssinian Roller</b>	<b>Coracias abyssinica</b>
2 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Nile Safari Camp.	
<b>Lilac-breasted Roller</b>	<b>Coracias caudata</b>
4 Lake Mburo NP and 15 Lake Mburo NP- Kampala.	
<b>Broad-billed Roller</b>	<b>Eurystomus glaucurus</b>
At least 47 were seen, most of them (35) within 80 km from Kampala.	
<b>Blue-throated Roller</b>	<b>Eurystomus gularis</b>
9 Semliki NP. Amazingly, not a single one was seen in either Budongo Forest or Kibale NP.	
<b>Eurasian Hoopoe</b>	<b>Upupa epops</b>
1 Kampala – Masindi.	
<b>White-headed Woodhoopoe</b>	<b>Phoeniculus bollei</b>
1 Kalinzu Forest and 4 Buhoma.	
<b>Forest Woodhoopoe</b>	<b>Phoeniculus castaneiceps</b>
4 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Black Scimitarbill</b>	<b>Rhinopomastus aterrimus</b>
2 Butiaba Escarpment.	
<b>Common Scimitarbill</b>	<b>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</b>
5 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>African Pied Hornbill</b>	<b>Tockus fasciatus</b>
10+ near Mabamba Swamp, 6 Semliki NP and 2 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Crowned Hornbill</b>	<b>Tockus alboterminatus</b>
A total of 7 were seen at 5 localities.	
<b>African Grey Hornbill</b>	<b>Tockus nasutus</b>
Fairly common, 28 were seen at 5 localities.	
<b>Black Dwarf Hornbill</b>	<b>Tockus hartlaubi</b>
4 Semliki NP. A rare bird in Uganda.	
<b>Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill</b>	<b>Tockus camurus</b>
11 Semliki NP.	
<b>White-crested Hornbill</b>	<b>Tropicranus albocristatus</b>
4 Semliki NP.	
<b>Piping Hornbill</b>	<b>Bycanistes fistulator</b>
11 Semliki NP.	
<b>White-thighed Hornbill</b>	<b>Bycanistes albotibialis</b>
14 Budongo Forest.	
<b>Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill</b>	<b>Bycanistes subcylindricus</b>
The commonest hornbill – at least 66 were seen with 20 in Budongo Forest being the highest number for an area.	

<b>Black-casqued Wattled Hornbill</b> 2 Semliki NP.	<b><i>Ceratogymna atrata</i></b>
<b>Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill</b> 2 Butiaba Escarpment – Nile Safari Camp and 3 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Bucorvus abyssinicus</i></b>
<b>Grey-throated Barbet</b> A total of 37 were recorded at 6 localities with 15 in Kalinzu Forest being the highest number.	<b><i>Gymnobucco bonapartei</i></b>
<b>Yellow-spotted Barbet</b> 3 Kibale NP and 1 heard Buhoma.	<b><i>Buccanodon duchaillui</i></b>
<b>Speckled Tinkerbird</b> A total of 16 were recorded at 5 forest localities.	<b><i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i></b>
<b>Western Green Tinkerbird</b> 1 Echuya Forest and 2 Mgahinga NP.	<b><i>Pogoniulus coryphaeus</i></b>
<b>Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird</b> 5 Kampala – Masindi, 1 Butiaba Escarpment and 2 Nile Safari Camp.	<b><i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i></b>
<b>Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird</b> A total of 28 were recorded at 8 localities.	<b><i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i></b>
<b>Yellow-throated Tinkerbird</b> A total of 33 were recorded, 20 of which in Budongo Forest.	<b><i>Pogoniulus subsulphureus</i></b>
<b>Red-rumped Tinkerbird</b> 5 Semliki NP.	<b><i>Pogoniulus atroflavus</i></b>
<b>Spot-flanked Barbet</b> 1 Nile Safari Camp, 4 Queen Elizabeth NP and 4 Lake Mburo NP.	<b><i>Tricholaema lacrymosa</i></b>
<b>Hairy-breasted Barbet</b> 6 were recorded at 5 different localities.	<b><i>Tricholaema hirsuta</i></b>
<b>Black-billed Barbet</b> 1 Butiaba Escarpment, 1 Nile Safari Camp and 2 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Lybius guifsobalito</i></b>
<b>Red-faced Barbet</b> 2 Lake Mburo NP. Call completely different from <i>L. guifsobalito</i> . Restricted range species. Status: Near threatened.	<b><i>Lybius rubrifacies</i></b>
<b>White-headed Barbet</b> 7 Kampala – Masindi.	<b><i>Lybius leucocephalus</i></b>
<b>Double-toothed Barbet</b> A total of 9 were recorded at 5 localities. Garden bird at the Gately, Jinja.	<b><i>Lybius bidentatus</i></b>
<b>Yellow-billed Barbet</b> A total of 8 were recorded at 5 localities.	<b><i>Trachyphonus purpuratus</i></b>
<b>Scaly-throated Honeyguide</b> 1 Buhoma.	<b><i>Indicator variegatus</i></b>

<b>Greater Honeyguide</b> 2 Butiaba Escarpment and 5 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Indicator indicator</b>
<b>Lesser Honeyguide</b> 1 Butiaba Escarpment.	<b>Indicator minor</b>
<b>Least Honeyguide</b> 1 Semliki NP.	<b>Indicator exilis</b>
<b>Willcocks's Honeyguide</b> 2 Semliki NP and 1 Buhoma.	<b>Indicator willcocksi</b>
<b>Dwarf Honeyguide</b> 1 at The Neck. Albertine Rift Endemic. Status: Near threatened.	<b>Indicator pumilio</b>
<b>Red-throated Wryneck</b> 2 Buhoma – The Neck and 2 The Neck – Ruhija.	<b>Jynx ruficollis</b>
<b>Nubian Woodpecker</b> 2 Nile Safari Camp and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Campethera nubica</b>
<b>Buff-spotted Woodpecker</b> 1 Bigodi Swamp, 1 Semliki NP, 1 Buhoma and 1 at The Neck.	<b>Campethera nivosa</b>
<b>Brown-eared Woodpecker</b> 2 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 2 Bigodi Swamp and 3 Semliki NP.	<b>Campethera caroli</b>
<b>Cardinal Woodpecker</b> 1 Budongo Forest, 1 Nile Safari Camp and 1 Ruhija.	<b>Dendropicos fuscescens</b>
<b>Yellow-crested Woodpecker</b> 8 Budongo Forest and 3 Semliki NP.	<b>Dendropicos xantholophus</b>
<b>Grey Woodpecker</b> 1 Butiaba Escarpment, 2 Nile Safari Camp, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 2 Jinja.	<b>Dendropicos goertae</b>
<b>Olive Woodpecker</b> 1 Ruhija.	<b>Dendropicos griseocephalus</b>
<b>African Broadbill</b> 1 heard Buhoma.	<b>Smithornis capensis</b>
<b>Rufous-sided Broadbill</b> 1 Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 4 Semliki NP.	<b>Smithornis rufolateralis</b>
<b>African Green Broadbill</b> 2-4 Ruhija. A pair was in the process of building a nest at the edge of Mubwindi Swamp. Albertine Rift Endemic. Status: Vulnerable.	<b>Pseudocalyptomena graueri</b>
<b>White-tailed Lark</b> 5 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b>Mirafrja albicauda</b>
<b>Rufous-naped Lark</b> 8 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b>Mirafrja africana</b>



