

Wise Birding Holidays

Bird and mammal watching tours



GHANA: Upper Guinea Forest Specialities

Tuesday 24th January - Saturday 4th February 2017

Tour Participants: Jan & Barbara Dart, Slobodan Jovanovic, Martin Robinson, Peter Webb, Peter Alfrey, Gerry Cross, Roger Payne & Roger Wasley

Leaders: Chris Townend, Robert Ntakor & Isaac Ntakor

HIGHLIGHTS OF TRIP

Yellow-headed Picathartes: This "must see" species did not disappoint as we were treated to at least four different birds coming in to roost near the village of Bonkro.

Yellow-throated Cuckoo: Fabulous views of a singing bird at the Atewa Forest.

Tree Pangolin: Sadly, we encountered an animal being sold at the side of the road. We did manage to take control of it and released it in an area of protected forest far from where it was illegally caught and where it had a better chance of survival.

Hartlaub's Duck: Great views of a pair of birds on a pool just outside Ankasa NP.

Blue-moustached Bee-Eater: Those that persevered with the walk up to the Atewa ridge were rewarded with two birds sat in trees above us on our walk back down.

Great Blue Turaco: After much effort, a group of six birds showed well at Ankasa.



Two of the tour highlights were the scarce Yellow-throated Cuckoo seen in Atewa and of course the mystical Yellow-headed Picathartes

Tour Summary

Ghana is currently a very friendly and safe country with relatively good roads, reasonable accommodation and some fabulous birding. This tour focused on the the Upper Guinea Forest Specialities and we enjoyed some great sightings of both birds and mammals. We managed to record 298 different birds, 19 mammals and an impressive list of butterflies too!

The following details are a brief summary of just some of the daily highlights.

Tuesday 24th Jan: ARRIVE ACCRA

After a simple direct flight from the UK and no time difference, everyone arrived into Accra in the early evening before we took the short journey to our hotel on the coast.

Wednesday 25th Jan: SHAI HILLS - SAKUMONO LAGOON

After a civilised start time, we travelled to Shai Hills where we spent the morning birding until it became too hot. Highlights included: Black-billed Wood Dove, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Grey-backed Camaroptera, Northern Black Flycatcher, Lead-coloured Flycatcher and both African Cuckoo Hawk and Lanner Falcon gave us a good start to our raptor list. A fly-by Violet Turaco and a noisy group of Brown Babblers were a little frustrating to see whereas Mocking Cliff Chat and Klaas's Cuckoo were a little more helpful. We drove further into the park where we found our first Croaking Cisticola and a male Splendid Sunbird plus an African Moustached Warbler which in turn lead us to a gang of wonderful White-crested Helmet-shrikes and some amazing butterflies gathering in some nearby puddles. A visit to the nearby Sayu Cave allowed us to see the roosting Mauritian Tomb Bats as well as an out of range Piping Hornbill and a Buff-spotted Woodpecker. As we travelled back to the park entrance a Purple-crowned Roller and a superb Yellow-throated Longclaw showed well and a roadside Blue-bellied Roller was a very welcome pre-lunch poser! Mammal highlights during the morning included Olive Baboon, Callithrix Monkey and Buffon's Kob.

During lunch at a nearby hotel the gardens produced Splendid Sunbird, Bronze Manakin and a very showy Yellow-crowned Gonolek. Our final destination for the day was Sakumono Lagoon. This wetland adjacent to the coast is a designated Ramsar site and internationally important as a refuge for wetland birds. A good selection of waders included Spur-winged Lapwing, Marsh Sandpiper, Greenshank, Spotted Redshank and Black-tailed Godwit as well as Black Tern, Intermediate and Great White Egret, Purple Heron, Squacco Heron, Purple Glossy Starling, Yellow-billed Shrike, Broad-billed Roller and thanks to Pete's perseverance, an incredible count of 1,300+ Yellow Wagtails heading to roost!

Thursday 26th Jan: WINNEBA PLAINS - CAPE COAST - BRIMSU RESERVOIR

We left our hotel early and travelled west along the coast where our first stop was the Winneba Plains, an area of savannah grassland. A Green Turaco was calling as soon as we were out of the bus and we headed towards the distinctive call where our first Little Greenbul and Simple Leaflove were also heard. The Green Turaco showed well and two African hobby posed on a nearby tree and we witnessed them defending their nest from a Yellow-billed Kite! A group of three Senegal Lapwings (Lesser Black-winged Lapwings) were a nice find as they crept around in the short grass. Other highlights included two Lizard Buzzards, an African Harrier-hawk, Black-billed Wood-dove, Levallant's Cuckoo, Copper Sunbird and some typically noisy and skulking Brown Babblers.

After a great lunch overlooking the sea at Cape Coast we spent a little time checking the lagoon where highlights included numerous breeding plumaged Long-tailed Cormorants, Mottled Spinetail, various waders including Wood Sandpiper, Black-winged Stilt and Common Sandpiper, 30+ Little Grebes and at least three Black Terns.

We then checked into our rooms at Hans Cottage before spending the evening birding at nearby Brimsu Reservoir. Here, our first Vieillot's Black Weavers showed as soon as we were out of bus and a walk to the reservoir produced good views of Lesser Striped Swallow and Little Swifts as well as four very smart African Pygmy Geese on the reservoir. Two Tit Hylias showed well whilst we stood on the dam plus Olive-bellied Sunbird and Western Olive Sunbird. A try for owls was unsuccessful but the exceptional views of no less than four Long-tailed Nightjars was a clear highlight.

Friday 27th Jan: KAKUM FOREST NATIONAL PARK

A very early start saw us arrive at Kakum pre-dawn. Here we had breakfast and much needed coffee before heading up the steps and into the forest where the start of the famous canopy walkway awaited us! We split our time between a number of the tree platforms and managed an excellent selection of species for our first morning.

Highlights included two Black Dwarf Hornbills including one perched on the walkway! Great views of Chestnut-capped Flycatchers, Red-headed Malimbe, Sabine's Puffback, Buff-throated Sunbird, Little Green Sunbird, Fraser's Sunbird, Grey Longbill, Sharpe's Apalis, Cassin's and Sabine's Spinetails and Palm-nut Vulture. Two Rosy Bee-Eaters flew over and rather frustratingly a female Black-casqued Hornbill was only seen in flight by some of the group. An Olivaceous Flycatcher was a very good bird to see for some of the group and two Ussher's Flycatchers showed well for everyone as they sat at the very top of one of the huge trees. We then took a break for coffee before a walk on a forest trail below the walkway. Unsurprisingly for late morning, bird activity was quiet on the trail. A group of Icterine Greenbuls gave some good views before we returned to the park entrance and enjoyed a cool drink whilst watching our first superb Black Bee-Eater! We then returned to our air-conditioned bus and returned to Hans Cottage for lunch and some time to rest.

