

Ghana

2022 Tour Report



Nkulengu Rail © Michael Mills

Text by leader Michael Mills (assisted by Victor Owusu) Photos by Don MacGillivray and Michael Mills

SUMMARY

Although Ghana has no endemics, the country offers the easiest access to the Upper Guinea region with its numerous specials. Our 18-day journey took in a varied selection of habitats, and visited all major Ghanaian birding sites. In the process we logged almost 430 species, including Yellowheaded Picathartes, Ghana's star bird. We were also fortunate that two new lodges had just opened up next to key birding sites, allowing us to enjoy unprecedented comfort throughout our journey.

Sites visited during our time in Ghana included the Shai Hills Resource Reserve (White-crowned Cliff Chat, Stone Partridge, Oriole Warbler, Yellow-crowned Gonolek), forests in the vicinity of Ho (Togo Yellow-billed Barbet, Fire-bellied Woodpecker), Kalakpa Reserve (Red-cheeked Wattle-eye), Atewa Hills (Blue-moustached Bee-eater, Long-tailed Hawk, Nimba Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Cuckoo, Tit Hylia, Buff-throated Sunbird), Daboya (Egyptian Plover), Mole National Park (White-throated Francolin, Standard-winged Nightjar, Forbes's Plover, Northern White-faced Owl, Sun Lark, Pied-winged Swallow, Red-winged

Pytilia), Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary (Western Black Dwarf Hornbill, Black-throated Coucal, African Piculet), Bankro Community Forests (Yellow-headed Picathartes, Tessmann's Flycatcher, Fraser's Eagle-Owl, Thick-billed Cuckoo, Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo), Kakum National Park and surrounds (Forest Penduline Tit, Violet-backed Hyliota, Rosy Bee-eater), the Ebi River (Mangrove Brown Sunbird), Ankasa National Park (Nkulengu Rail, Akun Eagle-Owl, White-bellied Kingfisher, African Dwarf Kingfisher, Red-chested Owlet, Dwarf Bittern) and Brenu Beach Road (Baumann's Olive Greenbul).

Egyptian Plover © Don MacGillivray



ESSENTIAL DETAILS

DATES

4-21 January 2022

ITINERARY

- 4 Jan: Arrive Accra.
- 5 Jan: Shai Hills and Ho area. Overnight Ho.
- 6 Jan: Kalakpa. Drive to Atewa.
- 7 Jan: Most of day at Atewa. Evening to Kumasi.
- **8 Jan**: Kumasi to Mole via Daboya.
- 9-10 Jan: Mole.
- 11 Jan: Mole to Kumasi.
- 12 Jan: Bobiri, and on to Bankro.
- 13 Jan: Full day at Bankro.



Yellow-headed Picathartes © Don MacGillivray

14 Jan: Bankro to Kakum.
15 Jan: Full day in Kakum NP.
16 Jan: Full day around Kakum.
17 Jan: Kakum, and to Ankasa.
18–19 Jan: Full days at Ankasa.
20 Jan: Ankasa to Takarodi.
21 Jan: Takarodi to Accra.

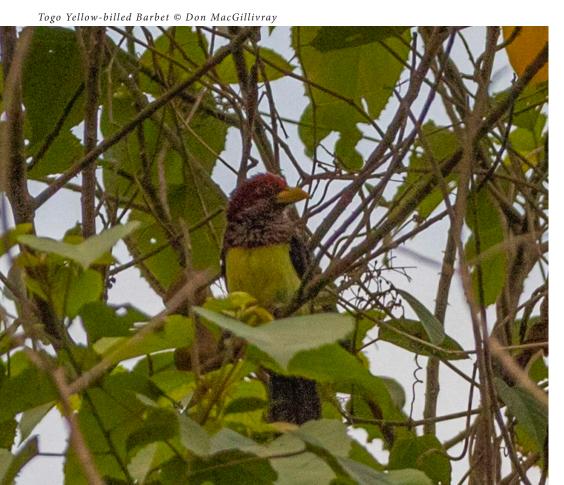
PARTICIPANTS

Michael Frost John Wall Don MacGillivray Tom Dulski

REPORT

We assembled at our hotel on the eastern edge of Accra, before heading out the next morning to the nearby savannas of the Shai Hills. Here we spent a productive few hours in the thickets and moist savannas. We arrived while it was still dark, and quickly found Long-tailed Nightjar and Senegal Thick-knee in the track which, as the sun began to rise, were replaced by Stone Partridge and Double-spurred Francolin. Our attention was first directed at the thickets at the base of some large rocks, where Chestnut Owlet was quite vocal but remained well hidden most of the time. Here we also found Guinea Turaco, Violet Turaco, Western Plantain-eater, Oriole Warbler and Puvel's Illadopsis. Later we moved out to more open savannas where we added Yellowfronted Tinkerbird, Vieillot's Barbet, Flappet

Lark, Northern Crombec, Plain-backed Pipit, Croaking Cisticola, Yellow-crowned Gonolek and Yellow-throated Longclaw to our lists. We also visited a rocky outcrop to see White-crowned Cliff Chat, before it was time to move on. The drive to Ho, with lunch enjoyed overlooking the Volta River, was rather uneventful. After checking into our accommodation we struck out to some forests near to Ho for the rest of the afternoon. with the hope of finding the rarely-seen Togo Yellow-billed Barbet. Our first stop produced good views of Grey Kestrel and Blue-bellied Roller, but our second stop was the most memorable. Here we saw the likes of Fire-bellied Woodpecker, Manycoloured Bushshrike, Red-billed Helmetshrike and, to cap off a great first day, a cooperative Togo Yellow-billed Barbet!





Croaking Cisticola © Don MacGillivray

The next day we spent a very quiet and fairly frustrating morning at Kalakpa, seeing **Tree Pipit**, **Mottled Spinetail** and **Red-cheeked Wattle-eye**, glimpsing **Baumann's Olive Greenbul** and hearing **Black-crowned Capuchin Babbler** and **Western Forest Robin**. The rest of the day was spent driving to the base of the Atewa Range hills, where we spent the night in a nearby hotel.

The next day, fortunately, the birding contrasted significantly with the previous. We spent the better part of the day in the Atewa hills, and bird activity remained high all day long. We kept a slow but steady pace as we climbed, pausing for various goodies as we went, the best of which was a pair of Long-tailed Hawk which we studied through the scope for some time. We also found Yellow-throated Cuckoo, Narina Trogon, Bristlenosed Barbet, Western White-crested Hornbill, West African Batis, West African Wattle-eye, Purple-throated Cuckooshrike, Black-winged Oriole, Shining Drongo, Fanti Drongo, Golden Greenbul, Kemp's Longbill, Grey Longbill, Lemon-bellied Crombec, Tit Hylia, Sharpe's Apalis, Finsch's Flycatcher-Thrush, Fraser's Forest Flycatcher, Fraser's Sunbird, Little Green Sunbird, Yellow-chinned Green Sunbird, Johanna's Sunbird and Maxwell's Black Weaver on the way up. With all the distractions it had taken us a bit longer to get into the right areas for a certain bee-eater and flycatcher, and activity was

slowing down a bit. We bade our time searching for the bee-eater, and for a long time we could hear one calling nearby before eventually finding it sitting discreetly in the forest mid-storey - Bluemoustached Bee-eater! After enjoying it through the scope for a while we continued onwards, and soon we could hear the distant song of a Nimba Flycatcher. Unfortunately it wouldn't come closer, so we had to go off *piste*. After bashing through the under-storey we eventually found ourselves directly below it, but try as we might couldn't see it, and eventually it flew off without us laying eyes on it. Feeling dejected we returned to the main track to consider our options, but our disappointment didn't last long and soon we were watching Nimba Flycatcher through the scope from the main track. Whew! With our two main targets under the belt we could return at a more relaxed pace. As we descended we kept pausing for new birds, and added Naked-faced Barbet, Cassin's Honeybird, Copper-tailed Starling, Forest Chestnutwinged Starling, Little Grey Flycatcher, Ussher's Flycatcher, Buff-throated Sunbird, Tiny Sunbird and Yellow-mantled Weaver to our growing list. We were all surprised with how far we had walked (the birds had kept us so distracted that we didn't really realise it), and by the time we'd arrived back at the vehicle we were all happy to put our feet up for the drive onwards to Kumasi, where we arrived shortly after sunset.

