

**MADAGASCAR HIGHLIGHTS**  
**NOVEMBER 6–21, 2017**  
**&**  
**AMPIJOROA-BETSIBOKA EXTENSION**  
**NOVEMBER 21–25, 2017**



Verreaux's Sifaka (Dion Hobcroft)

**LEADER: DION HOBSCROFT**  
**LIST COMPILED BY: DION HOBSCROFT**

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**By Dion Hobcroft**



A beautiful White-browed Owl found roosting in the daytime at Zombitse (Dion Hobcroft)

Those arriving early for the tour enjoyed the extensive gardens of the Aubeis Vert Hotel. They offer the perfect introduction to many of the more eco-tolerant and successful species of birds on this massive island. Flocks of Red Fody come in to bathe, Madagascar Brush-Warblers skulk about, while noisy chattering Madagascan Bulbuls dominate the birdsong. More careful examination will reveal Madagascar Coucal building a nest, Madagascar Hoopoes probing the lawns, Madagascar Magpie-Robin feeding fledglings, Souimanga Sunbirds taking pollen from Hibiscus flowers, and perhaps the occasional Madagascar Munia. On dusk it is easy to watch Madagascar Nightjars—this year feeding a tiny chick while the Barn Owl punctuated the night with its occasional screech.

Our flight to Tulear left on time, and after a short stop at Fort Dauphin, arrived on time. Miracles do happen! What was different was heavy rain: a leaden sky laced with thunderstorms and sheets of rain fell. We enjoyed lunch at Hotel Victory. Eventually the storms tapered off, but it remained firmly

overcast. On the short drive to Ifaty we kicked our first major goal of the tournament, finding a rare Humblot's Heron feeding on the coast. Luckily, we could drive up close to it and get great scope views. Gray Herons offered a neat comparison, and a bunch of shorebirds included Whimbrel, Black-bellied Plover, Greater Sand-Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, and Sanderling. After settling into our fabulous hotel and a siesta, we were ready to tackle the Spiny Forest with hard-working and expert guides Freddy and Riddafy. It proved to be a fantastic session: Long-tailed Ground-Rollers at a nest, a cryptic frozen female Subdesert Mesite, a fabulous Madagascar Sparrowhawk, a male Lafresnaye's Vanga incubating on a nest, and nesting Greater Vasa-Parrots, the peculiar female with a bald yellow head appearing rather vulturine. The birds were reveling in the cool conditions after the rain with much activity. Other species we had good looks at were Crested Coua, Hook-billed Vanga, Common Newtonia, Crested Drongo, Sakalava Weaver, and a Thamnornis that we left to go straight for the mesite as news broke.



A pair of Madagascar Buttonquails came tootling past my hotel room at Ifaty. The female is brightly colored. (Dion Hobcroft)

We were back at the Spiny Forest the next morning, this time with blue skies but not overly hot temperatures. It was very pleasant all up. We had a great encounter with a lightning-fast Running Coua that froze like a statue in a bush close to us all. Then we were led to a sleeping Black-shouldered Sportive Lemur, a new species to science, discovered only last year and currently the subject of university research. It has no formal scientific name yet. Next we tracked down a pair of Sickle-billed Vangas, always a magnificent sighting: a positively superb bird. We also had success with the scarce Archbold's Newtonia. In between were our first sightings of a soaring Madagascar Harrier-Hawk, Lesser Vasa-Parrot, Madagascar Turtle-Dove, and Red-tailed Vanga. A Lesser Hedgehog Tenrec was found by Riddafy and eventually unfurled from its protective spiny defensive ball posture to reveal a face with eyes. With it heating up, we returned to our lovely hotel for a rest, some folks going snorkeling in the

bay (and reporting no fish at all) and others birding and reporting Madagascar Buttonquail and Subdesert Brush-Warbler.