For those that chose to walk round the lake at Hans Cottage before lunch there were some nice distractions with Orange Weaver, Vieillot's Black Weaver and Village Weaver. We then returned to the canopy walkway for an early evening session. It is always a great experience being on the walkway at night and the sounds are simply amazing. Activity was certainly quieter than the morning, but perseverance paid off with views of three White-crested Hornbills and just as we were about to leave, a superb Pel's Anomalure posed in torchlight as we watched from the walkway!

Saturday 28th Jan: KAKUM (ABRAFO) - TAKORADI - ANKASA

Another early breakfast and this time another part of Kakum Forest as we visited the Abrafo Forest. It was tough going this morning as can often be the case in Ghana Forests, but perseverance revealed a few new species. A calling Rufous-sided Broadbill did not want to co-operate, but we managed good views of our first Bristle-nosed Barbets, a Yellow-billed Turaco, Golden Greenbul, Maxwell's Black Weaver, a male Chestnut Wattle-eye, Gabon Woodpecker, Fire-bellied Woodpecker, Cassin's Spinetail and Fanti Saw-wing and some brief views of Yellow-spotted Barbet.

We returned to Hans Cottage by late morning with time to pack before we headed further west and towards our interesting lunch stop at Takoradi! We then continued towards our final destination of Ankasa, but making three important birding stops en route. The first of these was beside the Ankobra River where a number of Yellow-billed Kites were circling with the odd Hooded Vulture. However, highlight was most definitely a very unexpected pale morph Ayre's Hawk Eagle that gave some great flight views overhead. Our next stop was by the Amanzule River and this produced the hoped for Mouse-brown Sunbird where a total of four birds were seen very well.

Our final stop was by the Ebi River which was particularly productive and allowed us to get good views of a selection of quality species including two Greater Painted Snipe, Reichenbach's Sunbird, Orange Weaver, Splendid Glossy Starling, Purple Heron, Western Reef Egret and two Water Thick-knees. We finally arrived at our hotel just before dusk in time for a shower before dinner. We were just 30 minutes from the famous Ankasa Forest which would be the key birding area for the next two days.

Sunday 29th Jan: ANKASA FOREST RESOURCE RESERVE

After an early breakfast we travelled the short distance to Ankasa. At the park gate entrance we checked the river where two Cassin's Flycatchers, an adult and juvenile showed well. We then met our local ranger and slowly drove along the wide forest trail as far as possible and then walked for the rest of the morning. A Red-chested Goshawk was seen from the bus and we enjoyed some great new birds whilst on slowly walking the forest trail. Highlights were a superb male Rufous-sided Broadbill posing in the scope, Black Cuckoo, Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo, two Congo Serpent Eagles, Yellow-bearded Greenbul, Little Green Sunbird, Johanna's Sunbird, Swamp Palm Bulbul, Red-bellied Paradise-flycatcher, Wood Warbler, Crested Malimbe and two Fire-bellied Woodpeckers. As we returned to meet Pete who had remained around the entrance to the park we saw a group of Red-billed Helmet-shrikes including a recently fledged juvenile! Pete had also seen some good birds including 6+ Square-tailed Saw-wings, a group of Black-casqued Hornbills and Great Blue Turaco!

After lunch and time to rest, we returned to Ankasa and stopped en route at a roadside pool where we enjoyed a very busy hour of birding. Here, we enjoyed views of nesting Blue-billed Malimbe, small groups of Red-vented Malimbe, a superb perched African Cuckoo Hawk, Broad-billed Roller, Western Olive Sunbird and best of all a pair of Hartlaub's Ducks! Back in Ankasa Forest for the last couple of hour's of daylight we spent time on the trail where Pete had success with the Great Blue Turacos earlier in the day. It wasn't long until we heard their unmistakable calls and after a lot of persistence and changing position to find a viewing area, we were finally rewarded with wonderful views of six Great Blue Turacos. Once again we waited until dusk for night birds, sadly no owls but we did hear Spot-breasted Ibis flying over at dusk.

Monday 30th Jan: ANKASA FOREST RESOURCE RESERVE

Our routine of early breakfast was now becoming second nature and we were soon full of caffeine and food as once again, we travelled the short distance to Ankasa. On arrival at the entrance to the forest it was still quite dark and misty in the forest, so we spent some time birding near the entrance where we enjoyed good views of Green Crombec, Olive-bellied Sunbird and Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher. Back in the forest we had excellent views of Western Bearded Greenbul before taking a small trail beside the river. Birding was again pretty slow and humidity was high as is often the case in the forest, but perseverance paid off. The clear highlight of the morning was a posing adult Chocolate-backed Kingfisher. Other highlights included numerous very close Cassin's Flycatchers as we spent time sitting quietly by the river hoping for an African Finfoot, but sadly we had no luck. A Fraser's Eagle Owl was frustrating as it flushed from a tree and we could not find a viewpoint to see it despite the party of small birds alarm calling around it! Other highlights from the morning were another great view of a Rufous-sided Broadbill, Buff-spotted Woodpecker, Shining Drongo and a Black-capped Illadopsis that hopped on the trail briefly before vanishing back into the forest.

After lunch and time to rest at the hotel, we returned to the forest again but couldn't resist another look at the roadside pool! Here we enjoyed more views of African Cuckoo Hawk with two birds seen including some great perched views. New birds here included Red-rumped Tinkerbird, Dusky Blue Flycatcher and Blue-throated Brown

Sunbird as well as more good views of Vieillot's Black Weaver, Splendid Glossy Starling and Broad-billed Roller.

Once at the forest we explored the forest edge where a superb Black Bee-Eater posed on wires along with Grey-crowned Negrofinch and Olive-bellied Sunbird. A walk in some adjacent forest produced great views of African Pygmy Kingfisher and some of the group were keen to try for African Finfoot again, so we quietly waited by a different part of the river until dusk. A couple of Shining Blue Kingfishers flew past but did not perch and as dusk approached a male African Finfoot swam slowly across the water with smiles all round! A final try for Fraser's Eagle was unsuccessful.