The drive northwards to (and back from) Mole was by far the longest of the trip, making essentially two full travel days either side of the two full days we spent at Mole. We set off early from Kumasi, and made good progress northwards. During the late morning we paused to watch a large gathering of raptors - mostly Grasshopper Buzzard, but also Yellow-billed Kites and a single Booted Eagle — around a roadside fire, and enjoyed lunch overlooking a pool where Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark, Bush Petronia, African Silverbill and Gosling's Bunting were coming to drink. Other roadside birds included Western Banded Snake Eagle and African Wattled Lapwing, and by early afternoon we were in the Mole area, so we decided to detour via Daboya on the White Volta River. Along the way we paused for a surprise Fox Kestrel. Arriving at Daboya it was laundry day along the river, and our target bird had been

Grasshopper Buzzard © Don MacGillivray

pushed from its usual haunts by the groups of people gathered on the river banks. We walked some distance along the river before spotting a pair of **Egyptian Plover**, which we eventually managed to admire at close range. Also present were good numbers of **Red-chested Swallow** perched on the wires. Needless to say, we were pleased to roll into camp at Mole at sunset, having added **Dark Chanting Goshawk, Purple Roller** and **African Hobby** to our lists along the last section of the drive.

We had two full days to enjoy the diverse savanna and wetland birding at Mole. We spent our time at various spots in and around the park, racking up a good list of species with the top birds including a very confiding **White-throated Francolin** and point-blank views of dazzling male **Standardwinged Nightjars**. In the open woodlands, other





White-throated Francolin © Don MacGillivray

highlights included Black-billed Wood Dove, Red-necked Buzzard, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Green Wood Hoopoe, Black Scimitarbill, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Abyssinian Roller, Broadbilled Roller, Grey-headed Kingfisher, Bruce's Green Pigeon, Namaqua Dove, Fine-spotted Woodpecker, Bearded Barbet, Senegal Parrot, Senegal Batis, Grey-headed Bushshrike, Whitecrested Helmetshrike, Yellow-billed Shrike, Woodchat Shrike, Brown-backed Woodpecker, African Golden Oriole, White-shouldered Black Tit, Pied-winged Swallow, Singing Cisticola, Dorst's Cisticola, Rufous Cisticola, Senegal Eremomela, Red-winged Warbler, Yellow-bellied Hyliota, African Spotted Creeper, White-fronted Black Chat, Western Violet-backed Sunbird, Pygmy Sunbird, Beautiful Sunbird, Purple Starling, Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver, Heuglin's Masked Weaver, Northern Red-headed Weaver, Red-winged Pytilia and Brown-rumped Bunting. Around watercourses and in associated gallery forests and thickets we added Melodious Warbler, Violet Turaco, Senegal Coucal, Greater

Painted-snipe, African Woolly-necked Stork, Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Giant Kingfisher, Redthroated Bee-eater, African Grey Woodpecker, **Rose-ringed Parakeet**, Lesser Blue-eared Starling, Bronze-tailed Starling, Long-tailed Glossy Starling, Swamp Flycatcher, Snowycrowned Robin-Chat, White-crowned Robin-Chat, Bar-breasted Firefinch, Lavender Waxbill, Orange-cheeked Waxbill, Wilson's Indigobird (in breeding plumage) and Exclamatory Paradise Whydah (a male in full plumage except for the missing tail feather). And we spent some time stalking the open patches where we found Northern Carmine Bee-eater, Black-bellied Bustard, Denham's Bustard, Flappet Lark, Sun Lark and Forbes's Plover. Overhead we spotted Hooded Vulture, White-backed Vulture, Whiteheaded Vulture, a couple of surprise Rüppell's Vulture, Bateleur and Ayres's Hawk-Eagle, and after dark we enjoyed sightings of Northern White-faced Owl, African Scops Owl and Grevish Eagle-Owl.



Yellow-headed Picathartes © Michael Mills

The drive back to Kumasi was rather uneventful, spare a perched Beaudouin's Snake Eagle. It was now time to turn our attentions to some serious forest birding, which started off at Bobiri Butterfly Sanctuary where African Cuckoo-Hawk, Western Black Dwarf Hornbill, Least Honeyguide, African Piculet, Grev Parrot and incredible views of a Black-throated Coucal were the highlights. Passing Kumasi we paused for **Double-toothed Barbet**, before we arrived at the new lodge at Bankro in the mid-afternoon. We dropped our bags and then headed out to the nearby hill in the forest which has become famous as the best site in the world to see the incredible Yellow-headed Picathartes. Although we had to wait for a while and Don attracted a swarm of bees, two birds eventually came bounding along and gave us a superb display as they moved around various lianas and sat out in the open on different rocks, going about their evening activities. As the sun set we made our way back to camp with the knowledge that we had seen something very special.

The next full day and morning thereafter were spent in various forest patches in the vicinity of Bankro, finding a good selection of species, which included **Thick-billed Cuckoo**, **Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo**, **Afep Pigeon**, **Blue-headed Wood Dove**, **Black Spinetail**, **Fraser's Eagle-Owl**, **Speckled Tinkerbird**, **Red-rumped Tinkerbird**, **Yellowthroated Tinkerbird**, **Hairy-breasted Barbet**, **Red-fronted Parrot**, **Rufous-sided Broadbill**, **Sabine's Puffback**, **Blue Cuckooshrike**, **Blueheaded Crested Flycatcher**, **Chestnut-capped Flycatcher**, **Rufous-crowned Eremomela**, **Tessmann's Flycatcher**, **Crested Malimbe** and **Western Bluebill**. The next locality visited was Kakum National Park and surrounds. Inside the park our attentions were focussed on the incredible canopy walkway, which allows one to get much closer to canopy species than normal. We enjoyed two mornings and an evening at various watch stations, and gathered an impressive collection of species which included **Forest Wood Hoopoe, White-headed Wood Hoopoe, Blue Yellowbill, Cassin's Spinetail, Brown-cheeked Hornbill, Black-casqued Hornbill, Western White-crested Hornbill, Blue-throated Roller, Western Yellow-spotted Barbet, Willcocks's Honeyguide, African Piculet, Sabine's Puffback, Forest Penduline Tit, Spotted Greenbul, Fanti Saw-wing, Violet-backed** Hyliota and Chestnut-breasted Nigrita. A Brown Nightjar teased us, twice approaching closely but always remaining hidden under the canopy.

The rest of our time was spent in and around various local community forests to the west of the park, and visiting the Pra River. Here new birds included Black-shouldered Nightjar, Blue-headed Coucal, Great Spotted Cuckoo, Bates's Swift, White-spotted Flufftail, Rock Pratincole, Palmnut Vulture, Red-chested Goshawk in display flight, Rosy Bee-eater, Black Bee-eater, Ethiopian Swallow, White-throated Blue Swallow, Green Crombec, Whistling Cisticola, Red-vented Malimbe and Lowland Sooty Boubou.