<b>Flappet Lark</b>	<b>Mirafr rufocinnamomea</b>
2 Butiaba Escarpment and 7 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Plain Martin</b>	<b>Riparia paludicola</b>
20 Entebbe and 10 Busingiro. Undoubtedly under-recorded.	
<b>Sand Martin</b>	<b>Riparia riparia</b>
10 Entebbe, 10 Busingiro and perhaps 2000 Nile Safari Camp.	
<b>Rock Martin</b>	<b>Hirundo fuligula</b>
3 Mgahinga NP.	
<b>Barn Swallow</b>	<b>Hirundo rustica</b>
Widespread and abundant.	
<b>Angolan Swallow</b>	<b>Hirundo angolensis</b>
Widespread though not numerous with 50 Entebbe being by far the highest count.	
<b>Wire-tailed Swallow</b>	<b>Hirundo smithii</b>
10 Nile Safari Camp and 5 Murchison Falls NP.	
<b>Lesser Striped Swallow</b>	<b>Hirundo abyssinica</b>
40 Budongo Forest, 20 Queen Elizabeth NP and 10 Mabamba Swamp.	
<b>Rufous-chested Swallow</b>	<b>Hirundo semirufa</b>
10 Queen Elizabeth NP and 10 Entebbe – Mabamba Swamp.	
<b>Mosque Swallow</b>	<b>Hirundo senegalensis</b>
2 Mabamba Swamp, 10 Murchison Falls NP, 2 Queen Elizabeth NP and 10 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Red-rumped Swallow</b>	<b>Hirundo daurica</b>
2 near Mabamba Swamp and 2 Busingiro.	
<b>Common House-Martin</b>	<b>Delichon urbica</b>
30 Entebbe and 5 Busingiro.	
<b>White-headed Sawwing</b>	<b>Psalidoprocne albiceps</b>
Widespread in the lowlands though not numerous.	
<b>Black Sawwing</b>	<b>Psalidoprocne holomelas</b>
Widespread and fairly numerous in the southwestern highlands.	
<b>Yellow Wagtail</b>	<b>Motacilla flava</b>
Some 300-500 were recorded.	
<b>Mountain Wagtail</b>	<b>Motacilla clara</b>
3 at The Neck.	
<b>African Pied Wagtail</b>	<b>Motacilla aguimp</b>
App. 40 were recorded.	
<b>Cape Wagtail</b>	<b>Motacilla capensis</b>
1 Buhoma.	
<b>Yellow-throated Longclaw</b>	<b>Macronyx croceus</b>
Seen at 5 localities with a total of 65 birds, 35 of which in Queen Elizabeth NP.	

**Grassland Pipit**

1 by the waterhole in Budongo Forest and 10 Queen Elizabeth NP. Probably under-recorded.

***Anthus cinnamomeus*****Tawny Pipit**

2 Queen Elizabeth NP. Apparently a new species for Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Anthus campestris*****Plain-backed Pipit**

2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Anthus leucophrys*****Tree Pipit**

12 Butiaba Escarpment.

***Anthus trivialis*****Red-throated Pipit**

10 Lutembe Bay.

***Anthus cervinus*****Grey Cuckooshrike**

3 Ruhija.

***Coracina caesia*****Black Cuckooshrike**

1 Busingiro and 1 Lake Mburo NP.

***Campephaga flava*****Petit's Cuckooshrike**

2 Kalinzu Forest and 6 Buhoma.

***Campephaga petiti*****Purple-throated Cuckooshrike**

4 Mabira Forest.

***Campephaga quiscalina*****Common Bulbul**

Abundant throughout except inside forest.

***Pycnonotus barbatus*****Shelley's Greenbul**

5 Buhoma and 2 at The Neck. Kakamegae is a good split candidate (*A. kakamegae*, Kakamega Greenbul), restricted to the Albertine Rift mountains and Nandi and Kakamega forests in western Kenya.

***Andropadus masukuensis kakamegae*****Little Greenbul**

The commonest greenbul in Ugandan forests, 42 were recorded.

***Andropadus virens*****Little Grey Greenbul**

1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 2 Semliki NP and 1 Mabira Forest.

***Andropadus gracilis*****Ansorge's Greenbul**

2 Buhoma and 1 at The Neck.

***Andropadus ansorgei*****Cameroon Sombre Greenbul**

1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 1 Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 1 Semliki NP.

***Andropadus curvirostris*****Yellow-whiskered Greenbul**

25 were recorded, 15 of which at Ruhija.

***Andropadus latirostris*****Slender-billed Greenbul**

22 were recorded in the western forests.

***Andropadus gracilirostris*****Mountain Greenbul**

8 Ruhija and 1 Mgahinga NP.

***Andropadus nigriceps kikuyuensis***

<b>Honeyguide Greenbul</b> 2 Kibale NP, 2 Semliki NP, 2 Buhoma and 1 Mabira Forest.	<b>Baeopogon indicator</b>
<b>Spotted Greenbul</b> 8 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile).	<b>Ixonotus guttatus</b>
<b>Simple Greenbul</b> 2 Semliki NP.	<b>Chlorocichla simplex</b>
<b>Yellow-throated Greenbul</b> A total of 17 were recorded. Most numerous in our camp at Buhoma (8).	<b>Chlorocichla flavicollis</b>
<b>Joyful Greenbul</b> 6 Kalinzu Forest. Restricted range species, confined to the Albertine Rift mountains and the Kenyan highlands.	<b>Chlorocichla laetissima</b>
<b>Swamp Palm Bulbul</b> 10 Semliki NP.	<b>Thescelocichla leucopleura</b>
<b>Toro Olive Greenbul</b> 1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 1 Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 2 Semliki NP. Restricted range species – with its range centered on Uganda.	<b>Phyllastrephus hypochloris</b>
<b>Yellow-streaked Greenbul</b> 6 Ruhija.	<b>Phyllastrephus flavirostriatus</b>
<b>Common Leaflove</b> 2 Semliki NP.	<b>Phyllastrephus scandens</b>
<b>White-throated Greenbul</b> 7 Budongo Forest, 1 Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 2 Kibale NP.	<b>Phyllastrephus albigularis</b>
<b>Icterine Greenbul</b> 10 Semliki NP.	<b>Phyllastrephus icterinus</b>
<b>Xavier's Greenbul</b> 2 Budongo Forest (Busingiro) and 3 Semliki NP.	<b>Phyllastrephus xavieri</b>
<b>Common Bristlebill</b> 3 Kibale NP and 4 Semliki NP.	<b>Bleda syndactyla</b>
<b>Green-tailed Bristlebill</b> 2 Semliki NP and 2 Mabira Forest. This species is sometimes split into two or even three species. If split into two – B. eximia and B. notata – as suggested Sibley & Monroe, ugandae is a subspecies of B. notata (Lesser Bristlebill). If split into three, ugandae is elevated to species status (Yellow-eyed Bristlebill).	<b>Bleda eximia ugandae</b>
<b>Red-tailed Greenbul</b> 4 Budongo Forest, 20 Semliki NP, 10 Buhoma and 2 The Neck.	<b>Criniger calurus</b>
<b>White Helmetshrike</b> 4 Butiaba Escarpment.	<b>Prionops plumatus</b>
<b>Northern Puffback</b> A total of 9 were recorded at 5 localities.	<b>Dryoscopus gambensis</b>
<b>Pink-footed Puffback</b> 3 Buhoma.	<b>Dryoscopus angolensis</b>

**Black-crowned Tchagra****Tchagra senegala**

1 Kampala – Masindi, 3 Butiaba Escarpment, 8 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.

**Brown-crowned Tchagra****Tchagra australis**

1 Semliki NP – Fort Portal, 1 Buhoma, 1 Ruhija – Kabale and 1 Mgahinga NP.

**Lühder's Bushshrike****Laniarius luehderi**

1 Bigodi Swamp, 1 Kalinzu Forest, 2 Buhoma and 4 Ruhija.

**Tropical Boubou****Laniarius aethiopicus**

2 Nile Safari Camp, 1 CVK Resort, 6 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Mgahinga NP.

**Black-headed Gonolek****Laniarius erythrogaster**

App. 50 were recorded. Particularly numerous in Queen Elizabeth NP where we recorded at least 30.