Tuesday 31st Jan: ANKASA FOREST RESOURCE RESERVE - BRENU BEACH RD

Today we spent our final morning at Ankasa. Some of the group were keen to spend the morning in the forest whereas others preferred some easier birding in the surrounding more open farm bush habitat. Between the two groups we saw a good selection of species. Highlights in the farm bush area included excellent views of Olive-bellied Sunbird, Collared Sunbird and a single Superb Sunbird. Posing Grey-backed Camaroptera and Yellow-browed Camaroptera were very much appreciated, the latter complete with inflated blue air sacs! A Western Bluebill was very shy and showed only briefly and a White-spotted Flufftail continually hooted nearby and came close, but failed to show! Dusky Blue Flycatchers posed on telegraph wires, a nesting Blue-billed Malimbe posed for photos and a Crested Malimbe also showed nearby. We also enjoyed great views of Chattering Yellowbill and found a nest with two "black-billed" juveniles. A gang of Swamp Palm Bulbuls showed well as did a singing Fraser's Forest Flycatcher. A Whistling Cisticola sang nearby and a Black Cuckoo of the red-throated *gabonensis* race posed before we returned to meet the rest of the group.

Highlights in the forest included Pale-breasted and Rufous-winged Illadopsis, a couple of brief sightings of Fraser's Eagle Owl, Yellow-Bearded Greenbul and bird of the morning undoubtedly went to a Dwarf Bittern seen very well by Jan.

A final check of the "magic pool" en route to the hotel revealed the hoped for Hartlaub's Duck and allowed Roger to catch up with this speciality that he had missed the previous day. We returned to our hotel and had time to pack before re-tracing our route east towards Kakum. We had a very nice lunch at a hotel in Takoradi and then headed towards the Brenu Beach Road.

The cool sea breeze was very welcome as we spent an enjoyable couple of hours birding the quiet Brenu Beach Road. Highlights here were many and included some new species such as Red-faced and Short-winged Cisticolas, the aptly named Red-winged Warbler, Yellow-mantled Widowbird, Black-crowned Tchagra and a couple of very close Senegal Thick-knees that stared back at us with their crazy eyes! Raptors included Grey Kestrel, African harrier Hawk, Marsh Harrier and Black-winged Kite. A pair of African Wattled Lapwings and a Plain-backed Pipit were a pleasant distraction and as we neared the pools a good selection of weavers showed very well with Vieillot's Black, Village and a single Slender-billed Weaver. A small mixed flock of Black-rumped Waxbills, Orange-cheeked Waxbills and Bronze Manakins was a highlight for some of the group. The final highlight of the evening were two Green Turacos and a scope filling Compact Weaver. We then returned to the now familiar and welcoming accommodation at Hans Cottage to be in good striking distance of the Kakum Forest for our last time.

Wednesday 1st Feb: KAKUM NATIONAL PARK - BONKRO

This morning most of the group chose to have a lie in and explore the wetland area around the grounds of Hans Cottage with Isaac. New birds here were a superb Giant Kingfisher and a group of Black Crakes. The remaining members of the group

(hardcore Barbara and Martin!) returned for a final morning on the canopy walkway and it turned out to be a good move as we were treated to some special sightings. Highlights included no less than three Black Dwarf Hornbills, two Preuss's Weavers, Hairy-breasted Barbet, a stunning Yellow-billed Turaco, Sabine's Puffback, White-crested Hornbill, Blue Cuckoo-Shrike and Purple-throated Cuckoo-Shrike, Cassin's Spinetail and Ansorge's Greenbul.

We left Hans Cottage around late morning, and then dropped off Isaac en route. We then continued in good time to make the long journey to Assin Fosu where we had lunch at our hotel and checked into our rooms. The rest of the afternoon was simply focused on what is the "must see" bird of Ghana, the mystical Yellow-headed or White-necked Picathartes. We arrived in the village of Bonkro by mid afternoon to be greeted by the village and smiling Samson, a local man from the village who escorts tourists to the forest to see the Picathartes and who also monitors the birds. It was still very hot and as usual the humidity was high, but a group of six Black Spinetails flying above the forest was an excellent bonus. As we entered the forest it was hot and sweaty but we took it slowly and everyone finally arrived at the base of "Picathartes Hill" for the final ascent! At the top, we sat on the purpose built wooden benches and simply sat in silence and waited. We did not have to wait too long for the first bird to arrive as it gave a couple of brief sightings. As is often the case, the birds seem quite inquisitive to visiting birding groups, but it is essential to be silent and still and in time the birds seem to settle down. Another hour or so passed and then we were treated to some exceptional views as we watched at least four of these wonderful birds bouncing around the forest floor and perching on hanging vines. Everyone was beaming as we were transfixed on their every move and after a good hour or so of entertaining views we had to drag ourselves away and return through the forest in the gloom, arriving back to our bus in darkness. We then returned to our accommodation for the night and a good meal and we all dreamed of Picathartes!

Thursday 2nd Feb: NYAME FOREST

After a relatively civilised breakfast time of 6am we headed towards Nyame Forest. Before the forest we stopped at a small roadside village where we had excellent views of a group of 50+ Preuss's Swallows as they perched on wires with a few Barn Swallows, just a couple of metres from us. We then continued our journey to the forest and spent time birding a wide trail of good quality forest. Highlights were many and included some good views of Maxwell's Black Weaver, Blue-throated Roller, Yellow-mantled Weaver and some perched Red-fronted Parrots. A Crested Malimbe continued to return to its nest and a Grey Longbill showed relatively well in the vine tangles. A Chestnut-winged Starling flew over and a Black Cuckoo flew back and forth overhead along with some great views of Little Green Sunbird and White-Crested Hornbill. The butterflies here were simply stunning and some of the best of the whole tour with many new species for the trip.

It was now pretty hot, so we returned to the bus and continued our journey towards Atewa. It was mostly an afternoon of travelling with no intended stops. However, that all changed when we saw a man holding up a Tree Pangolin at the side of the road! Sadly, it was being sold as bushmeat and despite being illegal this is still a problem in Ghana. So we stopped and took hold of the distressed animal and placed it into a plastic bucket to keep it dark and quiet in an attempt to minimise stress. After a discussion with Robert, we decided to take it on our journey and release it at the Bonsu Aboretum close to our hotel. We arrived at the Aboretum in daylight and released the Pangolin where we watched it slowly climb up one of the many trees and we hoped it would have a better life in this protected area of forest. We passed a huge colony of Straw-coloured Fruit Bats en route to the hotel and then finally arrived at our hotel just before dusk.