The afternoon proved especially productive. At a well-known freshwater lake we had a major surprise when we found an immature African Swamphen, new even for the local guides! Also of note were six juvenile Greater Flamingos. Bird of the afternoon probably belonged to a Baillon's Crake with a well-grown chick that gave some cracking looks after it looked like all was lost! Other good birds included a pair of Hottentot Teal, dozens of Curlew Sandpipers, and Kittlitz's and Common Ringed plovers, with a sprinkling of Little Stints and Common Greenshanks. A final stop produced Madagascar Swamp-Warbler and the distinctive population of Three-banded Plover, split as another endemic by Birdlife International. On dusk we had an extremely cute Gray-Brown Mouse Lemur fearlessly feeding on tree sap within a foot of us: great to see the wildlife with no fear of humans.



We had cracking looks at all the Spiny Forest endemics including this magnificent Long-tailed Ground-Roller near its nesting burrow. (Dion Hobcroft)

An early start had us well-placed near La Table. The recent rain clearly had the rare Red-shouldered Vanga fired up, and they were heard singing as soon as we made it off the bus. The views were fantastic as they fed around us unconcernedly to within a meter. A Verreaux's Coua was located incubating on a nest, but it was impossible to see the whole bird, just bits and pieces. We would have to work on another sighting. After breakfast we went by speedboat to Nosy Ve. At the high tide roost we found a single Lesser Crested Tern with a few Greater Crested Terns. White-fronted Plover was also handy, but the big prize came with a trio of Crab Plovers. These beautiful aberrant shorebirds have been increasingly difficult to find in recent years. At the other end of the island we had superb views of Red-tailed Tropicbirds both display flying and at the nest. These most unusual pelagic birds are out on an evolutionary tangent. The weather though was deteriorating, with gray skies and strong winds whipping the seascape (although the tropicbirds were enjoying it) so we had to make a move across the ocean to Anakao. A gale blew for the rest of the day, although an afternoon stroll produced the target Littoral Rock-Thrush for all.



Lucky us this year: a couple of lingering Crab Plovers at Nosy Ve. (Dion Hobcroft)

Following on from our successful visit last year, we returned to Tsimanapetsotsa National Park. It is amongst the most isolated places I take bird tours. We had early success with a lovely pair of Madagascar Plovers but no success with Madagascar Sandgrouse, the recent heavy rains spoiling this species with a wide choice of drinking sites and dispersing them. We would have to hatch "Plan B" for this one. We encountered the first of several groups of shy Ring-tailed Lemurs for the day, everyone

getting a good view as the day progressed. Verreaux's Coua was in brilliant form, and we enjoyed several superb views, a big improvement on our previous nesting bird tucked away in the twigs! We also lured a lovely Green-capped Coua out for a good study. The trees (giant Baobabs and *Pachypodiums*) and caves (complete with blind cave fish) of this arid location are out of this world. A visit to the giant soda lake produced hundreds of Greater Flamingos and Red-knobbed Coots with a few Red-billed Teal. Interestingly, no Lesser Flamingos found this year. Driving out of the park we found a superb Radiated Tortoise—a beautiful animal. A quick scout along the coast turned up a singleton of the scarce endemic subspecies *melisandae* of Kelp Gull.



A wild Radiated Tortoise in Tsimanapetsotsa National Park.

We departed Anakao the following morning and were reunited with Fedy and our pale blue bus. En route to Isalo at Mahababoka we connected with a couple of zebu herders who had been staking out a flock of Madagascar Sandgrouse for us. After a walk of about 500 meters we were able to scope a flock of thirty Sandgrouse. They were shy though, and flew once we were within 70 meters. Chuffed with success we made another stop where we scoped Madagascar Pond-Heron in breeding plumage, White-faced Whistling-Duck, and a Hamerkop. Checking into our superb lodge with great views of the dissected sandstone pagodas for which Isalo is famous, we had a lovely lunch, a bit late though after our Sandgrouse foray. In the late afternoon we had a superb and very timely encounter with a cracking pair of Madagascar Partridges. Lucky us! At a nearby site we enjoyed Forest Rock-Thrush with Helmeted Guineafowl another list addition, this latter species an introduction in Madagascar from Africa. On dusk we heard a White-browed Owl, but it got away from us.