**Papyrus Gonolek****Laniarius mufumbiri**

1 in a roadside swamp near Mabamba Swamp, 1 heard Bigodi Swamp and 2 seen Lake Mburo NP. Restricted range species (“papyrus endemic”).

Status: Near threatened.

**Mountain Sooty Boubou****Laniarius poensis**

3 Buhoma, 2 Ruhija and 3 Mgahinga NP. Apart from the Albertine Rift mountains only found in SW Cameroon / SE Nigeria.

**Sooty Boubou****Laniarius leucorhynchus**

3 Semliki NP.

**Grey-green Bushshrike****Telophorus bocagei**

1 Bigodi Swamp.

**Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike****Telophorus sulfureopectus**

1 Butiaba Escarpment and 1 Murchison Falls NP.

**Many-coloured Bushshrike****Telophorus multicolor**

1 heard Buhoma.

**Doherty's Bushshrike****Telophorus dohertyi**

2 Ruhija and 2 Mgahinga NP. Restricted range species, confined to the Albertine Rift mountains and the Kenyan highlands.

**Lagden's Bushshrike****Malaconotus lagdeni**

4 Mgahinga NP. The Albertine Rift subspecies looks different than the widely disjunct West African subspecies – a future split?

Status: Near threatened.

**Grey-headed Bushshrike****Malaconotus blanchoti**

2 Murchison Falls NP.

**Western Nicator****Nicator chloris**

8 Budongo Forest, 4 Semliki NP and 1 Kalinzu Forest.

**Yellow-throated Nicator****Nicator vireo**

8 Semliki NP. Easily found by voice – but seeing one is a different matter!

**Yellow-billed Shrike****Corvinella corvina**

3-4 Nile Safari Camp.

<b>Red-backed Shrike</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Lanius collurio</b>
<b>Isabelline Shrike</b> 3 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Lanius isabellinus</b>
<b>Mackinnon's Shrike</b> 1 Kalinzu Forest, 6 Buhoma and 3 Buhoma – The Neck.	<b>Lanius mackinnoni</b>
<b>Grey-backed Fiscal</b> App. 55 were recorded, 30 of which in Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b>Lanius excubitoroides</b>
<b>Common Fiscal</b> 15 were recorded at 5 localities.	<b>Lanius collaris</b>
<b>Woodchat Shrike</b> 10 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Lanius senator</b>
<b>Fire-crested Alethe</b> 2 Budongo Forest (Busingiro), 1 Kibale NP and 2 Semliki NP.	<b>Alethe castanea</b>
<b>Red-throated Alethe</b> 3 Buhoma, 1 Ruhija and 1 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b>Alethe poliophrys</b>
<b>Brown-chested Alethe</b> 1 Semliki NP.	<b>Alethe poliocephala</b>
<b>Red-tailed Antthrush</b> 1 Semliki NP.	<b>Neocossyphus rufus</b>
<b>White-tailed Antthrush</b> 2 Bigodi Swamp and 1 Semliki NP.	<b>Neocossyphus poensis</b>
<b>Rufous Flycatcher-Thrush</b> 6 Budongo Forest, 3 Kibale NP, 18 Semliki NP and 1 Mabira Forest.	<b>Neocossyphus fraseri</b>
<b>Kivu Ground-Thrush</b> 1 Echuya Forest. Albertine Rift Endemic. Sometimes considered a race of <i>Z. piaggiae</i> (Abyssinian Ground-Thrush). Status: Near threatened.	<b>Zoothera tanganjicae</b>
<b>African Thrush</b> A total of 19 were recorded.	<b>Turdus pelios</b>
<b>Abyssinian (Olive) Thrush</b> 1 Buhoma and 2 Ruhija.	<b>Turdus abyssinicus</b>
<b>White-starred Robin</b> 11 Ruhija and 5 Mgahinga NP.	<b>Pogonocichla stellata</b>
<b>Forest Robin</b> 2 Budongo Forest (Busingiro), 1 Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 2 Semliki NP.	<b>Stiphornis erythrothorax</b>
<b>Lowland Akalat</b> 1 heard Semliki NP.	<b>Sheppardia cyornithopsis</b>

**Equatorial Akalat**

3 Buhoma. Restricted range species, confined to the Albertine Rift mountains and the West Kenyan highlands.

**White-bellied Robinchat**

1 Buhoma. This species is confined to the Albertine Rift mountains and a small area in SW Cameroon / SE Nigeria.

**Grey-winged Robinchat**

1 heard Bigodi Swamp.

**Archer's Robinchat**

3 Ruhija and 1 heard Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.

**Cape Robinchat**

1 Mgahinga NP.

**Blue-shouldered Robinchat**

1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 1 Semliki NP and 1 Mabira Forest. This notorious skulker was only glimpsed.

**White-browed Robinchat**

2 Nile Safari Camp, 15 Queen Elizabeth NP and 3 Buhoma – The Neck.

**Red-capped Robinchat**

1 Kibale NP and 1 Kalinzu Forest.

**Snowy-headed Robinchat**

1 Entebbe, 1 Nile Safari Camp, 1 Bigodi Swamp and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Spotted Morning-Thrush**

4 Nile Safari Camp and 1 Murchison Falls NP.

**Brown-backed Scrub-Robin**

1 Buhoma and 2 Buhoma – The Neck.

**White-browed Scrub-Robin**

1 Kampala – Masindi, 3 Butiaba Escarpment and 1 NSC.

**Common Redstart**

3 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Nile Safari Camp.

**Whinchat**

App. 85 were recorded, 50 of which in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area.

**African Stonechat**

2 The Neck – Ruhija, 2 Kabale – Echuya Forest and 1 Mgahinga NP.

**Northern Wheatear**

15 Murchison Falls NP, 2 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.

**Pied Wheatear**

2 Murchison Falls NP.

**Isabelline Wheatear**

1 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Sooty Chat**

App. 25 were seen, about half of them in Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Sheppardia aequatorialis******Cossyphicula roberti******Cossypha polioptera******Cossypha archeri******Cossypha caffra******Cossypha cyanocampter******Cossypha heuglini******Cossypha natalensis******Cossypha niveicapilla******Cichladusa guttata******Cercotrichas hartlaubi******Cercotrichas leucophrys******Phoenicurus phoenicurus******Saxicola rubetra******Saxicola axillaris******Oenanthe oenanthe******Oenanthe pleschanka******Oenanthe isabellina******Myrmecocichla nigra***

**Scaly-breasted Illadopsis*****Illadopsis albipectus***

3 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 4 Kibale NP, 1 Semliki NP and 1 at The Neck.

**Pale-breasted Illadopsis*****Illadopsis rufipennis***

2 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile) and 3 Semliki NP.

**Brown Illadopsis*****Illadopsis fulvescens***

1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 3 Kibale NP, 4 Semliki NP and 1 Kalinzu Forest.

**Puvel's Illadopsis*****Illadopsis puveli***

2 Kanyo Pabidi Forest. The only site in East Africa for this species.

**Mountain Illadopsis*****Illadopsis pyrrhoptera***

2 Buhoma and 2 heard Ruhija. Restricted range species, confined to Albertine Rift mountains and Kenyan highlands.

**African Hill Babbler*****Pseudoalcippe abyssinica atriceps***

5 Ruhija. The subspecies *atriceps* is often regarded as a separate species, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler. Despite its English name, this taxon is not endemic to the Albertine Rift mountains, but is found in SW Cameroon / SE Nigeria as well.