Friday 3rd Feb: ATEWA RANGE FOREST RESERVE

After another early breakfast and the usual pineapple for breakfast we headed off to enjoy our final forest birding session. The Atewa Range Forest Reserve is a great area of forest and despite much of the area still at threat from illegal logging and mining activities, it still holds the vast majority of Ghana's key forest species. At the start of the forest trail we enjoyed excellent views of Finsch's Flycatcher Thrush as well as Lead-coloured Flycatcher, African Yellow White-eye and a couple of Diederick Cuckoos before entering the true forest. A little further along the trail a Western Nicator gave some very good views in the vines and Grey-throated Tit Flycatcher was singing nearby and with a little perseverance also showed well. Our attention was soon diverted to Robert's excitement as a Yellow-throated Cuckoo was singing just a little further up the trail. Before long we had soon located it singing at the very top of a tree and it simply sat and posed as it continued to sing, giving wonderful scope views in the morning sunlight. A Dusky-crested Flycatcher played hide and seek in the shadows but we still had a long way to go until we reached the key area for the most prized species of this site, the range restricted Blue Moustached Bee-Eater. We continued onwards and upwards and were continually distracted by the amazing array of butterfly species. Another stop produced a good selection of Greenbuls including Grey Greenbul, Yellow-whiskered Greenbul, Golden Greenbul and Slender-billed Greenbul and a Lemon-bellied Crombec also showed nearby. However, it was the group of four singing Tessmann's Flycatchers that were the real star of the show as they chased each other around the forest right in front of us.

The walk began to take its toll on a few of the group as the number of colds and coughs amongst us had increased! Therefore, half the group slowly returned to the start of the trail and half continued to the top. Those who continued enjoyed a few new species which included Bioko Batis, Little Grey Flycatcher and Black-caped Apalis but there appeared to be no sign of the Bee-Eater! We spent some time waiting on the ridge and checking the usual shady perching areas but there was simply no sign. Somewhat dejected, we slowly headed back down the trail and after about twenty minutes or so a shout from Robert had us speed walking back up! There in front of us were two perched Blue-moustached Bee-Eaters - simply brilliant!

Once back at the bus we met with the rest of the group and were pleased to hear that despite not making it to the Bee-Eater area, Jan and Barbara had managed to get some good views of Crowned Eagle and photograph it too! We then headed to a restaurant for a very well-earned drink and tasty late lunch. We returned to the hotel and most people were keen to return to the Bonsu Arboretum for some final birding. We dropped off the two Rogers who were keen to try and photograph the amazing Straw-coloured Fruit Bat roost and then we enjoyed a final hour at the Arboretum where we had some great views of a superb male Buff-throated Sunbird and Superb Sunbird, Yellow-mantled Weaver and a group of 15+ Chestnut-winged Starlings which all made for a great end to a tiring but excellent day.

Saturday 4th Feb: SAKUMONO LAGOON

Today, everyone was keen to enjoy a lie in due to an unfortunate cold that seemed to have now very much taken its toll on the group! After a civilised breakfast time a few species were seen around the hotel gardens. This included Green Woodhoopoe, Bar-breasted Firefinch and Lesser-striped Swallow. We then packed the bus and headed towards Accra.

As we neared Accra, we had a little time to re-visit Sakumono Lagoon again where wildfowl included 100+ White-faced Whistling Duck, 11 Northern Pintail and two Northern Shoveler, the latter being quite a rare and irregular visitor to Ghana.

A Purple Swampphen was also a new species for the trip. The usual selection of herons and egrets were still present including a single Purple Heron and Green-backed Heron. Wader highlights included a Marsh Sandpiper and 12 Wattled Lapwings whilst other highlights were 8 Black Terns, Grey Kestrel and Yellow-throated Longclaw.

We arrived at our beach hotel where our journey had begun. Here we had time to relax and have showers before our final evening meal. Some of us wandered around the hotel gardens and did some seawatching where finally a few African Royal Terns showed pretty well! After a final meal at the hotel, we travelled to the airport and wished Slobodan a safe journey back to Serbia who had a flight the following morning. The rest of us then connected with our flight back to the UK where we could all sleep well and dream of those wonderful views of the mystical Picathartes!

Conservation Donation – Following this tour to Ghana £350 was transferred to the Wise Birding Holiday's central conservation fund. This will be used to support a conservation project in the future, yet to be determined.

For the last three years Wise Birding Holidays has been supporting a number of small conservation projects. However, we now believe that to make a bigger difference to conservation it seems best to pool the donations from most of our tours into one central fund. Once a target amount has been reached this money will be used to support one single project in the hope of achieving more for species conservation. Currently this amounts to almost £3,000. Some tours will continue to donate money to help some of the smaller projects that we feel will still benefit from such smaller donations. Please visit our [Conservation News](#) and [Latest News](#) links to find out more.





We saw five species of Bee-Eater. These included White-throated Bee-Eater by Roger Wasley (above) and the gorgeous Black Bee-Eater by Peter Alfrey (below)





Black Dwarf Hornbill or Western Little Hornbill (above) and Western Piping Hornbill by Roger Wasley (below) were two of six hornbill species seen during the tour





We were rewarded with views of six Great Blue Turacos at Ankasa (above) and a number of Yellow-billed Turacos like this bird at Kakum (below)





We spent much of our time birding from the wonderful canopy walkway whilst in Kakum National Park





Olivaceous Flycatcher from the canopy walkway in Kakum by Peter Alfrey (above) and Chocolate-backed Kingfisher posed for us whilst birding in Ankasa (below)





Hairy-breasted Barbet (above) and a pair of Hartlaub's Duck (below)





This Long-tailed Nightjar by Roger Wasley was one of four birds seen near Brimsu Reservoir (above) and the very smart Red-billed Helmet-shrike was at Ankasa by Peter Alfrey (below)





Crested Malimbe (above) and Blue-billed Malimbe (below) both by Roger Wasley





Spur-winged Lapwing and Common Greenshank at Sakumono Lagoon (above)
Lesser Black-winged Lapwing or Senegal Lapwing, Winneba Plains by Peter Alfrey (below)





**Pel's Anomalure, a gliding scaly-tailed squirrel, was seen in Kakum at night (above)
Male Rock Agama by Roger Wasley (below)**



