

## South Africa 2-14 October 2007

### ***Introduction:***

We got in touch with Marie-Louise and Patrick Cardwell, managers of **Avian Leisure** (<http://www.avianleisure.com>) by surfing the Internet. AL has been a “*dedicated birding and wildlife safari tour operator since 1997*”. Together with AL we set up an individual itinerary comprising two parts. Part one was a five days stay in the Pilanesberg National Park in the North West Province and part two a nine days stay in the Cape Town area including a Pelagic Trip.

### ***Itinerary & accommodation***

Our agreement with AL included all the practical/logistical arrangements like accommodation, rental cars, domestic flight, birding guides and also birding information like checklists and maps etc.

### **Original Itinerary (the order was changed later on):**

Monday 1 October: Arrive Johannesburg  
Collect car from Budget. Driving to Kwa Maritane lodge in the Pilanesberg Reserve  
Monday 1 October to Friday 5 October: Birdwatching in the Pilanesberg  
Friday 5 October: Johannesburg to Cape Town (domestic flight)  
Collect car from Budget in Cape Town and drive to Avian Leisure in Simon's Town.  
Saturday 6 October: Pelagic Trip  
Sunday 7 October: Cape Point Nature Reserve and Atlantic Coastline (self-drive)  
Monday 8 October: Kirstenbosch and Strandfontein Wetlands (guided day)  
Tuesday 9 October: West Coast (guided day)  
Wednesday 10 October: South Coast/Overberg (guided overnight trip – Skeiding Guest Farm)  
Thursday 11 October: Grootvadersbosch  
Friday 12 October: Day of Leisure  
Saturday 13 October: Tanqua Karoo (guided day)  
Sunday 14 October: Wrap Up Day

Accommodation in Kwa Maritane Lodge in Pilanesberg on half board basis, self-catering at Avian Leisure in Simon's Town.

### ***Literature etc:***

SASOL Birds of Southern Africa (Sinclair, Hockey, Tarboton) – the best field guide!  
Southern African Birdfinder (Cohen, Spottiswoode, Rossouw) – essential!  
Southern African Bird Sounds 6 CD (Gibbon)  
African Mammals (Kingdon)

### ***Participants:***

Joakim, Elisabeth, Adrian (11) and Nova (6) Djerf from Forsmark, Sweden.

## **The Trip**

The first part of our trip was actually a minor disaster. Our problems started with a delayed British Airways flight from Stockholm/Arlanda to London/Heathrow. To help us to arrive to Heathrow in time to catch our connection to Johannesburg, BA put us on an SAS-flight instead. We arrived just in time to Heathrow, but only to realize that somebody had made a terrible mistake and “offloaded” us from not only the BA-flight Stockholm – London, but ALSO the London – Johannesburg flight... The Africa flight was now full, no seats left at all. Our boarding passes were worthless.

Well, BA offered us to put up at an airport Hotel for the night and told us we had to go to Paris the next day and from Paris to travel with the South African Airways to Johannesburg – arriving some 24 hours late. It was our only chance, they said, we had no choice and could nothing but accept.

When we finally arrived to Johannesburg (skipping all the boring details); none of our checked baggage could be found. Actually all three suitcases were missing for more than three days, meaning we had to do the whole Pilanesberg part of the trip without most of our equipment. Our binoculars and cameras were of course kept in the hand baggage, but spotting scope with tripod, mp3-player with the bird calls, most literature and all the other travel stuff (like clothes...) were in our checked baggage. It was both time consuming and irritating to call the South African Airways every now and then and ask for news about our missing baggage. “Sorry sir, call again later...”. It also took time finding some local shops (in Sun City) to buy the most essential stuff. The whole situation was quite frustrating, especially when both our kids happened to fall ill with chicken pox at the very same time!

The consequence of the story above was that the Pilanesberg part of our SA trip shrunk from almost five days to only two and a half. Due to this, and the lack of equipment, we of course dipped some bird species and some experiences. We think five days had been perfect to do the park properly. But under the circumstances, we think we managed ok!

Our baggage finally turned up late in the evening the day before we were to leave the North West Province for Western Cape.