**Grey-chested Illadopsis*****Kakamega poliothorax***

2 Ruhija.

**Black-lored Babbler*****Turdoides sharpei***

1 Mgahinga NP. A flock of unidentified babblers in Queen Elizabeth NP was probably this species.

**Brown Babbler*****Turdoides plebejus***

4 Butiaba Escarpment.

**Arrow-marked Babbler*****Turdoides jardineii***

10 Queen Elizabeth NP and 6 Lake Mburo NP.

**Red-faced Cisticola*****Cisticola erythrops***

1 Entebbe, 1 Nyabyeya and 2 Buhoma – The Neck.

**Singing Cisticola*****Cisticola cantans***

1 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Trilling Cisticola*****Cisticola woosnami***

1 Nile Safari Camp, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 20+ Lake Mburo NP.

**Chubb's Cisticola*****Cisticola chubbi***

App. 27 were recorded in the southwestern highlands including 10 in Mgahinga NP.

**Rattling Cisticola*****Cisticola chinianus***

10 Nile Safari Camp and 2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Winding Cisticola*****Cisticola galactotes***

App. 50 were recorded, 30 of which in Mabamba Swamp.

**Carruthers's Cisticola*****Cisticola carruthersi***

1 heard Nile Safari Camp and 3 seen Ruhija (Mubwindi Swamp). Restricted range species ("papyrus endemic" – although not entirely confined to papyrus, e.g. not in papyrus in Mubwindi Swamp).

**Stout Cisticola*****Cisticola robustus***

1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

<b>Croaking Cisticola</b> 1 Nile Safari Camp, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Cisticola natalensis</b>
<b>Tabora Cisticola</b> 2 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Cisticola angusticauda</b>
<b>Foxy Cisticola</b> 4 Butiaba Escarpment.	<b>Cisticola troglodytes</b>
<b>Zitting Cisticola</b> 20 Murchison Falls NP and 30 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b>Cisticola juncidis</b>
<b>Black-necked Cisticola</b> 2 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Cisticola eximius</b>
<b>Wing-snapping Cisticola</b> 2 Lake Bunyoni.	<b>Cisticola ayresii</b>
<b>Tawny-flanked Prinia</b> A total of 30 were recorded at 6 localities.	<b>Prinia subflava</b>
<b>White-chinned Prinia</b> A total of 17 were seen at 5 localities.	<b>Prinia leucopogon</b>
<b>Black-faced (Banded) Prinia</b> 4 Buhoma and 1 Mgahinga NP.	<b>Prinia (bairdii) melanops</b>
<b>Red-winged Gray Warbler</b> 5 Nile Safari Camp.	<b>Drymocichla incana</b>
<b>Collared Apalis</b> 2 Ruhija and 4 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b>Apalis ruwenzorii</b>
<b>Black-capped Apalis</b> 5 Budongo Forest.	<b>Apalis nigriceps</b>
<b>Black-throated Apalis</b> 2 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile).	<b>Apalis jacksoni</b>
<b>Mountain Masked Apalis</b> 4 Buhoma and 15 Ruhija. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b>Apalis personata</b>
<b>Yellow-breasted Apalis</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP and 2 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Apalis flavida</b>
<b>Buff-throated Apalis</b> 40 Budongo Forest, 10 Kibale NP and 5 Mabira Forest.	<b>Apalis rufogularis</b>
<b>Chestnut-throated Apalis</b> 8 Ruhija.	<b>Apalis porphyrolaema</b>
<b>Grey Apalis</b> 2 Kibale NP, 2 Kalinzu Forest and 6 Buhoma.	<b>Apalis cinerea</b>
<b>Buff-bellied Warbler</b> 1 Butiaba Escarpment, 2 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Phyllolais pulchella</b>



**Grey-backed Camaroptera**                      **Camaroptera brevicaudata**

Widespread and fairly common, 36 were recorded.

**Yellow-browed Camaroptera**                      **Camaroptera superciliaris**

2 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile) and 2 Mabira Forest.

**Olive-green Camaroptera**                      **Camaroptera chloronota**

1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 1 Semliki NP and 1 Buhoma.

**Grauer's Rush Warbler**                      **Bradypterus graueri**

8 Ruhija (Mubwindi Swamp). Albertine Rift Endemic.  
Status: Endangered.

**White-winged Warbler**                      **Bradypterus carpalis**

1 heard Lake Bunyoni and 4 Lake Mburo NP (1 of which was seen well). Restricted range species ("papyrus endemic").

**Bamboo Warbler**                      **Bradypterus alfredi**

1 Buhoma – The Neck. The known range of this elusive species is very fragmented.

**Evergreen Forest Warbler**                      **Bradypterus lopezi**

1 Ruhija.

**Cinnamon Bracken Warbler**                      **Bradypterus cinnamomeus**

3 Ruhija and 1 Echuya Forest.

**Black-faced Rufous Warbler**                      **Bathmocercus rufus**

1 Kalinzu Forest and 1 Buhoma.

**African Moustached Warbler**                      **Melocichla mentalis**

1 Murchison Falls NP, 1 Nile Safari Camp and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Sedge Warbler**                      **Acrocephalus schoenobaenus**

1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Bunyoni.

**Eurasian Reed-Warbler**                      **Acrocephalus scirpaceus**

1 Entebbe, 10 Nile Safari Camp, 2 Murchison Falls NP and 2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**African Reed-Warbler**                      **Acrocephalus baeticatus**

5+ Lake Bunyoni.

**Great Reed-Warbler**                      **Acrocephalus arundinaceus**

1 Lutembe Bay and 1 Jinja.

**Dark-capped Yellow Warbler**                      **Chloropeta natalensis**

1 Buhoma – The Neck.

**Mountain Yellow Warbler**                      **Chloropeta similis**

4 Ruhija.

**Papyrus Yellow Warbler**                      **Chloropeta gracilirostris**

1 Lake Bunyoni. Restricted range species. The rarest of the "papyrus endemics".  
Status: Vulnerable.

**Grauer's Warbler**                      **Graueria vittata**

5 Ruhija. Albertine Rift Endemic.

<b>Rufous-crowned Eremomela</b> 11 Budongo Forest.	<b>Eremomela badiceps</b>
<b>-Green-backed Eremomela</b> 2 Butiaba Escarpment.	<b>Eremomela canescens</b>
<b>Green Crombec</b> 2 Budongo Forest (Busingiro), 1 Kibale NP, 10+ Semliki NP and 3 Mabira Forest.	<b>Sylvietta virens</b>
<b>White-browed Crombec</b> 1 Buhoma and 1 Ruhija. Restricted range species, confined to Albertine Rift mountains and West Kenyan highlands.	<b>Sylvietta leucophrys</b>
<b>Lemon-bellied Crombec</b> 1 Budongo Forest (Busingiro).	<b>Sylvietta denti</b>
<b>Northern Crombec</b> 1 Butiaba Escarpment and 1 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Sylvietta brachyura</b>
<b>Short-tailed Warbler</b> 2 Buhoma. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b>Hemitesia neumanni</b>
<b>Yellow Longbill</b> 1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 2 Semliki NP and 2 Mabira Forest.	<b>Macrosphenus flavicans</b>
<b>Grey Longbill</b> 5 Budongo Forest and 1 Semliki NP.	<b>Macrosphenus concolor</b>
<b>Grey-capped Warbler</b> A total of 10 were recorded at 5 localities.	<b>Eminia lepida</b>
<b>Green Hylia</b> A total of 7 were recorded at 5 forest localities with the maximum being 3 in Mabira Forest.	<b>Hylia prasina</b>
<b>Red-faced Woodland-Warbler</b> 7 Buhoma, 1 The Neck, 2 Ruhija and 3 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic (perhaps the most numerous one).	<b>Phylloscopus laetus</b>
<b>Uganda Woodland-Warbler</b> 2 Budongo Forest. Restricted range species.	<b>Phylloscopus budongoensis</b>
<b>Willow Warbler</b> Some 30-50 were recorded.	<b>Phylloscopus trochilus</b>
<b>Wood Warbler</b> 1 Budongo Forest (Busingiro).	<b>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</b>
<b>Blackcap</b> 2 The Neck – Ruhija.	<b>Sylvia atricapilla</b>
<b>Silverbird</b> 15 Murchison Falls NP and 2 Nile Safari Camp.	<b>Empidonax semipartitus</b>
<b>White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher</b> 6 in Bwindi NP (combined), 2 Echuya Forest and 2 Mgahinga NP. The Albertine Rift subspecies which does not have a white eye ring.	<b>Melaenornis fischeri toruensis</b>