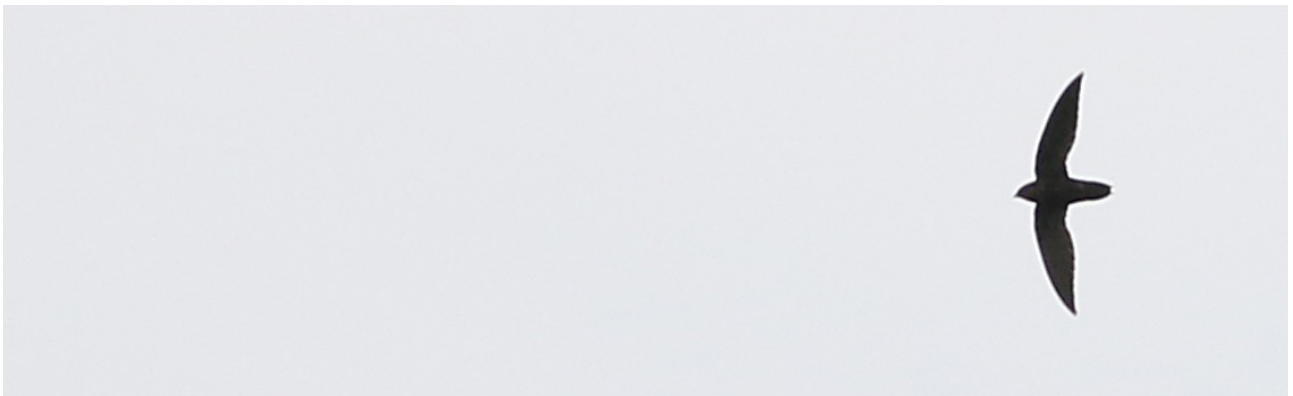


The Yellow-headed Picathartes or White-necked Picathartes was unsurprisingly voted bird of the trip. We saw at least four birds at very close range





Ethiopian Swallow by Roger Wasley (above)



This Black Spinetail was one of an amazing count of 20+ birds at Bonkro (above) and the Preuss's Cliff Swallow showed very well in a village near Nyame Forest





**African Harrier Hawk or Gymnogene (above)
and a wonderful Ayre's Hawk-eagle (below)**





The Yellow-crowned Gonolek is a common but stunning species (above) and a singing male Yellow-throated Cuckoo at Atewa was a great surprise (below)





Vieillot's Black Weaver or Black-and-Chestnut Weaver by Roger Wasley (above) and Orange Weaver by Roger Wasley (below) were both seen well at Hans Cottage





Preuss's Weaver or Golden-backed Weaver from the canopy walkway (above) and Mauritian Tomb Bats in the Sayu Cave at Shai Hills by Roger Wasley (below)





The huge colony of Straw-coloured Fruit Bats near Old Tafo was an impressive sight.
Both photos by Roger Wasley





Olive Baboon (above) and a male Kob (below) were both seen well at Shai Hills.
Both photos by Roger Wasley





Citrus Swallowtail (above) and Blue Diadem (below) by Roger Wasley





Common Indigo Ciliate Blue (above) and Soldier Pansy (below) by Roger Wasley





Cassin's Flycatchers at Ankasa by Roger Wasley

Special thanks to Roger Payne & Isaac Ntakor for compiling the butterfly list and thanks also to Roger Wasley & Peter Alfrey for allowing the use of some of their photos in this report.

More photos from this and other tours can be viewed on our Flickr site:
www.flickr.com/photos/129663578@N06/albums

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Wise Birding Holidays

Bird and mammal watching tours



GHANA: Birds, Mammals, Reptiles & Butterflies Checklist for 24th Jan - 4th Feb 2017 Species in RED = Upper Guinea Forest Endemics
This bird checklist follows the nomenclature and classification from HBW and BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World and the associated online resource, HBW Alive

#	Common name	Scientific name	#	Notes
1	Stone Partridge	<i>Ptilopachus petrosus</i>	1	Heard calling at Shai Hills on the morning of the 25th but in an inaccessible area.
2	Double-spurred Francolin	<i>Pternistis bicalcaratus</i>	2	Chris flushed a bird on the 31st along the Brenu Beach Road.
3	Forest Francolin	<i>Peliperdix lathamii</i>	3	Some of the group saw this very tricky species as it flushed from the path when walking to the Picathartes site.
4	White-faced Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	4	Small numbers recorded on the 28th en route to Ankasa and 100+ birds at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th.
5	African Pygmy-goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>	5	Great views of four birds at Brimsu Reservoir on the evening of the 26th.
6	Hartlaub's Duck	<i>Pteronetta hartlaubii</i>	6	Two birds showed very well at a roadside pool en route to Ankasa Forest on the 29th and a single bird there again on the 31st.
7	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	7	A pair of birds at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th. This species is a rare and irregular visitor to Ghana.
8	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	8	A count of 11 birds at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th was a good count.
9	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	9	A flock of at least 30 birds at Cape Coast Lagoon on the 26th plus at least one bird at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th.
10	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	10	This very common dove with its distinctive “I am a Red-eyed Dove” song was recorded on at least nine days.
11	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	11	Another very common and beautiful species recorded daily.
12	Black-billed Wood-dove	<i>Turtur abyssinicus</i>	12	Good views were had at Shai Hills and also the Winneba Plains on the 25th and 26th.
13	Blue-spotted Wood-dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>	13	This stunning little dove was recorded on at least five days
14	Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>	14	A familiar sound of the forests with its tambourine-like call and recorded on eight days.
15	Blue-headed Wood-dove	<i>Turtur brehmeri</i>	15	This stunning forest dove was recorded on at least six days with its distinctive hooting calls, but sadly never showed itself.
16	African Green-pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>	16	Some great opportunities to see this striking pigeon with some of the best views from the canopy walkway. Recorded on eight days.
17	Long-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus climacurus</i>	17	At least four birds were seen exceptionally well by torchlight on the evening of the 26th after leaving Brimsu Reservoir.
18	Mottled Spinetail	<i>Telacanthura ussheri</i>	18	Single birds seen well on the 25th and 26th.
19	Black Spinetail	<i>Telacanthura melanopygia</i>	19	Six birds hawking above the Picathartes forest on the afternoon of the 1st Feb was a welcome surprise. Pete A. later had 20+ birds! An exceptional count.
20	Sabine's Spinetail	<i>Rhaphidura sabini</i>	20	Seen well from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 27th.
21	Cassin's Spinetail	<i>Neafrapus cassini</i>	21	Birds were seen on the 27th from the Kakum canopy walkway and again in the Abrafo part of Kakum Forest on the 28th.
22	African Palm-swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	22	This slim swift with fine tapered tail was recorded on nine days.
23	Bates's Swift	<i>Apus batesi</i>	23	Pete A. saw five birds feeding above the Picathartes forest on the afternoon of the 1st Feb.
24	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	24	A very common species recorded on 10 days.
25	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	25	Recorded on five days.
26	Black-throated Coucal	<i>Centropus leucogaster</i>	26	The deep resonating hooting calls were heard on four days around Kakum and Atewa.
27	Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	27	Seen at various sites throughout the tour and recorded on seven days.
28	Chattering Yellowbill	<i>Ceuthmochares aereus</i>	28	This attractive species was recorded on four days with the best views at Kakum and Ankasa. Two black-billed juvs were seen in the nest near Ankasa.
29	Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>	29	A bird at the Winneba Plains on the 26th and another at Atewa on the 3rd.
30	Yellow-throated Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx flavigularis</i>	30	A tour highlight of this stunning cuckoo as a bird sang and gave great scope views at the start of the Atewa Forest trail on the 3rd.
31	Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	31	Recorded on six days with the best views at Shai Hills on the 25th and Abrafo on the 28th.
32	African Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i>	32	A singing male posed as we watched it from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 27th.
33	Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	33	Two birds were seen at the base of the Atewa Forest trail on the 3rd in the more open farm bush habitat.