## **Tuesday 2 October to Friday 5 October: Birdwatching in the Pilanesberg NP**

*“Bird watching in the Pilanesberg National Park is excellent and it is a prime venue for bushveld birding with some 350 bird species being recorded, including migrants and permanent inhabitants.*

*Big 5 nature reserve birding has its downside; you can't leave your car! The best birding is thus in the campsites (if over-nighting) and by driving to the different viewing spots, hides and picnic spots where you may get out of your vehicle. The Pilanesberg National Park road network is excellent, so make sure you obtain a map at the gate.*

*Birding Habitats of the Pilanesberg National Park include rocky ridges, hill slopes, grasslands, woodlands, dams with connecting streams, and a vlei adjoining one of the dams.”*

You can easily find more information about the park on the Internet. It's about two and a half hours drive from OR Tambo (Johannesburg) Airport. We had no problems finding our way. Kwa Maritane Lodge is very nice with excellent service and food. The lodge also has a swimming pool and several playgrounds so the kids are happy and the site is also good for birdwatching. The whole park seems to be well-administered and especially the hides are very nice. Of course it was fun to see all the animals (especially the Rhinos) in Pilanesberg. But make no mistake; the experience is not comparable with safari in e.g. Tanzania!

Click the links for Checklist and Photos for detailed information about encountered birds and mammals.

### ***Friday 5 October: Johannesburg to Cape Town (domestic flight)***

The flight Johannesburg – Cape Town was a little bumpy, but we arrived on schedule and our checked baggage found its way properly this time.

Following directions given by AL it was no problem driving from Cape Town Airport to Simon's Town, it took about an hour. In the afternoon we put up at Avian Leisure, we had booked the Shearwater apartment. The small pictures on the AL homepage don't do full justice to this extremely nice place, we loved it! Just before dusk we made a quick visit to the **African Penguin** site at Boulders Beach and successfully twitched these amazing birds!

### ***Saturday 6 October: Cape Point Nature Reserve and Atlantic Coastline (self-drive)***

No Pelagic trip today (nor the next), as originally planned, because of too windy weather. Instead we used this day to investigate the closest nearby and the Cape Peninsula. We started with some rewarding birdwatching from the Shearwater's wooden deck with views in all directions: **Southern Double-collared** and **Orange-breasted Sunbird**, **Cape Sugarbird**, **Common Waxbill**, **Familiar Chat**, **Cape Robin-Chat**, **Cape Bulbul**, **Cape White-eye**, **Speckled Mousebird**, **Karoo Prinia**, **African Hoopoe** etc. We then drove to the small village of Kommetjie on the west coast of the peninsula: **Swift**, **Sandwich** and **Common Tern**, **White-breasted Bank**, **Cape** and **Crowned Cormorant**, **Little Egret**, **White-fronted Plover**, **African Black Oystercatcher**, **Cape** and **Hartlaub's Gull**, **Pied Kingfisher**, **Cape Canary** etc. We continued south past Misty Cliffs: **Malachite Sunbird**, **Cape Grassbird**, **Bokmakierie** etc. and finally ended up at Cape Point: **Cape Siskin**, **Cape Bunting**, **Grey-backed Cisticola** etc. It was Saturday and a little crowded but there were magnificent views! A little work with the scope yielded a lot of **Cape Gannets** and also a few **White-chinned Petrels**. We completed our anti clock wise circle and returned to Simon's Town in time for an early dinner at Seaforth restaurant (recommended! <http://www.seaforthrestaurant.co.za/>) and some more nice views of the very pleasant penguins.