<b>Northern Black-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Melaenornis edolioides</b>
1 Kampala – Masindi and 10 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>Yellow-eyed Black-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Melaenornis ardesiacus</b>
1 Buhoma and 7 Ruhija. Albertine Rift Endemic.	
<b>Forest Flycatcher</b>	<b>Fraseria ocreata</b>
1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile).	
<b>Spotted Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa striata</b>
1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 3 Masindi Hotel and 1 The Neck – Ruhija.	
<b>Sooty Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa infusata</b>
4 Kibale NP and 10 Buhoma.	
<b>Swamp Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa aquatica</b>
Common in and near wetlands, 52 were recorded.	
<b>Flycatcher sp.</b>	<b>Muscicapa(?) sp.</b>
1 seen and tape recorded in Semliki NP – still not positively identified. A non-descript Muscicapa-like flycatcher singing from subcanopy. Possibly the first Olivaceous Flycatcher for East Africa....	
<b>Chapin's Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa lendu</b>
3 Buhoma. Confined to the Albertine Rift and western Kenya (where very rare). This is one of the 37 species on Birdlife International's list of birds restricted to the Albertine Rift mountains EBA. Status: Vulnerable.	
<b>African Dusky Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa adusta</b>
App. 30 were recorded, 12 of which at Ruhija.	
<b>Dusky Blue-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa comitata</b>
1 Kibale NP, 2 Bigodi Swamp, 2 Kalinzu Forest and 8 Buhoma.	
<b>Cassin's Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa cassinii</b>
2 Kibale NP and 2 at The Neck.	
<b>Ashy Flycatcher</b>	<b>Muscicapa caerulescens</b>
1 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Grey-throated Flycatcher</b>	<b>Myioparus griseigularis</b>
1 Budongo Forest (Busingiro), 1 Kibale NP, 2 at The Neck and 3 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Lead-coloured Flycatcher</b>	<b>Myioparus plumbeus</b>
1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile) and 1 Semliki NP.	
<b>African Shrike-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Megabyas flammulatus</b>
5 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 4 Kibale NP, 1 Buhoma and 3 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Black-and-white Flycatcher</b>	<b>Bias musicus</b>
1 Semliki NP and 3 Buhoma.	
<b>Ruwenzori Batis</b>	<b>Batis diops</b>
1 Buhoma, 2 Ruhija and 1 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.	
<b>Chinspot Batis</b>	<b>Batis molitor</b>
2 Queen Elizabeth NP, 7 Ruhija, 1 Mgahinga NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	

<b>Black-headed Batis</b>	<b>Batis minor</b>
5 Butiaba Escarpment and 2 Murchison Falls NP.	
<b>Brown-throated Wattle-eye</b>	<b>Platysteira cyanea</b>
1 Butiaba Escarpment, 10 in the Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP area, 1 Kalinzu Forest and 4 Buhoma.	
<b>Chestnut Wattle-eye</b>	<b>Dyaphorophya castanea</b>
5 Kibale NP, 5 Semliki NP and 1 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Jameson's Wattle-eye</b>	<b>Dyaphorophya jamesoni</b>
3 Semliki NP.	
<b>Chestnut-capped Flycatcher</b>	<b>Erythrocercus mccallii</b>
9 Budongo Forest.	
<b>African Blue-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Elminia longicauda</b>
3 Buhoma and 1 at The Neck.	
<b>White-tailed Blue-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Elminia albicauda</b>
4 Ruhija and 1 Kisoro.	
<b>White-bellied Crested-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Trochocercus albiventris</b>
3 Buhoma. Restricted to the mountains of the Albertine Rift and SW Cameroon / SE Nigeria.	
<b>White-tailed Crested-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Trochocercus albonotatus</b>
5 Mgahinga NP.	
<b>Blue-headed Crested-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Trochocercus nitens</b>
2 heard Mabira Forest.	
<b>Red-bellied Paradise-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Terpsiphone rufiventer</b>
2 Bigodi Swamp, 4 Semliki NP and 1 Buhoma.	
<b>African Paradise-Flycatcher</b>	<b>Terpsiphone viridis</b>
A total of 19 were recorded at 6 localities.	
<b>African Penduline-Tit</b>	<b>Anthoscopus caroli</b>
2 Queen Elizabeth NP.	
<b>White-winged Tit</b>	<b>Melaniparus leucomelas</b>
2 Fort Portal – Semliki NP and 3 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>White-shouldered Tit</b>	<b>Melaniparus guineensis</b>
2 Kampala – Masindi and 2 Butiaba Escarpment. Often regarded as a subspecies of M. leucomelas.	
<b>Dusky Tit</b>	<b>Melaniparus funereus</b>
10 Kibale NP, 5 Kalinzu Forest, 3 Buhoma and 2 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Stripe-breasted Tit</b>	<b>Melaniparus fasciiventer</b>
8 Ruhija and 2 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.	
<b>Grey-headed Sunbird</b>	<b>Deleornis axillaris</b>
2 Kanyo Pabidi Forest and 7 Semliki NP. This species has a wide range – but is only found in the Congo Basin outside of Uganda.	

<b>Western Violet-backed Sunbird</b> 1 Butiaba Escarpment.	<b><i>Anthreptes longuemarei</i></b>
<b>Little Green Sunbird</b> 1 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile).	<b><i>Anthreptes seimundi</i></b>
<b>Green Sunbird</b> 2 Kibale NP, 1 Semliki NP, 2 Kalinzu Forest and 3 Mabira Forest.	<b><i>Anthreptes rectirostris</i></b>
<b>Collared Sunbird</b> Widespread and fairly numerous, app. 40 were recorded.	<b><i>Hedydipna collaris</i></b>
<b>Green-headed Sunbird</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP, 1 Bigodi Swamp, 2 Kalinzu Forest and 1 Buhoma.	<b><i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i></b>
<b>Blue-throated Brown Sunbird</b> 1 Kalinzu Forest and 2 at The Neck.	<b><i>Cyanomitra cyanolaema</i></b>
<b>Blue-headed Sunbird</b> 7 Ruhija. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b><i>Cyanomitra alinae</i></b>
<b>(Western) Olive Sunbird</b> A total of 11 were recorded in the western forests.	<b><i>Cyanomitra (olivacea) obscura</i></b>
<b>Green-throated Sunbird</b> 4 Kibale NP, 3 Kalinzu Forest and 1 Buhoma.	<b><i>Chalcomitra rubescens</i></b>
<b>Scarlet-chested Sunbird</b> Quite widespread, 33 were recorded.	<b><i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i></b>
<b>Purple-breasted Sunbird</b> 1 ♂ Ruhija. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b><i>Nectarinia purpureiventris</i></b>
<b>Malachite Sunbird</b> 4 Mgahinga NP.	<b><i>Nectarinia famosa</i></b>
<b>Bronze Sunbird</b> 10 Buhoma, 7 Buhoma – The Neck and 2 Mgahinga NP.	<b><i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i></b>
<b>Olive-bellied Sunbird</b> 2 Kibale NP and 1 Kalinzu Forest.	<b><i>Cinnyris chloropygius</i></b>
<b>Tiny Sunbird</b> 1 Buhoma and 1 at The Neck.	<b><i>Cinnyris minullus</i></b>
<b>Stuhlmann's Sunbird</b> 2 Echuya Forest and 6 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic. Also known as Ruwenzori Double-collared Sunbird.	<b><i>Cinnyris stuhlmanni</i></b>
<b>Northern Double-collared Sunbird</b> 1 Kalinzu Forest and 16 in Bwindi NP (combined).	<b><i>Cinnyris reichenowi</i></b>
<b>Regal Sunbird</b> 12 Ruhija and 1 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.	<b><i>Cinnyris regius</i></b>
<b>Beautiful Sunbird</b> 10 Butiaba Escarpment, 10 Nile Safari Camp and 5 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i></b>