As luck would have it, the next morning in Zombitse Forest we were guided straight to a day-roosting White-browed Owl—a fantastic looking species. We were then on a roll, as we quickly located a pair of Appert’s Tetraka, a critically endangered bird found only in this location. A mixed flock gave us good looks at the striking Blue Vanga and Long-billed Bernieria, and we tracked down both Giant and Coquerel’s couas. A troop of Verreaux’s Sifakas were feeding on leaf buds in a tree beside the main road, tame and providing excellent photographic opportunities. Further into the forest we found a perched male Cuckoo-Roller manically shrieking, its wings glossed in green and purple. It did its characteristic display flight over us. Hook-billed Vanga and Crested Coua, both species we had already seen well, gave more good looks. An Oustalet’s Chameleon was another good discovery, and to finish our session we were led to a roosting Zombitse Sportive Lemur, a nocturnal species with large orange eyes. At lunch a tame Giant Coua paraded around us. Zombitse had been a great success. On returning to Tulear we checked into the very surreal Hotel Bakuba—a hotel so lovely no one could be distracted by more birds! Well, actually we had seen everything possible, no mean feat!



An infant Verreaux’s Sifaka clings to its mother’s back at Zombitse. (Dion Hobcroft)

A morning stroll through the coastal brackish wetlands and then later the superb D’Antsokay Arboretum gave us a decent bird list of species like Gray-headed Lovebird, Green-capped Coua, and Madagascar

Nightjar. An on-time flight had us back in Antananarivo where, despite heavy rain, we were checked into the lovely Hotel Tamboho on dusk.

Before breakfast we wandered around the wetland that is a feature of the hotel. Lots of ducks, herons, and a lovely Madagascar Kingfisher had the day list off to a good start. En route to Perinet we scoped Madagascar Pratincole with chick at the Mangoro River. Then we tracked down a Madagascar Long-eared Owl in a pine plantation. After checking into the hotel and having a break, we visited the Community Forest. It was another lively session that allowed us to get up close to a family of Indris, a Parson's Chameleon, roosting Madagascar Scops-Owl, Nuthatch Vanga, White-headed Vanga, beautiful Nelicourvi Weaver, and, in the late afternoon light, encounters with our first Red-breasted and Blue couas.



A forest phantom: the Scaly Ground-Roller in Mantadia. (Dion Hobcroft)

We had a big day today! We explored the Mantadia National Park. The birding and lemur-watching were first rate. It went along the lines of, in order of appearance: Madagascar Blue-Pigeon, Rand's Tetraka,



Scaly Ground-Roller (stunning), Madagascar Flufftail, Madagascar Buzzard, Madagascar Grebe (with three tiny chicks), Meller's Duck, Tylas Vanga, Ward's Vanga, Ashy Cuckoo-Shrike, Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur (stunning), Red-bellied Lemur, Diademed Sifaka (stunning—and this vernacular could be used for all sightings listed here really), Forest Fody, and, in the afternoon, a cracking Pitta-like Ground-Roller and for some a male Crossley's Vanga.

News had broken of the rare Helmet Vanga on a nest in a remote section of Perinet. This is always difficult to assess with a group, as it involves a lengthy hike on largely flat terrain but negotiating creek crossings, narrow forest trails (with plenty of trip hazards) and, as you get closer, increasingly undulating terrain. Everyone was up for it, and everyone did see the Helmet Vanga, an absolute mega: one of Madagascar's rarest and most enigmatic birds. We toasted our good fortune in the evening, and it is a credit to the local folk who did such a superb job getting us in and out. Tireless Julian was on top of his game today, and as we explored this remote forest tract only recently opened up to tourists we had cracking looks at male Velvet Asity, a brief but sensational Rufous-headed Ground-Roller, a stonking Short-legged Ground-Roller, and the bizarre and hyperactive Sunbird Asity at a nest. It was quiet for lemurs and mixed flocks, but we had seen several of Madagascar's most elusive and rare endemic birds.