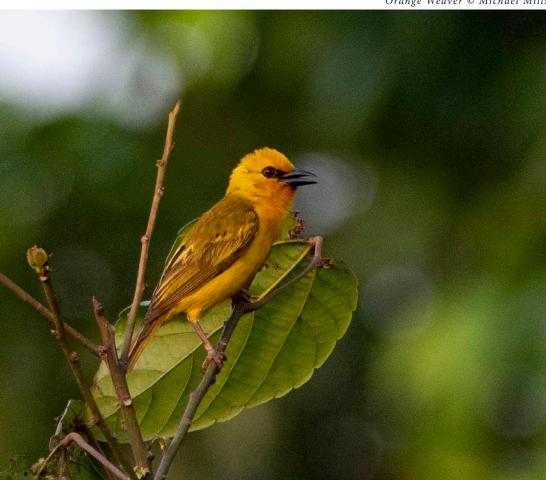
Black Bee-eater © Don MacGillivray



For the final part of our trip we made our way to the far south-west of Ghana, to visit the moist forests of Ankasa National Park. En route we paused to see **Orange Weaver** breeding alongside the more common **Chestnut-and-black Weaver**, and stopped for a while at the Ebi River where we found **Yellow-billed Egret**, **White-browed Forest Flycatcher** and **Mangrove Brown Sunbird**.

Ultimately we were excited to arrive at the new lodge on the edge of the park, and were the first birding tour to ever enjoy its luxuries. From its comfort we made various forays into the park over the next two-and-a-half days. Although the birding was slow, each trip turned up something new and exciting. The undoubted highlight was excellent views of roosting **Nkulengu Rails**, which were perched low down and in the open for us, but other noteworthy sightings included **Sabine's** Spinetail, Yellow-billed Turaco, scoped Whistling Long-tailed Cuckoo, Western Bronze-naped Pigeon and Spot-breasted Ibis in flight, Dwarf Bittern, Akun Eagle-Owl, day-time views of Red-chested Owlet, a roosting Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill, Western Piping Hornbill, Yellowcasqued Hornbill, more Blue-throated Roller than one could shake a stick at, African Dwarf Kingfisher, White-bellied Kingfisher, Shiningblue Kingfisher, Black Bee-eater, Western Yellowbilled Barbet, Western Black-headed Oriole, **Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher, Square-tailed** Saw-wing, Black-capped Apalis, Pale-breasted Illadopsis, Cassin's Flycatcher, Dusky-blue Flycatcher, Western Forest Robin, the scarce Lowland Akalat, Reichenbach's Sunbird, Bluebilled Malimbe and glimpses of Red-fronted Antpecker.

Orange Weaver © Michael Mills





West African Wattle-eye © Don MacGillivray

All that remained was to return to Accra, with an overnight stop at Takarodi. We paused again at the Ebi River, this time finding a **Northern Shoveler** among a flock of **White-faced Whistling Ducks**. We also stopped briefly along the coast to admire several **African Royal Tern** and **Western Reef Heron**. Our final stop was along the Brenu Beach Road where a couple of hours of birding brought Black Coucal, Baumann's Olive Greenbul, Mosque Swallow, Short-winged Cisticola, Oriole Warbler, Green-headed Sunbird, Splendid Sunbird, Olive-naped Weaver and Yellowmantled Widowbird. Back in Accra we watched Piapiac while we waited for our covid test results to be issued, which we were all grateful to pass!

ANNOTATED LIST OF BIRDS RECORDED

Numididae

Birding Africa Tour Report

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* — Common in the savannas (*galeatus*)

Odontophoridae

Stone Partridge *Ptilopachus petrosus* — Excellent views at Shai Hills and Mole (*petrosus*)

Phasianidae

Latham's Forest Francolin *Peliperdix lathami* — Heard only

White-throated Francolin *Peliperdix albogularis* — Superb views at Mole (*buckleyi*)

Double-spurred Francolin *Pternistis bicalcaratus* — Common in the savannas (*bicalcaratus*)

Anatidae

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata* — A few sightings

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata* — One among the White-faced Whistling Ducks at the Ebi River

Caprimulgidae

Brown Nightjar *Veles binotatus* — Heard at close range at Kakum, but unfortunately it stayed below the canopy

Black-shouldered Nightjar [Fiery-necked Nightjar] Caprimulgus [pectoralis] nigriscapularis — Excellent views near Kakum

Long-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus climacurus* — Seen on five nights

Standard-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus longipennis* — Superb views at Mole

Apodidae

12 Ghana 2022

Mottled Spinetail *Telacanthura ussheri* — Just one at Kalakpa (*ussheri*)

Black Spinetail *Telacanthura melanopygia* — Seen at Bankro, Ankasa and Kakum

Sabine's Spinetail *Rhaphidura sabini* — Good numbers at Ankasa

Cassin's Spinetail *Neafrapus cassini* — Several at Kakum and Ankasa

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus* [*p.*] *parvus* — Seen regularly (*brachypterus*)

Common Swift *Apus apus* — Seen regularly (*apus*)

Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus* — One among the Common Swifts at Bankro

Little Swift *Apus affinis* — Seen several times (*aerobates*)

Bates's Swift Apus batesi — One near Kakum

Musophagidae

Great Blue Turaco *Corythaeola cristata* — Heard at Ankasa

Guinea Turaco *Tauraco persa* — Seen at Shai Hills and Kalakpa, and heard elsewhere (*persa*)

Yellow-billed Turaco Tauraco macrorhynchus — Heard often in forest and seen at Ankasa (macrorhynchus)

Violet Turaco *Musophaga violacea* — Seen well at Mole

Western Plantain-eater *Crinifer piscator* — Seen regularly in open areas

Otididae

Denham's Bustard *Neotis denhami* — Good views of one at Mole (*denhami*)

Black-bellied Bustard *Lissotis melanogaster* — A female seen well in the road at Mole (*melanogaster*)

Cuculidae

Black-throated Coucal *Centropus leucogaster* — Incredible views at Bobiri (*leucogaster*)

Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis* — Several seen (*senegalensis*)

Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus* — Two seen near Kakum (*fischeri*)

Black Coucal *Centropus grillii* — One seen at Brenu Beach Road

Blue Yellowbill [Yellowbill] *Ceuthmochares [a.] aereus* — Seen regularly in forest (*flavirostris*)

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* — One near Kakum

Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii* — Two at Shai Hills

Thick-billed Cuckoo *Pachycoccyx audeberti* — One seen at Bankro

Diederik Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius* — Seen at Ankasa

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* — Seen a few times

Yellow-throated Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx flavigularis* — Good views at Atewa

African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus* — Heard often in forest

Whistling Long-tailed Cuckoo [Dusky Longtailed Cuckoo] Cercococcyx [mechowi] lemaireae — Good scope views at Ankasa

Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo *Cercococcyx olivinus* — Superb views at Bankro

Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* — Heard only (gabonensis)

Pteroclidae

Four-banded Sandgrouse *Pterocles quadricinctus* — Heard at Mole

Columbidae

Rock Dove or Feral Pigeon Columba livia — Seen

Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea* — Common at Daboya (*guinea*)

Afep Pigeon *Columba unicincta* — One perched for the scope at Bankro

Western Bronze-naped Pigeon *Columba iriditorques* — Seen briefly in flight at Ankasa, where very vocal

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* — Common

Vinaceous Dove *Streptopelia vinacea* — Common in the savannas

Laughing Dove Spilopelia senegalensis — Seen often (senegalensis)

Black-billed Wood Dove *Turtur abyssinicus* — Common in the savannas

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer* — Good views near Kakum

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria* — Seen several times, including on a roost

Blue-headed Wood Dove *Turtur brehmeri* — Reasonable views at Bankro (*infelix*)

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* — Two seen in the north (*capensis*)