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34	Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Cercococcyx olivinus</i>	34	This tricky cuckoo was first heard on the 27th and 28th in Kakum and then seen on the 29th in Ankasa.
35	Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	35	Some good views of this distinctive cuckoo and recorded on three days in Kakum, Ankasa and Nyame Forests. The <i>gabonensis</i> race was seen.
36	African Finfoot	<i>Podica senegalensis</i>	36	A male was seen at dusk on the river at the edge of the Ankasa Forest on the evening of the 30th.
37	White-spotted Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura pulchra</i>	37	Frustratingly only heard on the 30th and 31st in Ankasa.
38	Black Crake	<i>Zapornia flavirostra</i>	38	At least five birds were seen well by most of the group in the wetland area at Hans Cottage on the morning of the 1st Feb.
39	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	39	A single bird was at Sakumono Lagoon on our last day.
40	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	40	Gerry saw a bird on the 27th near Hans Cottage.
41	Great Blue Turaco	<i>Corythaeola cristata</i>	41	A tour highlight was seeing and hearing six of these spectacular birds in Ankasa. We worked hard to find a gap to view them but perseverance paid off!
42	Western Plantain-eater	<i>Crinifer piscator</i>	42	A common but endearing species recorded on 10 days.
43	Green Turaco	<i>Tauraco persa</i>	43	A single bird at the Winneba Plains on the 26th was followed by another two birds along the Brenu Beach Road on the evening of the 31st.
44	Yellow-billed Turaco	<i>Tauraco macrorhynchus</i>	44	Recorded on five days with the best views from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning 1st Feb as a bird performed just above our heads!
45	Violet Turaco	<i>Musophaga violacea</i>	45	A bird briefly on our first day at Shai Hill on the 25th and then Pete W. saw a bird on the Winneba Plains on the 26th.
46	Spot-breasted Ibis	<i>Bostrychia rara</i>	46	At least one bird was heard calling at dusk in Ankasa on the 29th as it flew over but there was nowhere to view the sky!
47	Dwarf Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sturmii</i>	47	Sightings of what was probably the same bird on the 30th and 31st along the river whilst in Ankasa. Seen by two or three of the group only.
48	Black-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	48	A single bird at Brimsu Reservoir on the evening of the 26th.
49	Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	49	Recorded on five days in suitable habitat.
50	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	50	Recorded on five days in suitable habitat.
51	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	51	A very common species recorded daily.
52	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	52	Recorded only at Sakumono Lagoon on the 25th and the 4th.
53	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	53	Recorded on three days with 1-2 birds at Sakumono Lagoon and also at a wetland en route to Ankasa.
54	Great White Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	54	Recorded on five days in suitable habitat.
55	Yellow-billed (Intermediate) Egret	<i>Ardea brachyrhyncha</i>	55	Good opportunities to compare this species side by side with Great and Little Egrets at Sakumono Lagoon.
56	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	56	Recorded on four days at Sakumono and Cape Coast Lagoons and en route to Ankasa.
57	Western Reef-egret	<i>Egretta gularis</i>	57	Recorded on five days with a number of distinctive dark morphs at Sakumono Lagoon in particular.
58	Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	58	Recorded on seven days with the most impressive sighting at Cape Coast Lagoon with 150+ birds and many in breeding plumage.
59	Senegal Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>	59	Two birds showed well along the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st.
60	Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	60	Two birds were seen well at one of the wetland sites en route to Ankasa.
61	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	61	Recorded only at Cape Coast Lagoon and Sakumono Lagoon with a max. count of 40+ birds at Sakumono on the 4th.
62	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	62	A single bird at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th.
63	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	63	Recorded at Sakumono Lagoon on the 25th.
64	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	64	Small numbers of this attractive wader were seen on four days. At Sakumono and Cape Coast Lagoons and en route to Ankasa.
65	Senegal Lapwing (Lesser Black-winged)	<i>Vanellus lugubris</i>	65	Three of these great waders were seen very well as they walked around the grassland areas at WInneba Plains on the 26th.
66	Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	66	Recorded on three days with a max. count of 12 birds at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th.
67	Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	67	Two birds were a good find near the Ebi River en route to Ankasa on the 28th.
68	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	68	A common species in suitable habitat recorded on seven days.