A big walk for a big bill: the chance to see the rare Helmet Vanga led us to several more special Madagascan forest endemics. (Dion Hobcroft)

Our final full day of birding in the northern rainforests started at Andasibe National Park. We were off to a fine start when the orange and white Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher perched out for a lengthy scope study. Brown Lemurs seemed to be everywhere we looked this morning, including some cute infants spinning around like whirligigs! We enjoyed another fantastic encounter with a trio of Indris—their memorable wailing territorial song a feature sound in these fascinating forests. We then enjoyed a close encounter with the rare Collared Nightjar, a single bird resting on the forest floor, supremely well-hidden! A pair of White-throated Oxylabes behaved in a responsive fashion, but the Red-fronted Couas were a bit timid and only gave themselves up in snippets. We had a lengthy siesta. Late afternoon took us to a small freshwater marsh where a short burst of playback lured out a Madagascar Rail for a very good look and rare photographic chances for this shy bird. It placed us on another roll, as we discovered a pair of Madagascar Green-Pigeons tucked up in a tree looking luminous in the scope, which then led us to some Madagascar Starlings that, although distant, were helped by the telescope yet again. On our night walk we had a most unexpected bonus when we heard a Crested Ibis calling close to the road and then spotted it sitting in a tree. With three flashlights on it, remarkably unperturbed, it continued to call, every pulsing guttural rattle ending in it raising its crest—a truly memorable experience. The rest of the night walk proved rather quiet except for a reasonably cooperative Crossley's Dwarf Lemur.



Another great bird encountered on the Helmet Vanga search was this Short-legged Ground-Roller.

(Dion Hobcroft)

Our morning was focused on the extensive freshwater marsh of Anturoturofutsy. With the necessary permit we walked in on the old railway track. Drizzly conditions had the Madagascar Snipe actively roding, and we had up to four birds in view at once, also calling quite frequently in flight. This is a large snipe and quite rare. Further into the marsh, in the suitable sedge microhabitat, we found a pair of Gray Emutails that did some display flights—their curious tails held at 45 degrees below as they fluttered about. These are lovely little birds, also highly endangered as their marsh habitat turns into rice fields. Those who had missed the Madagascar Flufftail were rewarded with cracking views as the male came in for a close look at us, his fluffy tail quivering as he beeped. After a delicious lunch we made the lengthy drive back through Tana and set up once more in the delightful hotel near the airport.



As photographed between fronds of a fern, a superbly camouflaged Collared Nightjar sits on the forest floor in Andasibe. (Dion Hobcroft)

Our final morning was spent visiting Lac Alarobia, a well-protected freshwater wetland in a gated estate in Antananarivo. A major surprise was finding a singleton of the rare Madagascar Grebe here. There was also a close Red-knobbed Coot in breeding condition, at least five Meller's Ducks, and a couple of magnificent Madagascar Pond-Herons in breeding condition. It was also fun to see the Black Heron doing the "umbrella pose" where they tent their wings to attract fish to the shaded area. The main tour came to a close. Thank you to all of our wonderful participants for making it such a success. A big thank you to: Fano, Fedy, Julian, Coco, Freddy, and Riddafy, plus the many other Malagasy folks who made our tour such a success. Several folks continued on our extension that also proved to be a first rate experience.

**AMPIJOROA-BETSIBOKA EXTENSION  
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By Dion Hobcroft**



A male Schlegel's Asity: one of many great sightings on the extension. (Dion Hobcroft)

The flight to Mahjunga left in the early evening. A final check around the airport turned up the Sooty Falcon, tucked into the corner of an airport building. All went as planned with the flight, and we were soon ensconced in the delightful Karibu Lodge for a delicious dinner.

We took our boat captained by Eric out onto the Betsiboka River delta. News was not good though; the hoped for Bernier's Teal had not been seen in the past week, and so it was to prove again today. Birding was good though; the other key species, the Madagascar Sacred Ibis, was in excellent form, and we found at least ten birds that gave very close looks, right down to the whites of their eyes. Another bonus

was an adult Yellow-billed Stork, a rare breeding bird in west Madagascar that was also very cooperative. Likewise a White-winged Black Tern, a scarce migrant to this island, was a good discovery. Lots of shorebirds on a favorable tide included quite a few Terek Sandpipers, dozens of Curlew Sandpipers, and at least one hundred Greater Sand-Plovers amongst other species.