### ***Sunday 7 October: Tanqua Karoo (guided day)***

Clouded skies, rain and damn cold in the early morning when we sat off for the Tanqua Karoo. We picked up our birding guide, Mark Harrington, at a gas station in the southern part of Cape Town. Mark did all the driving from now on. We had a rather uneventful drive for about three hours. We were all hoping for the weather to improve, but it didn't. Mark told us that these wet and cold conditions are very rare at this time of the year in the Tanqua area. Nevertheless we picked up most of the target species! Very much thanks to Mark who knew the area well and was also very skilful with the playback features (bird calls) of his PDA with "Roberts multimedia software". Despite rain and wind we were privileged to hear species like **Cinnamon-breasted** and **Namaqua Warbler**. Other interesting species in the area were **South African Shelduck**, **Booted Eagle**, **Jackal Buzzard**, **Rock Kestrel**, **Southern Black Korhaan**, **Namaqua Sandgrouse**, **Namaqua Dove**, **Red-faced Mousebird**, **Large-billed Lark**, **Red-capped Lark**, **Karoo Lark**, **Karoo Long-billed Lark**, **Spike-heeled Lark**, **Sickle-winged Chat**, **Karoo Chat**, **Tractrac Chat**, **Mountain Wheatear**, **Anteater Chat**, **Karoo Scrub-Robin**, **Karoo Eremomela**, **Fairy Flycatcher**, **Pirit Batis**, **Pied Starling**, **Dusky Sunbird**, **Yellow**, **Black-headed** and **White-throated Canary** and **Lark-like Bunting**.

On the way back we passed a good site for the Protea Seed-eater, but unfortunately farming activities were going on in the area so we had to skip it.

### ***Monday 8 October: Kirstenbosch, De Hel and Intaka Island (guided half day)***

This morning we had a date with our birding guide Mark at the western entrance (Rycroft Gate) to Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden. The rush hour morning traffic from Simon's Town to Cape Town delayed us for half an hour or so, but we finally got there. We moved around in the gardens for about two hours, adding new species to our trip list every now and then: **African Goshawk**, **Cape Francolin**, **African Olive-Pigeon**, **Red-chested Cuckoo**, **Burchell's Coucal**, **Spotted Eagle-Owl** (the famous couple with downy chicks!), **Sombre Greenbul**, **Olive Thrush**, **African Dusky Flycatcher**, **Cape Batis**, **Sweet Waxbill**, **Forrest Canary** etc.

Next stop was at De Hel in Constantia Greenbelts. This is the famous site for Knysna Warbler. But unfortunately no Knysna Warblers were singing spontaneously nor answering to a (very) short playback try. But we had splendid views of a couple of **Bar-throated Apalis** and also heard the, for Swedish birders, not so exciting **Common Chaffinch**. The Common Chaffinch (together with the Willow Warbler) is the most common bird species of Sweden!

We had a quick lunch in a nice restaurant in Constantia before we headed for Intaka Island (aka Blouvllei). "This newly rehabilitated wetland offers convenient birding adjacent to one of Cape Town's largest shopping malls, Canal Walk." Species encountered were **White-breasted** and **Reed Cormorant**, **African Darter**, **Purple Heron**, **Black-crowned Night-Heron**, **Cape Shoveler**, **African Spoonbill**, **Red-knobbed Coot**, **Common Moorhen**, **African Purple Swamphen**, **Pied Kingfisher**, **Brown-throated Martin**, **Little Rush-Warbler**, **Lesser Swamp-Warbler**, **Levaillant's Cisticola**, **Cape Weaver** and **Southern Red Bishop** etc.

Instead of continuing to Strandfontein, as originally planned, we now called it a day and drove back to Simon's Town. The kids were eager for the beach because the weather was now improving. We had a really nice afternoon at Boulder's Beach; swimming with Penguins and watching Southern Right Whales at very close distance!

### ***Tuesday 9 October: Strandfontein (guided half day)***

Even if the weather had improved, the conditions were not yet suitable for a pelagic trip. Fortunately Mark could offer his services also this day and we met him after lunch for an afternoon visit to Strandfontein Sewage Works. The site "provides the best water-bird locality close to Cape Town". **Great White Pelican, Glossy Ibis, Southern Pochard, Maccoa Duck, Hottentot Teal, African March Harrier, Black Crane, Common Greenshank and Caspian Tern** were new trip species.

Mark then took us to the Tokai Arboretum, a nice forest area (I think it's a part of Table Mountain NP) with many species of alien trees. The site is good for forest raptors and among the first species we encountered was a **Forrest Buzzard** flying by and also calling. We also heard the delightful song from **Common Chaffinch** again...