Bruce's Green Pigeon *Treron waalia* — Seen at Mole

African Green Pigeon *Treron* [*c.*] *calvus* — Widespread sightings (*sharpei*)

Sarothruridae

White-spotted Flufftail Sarothrura pulchra — Excellent views near Kakum (*pulchra*)

Rallidae

Nkulengu Rail *Himantornis haematopus* — Incredible views of five roosting at Ankasa

Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra* — Seen at Mole

Burhinidae

Senegal Thick-knee *Burhinus senegalensis* — Seen at Shai Hills and Mole

Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus capensis* — Heard at Mole (*maculosus*)

Charadriidae

Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus* — Just one at Mole

African Wattled Lapwing Vanellus senegallus — Fairly common in the north (senegallus)

Forbes's Plover Charadrius forbesi — Two seen at Mole

Pluvianidae

Egyptian Plover *Pluvianus aegyptius* — Great views at Daboya

Rostratulidae

Birding Africa Tour Report

Greater Painted-snipe Rostratula benghalensis — Seven seen at Mole

Jacanidae

African Jacana Actophilornis africanus — Seen a few times

Scolopacidae

Eurasian Whimbrel Numenius [p.] phaeopus — One at the Ebi River

Common Sandpiper Actitis hypoleucos — A few seen

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* — Seen twice

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* — Seen once

Common Greenshank Tringa nebularia — One at the Ebi River

Glareolidae

Rock Pratincole *Glareola nuchalis* — Good views at the Pra River (*liberiae*)

Laridae

African Royal Tern [Royal Tern] Thalasseus [maximus] albididorsalis — About 20 seen along the coast

Ciconiidae

African Woolly-necked Stork [Woolly-necked **Stork**] *Ciconia [episcopus] microscelis* — Seen at Mole

Phalacrocoracidae

Reed Cormorant Microcarbo africanus — Seen on the Volta River (africanus)

Threskiornithidae

Spot-breasted Ibis Bostrychia rara — One heard well and seen briefly in flight at Ankasa

Hadada Ibis Bostrychia hagedash — Seen at Mole (brevirostris)

Ardeidae

Dwarf Bittern Ixobrychus sturmii — Good views at Ankasa

Black-crowned Night Heron Nycticorax nycticorax

striata — Several at Mole (*atricapilla*)

and the Ebi River

ibis - Seen often

Grev Heron Ardea cinerea — Just a few seen (cinerea)

Purple Heron Ardea purpurea — Just one seen at the Ebi River (*purpurea*)

Yellow-billed Egret [Intermediate Egret] Ardea *[intermedia] brachyrhyncha* — Seen at the Ebi River

Western Reef Heron Egretta gularis — Seen well along the coast (*gularis*)

Scopidae

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta* — Seen at Mole (umbretta)

Accipitridae

African Harrier-Hawk Polyboroides typus — Seen regularly (pectoralis)

Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis* — Seen at Kakum

European Honey Buzzard Pernis apivorus — One at Bobiri

African Cuckoo-Hawk Aviceda cuculoides — One at Bobiri and two at Kakum (*batesi*)

Hooded Vulture Necrosyrtes monachus — Seen at Mole and Kakum

White-backed Vulture Gyps africanus — Seen at Kakum

Rüppell's Vulture *Gyps rueppelli* — Seen at Mole alongside White-backed Vulture (*rueppelli*)

White-headed Vulture Trigonoceps occipitalis — One juvenile at Mole

Beaudouin's Snake Eagle Circaetus beaudouini — Good roadside views on the drive from Mole to Kumasi

Western Banded Snake Eagle Circaetus cinerascens - Good roadside views on the drive from Kumasi to Mole

Congo Serpent Eagle Circaetus spectabilis - Recorded on five days, but either heard or glimpsed in flight (*spectabilis*)

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* — A few in the north

Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraaetus wahlbergi* — One at Shai Hills

Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus* — One between Kumasi and Mole

Ayres's Hawk-Eagle Hieraaetus ayresii — One at Mole

Lizard Buzzard Kaupifalco monogrammicus — Seen regularly in small numbers (monogrammicus)

Gabar Goshawk Micronisus gabar — One at Shai Hills (niger)

Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates* — A couple seen in the north (*neumanni*)

Long-tailed Hawk Urotriorchis macrourus — Incredible views at Atewa, and seen again at Bobiri, Bankro and Ankasa

Red-chested Goshawk [African Goshawk] Accipiter [tachiro] toussenelii — Seen near Kakum (macrocelides)

Shikra Accipiter badius — Seen regularly in small numbers (sphenurus)

Red-thighed Sparrowhawk Accipiter erythropus — Brief flight views of one at Ankasa (*erythropus*)

Western Marsh Harrier Circus aeruginosus — A few in the north (*aeruginosus*)

Yellow-billed Kite [Black Kite] Milvus [migrans] *aegyptius* — Numerous (*parasitus*)

Grasshopper Buzzard Butastur rufipennis - Good numbers in the north

Red-necked Buzzard Buteo auguralis — Seen at Mole and Kakum

Strigidae

African Scops Owl Otus [s.] senegalensis — Seen at Mole (*senegalensis*)

Northern White-faced Owl Ptilopsis leucotis — Excellent views at Mole

Grevish Eagle-Owl [Spotted Eagle-Owl] Bubo [africanus] cinerascens — Excellent views at Mole

Fraser's Eagle-Owl Bubo [p.] poensis - Good views at Bankro and Ankasa

Akun Eagle-Owl Bubo leucostictus — Great views at Ankasa and heard at Bankro and Kakum

African Wood Owl Strix woodfordii - Seen at Ankasa (*nuchalis*)

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum* — Several seen at Mole (*perlatum*)

Red-chested Owlet *Glaucidium tephronotum* — Excellent views at Ankasa (*tephronotum*)

Chestnut Owlet [African Barred Owlet]

Glaucidium [*capense*] *castaneum* — Heard and glimpsed in flight at Shai Hills (etchecopari)

Trogonidae

Narina Trogon Apaloderma narina — Seen at Atewa and heard at Kakum (constantia)

Upupidae

Eurasian Hoopoe [Hoopoe] Upupa [e.] epops — Just one at Mole

Phoeniculidae

Forest Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus castaneiceps* - One seen from the canopy walkway at Kakum (castaneiceps)

White-headed Wood Hoopoe Phoeniculus bollei - Great views from the canopy walkway (bollei)

Green Wood Hoopoe Phoeniculus purpureus — Seen at Mole (*senegalensis*)

Black Scimitarbill Rhinopomastus aterrimus — Seen at Mole (*aterrimus*)

— One at Mole (*nycticorax*)

Striated Heron [Green Heron] Butorides [s.]

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* — Seen at Mole

Western Cattle Egret [Cattle Egret] Bubulcus [i.]