The Madagascar Sacred Ibis with its pale eyes is recognized by some checklists as a full species, but not all. It is scarce and restricted to the west coast of the island. (Dion Hobcroft)

Returning to Karibu we enjoyed another fine meal before making the drive to Ampijoroa. En route we checked a freshwater wetland, finding a small flock of Whiskered Terns with yet another White-winged Black Tern mixed in. We visited the main park center in Ampijoroa where we met Jacky, our talented local guide. A family of the beautiful Coquerel's Sifaka, creamy white and chocolate with golden eyes, leapt all about us, coming down very close to investigate. A troop of Brown Lemurs moved over our heads, calling to each other with grunts. Fedy, our trusty driver, had a heart-palpitating surprise when he came upon a Giant Hog-nosed Snake, a non-venomous species that he then showed to us. It is an attractively patterned species. Fano had another surprise for us—we would be the first guests in his brand new hotel! It worked out very nicely. After settling in to the as yet unnamed hotel, we returned to the edge of the national park for a night walk. It was a lively night, and we had good views of Western Tuft-tailed Rat, an adorable Golden-Brown Mouse Lemur, and a more skittish Gray Mouse Lemur. Returning to the park restaurant we had great looks at a Milne-Edward's Sportive Lemur. While having

dinner, a Torotoroka Scops-Owl piped up, and I found it calling next to the dining area where it gave great views—a rufous morph individual. It had been an action-packed day.



Up close and personal with Coquerel's Sifaka at Ampijoroa. (Dion Hobcroft)

It is hot in this region of Madagascar so we were up early. After the necessary caffeine infusion we walked along a trail and had almost instantaneous success with the male Schlegel's Asity. This is one of the most unusual passerines in the world, and the color of its facial skin has to be seen to be believed.

Almost as good, the elusive Mongoose Lemur came moving through the canopy overhead, switching its tail this way and that. Time for breakfast, and the park staff did a terrific job. Moving out on the trails, we tracked down one of the rarest birds in this region—the infamous Van Dam’s Vanga, often referred to as “that damn vanga,” especially if it gives you the runaround. It performed beautifully. Our lucky group continued to be lucky. Mixed flocks came by with beautiful Blue and Rufous vangas, and then another stroke of real fortune when we found the nest of a Crested Ibis with two chicks. Two gentlemen enjoyed this very much, having missed our previous encounter at night in Andasibe a few days prior: a “grip back.” We had good looks at day-roosting mouse and sportive lemurs. Then we did a boat trip on Lac Ravelobe, most famous as being one of the only accessible sites to see the rare Madagascar Fish-Eagle. Great views were had of a single large fish-eagle, possibly the female by size. A congregation of herons feeding in the shallows included a single Humblot’s Heron and a small party of Glossy Ibis. A perched Sooty Falcon later gave an excellent demonstration of its aerial prowess. Several Nile Crocodiles were seen loafing about.



The rare Van Dam’s Vanga uses its powerful bill to look for insect prey at Ampijoroa. (Dion Hobcroft)

After a siesta we returned to the park, back on the trail of the elusive White-breasted Mesite. The breakthrough was made rather quickly, and we lured a pair across the path for a very good view of this most unusual bird, a representative of a family endemic to Madagascar. With early success we walked along to the nest of a France’s Sparrowhawk. After a patient vigil the incubating *Accipiter* rotated on its nest and gave us a good look at its enormous yellow eyes and wavy lined chest. A good dinner and several cold THB’S celebrated the end of our Madagascar forest birding.



Largely a travel day across the stark deforested central plateau of Madagascar, we punctuated the drive with several stops. The rare Madagascar Jacana continues to decline, and all known spots came up blank for this species. Interestingly though, we found a good population of the ornamentally plumaged African Pygmy-Goose, at least thirty birds. Careful scanning also revealed the Allen's Gallinule for a good scope study. A perched Peregrine Falcon and good looks at the endemic population of Alpine Swift, quite distinctively small and dark, rounded out the day.