### ***Wednesday 10 October: South Coast/Overberg (guided overnight trip – Skeiding Guest Farm)***

Today we were back on track with our scheduled itinerary. Our two-day trip in the Overberg area started with picking up our new birding guide Pieter van Oudtshoorn in Gordon's Bay. We saw our first **Fiscal Flycatcher** in his garden. With Pieter behind the steering wheel our first stop was at the village of Rooi Els. After a short walk we found both male and female **Cape Rock-jumper** together very close to the road - very nice birds indeed! Soon we also spotted a male **Cape Rock-Thrush** on a roof down in the village. Other birds here were **Peregrine Falcon, Neddicky, Grey-backed Cisticola** and **Cape Grassbird**.

Leaving Rooi Els heading for Harold Porter National Botanical Gardens we continuously scanned the mountain ridges for Verreaux's Eagle, but with no success. Harold Porter NBG was a very nice place with many different habitats (garden, forest, some water and mountain). It offered several good species like **African Black Duck, African Paradise-Flycatcher, Alpine Swift, Cape Siskin** etc. But the star birds of the site were definitely the **Victorin's Warblers** (at least four birds) singing intensively and one of them eventually showed itself pretty well!

The rest of the day we kept driving eastwards in the Overberg area. We stopped every now and then especially looking for larks. In Malgas it is possible to be inched (two guys pulling a chain) across the Breede River in one of the country's last working pons. We arrived here only two minutes before for the last departure of the day! From Malgas we drove north to Skeiding Guest Farm where we should spend the night. New trip species noted during the day were: **Hamerkop, Black Harrier, Common Quail, Blue Crane, Karoo Korhaan, Horus Swift, Agulhas Long-billed Lark, Pearl-breasted Swallow, Black Saw-wing, Fork-tailed Drongo, African Stonechat, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, Yellow Bishop** and **Pin-tailed Whydah**.

Skeiding Guest Farm is a working Ostrich farm. It's a very nice place with spectacular scenery run by Neels and Anné-Lize. We had a fantastic dinner - Ostrich fillet of course! In the middle of the night both **Spotted Eagle-Owl** and **Fiery-necked Nightjar** were calling from near the farm.

### ***Thursday 11 October: Grootvadersbosch***

We visited the indigenous forest of Grootvadersbosch (aka Boosmansbos Wilderness Area) for about three hours early in the morning. It was about a 20 minutes drive from Skeiding farm to the reserve entrance. Interesting species encountered were:

**African Olive-Pigeon, Red-chested Cuckoo, Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Olive Woodpecker, Terrestrial Brownbul, Yellow-throated Woodland-Warbler, Knysna Warbler, Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher, African Paradise-Flycatcher, Greater Double-collared Sunbird, Sweet Waxbill, Brimstone and Forest Canary and Streaky-headed Seedeater.** I wish we could have stayed a little longer at this very nice site!

We had a late breakfast at Skeiding with Ostrich bacon among other dainties! Then it was time heading westwards, back to Simon's Town. We had planned for a visit to the Bontebok National Park, but lack of time made us skip it. The only birdwatching we did on the way back was a quick stop at the "lily- and reed-fringed pond" close to Suurbraak - where we saw a pair of **White-backed Duck** and also an **African Darter**. We let Pieter off at Gordon's Bay, thanking him for excellent guiding services and also interesting discussions about both birds and karate!

### ***Friday 12 October: Day of Leisure/Cape Peninsula (self-drive)***

No pelagic today due to the same weather conditions as the previous days. We were now beginning to give up hope about the seabirds. Instead we relaxed for a couple of hours and later drove south to the Cape Point area one more time. We saw about the same species as last time, but also **Plain-backed Pipit**. We then received good news in an SMS from Marie-Louise; the Pelagic was finally set for tomorrow! We had a nice meal at the restaurant at Cape Point, but the cheeky **Red-winged Starlings** here aren't well-mannered at all. I actually had to hit them repeatedly with my cap to keep them off our food!

At dusk the wind was still rather strong and we were a little worried about the trip at sea tomorrow. When the skipper called later in the evening asking questions about if our kids were used to boat riding etc, we understood that the sea tomorrow was going to be rough. My wife now wisely decided that she and our kids should skip the pelagic.