Bucorvidae

Abyssinian Ground Hornbill Bucorvus abyssinicus - Two seen at Mole

Bucerotidae

Birding Africa Tour Report

Northern Red-billed Hornbill [Red-billed Hornbill] Tockus [e.] erythrorhynchus — Seen at Mole

Western Pied Hornbill [African Pied Hornbill] Lophoceros [fasciatus] semifasciatus — Common in forest

African Grey Hornbill Lophoceros nasutus — Common in savanna (*nasutus*)

Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill Lophoceros camurus — Excellent views at Ankasa

Western Piping Hornbill [Piping Hornbill] Bycanistes [f.] fistulator — Seen at Ankasa

Brown-cheeked Hornbill Bycanistes cylindricus — Seen well at Kakum

Black-casqued Hornbill Ceratogymna atrata — Good views at Kakum and heard at Ankasa

Yellow-casqued Hornbill *Ceratogymna elata* — A bird perched briefly at Ankasa

Western Black Dwarf Hornbill [Black Dwarf Hornbill] Horizocerus [h.] hartlaubi — Excellent views at Bobiri

Western White-crested Hornbill [White**crested Hornbill**] *Horizocerus* [a.] albocristatus - Excellent views at Kakum, Bankro and Atewa (macrourus)

Coraciidae

Purple Roller Coracias naevius — One near Daboya (naevius)

Abyssinian Roller Coracias abyssinicus — A few seen in the savannas

Blue-bellied Roller Coracias cyanogaster — A few seen in the savannas

Blue-throated Roller Eurystomus gularis — Some excellent views in forest (gularis)

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* — Seen at Mole (afer)

Alcedinidae

Chocolate-backed Kingfisher Halcyon badia — Heard on several occasions and seen briefly

Grey-headed Kingfisher Halcyon leucocephala — Seen at Mole (*leucocephala*)

Striped Kingfisher Halcyon chelicuti — Seen at Mole (chelicuti)

Blue-breasted Kingfisher Halcyon malimbica — Superb views at Mole (*forbesi*)

Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis* — A few seen (*fuscopileus*)

African Dwarf Kingfisher Ispidina lecontei — Fantastic views at Ankasa

African Pygmy Kingfisher Ispidina picta — Seen at Kakum and Ankasa (ferrugina)

White-bellied Kingfisher Corythornis leucogaster - Good views for all at Ankasa (bowdleri)

Malachite Kingfisher Corythornis [c.] cristatus — Several sightings (galeritus)

Shining-blue Kingfisher Alcedo quadribrachys — Incredible views at Ankasa (quadribrachys)

Giant Kingfisher Megaceryle maxima — Good views at Mole

Pied Kingfisher Ceryle rudis — Seen a few times (rudis)

Meropidae

Blue-moustached Bee-eater Merops mentalis — Good views at Atewa

Black Bee-eater *Merops gularis* — Incredible views at Ankasa and near Kakum (gularis)

Little Bee-eater Merops pusillus — Seen at Brenu Beach Road (*pusillus*)

Red-throated Bee-eater Merops bulocki — Seen at Mole (*bulocki*)

White-throated Bee-eater Merops albicollis — Numerous around forest

Rosy Bee-eater *Merops malimbicus* — A few seen well near Kakum

Northern Carmine Bee-eater Merops nubicus — Two at Mole

Lvbiidae

Bristle-nosed Barbet Gymnobucco peli — Good views at Atewa

(Common) Naked-faced Barbet Gymnobucco [c.] *calvus* — Seen several times in forest (*calvus*)

Speckled Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus scolopaceus* — Seen in forest (*scolopaceus*)

Red-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus atroflavus* — Good views in forest

Yellow-throated Tinkerbird Pogoniulus *subsulphureus* — Good views in forest (chrysopygus)

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird Pogoniulus [b.] *bilineatus* — Seen near Kakum (*leucolaimus*)

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird Pogoniulus chrysoconus — Seen at Shai Hills (*chrysoconus*)

Western Yellow-spotted Barbet [Yellow-spotted Barbet] Buccanodon [duchaillui] dowsetti — Seen at Kakum and Ankasa

Hairy-breasted Barbet Tricholaema hirsuta — Good views in forest (hirsuta)

Vieillot's Barbet Lybius vieilloti — Seen at Shai Hills, Mole and Kakum (*rubescens*)

Double-toothed Barbet Lybius bidentatus - Good views near Kumasi (*bidentatus*)

Bearded Barbet Lybius dubius — Good views at Mole

Western Yellow-billed Barbet [Yellow-billed **Barbet**] Trachyphonus [purpuratus] goffinii — One scoped at Ankasa

Togo Yellow-billed Barbet [Yellow-billed Barbet] Trachyphonus [purpuratus] togoensis — Excellent views of this rarely-seen bird north of Ho

Indicatoridae

Cassin's Honeybird *Prodotiscus insignis* — Seen at Atewa, Bankro and Kakum (*flavodorsalis*)

Willcocks's Honeyguide Indicator willcocksi — Seen at Kakum (*willcocksi*)

Least Honeyguide Indicator exilis — Seen at Bobiri (exilis)

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator* [*m.*] *minor* — One at Mole (*senegalensis*)

Greater Honeyguide Indicator indicator — Heard at Mole

Picidae

African Piculet Sasia africana — Good views at Bobiri and Kakum

Fine-spotted Woodpecker Campethera *punctuligera* — Seen at Mole (*punctuligera*)

Golden-tailed Woodpecker Campethera abingoni - Heard and seen briefly at Mole (*chrysura*)

Fire-bellied Woodpecker Chloropicus pyrrhogaster — Several good sightings

Melancholy Woodpecker [Gabon Woodpecker] Dendropicos [gabonensis] lugubris — Just one brief sighting

African Grey Woodpecker [Grey Woodpecker] Dendropicos [g.] goertae — Seen well at Mole (goertae)

Brown-backed Woodpecker Dendropicos obsoletus — Seen well at Mole (*obsoletus*)

Falconidae

Common Kestrel Falco [t.] tinnunculus — A few seen (*rufescens*)

Fox Kestrel *Falco alopex* — Good views of one in the north

Grey Kestrel Falco ardosiaceus — Several sightings

African Hobby Falco cuvierii — Excellent views near Dabova, and also seen at Brenu Beach Road

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* — A distant bird at Bankro was likely this species (abyssinicus)

Peregrine Falcon *Falco* [*p*.] *peregrinus* — One over Accra at the start of the tour

Psittacidae

seen well at Bobiri **Red-fronted Parrot** *Poicephalus gulielmi* — Seen perched at Bankro, and in flight elsewhere (*fantiensis*)

Senegal Parrot *Poicephalus senegalus* — Good numbers at Mole (*versteri*)

Grey Parrot Psittacus [e.] erithacus — About 10

Psittaculidae

Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri* — Seen well at Mole (*krameri*)

Black-collared Lovebird *Agapornis swindernianus* — Heard, in flight, from the canopy walkway

Calyptomenidae

Rufous-sided Broadbill *Smithornis rufolateralis* — Good views at Bankro and Ankasa (*rufolateralis*)

Platysteiridae

Senegal Batis Batis senegalensis — Seen at Mole

West African Batis [Fernando Po Batis] Batis [poensis] occulta — One seen at Atewa

West African Wattle-eye [Chestnut Wattle-eye] *Platysteira [castanea] hormophora* — Seen a few times in forest

Brown-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira cyanea* — Seen at Shai Hills and Mole (*cyanea*)

Red-cheeked Wattle-eye *Platysteira blissetti* — Seen at Kalakpa

Malaconotidae

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti* — Seen at Mole (*blanchoti*)

Many-coloured Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus multicolor* — Seen well near Ho (*multicolor*)

Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus* — Heard at Brenu Beach Road (*sulfureopectus*)

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* — Heard at Shai Hills (*ussheri*)

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* — Seen at Mole and near Kakum (*senegalus*)

Sabine's Puffback Dryoscopus sabini — Seen at Bankro and Kakum (sabini)

Northern Puffback Dryoscopus gambensis — Seen at Mole and near Kakum (gambensis)

Lowland Sooty Boubou *Laniarius leucorhynchus* — Seen near Kakum

Tropical Boubou *Laniarius* [*aethiopicus*] *major* — Heard at Brenu Beach Road (*major*)

Yellow-crowned Gonolek *Laniarius barbarus* — Seen at Shai Hills and Mole (*barbarus*)

Brubru Nilaus afer — Seen at Mole (afer)