<b>Mariqua Sunbird</b>	<b>Cinnyris mariquensis</b>
2 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Red-chested Sunbird</b>	<b>Cinnyris erythrocerca</b>
20 Entebbe, 1 Mabamba Swamp, 9 Queen Elizabeth NP and 10 Jinja.	
<b>Purple-banded Sunbird</b>	<b>Cinnyris bifasciatus</b>
1 Butiaba Escarpment and 3 Murchison Falls NP.	
<b>Superb Sunbird</b>	<b>Cinnyris superbus</b>
2 Budongo Forest (Busingiro) and 1 Semliki NP.	
<b>Coppery Sunbird</b>	<b>Cinnyris cupreus</b>
2 Buhoma – The Neck and 2 Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Yellow-bellied Sunbird</b>	<b>Cinnyris venustus</b>
3 Budongo Forest, 1 Buhoma, 5 Ruhija and 10 Mgahinga NP.	
<b>Yellow White-eye</b>	<b>Zosterops senegalensis</b>
Fairly common, app. 50 were recorded.	
<b>Common Drongo</b>	<b>Dicrurus adsimilis</b>
A total of 12 were recorded at 5 localities.	
<b>Velvet-mantled Drongo</b>	<b>Dicrurus modestus</b>
4 Semliki NP, 1 Semliki NP – Fort Portal and 1 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Piapiac</b>	<b>Ptilostomus afer</b>
6 Kampala – Masindi, 10 Murchison Falls NP, 30 Jinja and 10 Jinja – Kampala.	
<b>African Pied Crow</b>	<b>Corvus albus</b>
Widespread and numerous, 145 were recorded.	
<b>White-naped Raven</b>	<b>Corvus albicollis</b>
2 Mgahinga NP and 15 Kisoro – Kabale.	
<b>Western Black-headed Oriole</b>	<b>Oriolus brachyrhynchus</b>
3 Budongo Forest, 5 Kibale NP, 8 Semliki NP and 2 Mabira Forest.	
<b>Montane Oriole</b>	<b>Oriolus percivali</b>
6 Ruhija. Restricted range species, confined to Albertine Rift mountains and Kenyan highlands.	
<b>African Black-headed Oriole</b>	<b>Oriolus larvatus</b>
3 Nile Safari Camp.	
<b>Wattled Starling</b>	<b>Creatophora cinerea</b>
2 Nile Safari Camp and 4 Murchison Falls NP.	
<b>Greater Blue-eared Starling</b>	<b>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</b>
10 Murchison Falls NP and 20+ Lake Mburo NP.	
<b>Lesser Blue-eared Starling</b>	<b>Lamprotornis chloropterus</b>
30 Kampala – Masindi and 20 Butiaba Escarpment.	
<b>Splendid Starling</b>	<b>Lamprotornis splendidus</b>
Widespread and fairly common (except in dry areas), at least 86 were recorded.	

<b>Purple Starling</b> 2 Kampala – Masindi.	<b>Lamprotornis purpureus</b>
<b>Rüppell's Long-tailed Starling</b> Widespread and fairly common in savannah habitats, 107 were recorded.	<b>Lamprotornis purpuropterus</b>
<b>Purple-headed Starling</b> 6 CVK Resort, 2 Bigodi Swamp, 2 Semliki NP and 4 Buhoma.	<b>Hylopsar purpureiceps</b>
<b>Violet Starling</b> 1 Kampala – Masindi and 2 Butiaba Escarpment.	<b>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</b>
<b>Slender-billed Starling</b> 4 Buhoma, 2 Ruhija and 2 Mgahinga NP.	<b>Onychognathus tenuirostris</b>
<b>Waller's Starling</b> 8 Buhoma and 5 Ruhija.	<b>Onychognathus walleri</b>
<b>Narrow-tailed Starling</b> 1 Kalinzu Forest, 20+ Buhoma and 5 at The Neck.	<b>Poeoptera lugubris</b>
<b>Stuhlmann's Starling</b> 70 Buhoma.	<b>Poeoptera stuhlmanni</b>
<b>Sharpe's Starling</b> 1 The Neck – Ruhija.	<b>Pholia sharpii</b>
<b>Yellow-billed Oxpecker</b> 2 Murchison Falls NP and 6 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b>Buphagus africanus</b>
<b>Cinnamon-breasted Bunting</b> 20 Butiaba Escarpment.	<b>Emberiza tahapisi</b>
<b>Golden-breasted Bunting</b> 1 Fort Portal – Semliki NP, 1 Queen Elizabeth NP and 1 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Emberiza flaviventris</b>
<b>Cabanis' Bunting</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Emberiza cabanisi</b>
<b>Yellow-crowned Canary</b> 1 Buhoma – The Neck and 2 Lake Bunyoni.	<b>Serinus canicollis</b>
<b>Western (African) Citril</b> 4 Buhoma – The Neck, 1 Mgahinga NP and 10 Lake Bunyoni.	<b>Serinus (citrinelloides) frontalis</b>
<b>Papyrus Canary</b> 7 Lake Bunyoni. Restricted range species (“papyrus endemic”).	<b>Serinus koliensis</b>
<b>Yellow-fronted Canary</b> Fairly widespread, app. 60 were recorded.	<b>Serinus mozambicus</b>
<b>Brimstone Canary</b> 8 Queen Elizabeth NP, 1 Buhoma – The Neck and 2 Lake Bunyoni.	<b>Serinus sulphuratus</b>
<b>Streaky Seedeater</b> 1 The Neck – Ruhija, 3 Echuya Forest, 5 Mgahinga NP and 8 Lake Bunyoni.	<b>Serinus striolatus</b>

**Thick-billed Seed eater*****Serinus burtoni***

1 Royal Mile, 9 Bwindi NP (4 Buhoma, 1 at The Neck and 4 Ruhija) and 2 Mgahinga NP.

**Red-fronted Antpecker*****Parmoptila rubrifrons***

4 Buhoma.

**White-breasted Negrofinch*****Nigrita fusconota***

A fairly widespread though not numerous forest bird. We recorded 14 at 7 localities.

**Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch*****Nigrita bicolor***

2 Semliki NP.

**Pale-fronted Negrofinch*****Nigrita luteifrons***

1 heard Semliki NP.

**Grey-headed Negrofinch*****Nigrita canicapilla***

A fairly widespread though not numerous forest bird of which we recorded a total of 20 at 8 localities.