It took some searching before we had great views of the localized White-breasted Mesite, found only in northwest Madagascar. These unusual birds are a family endemic to this most unusual island.

(Dion Hobcroft)

Our tour had come to its end. Again with special thanks to Fano, Fedy, Tuvu, Freddy and Riddafy, Julian and Coco, and the lovely Jacky, plus many other folks who made our trip so comfortable, so tasty, and so successful.

## **BIRDS**

\*denotes seen on Ampijoroa extension only

White-faced Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*)

\*African Pygmy-Goose (*Nettapus auritus*)

Meller's Duck (*Anas melleri*)

Red-billed Teal (*Anas erythrorhyncha*)

Hottentot Teal (*Anas hottentota*)

Helmeted Guineafowl (*Numida meleagris*) Introduced

Madagascar Partridge (*Margaroperdix madagascarensis*)

Madagascar Grebe (*Tachybaptus pelzelinii*)

Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*)

Red-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaethon rubricauda*)

\*Yellow-billed Stork (*Mycteria ibis*)

Hamerkop (*Scopus umbretta*)

Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)

Humblot's Heron (*Ardea humbloti*)  
Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*)  
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)  
Little (Dimorphic) Egret (*Egretta garzetta dimorpha*)  
Black Heron (*Egretta ardesiaca*)  
Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)  
Squacco Heron (*Ardeola ralloides*)  
Madagascar Pond-Heron (*Ardeola idae*)  
Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)  
Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)  
  
\*Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)  
Madagascar Crested Ibis (*Lophotibis cristata*)  
\*Madagascar Sacred Ibis (*Threskiornis [aethiopicus] bernieri*)  
  
Madagascar Harrier-Hawk (*Polyboroides radiatus*)  
\*France's Goshawk (*Accipiter francesiae*)  
Madagascar Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter madagascariensis*)  
Yellow-billed Kite (*Milvus migrans parasiticus*)  
\*Madagascar Fish-Eagle (*Haliaeetus vociferoides*)  
Madagascar Buzzard (*Buteo brachypterus*)  
  
\*White-breasted Mesite (*Mesitornis variegatus*)  
Subdesert Mesite (*Monias benschi*)

Madagascar Wood-Rail (*Canirallus kioloides*)

Madagascar Flufftail (*Sarothura insularis*)

Madagascar Rail (*Rallus madagascariensis*)

White-throated Rail (*Dryolimnas cuvieri*)

Baillon's Crake (*Zapornia pusilla*)

\*Allen's Gallinule (*Porphyrio alleni*)

African Swampphen (*Porphyrio madagascariensis*)

Eurasian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)

Red-knobbed Coot (*Fulica cristata*)

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

Greater Sand-Plover (*Charadrius leschenaulti*)

Kittlitz's Plover (*Charadrius pecuarius*)

Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*)

Madagascar Plover (*Charadrius thoracicus*)

Three-banded Plover (*Charadrius tricollaris*)

White-fronted Plover (*Charadrius marginatus*)

Crab Plover (*Dromas ardeola*)

\*Terek Sandpiper (*Xenus cinereus*)

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)

Little Stint (*Calidris minuta*)

Madagascar Snipe (*Gallinago macrodactyla*)

Madagascar Buttonquail (*Turnix nigricollis*)

Madagascar Pratincole (*Glareola ocularis*)

Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*)

\*White-winged Tern (*Chlidonias leucoptera*)

\*Whiskered Tern (*Chlidonias hybrida*)

Great Crested Tern (*Thalasseus bergii*)

Lesser Crested Tern (*Thalasseus bengalensis*)

Madagascar Sandgrouse (*Pterocles personatus*)

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) Introduced

Madagascar Turtle-Dove (*Streptopelia picturata*)

Namaqua Dove (*Oena capensis*)

Madagascar Green-Pigeon (*Treron australis*)