### ***Saturday 13 October: West Coast (guided half day)***

An early telephone call informed us that the pelagic was cancelled due to you know what... We had some nice whale- and sunbird watching in the morning from our apartment and a little later we called our birding guide Mark and asked if he was free. Fortunately he was! Together with Mark we set off for a rather hasty West Coast trip. But it turned out to be one of the most successful ones! We actually picked up almost

all the target species and also a few “extras”. Interesting species were **Booted Eagle, Black Harrier, Grey-winged Francolin, Black Crake, African Rail, Southern Black Korhaan, Spotted Thick-knee, Antarctic Tern, Klaas’s Cuckoo, White-backed Mousebird, European Bee-eater, Karoo Lark, Barn Swallow, Banded Martin, Grey Tit, Karoo Scrub-Robin, Cape Penduline-Tit, Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler, Bar-throated Apalis, Cloud Cisticola and Cape Longclaw.**

Thank you Mark!

In the late evening we were informed that the pelagic were set for tomorrow. Never say die...

### ***Sunday 14 October: Pelagic Trip (at last!)***

No early telephone call this morning. I drove down to the harbour and met the skipper and the birding guide – Meidad Goren. We set off in “The White Pointer” - a 20 ft nippy speed boat. Being the only passenger I was well taken care of! Once we had rounded the spectacular Cape Point, seabirds (others than the usual array of **gulls** and **Cape Gannets**) started to turn up. We saw a lot of **White-chinned Petrels**, a few **Arctic Skuas (Parasitic Jaeger)** and some **Sooty Shearwaters**. Then it was time for my first **Albatross** (a **Shy**); passing just in front of the boat – nice! The sea was quite bumpy but fortunately I normally don’t get seasick. Some 25 miles south of Cape Hope we found a trawler and started to follow this ship waiting for it to haul in its nets. Behind the trawler there were many hundreds of seabirds, but numbers mysteriously increased to thousands when the trawler finally pulled its nets! A fantastic experience!

**Black-browed Albatross, Indian and Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross, Southern and Northern Giant-Petrel, Great Shearwater, Pintado Petrel, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Black-bellied Storm-Petrel and Subantarctic Skua** were all seen well and most of them also photographed.

When the spectacle was over we immediately headed northwards; back to harbour. I needed time to pack and prepare myself and the rest of family for the journey back to Sweden this afternoon. We past the rocks with the breeding **Bank Cormorants** on the way back and also got the opportunity to take some photos of the Avian Leisure house from sea-side.

I can certify it was a good decision NOT to bring kids to a pelagic trip!

Not much more to add. Packing, saying goodbye and thank you to Marie-Louise and Patrick then off to the Cape Town Airport. Everything worked out fine on the way home and all the checked baggage found its way this time!

### ***Conclusion***

We can certainly recommend having Avian Leisure to arrange your stay in South Africa! The AL accommodation in Simon’s Town is the best you can get – great value for money! The misfortunes we had in the beginning of our trip can’t be blamed on anyone else but the British Airways. The abbreviation BA stands for “Baggage Astray”, we learnt the hard way!

We would like to thank Marie-Louise and Patrick Cardwell, Mark Harrington, Pieter van Oudtshoorn and Meidad Goren for a fantastic trip!

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A lot of pictures from our trip are available in our home page:

<http://www.djerf.photo>





15	Wilson's Storm-Petrel														X	
16	Black-bellied Storm-Petrel														X	
17	Cape Gannet					X			X					X		X
18	White-breasted Cormorant			X	X	X		X	X					X	X	X
19	Bank Cormorant					X										X
20	Cape Cormorant					X		X	X							X
21	Reed Cormorant			X	X			X	X	X	X	X				
22	Crowned Cormorant					X										X
23	African Darter			X	X			X					X			
24	Great White Pelican								X							X
25	Purple Heron							X	X							
26	Grey Heron			X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X			X
27	Black-headed Heron					X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
28	Little Egret			X			X	X	X	X			X			
29	Cattle Egret						X	X	X	X						X
30	Black-crowned Night-Heron							X	X							
31	Greater Flamingo						X		X							
32	African Spoonbill				X			X				X				
33	Hamerkop									X						
34	Hadeda Ibis			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
35	Glossy Ibis								X							
36	African Sacred Ibis			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
37	Spur-winged Goose			X	X					X	X					X
38	Egyptian Goose		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
39	South African Shelduck						X		X							
40	White-backed Duck											X				Suurbraak
41	Southern Pochard								X							
42	Maccoa Duck								X							
43	Yellow-billed Duck			X	X			X		X		X				
44	African Black Duck				X					X						Harold Porter NBG
45	Cape Shoveler							X	X							
46	Cape Teal						X		X							
47	Red-billed Teal				X			X		X						
48	Hottentot Teal								X							