Vangidae

White-crested Helmetshrike Prionops plumatus — Seen at Mole (plumatus)

Red-billed Helmetshrike *Prionops* [*c.*] *caniceps* — Good views at Bankro, Kakum and near Ho (*caniceps*)

African Shrike-flycatcher *Megabyas flammulatus* — Brief views at Atewa (*flammulatus*)

Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher *Bias musicus* — Seen at Shai Hills (*musicus*)

Campephagidae

White-breasted Cuckooshrike Ceblepyris pectoralis — One seen at Mole

Purple-throated Cuckooshrike *Campephaga quiscalina* — Seen at Atewa and Bankro (*quiscalina*)

Blue Cuckooshrike *Cyanograucalus azureus* — Seen at Bankro and Kakum

Laniidae

Yellow-billed Shrike *Corvinella corvina* — Seen at Mole

Northern Fiscal [Common Fiscal] *Lanius* [collaris] humeralis — A few scattered sightings (smithii)

Woodchat Shrike Lanius senator — One at Mole

Oriolidae

Western Black-headed Oriole Oriolus brachyrynchus — Seen at Ankasa and Atewa (brachyrynchus)

Black-winged Oriole *Oriolus nigripennis* — Seen regularly in forest

African Golden Oriole Oriolus auratus — Several seen at Mole (*auratus*)

Dicruridae

Shining Drongo *Dicrurus atripennis* — Seen several times in forest

Northern Fork-tailed Drongo [Fork-tailed Drongo] Dicrurus [adsimilis] divaricatus — Seen at Mole

Fanti Drongo [Velvet-mantled Drongo] *Dicrurus* [modestus] atactus — Seen regularly in forest

Monarchidae

Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher Trochocercus nitens — Seen at Bankro and Ankasa (reichenowi)

Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone* [*r.*] *rufiventer* — Seen regularly in forest (*nigriceps*)

African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone* [v.] viridis — Seen at Mole, Shai Hills and Kalakpa (speciosa)

Corvidae

Piapiac *Ptilostomus afer* — Seen near Kumasi and in Accra

Pied Crow *Corvus albus* — Common

Picathartidae

Yellow-headed Picathartes *Picathartes gymnocephalus* — Superb views of two birds at Bankro

Paridae

White-shouldered Black Tit *Melaniparus* guineensis — Good views at Mole

Remizidae

Forest Penduline Tit *Anthoscopus flavifrons* — Good views on the canopy walkway (*waldronae*)

Nicatoridae

Western Nicator *Nicator chloris* — Heard often in forest, seen a couple of times

Alaudidae

Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix leucotis* — Seen in the north (*melanocephalus*)

Flappet Lark *Mirafra rufocinnamomea* — Good views at Shai Hills and Mole (*buckleyi*)

Sun Lark *Galerida modesta* — Good views at Mole (*modesta*)

Pycnonotidae

Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus* [b.] barbatus — Common (*inornatus*)

Slender-billed Greenbul *Stelgidillas gracilirostris* — Seen regularly in forest (*gracilirostris*)

Little Greenbul *Eurillas virens* — Our best sighting was of a bird on a nest at Bankro (*erythroptera*)

Little Grey Greenbul *Eurillas gracilis* — Seen at Atewa and Kakum (*extrema*)

Ansorge's Greenbul *Eurillas ansorgei* — Heard at Ankasa (*ansorgei*)

Plain Greenbul *Eurillas curvirostris* — Seen at Atewa (*leonina*)

Yellow-whiskered Greenbul *Eurillas latirostris* — Seen at Ankasa (*congener*)

Golden Greenbul *Calyptocichla serinus* — Seen at Atewa and Kakum

Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator* — Seen a few times (*leucurus*)

Spotted Greenbul *Ixonotus guttatus* — Seen at Kakum

Simple Greenbul *Chlorocichla simplex* — Seen near Kakum

Swamp Palm Bulbul *Thescelocichla leucopleura* — Several sightings

Baumann's Olive Greenbul *Phyllastrephus baumanni* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road

Icterine Greenbul *Phyllastrephus* [*i*.] *icterinus* — Seen a few times in forest

Red-tailed Bristlebill *Bleda syndactylus* — Heard only

Green-tailed Bristlebill Bleda eximius — Heard at Ankasa and Kakum

Grey-headed Bristlebill *Bleda canicapillus* — Heard at most forest sites (*canicapillus*)

Western Bearded Greenbul Criniger barbatus — Seen at Ankasa (*barbatus*)

Red-tailed Greenbul *Criniger calurus* — Seen near Ho and at Kakum (*verreauxi*)

Yellow-bearded Greenbul Criniger olivaceus — Brief views at Ankasa

Hirundinidae

Square-tailed Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne nitens* — Good views at Ankasa, and a couple at Kakum (*nitens*)

Fanti Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne obscura* — Seen well at Kakum

Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica — Common

Red-chested Swallow *Hirundo lucida* — Many at Daboya and Mole (*lucida*)

Ethiopian Swallow *Hirundo aethiopica* — Seen near Kakum (*aethiopica*)

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii* — Seen at Mole (*smithii*)

White-throated Blue Swallow *Hirundo nigrita* — Seen at the Pra River

 $\label{eq:product} \begin{array}{l} \textbf{Pied-winged Swallow} \ \textit{Hirundo leucosoma} - \textit{One} \\ \textbf{at Mole} \end{array}$

Lesser Striped Swallow *Cecropis abyssinica* — Seen at Atewa (*puella*)

Red-breasted Swallow *Cecropis semirufa* — Seen at Mole (*gordoni*)

Mosque Swallow *Cecropis senegalensis* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road (*senegalensis*)

Macrosphenidae

Kemp's Longbill *Macrosphenus kempi* — Seen at Atewa, heard elsewhere (*kempi*)

Grey Longbill *Macrosphenus concolor* — Seen at Atewa, heard elsewhere

Northern Crombec Sylvietta [b.] brachyura — Seen at Shai Hills and heard at Mole (brachyura)

Green Crombec Sylvietta virens — Seen near Kakum (*flaviventris*)

Lemon-bellied Crombec *Sylvietta denti* — Seen at Atewa and Bankro (*hardyi*)

Erythrocercidae

Chestnut-capped Flycatcher *Erythrocercus mccallii* — Seen at Atewa and Bankro (*nigeriae*)

Hyliidae

Green Hylia *Hylia prasina* — Seen is small numbers in forest (*prasina*)

Tit Hylia *Pholidornis rushiae* — Great views at Atewa and Kakum (*ussheri*)

Phylloscopidae

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* — Seen regularly in forest

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* — One at Mole

Acrocephalidae

 $\label{eq:metric} \mbox{Melodious Warbler}\ \mbox{Hippolais polyglotta} - \mbox{Two at Mole}$

Cisticolidae

Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops* — Seen near Kakum (*erythrops*)

Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans* — Seen at Mole (*swanzii*)

Whistling Cisticola Cisticola lateralis — Seen near Kakum (lateralis)

Croaking Cisticola *Cisticola natalensis* — Seen at Shai Hills (*strangei*)

Dorst's Cisticola *Cisticola guinea* — Seen at Mole

Short-winged Cisticola *Cisticola brachypterus* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road (*brachypterus*)

Rufous Cisticola Cisticola rufus — Seen at Mole

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava* — Recorded regularly

Red-winged Warbler *Heliolais erythropterus* — Great views at Mole (*erythropterus*)

Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis [f.] flavida* — Heard at Mole (*caniceps*)

Black-capped Apalis *Apalis nigriceps* — Seen at Ankasa and Atewa (*nigriceps*)