**Red-winged Pytilia*****Pytilia phoenicoptera***

2 Butiaba Escarpment.

**Green-winged Pytilia*****Pytilia melba***

1 Nile Safari Camp.

**Dusky Crimsonwing*****Cryptospiza jacksoni***

2 Ruhija and 2 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.

**Black-bellied Seedcracker*****Pyrenestes ostrinus***

1 Semliki NP.

**Grant's Bluebill*****Spermophaga poliogenys***

1 ♂ Semliki NP. Outside Uganda restricted to northern DRC and Congo.

**Red-headed Bluebill*****Spermophaga ruficapilla***

1 Bigodi Swamp, 1 Semliki NP, 2 The Neck and 8 Mabira Forest.

**Brown Twinspot*****Clytospiza monteiri***

6 Busingiro.

**Dusky Twinspot*****Euschistospiza cinereovinacea***

7-8 The Neck – Ruhija. Restricted range species, confined to the Albertine Rift and a small area in Angola.

**Black-bellied Firefinch*****Lagonosticta rara***

10 Nyabyeya (Royal Mile).

**Bar-breasted Firefinch*****Lagonosticta rufopicta***

2 Murchison Falls NP.

**Red-billed Firefinch*****Lagonosticta senegala***

The commonest firefinch in Uganda. We recorded app. 50, 30 of which in Queen Elizabeth NP.

**African Firefinch*****Lagonosticta rubricata***

9 near Budongo Forest (Busingiro and Nyabyeya).

**Red-cheeked Cordonbleu*****Uraeginthus bengalus***

A total of 126 were recorded, 60 of which at the Nile Safari Camp.



<b>Fawn-breasted Waxbill</b> 5 Busingiro and 5 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Estrilda paludicola</b>
<b>Black-rumped Waxbill</b> 50 Nile Safari Camp.	<b>Estrilda troglodytes</b>
<b>Common Waxbill</b> A total of 105 were recorded, 70 of which at the Nile Safari Camp.	<b>Estrilda astrild</b>
<b>Black-crowned Waxbill</b> 10 near Budongo Forest (Busingiro and Nyabyeya), 40 Bigodi Swamp, 10 CVK Resort and 4 Lake Bunyoni.	<b>Estrilda nonnula</b>
<b>Black-headed Waxbill</b> 2 Echuya Forest and 12 Mgahinga NP.	<b>Estrilda atricapilla</b>
<b>Black-faced Waxbill</b> 2 Butiaba Escarpment and 4 Nile Safari Camp.	<b>Estrilda erythronotos</b>
<b>African Quailfinch</b> 20 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Ortygospiza atricollis</b>
<b>Bronze Mannikin</b> Widespread and fairly common, app. 150 were recorded.	<b>Lonchura cucullata</b>
<b>Black-and-white Mannikin</b> App. 75 were recorded with 25 at Busingiro being the highest individual count.	<b>Lonchura bicolor</b>
<b>Magpie Mannikin</b> 2 Semliki NP and 1 Buhoma.	<b>Lonchura fringilloides</b>
<b>Village Indigobird</b> 1 Kabale – Mbarara.	<b>Vidua chalybeata</b>
<b>Pin-tailed Whydah</b> A total of 11 were recorded at 7 localities.	<b>Vidua macroura</b>
<b>Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver</b> 30 Butiaba Escarpment, 10 Murchison Falls NP and 2 Nile Safari Camp.	<b>Plocepasser superciliosus</b>
<b>Speckle-fronted Weaver</b> 12 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Sporopipes frontalis</b>
<b>Baglafecht Weaver</b> 1 Nyabyeya, 10 Butiaba Escarpment, 10 Buhoma and 10 Buhoma – The Neck.	<b>Ploceus baglafecht</b>
<b>Slender-billed Weaver</b> 30 Entebbe, 25 Queen Elizabeth NP, 2 Lake Bunyoni and 2 Lake Bisina.	<b>Ploceus pelzelni</b>
<b>Little Weaver</b> 2 Murchison Falls NP.	<b>Ploceus luteolus</b>
<b>Lesser Masked-Weaver</b> 20 Queen Elizabeth NP and 5 Lake Mburo NP.	<b>Ploceus intermedius</b>
<b>Spectacled Weaver</b> 2 Butiaba Escarpment, 2 Queen Elizabeth NP and 4 Buhoma – The Neck.	<b>Ploceus ocularis</b>

**Black-necked Weaver*****Ploceus nigricollis***

A total of 17 were recorded in 5 localities with 10 in Kibale NP being the highest count.

**Strange Weaver*****Ploceus alienus***

4 Ruhija and 1 Mgahinga NP. Albertine Rift Endemic.

**Black-billed Weaver*****Ploceus melanogaster***

2 Kalinzu Forest, 5 Buhoma and 1 The Neck.

**Holub's Golden-Weaver*****Ploceus xanthops***

1 Buhoma and 4 Buhoma – The Neck.

**Orange Weaver*****Ploceus aurantius***

50 Entebbe Wildlife Centre. Probably the best spot for this species – can be seen close and in good light all day.

**Northern Brown-throated Weaver*****Ploceus castanops***

50 Entebbe area (including 10 Lutembe Bay), 10 Mabamba Swamp, 10 Lake Mburo NP and 10 Lake Bisina. Restricted range species – with 90% of its range inside Uganda.

**“Bunyonyi Masked-Weaver”*****Ploceus taeniopterus(?)***

30 Lake Bunyoni. The latin name above is that of Northern Masked-Weaver which is what this weaver population is most often reported as. However, according to Alfred, they might as well be a hybrid population formed by interbreeding of *P. melanocephalus* and *P. castanops*. A blood sample has been taken for DNA analysis, so hopefully the mystery is soon resolved. Who knows, this could even be a weaver endemic to Lake Bunyoni....

**Vitelline Masked-Weaver*****Ploceus vitellinus***

10 Nile Safari Camp.

**Fox's Weaver*****Ploceus spekeoides***

3-4 ♀/imm. Lake Bisina. Uganda's only endemic bird species.

**Village Weaver*****Ploceus cucullatus***

Widespread and fairly common, 150+ were recorded.

**Vieillot's Black Weaver*****Ploceus nigerrimus***

Widespread and fairly common in and near forest where more than 150 were recorded, including 50 at Busingiro and 50 at Buhoma. We also saw 2 at Entebbe and 2 in Murchison Falls NP.

**Weyns's Weaver*****Ploceus weynsi***

1 ♀ seen perched and a flock of 30 flying in to roost in badly damaged woodlands near Mabamba Swamp. Restricted range species (although found in a quite large area in the DRC).

**Yellow-backed Weaver*****Ploceus melanocephalus***

About 100 were seen at 6 localities.

**Jackson's Golden-backed Weaver*****Ploceus jacksoni***

30 Entebbe and 10 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Yellow-mantled Weaver*****Ploceus tricolor***

1 Kibale NP and 5 Mabira Forest.

**Brown-capped Weaver*****Ploceus insignis***

6 Buhoma and 5 Ruhija.

**Compact Weaver*****Pachyphantus superciliosus***

2 Butiaba Escarpment and 4 Nile Safari Camp.

**Blue-billed Malimbe**

1 Semliki NP.

**Malimbus nitens****Red-bellied Malimbe**

2 Semliki NP.

**Malimbus erythrogaster****Red-headed Malimbe**

2 Budongo Forest (Royal Mile), 4 Kibale NP and 5 The Neck.

**Malimbus rubricollis****Crested Malimbe**

12 Semliki NP.

**Malimbus malimbicus****Red-headed Weaver**

1 Butiaba Escarpment and 1 Lake Mburo NP.

**Anaplectes rubriceps****Cardinal Quelea**

4 Nyabyeya.

**Quelea cardinalis****Red-billed Quelea**

50 Murchison Falls NP, 100 Nile Safari Camp, 3 Fort Portal – Semliki NP and 30 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Quelea quelea****Black Bishop**

6 near Budongo Forest (Busingiro and Nyabyeya), 1 Fort Portal – Semliki NP and 3 Buhoma – The Neck.