49	Cape Vulture				X															5 seen from the hide at Ruighoek Dam	
50	African Fish-Eagle			X	X			X													
51	Black-chested Snake-Eagle					X														1 Pilanesberg -> Johannesburg	
52	African Hawk-Eagle			X	X																
53	Booted Eagle							X												X	
54	Jackal Buzzard							X			X	X								X	
55	Wahlberg's Eagle			X																	
56	Forest Buzzard									X										Tokai	
57	Steppe Buzzard											X									
58	African Marsh-Harrier									X											
59	Black Harrier										X									X	
60	Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk	X						X			X										
61	Yellow-billed Kite			X				X			X	X								X	
62	Black-shouldered Kite	X	X					X		X	X	X								X	
63	African Goshawk								X												
64	Peregrine Falcon							X			X										
65	Rock Kestrel							X	X		X	X								X	
66	Swainson's Spurfowl	X	X	X																	
67	Cape Francolin							X		X	X									X	
68	Natal Francolin	X	X	X																	
69	Grey-winged Francolin																			X	
70	Helmeted Guineafowl			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
71	Common Ostrich			X	X		X	X			X	X								X	
72	Common Quail										X	X								X	
73	Red-knobbed Coot						X	X	X											X	
74	Common Moorhen							X	X			X								X	
75	African Purple Swamphen							X	X												
76	Black Crake									X										X	
77	African Rail																			X	
78	Blue Crane										X	X								X	
79	Kori Bustard				X																
80	Karoo Korhaan										X										
81	Southern Black Korhaan							X												X	
82	African Black Oystercatcher					X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X						

83	Black-winged Stilt							X		X					X		
84	Pied Avocet							X		X					X		
85	Common Ringed Plover														X		
86	Three-banded Plover			X				X							X		
87	Kittlitz's Plover							X		X					X		
88	White-fronted Plover						X								X		
89	Crowned Lapwing			X							X	X			X		
90	African Wattled Lapwing				X												
91	Blacksmith Lapwing		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
92	Grey Plover														X		
93	Curlew Sandpiper														X		
94	Common Sandpiper			X													
95	Common Greenshank									X					X		
96	Common Whimbrel														X		
97	Spotted Thick-knee												X	X			
98	Subantarctic Skua																X
99	Parasitic Jaeger																X
100	Cape Gull				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
101	Caspian Tern								X								
102	Hartlaub's Gull					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
103	Swift Tern				X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
104	Sandwich Tern					X			X						X		
105	Common Tern					X									X		
106	Antarctic Tern														X		Jacobsbaai
107	Namaqua Sandgrouse						X										
108	Speckled Pigeon		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
109	African Olive-Pigeon								X			X					Kirstenbosch + Grootvadersbosch
110	Rock Dove				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
111	Red-eyed Dove		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
112	Cape Turtle-Dove			X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
113	Laughing Dove		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
114	Namaqua Dove						X								X		
115	Grey Go-away-bird		X	X	X												
116	Red-chested Cuckoo							X			X						

117	Klaas's Cuckoo											X			
118	Burchell's Coucal		X					X							
119	Spotted Eagle-Owl							X		X				Kirstenbosch + Skeiding Guest Farm	
120	Fiery-necked Nightjar									X				Skeiding Guest Farm	
121	Alpine Swift									X				Harold Porter NBG	
122	African Black Swift		X										X		
123	Little Swift	X	X	X									X		
124	Horus Swift			X						X					
125	White-rumped Swift	X	X	X			X			X	X		X		
126	African Palm-Swift	X													From Johannesburg->Pilanesberg
127	Red-faced Mousebird						X								
128	Speckled Mousebird		X		X	X									
129	White-backed Mousebird												X		
130	Pied Kingfisher		X	X		X		X							
131	European Bee-eater												X		
132	Lilac-breasted Roller		X												
133	African Grey Hornbill	X		X											
134	Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	X		X											
135	Red-billed Hornbill			X	X										
136	Green Wood-Hoopoe	X													
137	Common Scimitarbill		X												
138	African Hoopoe		X			X			X	X		X			
139	Greater Honeyguide				X										
140	Scaly-throated Honeyguide									X					Grootvadersbosch
141	Black-collared Barbet	X	X	X											
142	Crested Barbet	X	X	X											
143	Acacia Pied Barbet				X										
144	Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird		X												
145	Olive Woodpecker									X					Grootvadersbosch
146	Cardinal Woodpecker	X													
147	Bearded Woodpecker			X											
148	Karoo Lark						X						X		
149	Sabota Lark		X	X											
150	Large-billed Lark						X		X	X					