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69	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	69	A group of four birds seen at one of the stops en route to Ankasa on the 28th.
70	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	70	Three birds flew high over Sakumono Lagoon on the evening of the 25th.
71	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	71	Recorded on four days.
72	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	72	A single bird at Sakumono Lagoon on the 25th.
73	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	73	A single bird in with Common Greenshank at Sakumono Lagoon on the 25th
74	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	74	Small numbers at Sakumono Lagoon on the 25th and en route to Ankasa on the 28th.
75	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	75	A single bird at Cape Coast Lagoon on the 26th.
76	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	76	Small groups recorded on four days mostly at Sakumono Lagoon and Cape Coast Lagoon.
77	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	77	A count of 10 birds at Sakumono Lagoon on the 25th was good with just a single bird there on the 4th.
78	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	78	Recorded on three days at Sakumono and Cape Coast Lagoons with a max. count of eight birds on the 4th.
79	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	79	1-2 birds seen fishing over the sea with Royal Terns from our hotel on our last evening.
80	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	80	Seen on the Cape Coast on the 26th whilst having lunch and again from our Beach Hotel near Accra on the 4th.
81	Arctic Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	81	At least one bird seen from our hotel on the coast on our last evening.
82	Fraser's Eagle-owl	<i>Bubo poensis</i>	82	A single bird was flushed from a trail in Ankasa on the 30th but wasn't relocated. Possibly the same bird was seen again by some the following day.
83	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	83	First seen at Sakumono Lagoon on the 25th and then three birds on 31st along the Brenu Beach Road.
84	European Honey-buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	84	A single bird flew over the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 27th.
85	African Cuckoo-hawk	<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>	85	Some great views of this classy raptor with flight and perched views over four days. The best views being near Ankasa at the Hartlaub's Pool.
86	African Harrier-hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	86	This very distinctive raptor was seen well on six days.
87	Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>	87	Single birds from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 27th and near Ankasa on the 29th.
88	Congo Serpent-eagle	<i>Dryotriorchis spectabilis</i>	88	Two birds were heard calling during our first morning in Ankasa and were later seen as they flew over the trail.
89	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	89	Worryingly low numbers this year with individual day counts on just four days. Day counts were only 3, 6, 8 and 4 birds.
90	Crowned Eagle	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	90	Jan and Barbara had good views of a bird flying above Atewa on the 3rd.
91	Ayres's Hawk-eagle	<i>Hieraaetus ayresii</i>	91	A pale morph bird gave excellent views over the Ankobra River on the 28th.
92	Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>	92	The only sighting was two birds at the Winneba Plains on the 26th.
93	Western Marsh-harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	93	Singles recorded on three days around the coast.
94	Red-chested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter toussenelii</i>	94	A bird was seen flying low down the trail whilst driving slowly along the forest trail in Ankasa on the 29th.
95	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	95	Only recorded around Sakumono and Cape Coast on three days.
96	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	96	The resident yellow-billed form was recorded daily.
97	Red-necked Buzzard	<i>Buteo auguralis</i>	97	1-2 birds recorded on at least five days.
98	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>	98	Good views at the Shai Hills on the 25th and the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st.
99	West African Pied Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros semifasciatus</i>	99	The commonest hornbill recorded on 10 days.
100	Western Long-tailed Hornbill (W-crested)	<i>Horizocerus albocristatus</i>	100	Some good views of this amazing hornbill from the Kakum canopy walkway. Three birds on the 27th and a single bird on the morning of the 1st.
101	Western Little Hornbill (Black Dwarf)	<i>Horizocerus hartlaubi</i>	101	Superb views of presumably the same family of three on the 27th & the 1st from the Kakum canopy walkway including a bird perched on the walkway!
102	Black-casqued Hornbill	<i>Ceratogymna atrata</i>	102	A female in flight for some of the group was seen from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 27th. Pete A. saw 4 birds in Ankasa on the 29th.
103	Western Piping Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes fistulator</i>	103	A single bird at the Shai Hills was well out of normal range whereas a group of three birds near Kakum on the 1st was more expected.

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104	Green Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	104	First seen on a telegraph pole near our hotel in Accra on the 25th and then a single from our hotel near Atewa on the 4th.
105	White-headed Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus bollei</i>	105	Pete A. saw this species at the Picathartes forest on the 1st.
106	White-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops albicollis</i>	106	A stunning and very common species recorded on nine days.
107	Rosy Bee-eater	<i>Merops malimbicus</i>	107	Two birds were seen flying from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 27th and another single bird was seen at Abrafo the following day.
108	Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	108	A stunning Bee-Eater recorded on four days.
109	Black Bee-eater	<i>Merops gularis</i>	109	One of the best looking Bee-Eaters and some excellent views on three days around Kakum and Ankasa.
110	Blue-moustached Bee-eater	<i>Merops mentalis</i>	110	Those that made the trek to the top of the Atewa Ridge were rewarded with two of these stunners thanks to Robert's sharp eyes.
111	Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>	111	A single bird at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
112	Blue-bellied Roller	<i>Coracias cyanogaster</i>	112	A single bird perched on roadside wires shortly after leaving the Shai Hills on the 25th.
113	Blue-throated Roller	<i>Eurystomus gularis</i>	113	Two birds posed in the scope at the Nyame Forest on the morning of the 2nd.
114	Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	114	Some great views of this fairly common species most often at the forest edge and recorded on five days with a max. count of 3 birds on the 29th.
115	African Pygmy-kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>	115	Great scope views in Ankasa of a single bird on the evening of the 30th.
116	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	116	Recorded on six days.
117	Shining-blue Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo quadribrachys</i>	117	Two birds were seen in flight as we waited for African Finfoot in Ankasa on the evening of the 30th.
118	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	118	A female showed very well at Hans Cottage on the morning of the 1st.
119	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	119	Recorded on six days.
120	Chocolate-backed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon badia</i>	120	Recorded on three days but only seen on the 30th in Ankasa when a bird sat and posed in the scope.
121	Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>	121	The commonest kingfisher recorded on nine days.
122	Yellow-spotted Barbet	<i>Buccanodon duchaillui</i>	122	Recorded on four days but only seen on the 28th at Abrafo when two birds were seen calling.
123	Bristle-nosed Barbet	<i>Gymnobucco peli</i>	123	Good views of some birds at Abrafo on the 28th allowing the bristles to be seen in the scope.
124	Naked-faced Barbet	<i>Gymnobucco calvus</i>	124	Recorded on three days whilst in Kakum, Nyame and Atewa Forests.
125	Speckled Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i>	125	This subtle species was recorded on six days.
126	Red-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus atroflavus</i>	126	Recorded on three days and seen well on the 30th at the Hartlaub's Duck pool.
127	Yellow-throated Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus subsulphureus</i>	127	A very familiar call in the forests recorded on eight days and seen well on two days.
128	Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>	128	Recorded on three days.
129	Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	129	Seen very well at the Shai Hills on our first morning.
130	Hairy-breasted Barbet	<i>Tricholaema hirsuta</i>	130	Great views of a bird from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 1st.
131	Vieillot's Barbet	<i>Lybius vieilloti</i>	131	This very smart looking barbet was seen and heard very well at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
132	Double-toothed Barbet	<i>Pogonornis bidentatus</i>	132	A single bird showed well at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
133	Western Yellow-billed Barbet	<i>Trachylaemus goffinii</i>	133	Heard only on the 28th at Abrafo.
134	Little Green Woodpecker	<i>Campethera maculosa</i>	134	A male was seen from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 1st.
135	Buff-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Campethera nivos</i>	135	Single birds seen at the Shai Hills on the 25th and in Ankasa on the 30th-31st.
136	Melancholy Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos lugubris</i>	136	Two birds showed well at Abrafo on the morning of the 28th.
137	Fire-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos pyrrhogaster</i>	137	Good views of this large woodpecker. A single in Abrafo on the 28th and 2 birds in Ankasa on the 29th & from Kakum canopy walkway on the 1st.
138	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	138	Recorded on three days.