Madagascar Blue-Pigeon (*Alectroenas madagascariensis*)

Madagascar Cuckoo (*Cuculus rochii*)

Giant Coua (*Coua gigas*)

Coquerel's Coua (*Coua coquereli*)

Red-breasted Coua (*Coua serriana*)

Red-fronted Coua (*Coua reynaudii*)

\*Red-capped Coua (*Coua ruficeps ruficeps*)

Green-capped Coua (*Coua ruficeps oliviceps*)

Running Coua (*Coua cursor*)

Crested Coua (*Coua cristata*)

Verreaux's Coua (*Coua verreauxi*)

Blue Coua (*Coua caerulea*)

Madagascar Coucal (*Centropus tolou*)

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) Leader only

Malagasy (Rainforest) Scops-Owl (*Otus rutilus*)

Torotoroka Scops-owl (*Otus madagascariensis*)

Madagascar Long-eared Owl (*Asio madagascariensis*)

White-browed Owl (*Ninox superciliaris*)

Collared Nightjar (*Gactornis enarratus*)

Madagascar Nightjar (*Caprimulgus madagascariensis*)

Malagasy Spinetail (*Zoonavena grandidieri*)

\*Alpine Swift (*Apus melba*)

Madagascar Swift (*Apus balstoni*)

African Palm-Swift (*Cypsiurus parvus*)

Cuckoo-Roller (*Leptosomus discolor*)

Madagascar Hoopoe (*Upupa marginata*)

Malagasy (Malachite) Kingfisher (*Corythornis vintsioides*)

Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher (*Corythornis madagascariensis*)

Madagascar (Olive) Bee-eater (*Merops superciliosus*)

Broad-billed Roller (*Eurystomus glaucurus*)

Short-legged Ground-Roller (*Brachypteracias leptosomus*)

Scaly Ground-Roller (*Brachypteracias squamiger*)

Pitta-like Ground-Roller (*Atelornis pittoides*)

Rufous-headed Ground-Roller (*Atelornis crossleyi*)

Long-tailed Ground-Roller (*Uratelornis chimaera*)

Madagascar Kestrel (*Falco newtoni*)

Sooty Falcon (*Falco concolor*)

\*Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)

Greater Vasa-Parrot (*Mascarinus vasa*)

Lesser Vasa-Parrot (*Mascarinus nigra*)

Grey-headed Lovebird (*Agapornis canus*)

Velvet Asity (*Philepitta castanea*)

\*Schlegel's Asity (*Philepitta schlegelii*)

Sunbird Asity (*Neodrepanis coruscans*)

Archbold's Newtonia (*Newtonia archboldi*)

Common Newtonia (*Newtonia brunneicauda*)

Tylas Vanga (*Tylas eduardii*)

Red-tailed Vanga (*Calicalius madagascariensis*)

Red-shouldered Vanga (*Calicalius rufocarpalis*)

Nuthatch Vanga (*Hypositta corallirostris*)

Chabert's Vanga (*Leptopterus chabert*)

Crossley's (Babbler) Vanga (*Mystacornis crossleyi*)

Blue Vanga (*Cyanolanius madagascarinus*)

Hook-billed Vanga (*Vanga curvirostris*)

Ward's (Flycatcher) Vanga (*Pseudobias wardi*)

\*Rufous Vanga (*Schetba rufa*)

Helmet Vanga (*Euryceros prevostii*)

Sickle-billed Vanga (*Falcolea palliata*)

White-headed Vanga (*Artamella viridis*)

Lafresnaye's Vanga (*Xenopirostris xenopirostris*)

\*Van Dam's Vanga (*Xenopirostris damii*)



Ashy Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina cinerea*)

Crested Drongo (*Dicrurus forficatus*)

Madagascar Paradise-Flycatcher (*Terpsiphone mutata*)

Pied Crow (*Corvus albus*)

Madagascar Lark (*Mirafra hova*)

Plain (Brown-throated) Martin (*Riparia paludicola*)

Mascarene Martin (*Phedina borbonica*)

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

Madagascar Bulbul (*Hypsipetes madagascariensis*)