185	Familiar Chat			X	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	
186	Sickle-winged Chat						X								
187	Karoo Chat						X								
188	Tractrac Chat						X								
189	Mountain Wheatear						X								
190	Capped Wheatear			X	X		X			X	X		X		
191	African Stonechat									X	X		X		
192	Anteating Chat						X								
193	Mocking Cliff-Chat		X	X	X										
194	Cape Robin-Chat					X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
195	White-throated Robin-Chat	X													
196	White-browed Scrub-Robin			X											
197	Kalahari Scrub-Robin		X												
198	Karoo Scrub-Robin					X							X		
199	Yellow-throated Woodland-Warbler										X			Common in Grootvadersbosch	
200	Karoo Eremomela					X									
201	Cape Penduline-Tit												X	Seeberg hide	
202	Knysna Warbler										X			1 singing Grootvadersbosch	
203	Victorin's Warbler									X				4 singing at Harold Porter NBG	
204	Little Rush-Warbler						X	X	X	X		X			
205	Lesser Swamp-Warbler						X			X					
206	Cape Grassbird					X				X	X		X		
207	Cinnamon-breasted Warbler						X							1 singing picnic site at Karoopoort	
208	Fairy Flycatcher						X							1 picnic site at Karoopoort	
209	Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler		X	X									X		
210	Long-billed Crombec		X												
211	Bar-throated Apalis							X					X		
212	Zitting Cisticola		X	X											
213	Cloud Cisticola												X		
214	Neddicky		X	X						X					
215	Grey-backed Cisticola					X	X			X	X		X		
216	Rattling Cisticola		X												
217	Lazy Cisticola		X												
218	Levaillant's Cisticola							X	X	X			X		

219	Namaqua Warbler							X									1 singing reedbeds at Karoopoort
220	Karoo Prinia					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				Very common!
221	Tawny-flanked Prinia			X	X												
222	Black-chested Prinia			X													
223	African Dusky Flycatcher							X	X	X	X						
224	Southern Black Flycatcher				X												
225	Fiscal Flycatcher									X	X						
226	Marico Flycatcher			X	X												
227	Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher											X					Grootvadersbosch
228	African Paradise-Flycatcher									X	X						
229	Cape White-eye		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
230	Pirit Batis						X										Skitterykloof
231	Cape Batis							X	X	X	X						
232	Chinspot Batis			X	X												
233	Cape Wagtail		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
234	Long-billed Pipit				X												
235	African Pipit			X	X					X	X	X			X		
236	Plain-backed Pipit				X								X				
237	Buffy Pipit				X												
238	Cape Longclaw														X		
239	Crimson-breasted Shrike				X												
240	Magpie Shrike		X		X	X											
241	Common Fiscal			X	X		X	X	X		X	X			X		
242	Southern Boubou		X	X				X	X	X	X				X		
243	Bokmakierie					X	X			X	X				X		
244	Black-backed Puffback					X											
245	Cape Glossy Starling			X	X												
246	Red-winged Starling		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
247	Common Myna		X	X	X												
248	Common Starling	X					X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
249	Pied Starling						X			X	X				X		
250	Red-billed Oxpecker			X													
251	Cape Sugarbird					X	X		X	X	X	X			X		
252	Malachite Sunbird					X	X	X		X							