**Euplectes gierowii****Fire-crowned Red Bishop**

2 Queen Elizabeth NP. Several hundred unidentified bishops in Murchison Falls NP were either this species or *E. franciscanus*.

**Euplectes hordeaceus****Yellow Bishop**

4 Buhoma – The Neck, 2 Mgahinga NP and 5 Lake Bunyoni.

**Euplectes capensis****Fan-tailed Widowbird**

15 Mabamba Swamp and 10 Lake Bunyoni.

**Euplectes axillaris****Yellow-mantled Widowbird**

2 Murchison Falls NP.

**Euplectes macrourus****White-winged Widowbird**

20 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Euplectes albonotatus****Red-collared Widowbird**

1 Buhoma – The Neck.

**Euplectes ardens****Grosbeak Weaver**

Seen 8 times during the trip, usually a few, but 300 flying in to roost at the CVK Resort and 50+ in Mabira Forest were impressive.

**Amblyospiza albifrons****Grey-headed Sparrow**

10 Entebbe, 10 Buhoma and 5 near Mabamba Swamp.

**Passer griseus**

## ***Mammal list***

### **Dwarf Galago**

1 Ruhija.

### ***Galago demidovii***

### **Olive Baboon**

Widespread and common, even outside protected areas. Several hundred were seen.

### ***Papio cynocephalus anubis***

### **Grey-cheeked Mangabey**

10 KNB, 2 Bigodi Swamp and 6 Semliki NP.

### ***Cercocebus albogenia***

### **Vervet Monkey**

10 Entebbe, 25 Nile Safari Camp, 10 Queen Elizabeth NP and 10 Lake Mburo NP.

### ***Cercopithecus pygerythrus***

### **Blue Monkey**

18 Budongo Forest, 4 Semliki NP, 6 The Neck and 3 Ruhija.

### ***Cercopithecus mitis***

### **Golden Monkey**

This endangered species was unfortunately heard only, in Mgahinga NP.

### ***Cercopithecus kandti***

### **L'Hoest's Monkey**

5 Ruhija – Kabale.

### ***Cercopithecus l'hoesti***

### **Red-tailed Monkey**

The commonest Ugandan monkey. We saw it in all forests visited, at least 85 in all, 50 of which in Semliki NP.

### ***Cercopithecus ascanius***

### **Patas Monkey**

4 Murchison Falls NP.

### ***Erythrocebus patas***

### **Guereza Colobus**

25 of the 40 we saw were in Budongo Forest.

### ***Colobus guereza***

### **Red Colobus**

5 Kibale NP and 10 Bigodi Swamp.

### ***Procolobus rufomitatus***

### **Chimpanzee**

4 seen and many others (20?) heard in the Busingiro sector of Budongo Forest where we also saw about 20 from the Royal Mile. Also 4 seen in Kibale NP.

### ***Pan troglodytes***

### **Mountain Gorilla**

The undisputed highlight of the trip was our one hour with a habituated group of 13 gorillas in the Buhoma sector of Bwindi NP.

### ***Gorilla gorilla berengei***

### **Plains Zebra**

50+ Lake Mburo NP.

### ***Equus burchellii***

### **Giant Forest Hog**

17 Queen Elizabeth NP.

### ***Hylochoerus meinertzhageni***

### **Warthog**

10 Murchison Falls NP, 80 Queen Elizabeth NP and 50 Lake Mburo NP.

### ***Phacochoerus africanus***

### **Common Hippopotamus**

500+ (!) Nile Safari Camp / Murchison Falls NP (in the Nile), 100+ Queen Elizabeth NP and app. 30 Lake Mburo NP.

### ***Hippopotamus amphibius***

<b>Rothschild's Giraffe</b> 20 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Giraffa camelopardalis rothschildi</i></b>
<b>Buffalo</b> 300 Murchison Falls NP, 200 Queen Elizabeth NP and 5 Lake Mburo NP.	<b><i>Syncerus caffer</i></b>
<b>Common Eland</b> App. 100 Lake Mburo NP.	<b><i>Taurotragus oryx</i></b>
<b>Sitatunga</b> 1 Mabamba Swamp.	<b><i>Tragelaphus spekei</i></b>
<b>Bushbuck</b> 10 Murchison Falls NP, 5 Queen Elizabeth NP and 3 sightings of lone individuals elsewhere.	<b><i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i></b>
<b>Defassa Waterbuck</b> 80 Murchison Falls NP, 150 Queen Elizabeth NP and 15 Lake Mburo NP.	<b><i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa</i></b>
<b>Uganda Kob</b> 150 Murchison Falls NP and 700 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b><i>Kobus kob thomasi</i></b>
<b>Bohor Reedbuck</b> 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b><i>Redunca redunca</i></b>
<b>Hartebeest</b> 50 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Alcelaphus buselaphus lelwel</i></b>
<b>Topi</b> 60 Queen Elizabeth NP and 40 Lake Mburo NP.	<b><i>Damaliscus lunatus topi</i></b>
<b>Impala</b> 80 Lake Mburo NP.	<b><i>Aepyceros melampus</i></b>
<b>Oribi</b> 1 Kampala – Masindi and 100 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Ourebia ourebi</i></b>
<b>Black-fronted Duiker</b> 1 Buhoma.	<b><i>Cephalophus nigrifrons</i></b>
<b>Yellow-backed Duiker</b> 1 Ruhija.	<b><i>Cephalophus silvicultor</i></b>
<b>Savanna Elephant</b> 15 seen from the Nile Safari Camp, 5 Murchison Falls NP and 60 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b><i>Loxodonta africana africana</i></b>
<b>Spotted-necked Otter</b> 1 Mabamba Swamp, 1 CVK Resort, 10 Lake Bunyoni and 2 Lake Mburo NP.	<b><i>Lutra maculicollis</i></b>
<b>Small-spotted Genet</b> 1 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Genetta genetta</i></b>
<b>Banded Mongoose</b> 25 Queen Elizabeth NP.	<b><i>Mungos mungo</i></b>
<b>Egyptian Mongoose</b> 2 Murchison Falls NP.	<b><i>Herpestes ichneumon</i></b>

**Slender Mongoose**

1 Jinja – Mbale.

***Herpestes sanguinea*****Spotted Hyena**

2 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Crocuta crocuta*****Lion**

3 Murchison Falls NP and 5 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Panthera leo*****Checkered Elephant Shrew**

2 Semliki NP.

***Rhynchocyon cirnei*****Scrub Hare**

3 Queen Elizabeth NP.

***Lepus saxatilis*****Striped Ground Squirrel**

5 Murchison Falls NP.

***Xerus erythropus*****Boehm's Squirrel**

1 Ruhija.

***Paraxerus boehmi*****Carruther's Mountain Squirrel**

1 Ruhija.

***Funisciurus carruthersi*****Rwenzori Sun Squirrel**

1 Ruhija.

***Heliosciurus ruwenzorii*****African Giant Squirrel**

1 Semliki NP.

***Protoxerus stangeri***

## ***Reptile list***

### **Nile Crocodile**

15 Murchison Falls NP and 1 Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Crocodylus niloticus**

### **Water Monitor**

1 Murchison Falls NP.

**Varanus niloticus**

### **Monitor sp.**

1 high in a tree in Semliki NP.

**Varanus sp.**

### **Forest Cobra**

1 (seemed HUGE – 3+ m) Budongo Forest.

**Naja melanoleuca**

### **Rock Python**

1 (rather small, app. 2 m) Queen Elizabeth NP.

**Python sebae**