Madagascar Brush-Warbler (*Nesillas typica*)

Subdesert Brush-Warbler (*Nesillas lantzii*)

Madagascar Swamp-Warbler (*Acrocephalus newtoni*)

Grey Emu-tail (*Amphilais seebohmi*)

White-throated Oxylabes (*Oxylabes madagascariensis*)

Long-billed Bernieria (*Bernieria madagascariensis*)

Thamnornis (*Thamnornis chloropetoides*)  
Spectacled Tetraka (*Xanthomixis zosterops*)  
Appert's Tetraka (*Xanthomixis apperti*)  
Rand's Warbler (*Randia pseudzosterops*)

Common Jery (*Neomixis tenella*)  
Green Jery (*Neomixis viridis*)  
Stripe-throated Jery (*Neomixis striatigula*)  
Madagascar Cisticola (*Cisticola cherina*)

Madagascar White-eye (*Zosterops maderaspatanus*)

Madagascar Magpie-Robin (*Copsychus albospecularis*)  
Forest Rock-Thrush (*Monticola sharpei*)  
Littoral Rock-Thrush (*Monticola imerina*)  
Madagascar (African) Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola sibilla*)

Madagascar Starling (*Saroglossa aurata*)  
Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) Introduced

Souimanga Sunbird (*Cinnyris souimanga*)  
Madagascar Green Sunbird (*Cinnyris notatus*)

Madagascar Wagtail (*Motacilla flaviventris*)

Nelicourvi Weaver (*Ploceus nelicourvi*)

Sakalava Weaver (*Ploceus sakalava*)

Red Fody (*Foudia madagascariensis*)

Forest Fody (*Foudia omissa*)

Madagascar Munia (*Lonchura nana*)

## **MAMMALS**

Lesser Hedgehog Tenrec (*Echinops telfari*)

Furry-eared Dwarf-Lemur (*Cheirogaleus crossleyi*)

\*Grey Mouse Lemur (*Microcebus murinus*)

\*Golden-brown Mouse Lemur (*Microcebus ravelobensis*)

Grey-brown Mouse-Lemur (*Microcebus griseorufus*)

Ring-tailed Lemur (*Lemur catta*)

Common Brown Lemur (*Eulemur fulvus*)

\*Mongoose Lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*)

Red-bellied Lemur (*Eulemur rubriventer*)

Eastern Lesser Bamboo Lemur (*Hapalemur griseus*)

Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur (*Varecia variegata*)

\*Milne-Edward's Sportive Lemur (*Lepilemur edwardsi*)

Black-shouldered Sportive Lemur (*Lepilemur* sp. Nov.)

Zombitse Sportive Lemur (*Lepilemur hubbardorum*)

Indri (*Indri indri*)

Diademed Sifaka (*Propithecus diadema*)

\*Coquerel's Sifaka (*Propithecus coquereli*)

Verreaux's Sifaka (*Propithecus verreauxi*)

Western Tuft-tailed Rat (*Eilurus myoxinus*)

## **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

Radiated Tortoise (*Astrochelys radiata*)

\*Nile Crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*)

Short-horned Chameleon (*Calumma brevicornis*)

Parson's Chameleon (*Calumma parsonii*)

Oustalet's Chameleon (*Furcifer oustaleti*)

Warty Chameleon (*Furcifer verrucosus*)

Three-eyed Lizard (*Chalarodon madagascariensis*)

Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Oplurus cyclurus*)

\*Cuvier's Iguana (*Oplurus cuvieri*)

Sakalava Gecko (*Homopholis sakalava*)

(Lygodactylus tolampi)

Mercator Tropical House Gecko (Hemidactylus mercatorius)

\*Madagascar Day Gecko (Phelsuma madagascariensis)

Standing's Day Gecko (Phelsuma standingii)

Lined Day Gecko (Phelsuma lineata)

Madagascar Plated Lizard (Zonosaurus madagascariensis)

Madagascar Spotted Snake (Madagascarophis colubrinus)

Painted Mantella (Mantella baroni)