253	Orange-breasted Sunbird					X		X	X	X	X	X	X		
254	Amethyst Sunbird	X													
255	White-bellied Sunbird			X											
256	Dusky Sunbird					X									
257	Greater Double-collared Sunbird									X					Grootvadersbosch
258	Southern Double-collared Sunbird				X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
259	Marico Sunbird	X													
260	Great Sparrow		X												
261	House Sparrow	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
262	Cape Sparrow						X	X	X	X	X		X		
263	Yellow-throated Petronia		X												
264	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	X	X	X						X					
265	Southern Masked-Weaver	X	X	X				X	X						
266	Lesser Masked-Weaver	X	X	X											
267	Cape Weaver						X	X	X	X	X		X		
268	Southern Red Bishop	X					X	X		X	X				
269	White-winged Widowbird		X												
270	Yellow Bishop									X	X		X		
271	Pin-tailed Whydah									X	X				
272	Shaft-tailed Whydah		X												
273	Sweet Waxbill							X			X				Kirstenbosch + Grootvadersbosch
274	Violet-eared Waxbill			X											
275	Black-faced Waxbill		X												
276	Common Waxbill		X	X		X	X		X						
277	Blue Waxbill		X												
278	Yellow Canary						X	X		X	X		X		
279	Brimstone Canary										X				Grootvadersbosch
280	Yellow-fronted Canary	X	X	X											
281	Black-throated Canary			X											A party of 10 at Batlhako Dam
282	Forest Canary							X			X				Kirstenbosch + Grootvadersbosch
283	Cape Canary					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
284	Streaky-headed Seedeater	X	X	X							X				
285	Black-headed Canary						X								
286	Cape Siskin					X				X					Cape Point + Harold Porter NBG

287	White-throated Canary							X									
288	Common Chaffinch								X	X							De Hel + Tokai
289	Golden-breasted Bunting		X	X	X												
290	Lark-like Bunting							X									About 10 in a party with W-t Canaries
291	Cape Bunting						X	X						X	X		

**The noble art of dipping (endemic and near-endemic species near Cape town):**

Hottentot Buttonquail
Ludwig's Bustard
Burchell's Courser
Damara Tern
Ground Woodpecker
Knysna Woodpecker
Cape Clapper Lark
Agulhas Clapper Lark
Cape Long-billed Lark
Black-eared Sparrowlark
Grey-backed Sparrowlark
Sentinel Rock-Thrush
Layard's Tit-babbler
Rufous-eared Warbler
African Rock Pipit
Southern Tchagra
Pale-winged Starling
Protea Seed-eater

**Possible sites:**

De Hoop NR (we didn't visit)
Tanqua Karoo
Tanqua Karoo
De Mond (we didn't visit)
Rooi Els
De Hoop/Grootvadersbosch
West Coast
Overberg
West Coast
Tanqua Karoo
West Coast?
Rooi Els/Sir Lowry's Pass?
West Coast/Tanqua Karoo
Tanqua Karoo
Tanqua Karoo (Ouberg) (we didn't visit)
De Hoop/Bontebok NP (we didn't visit)
Tanqua Karoo
West Coast/Tanqua Karoo

## Mammals:

Chacma Baboon	Pilanesberg
Vervet Monkey	Pilanesberg
Scrub Hare	Pilanesberg
South African Porcupine	Simon's Town
Four-striped Grass Mouse	Simon's Town
Black-backed Jackal	Pilanesberg
Slender Mongoose	Pilanesberg
Lion	Pilanesberg
African Elephant	Pilanesberg
Cape Mountain Zebra	Cape Point
Plains Zebra	Pilanesberg
White Rhinoceros	Pilanesberg
Hippopotamus	Pilanesberg
Common Warthog	Pilanesberg
Giraffe	Pilanesberg
Blue Wildebeest	Pilanesberg
Red Hartebeest	Pilanesberg
Tsessebe	Pilanesberg
Greater Kudu	Pilanesberg
Waterbuck	Pilanesberg
Impala	Pilanesberg
Bontebok	Cape Point
Springbok	Pilanesberg
Steenbok	Pilanesberg
Grey Duiker	Pilanesberg
Rock Hyrax	Rooi Els
South African Fur Seal	False Bay
Southern Right Whale	False Bay

Reptiles:

Striped Skink	Pilanesberg
Marsh Terrapin	Pilanesberg
Angulate Tortoise	Cape Point/West Coast NP