Sharpe's Apalis *Apalis sharpii* — Seen at Atewa, Bankro, Kakum and Ankasa

Oriole Warbler *Hypergerus atriceps* — Good views at Shai Hills and Brenu Beach Road

Grey-backed Camaroptera [Bleating Camaroptera] Camaroptera [brachyura] brevicaudata — Seen regularly

Yellow-browed Camaroptera *Camaroptera superciliaris* — Seen at Bankro

Olive-green Camaroptera *Camaroptera* [*c.*] *chloronota* — Seen at Kakum (*kelsalli*)

Senegal Eremomela *Eremomela [p.] pusilla* — Common at Mole

Rufous-crowned Eremomela *Eremomela badiceps* — Seen several times in forest (*fantiensis*)

Pellorneidae

Blackcap Illadopsis *Illadopsis cleaveri* — Heard and seen briefly at Ankasa (*cleaveri*)

Rufous-winged Illadopsis *Illadopsis rufescens* — Heard at Ankasa

Puvel's Illadopsis *Illadopsis puveli* — Seen at Shai Hills (*puveli*)

Pale-breasted Illadopsis *Illadopsis [r.] rufipennis* — Seen well at Ankasa (*extrema*)

Brown Illadopsis *Illadopsis fulvescens* — Seen at Bankro (*gularis*)

Leiothrichidae

Brown Babbler *Turdoides plebejus* — Seen at Mole (*platycirca*)

Blackcap Babbler *Turdoides reinwardtii* — Brief views at Mole (*reinwardtii*)

Black-crowned Capuchin Babbler [Capuchin Babbler] *Turdoides [atripennis] rubiginosus* — Heard at Kalakpa

Zosteropidae

Northern Yellow White-eye [African Yellow White-eye] Zosterops [s.] senegalensis — Seen several times (senegalensis)

Hyliotidae

Yellow-bellied Hyliota *Hyliota flavigaster* — Seen at Mole (*flavigaster*)

Violet-backed Hyliota *Hyliota violacea* — Seen from the canopy walkway (*nehrkorni*)

Certhiidae

African Spotted Creeper Salpornis salvadori — Nice views at Mole (*emini*)

Sturnidae

Copper-tailed Starling *Hylopsar cupreocauda* — Small numbers in forest

Lesser Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis* [c.] *chloropterus* — One at Mole

Bronze-tailed Starling *Lamprotornis chalcurus* — Two at Mole (*chalcurus*)

Splendid Starling *Lamprotornis splendidus* — Regularly seen in forest (*chrysonotis*)

Purple Starling *Lamprotornis purpureus* — Seen at Mole and Shai Hills (*purpureus*)

Long-tailed Glossy Starling *Lamprotornis caudatus* — Seen at Mole and Takarodi

Forest Chestnut-winged Starling *Onychognathus fulgidus* — Good views at Atewa and Kakum (*hartlaubii*)

22 | Ghana 2022

Turdidae

White-tailed Ant Thrush *Neocossyphus poensis* — Heard a couple of times (*poensis*)

Finsch's Flycatcher-Thrush [Rufous Flycatcher-Thrush] *Stizorhina [fraseri] finschi* — Several good sightings in forest

Grey Ground Thrush *Geokichla princei* — Heard twice at Ankasa, but seen only by Victor (*princei*)

African Thrush Turdus pelios — Seen at Mole

Muscicapidae

White-tailed Alethe Alethe diademata — Heard only

Fraser's Forest Flycatcher *Fraseria ocreata* — Several good sightings in forest (*prosphora*)

White-browed Forest Flycatcher Fraseria cinerascens — Seen at the Ebi River (cinerascens)

Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher *Myioparus griseigularis* — Seen at Kakum, heard elsewhere (*parelii*)

Grey Tit-Flycatcher *Myioparus plumbeus* — Heard several times (*plumbeus*)

Nimba Flycatcher *Melaenornis annamarulae* — Good views at Atewa

Northern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides* — Seen at Mole (*edolioides*)

Pale Flycatcher *Melaenornis pallidus* — Seen at Mole (*pallidus*)

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa* [*s.*] *striata* — One at Mole.

Swamp Flycatcher *Muscicapa aquatica* — Seen at Mole (*aquatica*)

Cassin's Flycatcher *Muscicapa cassini* — Seen at Ankasa

Olivaceous Flycatcher *Muscicapa olivascens* — Michael saw one from the canopy walkway (*olivascens*)

Little Grey Flycatcher *Muscicapa epulata* — Seen well at Atewa

Dusky-blue Flycatcher *Muscicapa comitata* — Seen at Ankasa (*aximensis*)

Tessmann's Flycatcher *Muscicapa tessmanni* — Two sightings at Bankro, where vocal

Ussher's Flycatcher *Muscicapa ussheri* — Seen at Atewa and Ankasa

Brown-chested Alethe *Chamaetylas poliocephala* — Heard at Ankasa (*poliocephala*)

Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat Cossypha cyanocampter — Heard near Kakum (cyanocampter)

Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat *Cossypha niveicapilla* — Seen at Mole

White-crowned Robin-Chat Cossypha albicapillus — Seen at Mole (giffardi)

Western Forest Robin [Forest Robin] *Stiphrornis* [*e.*] *erythrothorax* — Seen at Ankasa, heard near Kakum and at Kalakpa

Lowland Akalat *Sheppardia cyornithopsis* — One seen Ankasa, where rare (*houghtoni*)

Common Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos* — Heard at Brenu Beach Road

European Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula* [*h.*] *hypoleuca* — Several at Mole

Whinchat Saxicola rubetra — Seen at Mole

White-crowned Cliff Chat [Mocking Cliff Chat] Thamnolaea [cinnamomeiventris] coronata — Seen at Shai Hills (coronata)

White-fronted Black Chat *Oenanthe albifrons* — Seen at Mole (*frontalis*)

Familiar Chat *Oenanthe familiaris* — Seen at Mole *(falkensteini)*

Nectariniidae

Fraser's Sunbird *Deleornis* [*f.*] *fraseri* — Seen at Atewa and Kakum (*idius*)

Mangrove Brown Sunbird *Anthreptes gabonicus* — Seen at the Ebi River

Western Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes longuemarei* — Seen at Mole (*longuemarei*)

Little Green Sunbird Anthreptes seimundi — Seen at Atewa, Kakum and Ankasa (kruensis)

Yellow-chinned Sunbird [Grey-chinned Sunbird] Anthreptes [r.] rectirostris — Seen at Atewa

Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris* — Common (*subcollaris*)

Pygmy Sunbird *Hedydipna platura* — Seen at Mole

Reichenbach's Sunbird *Anabathmis reichenbachii* — Seen at Ankasa

Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra verticalis* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road (*verticalis*)

Blue-throated Brown Sunbird *Cyanomitra cyanolaema* — Seen regularly in forest (*magnirostrata*)

Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea* — Seen regularly in forest (*guineensis*)

Buff-throated Sunbird *Chalcomitra adelberti* — Good numbers seen in forest (*adelberti*)

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis* — Seen at Mole (*senegalensis*)

Olive-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris chloropygius* — Small numbers seen in forest (*kempi*)

Tiny Sunbird *Cinnyris minullus* — Excellent views at Atewa, and seen at Bankro and Ankasa (*minullus*)

Beautiful Sunbird *Cinnyris* [*p.*] *pulchellus* — Seen at Mole

Splendid Sunbird *Cinnyris coccinigastrus* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road, Shai Hills and Ebi River

Johanna's Sunbird *Cinnyris johannae* — First seen at Atewa (*fasciatus*)

Superb Sunbird *Cinnyris superbus* — A few sightings in forest (*ashantiensis*)

Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cupreus* — One in Accra on the first afternoon (*cupreus*)

Passeridae

House Sparrow Passer domesticus — Seen

Northern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer* [g.] griseus — Seen (griseus)

Bush Petronia *Gymnoris dentata* — Common in the north

Ploceidae

Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser superciliosus* — Seen at Mole

Little Weaver Ploceus luteolus — Seen at Mole (luteolus)

Olive-naped Weaver [Black-necked Weaver] *Ploceus [nigricollis] brachypterus* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road

Orange Weaver *Ploceus aurantius* — Seen wll en route to Ankasa (*aurantius*)

Heuglin's Masked Weaver *Ploceus heuglini* — Non-breeding-plumaged birds seen at Mole

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus* — Seen quite commonly (*cucullatus*)

Chestnut-and-black Weaver [Vieillot's Black Weaver] *Ploceus [nigerrimus] castaneofuscus* — Seen quite commonly

Yellow-mantled Weaver *Ploceus tricolor* — Seen at Atewa, Bankro and Kakum (*tricolor*)

Maxwell's Black Weaver *Ploceus albinucha* — Seen well at Atewa and Bankro (*albinucha*)

Red-vented Malimbe *Malimbus scutatus* — Seen near Kakum (*scutatus*)

Blue-billed Malimbe *Malimbus nitens* — Great views at Ankasa

Red-headed Malimbe *Malimbus rubricollis* — Seen regularly in forest (*bartletti*)

Crested Malimbe *Malimbus malimbicus* — Seen at Bankro (*nigrifrons*)

Northern Red-headed Weaver [Red-headed Weaver] Anaplectes [rubriceps] leuconotos — Seen at Mole

Northern Red Bishop *Euplectes franciscanus* — Seen at Mole (*franciscanus*)

Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes macroura* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road (*macroura*)

ng Africa Tour Report

Estrildidae

Red-fronted Antpecker *Parmoptila rubrifrons* — Brief views at Ankasa

White-breasted Nigrita Nigrita fusconotus — Several sightings in forest (*uropygialis*)

Chestnut-breasted Nigrita *Nigrita bicolor* — Seen at Kakum and Ankasa (*bicolor*)

Grey-headed Nigrita *Nigrita canicapillus* — Several sightings in forest (*emiliae*)

Red-winged Pytilia *Pytilia phoenicoptera* — Good views at Mole (*phoenicoptera*)

Western Bluebill *Spermophaga haematina* — One at Bankro (*haematina*)

Bar-breasted Firefinch *Lagonosticta rufopicta* — Seen at Mole (*rufopicta*)

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala* — Common at Mole (*senegala*)

African Firefinch Lagonosticta [r.] rubricata — Seen near Kakum (polionota)

Grey Firefinch [Black-faced Firefinch] Lagonosticta [larvata] nigricollis — Brief views at Mole

Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus bengalus* — Common at Mole (*bengalus*)

Lavender Waxbill *Estrilda caerulescens* — Good views of a pair at Mole

Orange-cheeked Waxbill *Estrilda melpoda* — Seen at Mole and Kakum (*melpoda*)

Black-rumped Waxbill *Estrilda troglodytes* — Brief views at Brenu Beach Road

African Silverbill *Euodice cantans* — Common en route to Mole (*cantans*)

Bronze Mannikin *Lonchura cucullata* — Common (*cucullata*)

Black-and-white Mannikin *Lonchura* [b.] *bicolor* — Fairly common around forest (*bicolor*)

Viduidae

Wilson's Indigobird *Vidua wilsoni* — One in breeding plumage at Mole

Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road

Exclamatory Paradise Whydah *Vidua interjecta* — One breeding-plumaged male, missing its tail, at Mole

Motacillidae

Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* — Seen at Brenu Beach Road

African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* — Small numbers in the south (*vidua*)

Yellow-throated Longclaw Macronyx croceus — Seen at Shai Hills

Plain-backed Pipit Anthus leucophrys — Seen at Shai Hills (*zenkeri*)

Tree Pipit Anthus trivialis — Seen at Shai Hills, Kalakpa and Mole

Fringillidae

Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica* — Seen at Mole (*caniceps*)

Emberizidae

Gosling's Bunting [Cinnamon-breasted Bunting] *Emberiza [tahapisi] goslingi* — Seen en route to and at Mole

Brown-rumped Bunting *Emberiza affinis* — Good views at Mole (*nigeriae*)

Standard-winged Nightjar © Michael Mills



LIST OF MAMMALS RECORDED

Western Tree Hyrax *Dendrohyrax dorsalis* — Seen at night at Kakum, where hidden in a dense thicket.

Savanna Elephant *Loxodonta africana* — Several at Mole.

West African Potto *Perodicticus* [*potto*] *potto* — Seen at Kakum and Ankasa.

Demidoff's Dwarf Galago *Galagoides demidovii* — Heard several times.

Senegal Lesser Galago *Galago senegalensis* — Seen at Mole, including bouncing across the road.

Lowe's Monkey *Cercopithecus lowei* — Heard several times, and seen distantly by some from the Kakum canopy walkway.

Lesser Spot-nosed Monkey *Cercopithecus petaurista* — Good views at Shai Hills.

Green Monkey *Chlorocebus sabaeus* — Seen at Mole and Shai Hills.

Patas Monkey Erythrocebus patas — Seen at Mole.

Olive Baboon Papio anubis — Seen at Shai Hills.

Olive Colobus *Procolobus verus* — Good night-time views at Kakum.

Striped Ground Squirrel *Xerus erythropus* — Seen at Mole.

Kintampo Rope Squirrel *Funisciurus substriatus* — Seen at Mole.

Small Sun Squirrel *Heliosciurus punctatus* — Seen from the canopy walkway at Kakum.

African Giant Squirrel *Protoxerus stangeri* — Good views from the Kakum canopy walkway.

Emin's Giant Pouched Rat *Cricetomys emini* — Seen at Kakum.

Pel's Anomalure *Anomalurus pelii* — Seen at Bankro.

African Savanna Hare *Lepus victoriae/microtis* — A couple at Mole.

Hammer-headed Fruit Bat *Hypsignathus monstrosus* — Heard at Ankasa.

Long-tailed Pangolin *Manis tetradactyla* — One for Michael at Kakum.

African Civet *Civettictis civetta* — Brief views for some at Mole.

Pardine Genet *Genetta pardina* — One seen at Mole.

African Palm Civet *Nandinia binotata* — Heard at Ankasa.

Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus* — Seen at Mole.

Western Hartebeest *Alcelaphus [buselaphus] major* — Seen at Mole.

Central Bushbuck *Tragelaphus* [scriptus] phaleratus — Seen at Shai Hills and Mole.

Bush Duiker *Sylvicapra* [*grimmia*] *grimmia* — Seen at Mole.

Roan Antelope *Hippotragus equinus* — A couple at Mole.

Buffon's Kob Kobus [kob] kob — Seen at Mole.



Small Sun Squirrel (above) and African Giant Squirrel (below) © Michael Mills





Short-winged Cisticola (above) and Black Coucal © Don MacGillivray



Olive-naped Weaver (above) and Reichenbach's Sunbird © Don MacGillivray





Olive-bellied Sunbird (above) and African Piculet © Don MacGillivray

Buff-throated Sunbird (above) and Shining-blue Kingfisher © Don MacGillivray





Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill (above) and White-headed Wood Hoopoe © Don MacGillivray



Chestnut-and-black Weaver (above) and Blue-breasted Kingfisher © Don MacGillivray







Greyish Eagle-Owl (above) and White-crested Helmetshrike © Don MacGillivray

Red-throated Bee-eater (above) and Fine-spotted Woodpecker © Don MacGillivray





Melodious Warbler (above) and Red-winged Warbler © Don MacGillivray