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139	Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>	139	Single birds at the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st and at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th.
140	African Hobby	<i>Falco cuvierii</i>	140	Great views of a pair on the Winneba Plains on the 26th and a single near Ankasa on the 30th.
141	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	141	Two birds seen well at the Shai Hills on the 25th and a single on the 28th en our to Ankasa.
142	Grey Parrot	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>	142	Pete A. did well to pick up our only 2 birds of the tour in flight whilst at Ankasa. A sad reminder of the huge decline that this species has undergone.
143	Red-fronted Parrot	<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i>	143	A number of opportunities to see this parrot well. Recorded on four days with a max. count of 8+ at the Nyame Forest on the 2nd.
144	Senegal Parrot	<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>	144	Rather embarrassingly only heard whilst at the Shai Hills on the 25th!
145	Red-headed Lovebird		145	A bird was seen whilst driving through Accra on the 25th.
146	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	146	At least one bird was seen whilst driving through Accra on the 25th.
147	Rufous-sided Broadbill	<i>Smithornis rufolateralis</i>	147	Recorded on six days in Kakum, Ankasa and Nyame Forests, often heard rather than seen. Two males were seen very well whilst in Ankasa.
148	Fanti Saw-wing	<i>Psolidoprocne obscura</i>	148	Pete A. had 6+ birds in Ankasa on the 29th.
149	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	149	Recorded in small numbers on nine days.
150	Ethiopian Swallow	<i>Hirundo aethiopica</i>	150	Relatively common when specifically checking groups of swallows and recorded on six days.
151	Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	151	Some excellent views and surprisingly recorded on only three days.
152	Rufous-chested Swallow	<i>Cecropis semirufa</i>	152	A single bird was seen on the 31st.
153	Preuss's Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon preussi</i>	153	Excellent views of at least 50 birds sat on wires with Barn Swallows in the village of Assin Akonfodi on the 2nd.
154	Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>	154	1-2 birds seen at the Winneba Plains and the Bren Beach Road.
155	Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>	155	Single birds at the Shai Hills and Sakumono Lagoon with the best views at Shai Hills.
156	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	156	This very distinct species recorded on nine days.
157	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	157	An amazing count of 1,300+ birds seemingly roosting at Sakumono Lagoon on the evening of teh 25th and a single the following day at Cape Coast.
158	Blue Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina azurea</i>	158	A singing male showed well from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 1st Feb.
159	Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Campephaga quiscalina</i>	159	Recorded from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 27th and the 1st with 3 birds on the latter date, a male and 2 females.
160	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	160	Recorded daily.
161	Grey Greenbul	<i>Andropadus gracilis</i>	161	Recorded on at least two days with good views on the 3rd at Atewa.
162	Ansorge's Greenbul	<i>Andropadus ansorgei</i>	162	Recorded from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 27th and again on the 1st.
163	Slender-billed Greenbul	<i>Andropadus gracilirostris</i>	163	Recorded in Abrafo, Ankasa and Atewa on three days.
164	Yellow-whiskered Greenbul	<i>Andropadus latirostris</i>	164	Heard more often than seen. Recorded on seven days with singles showing well at Ankasa on the 30th and from Kakum canopy walkway on the 1st.
165	Little Greenbul	<i>Andropadus virens</i>	165	Another species heard more often than seen and recorded six days.
166	Golden Greenbul	<i>Calyptrorhynchus serina</i>	166	Some good views of this striking greenbul on three days at Abrafo, Ankasa and Atewa.
167	Honeyguide Greenbul	<i>Baeopogon indicator</i>	167	Seen well from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 27th and the 1st.
168	Spotted Greenbul	<i>Ixonotus guttatus</i>	168	Small groups seen on the 27th and the 28th around Kakum.
169	Simple Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla simplex</i>	169	Recorded on five days on the forest edge and scrubby areas.
170	Swamp Palm Bulbul	<i>Thescelocichla leucopleura</i>	170	Recorded on three days whilst in Ankasa.
171	Icterine Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus icterinus</i>	171	Good views in Kakum on the 27th and in Ankasa on the 31st.
172	Red-tailed Bristlebill	<i>Bleda syndactylus</i>	172	Heard in Abrafo and Ankasa.
173	Green-tailed Bristlebill	<i>Bleda eximius</i>	173	Heard in Kakum, the Picathartes forest and Atewa.

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174	Grey-headed Bristlebill	<i>Bleda canicapillus</i>	174	Recorded on four days with brief sightings in Kakum.
175	Western Bearded Greenbul	<i>Criniger barbatus</i>	175	Recorded on two days with good views at Ankasa on the 30th.
176	Red-tailed Greenbul	<i>Criniger calurus</i>	176	Recorded on four days around Kakum and Ankasa. The best views from the Kakum canopy walkway with the distinctive puffy white throat seen well.
177	Yellow-bearded Greenbul	<i>Criniger olivaceus</i>	177	Good views in Ankasa on the 29th and better views on the 31st near the entrance gate.
178	Western Nicator	<i>Nicator chloris</i>	178	Recorded on four days with the best views at Atewa on the 3rd.
179	Finsch's Flycatcher-thrush	<i>Stizorhina finschi</i>	179	Heard in Ankasa and then seen very well at the start of the forest trail at Atewa on the 3rd.
180	African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>	180	Recorded at the Shai Hills and the Winneba Plains only.
181	White-tailed Alethe	<i>Alethe diademata</i>	181	Heard in Ankasa and the Picathartes forest.
182	Mocking Cliff-chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>	182	A single bird showed reasonably well at the Shai Hills on the morning of the 25th.
183	Forest Robin	<i>Stiphrornis erythrorhax</i>	183	Heard singing in Ankasa.
184	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	184	The only sighting was of a single bird at the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st.
185	Pale Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis pallidus</i>	185	The only sighting was of a single bird at the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st.
186	Northern Black-flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis edolioides</i>	186	Two of these large black flycatchers were seen well at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
187	Fraser's Forest-flycatcher	<i>Fraseria ocreata</i>	187	A singing bird showed well outside the forest at Ankasa on the 31st and another was at Atewa on the 3rd.
188	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	188	At least one bird at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
189	Cassin's Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa cassini</i>	189	Excellent views of adults and juveniles at Ankasa over three days.
190	Olivaceous Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa olivascens</i>	190	A single bird showed very well for some from the Kakum canopy walkway. Generally a difficult species to see.
191	Little Grey Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa epulata</i>	191	A single bird for some at the top of the Atewa ridge on the 3rd.
192	Dusky-blue Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa comitata</i>	192	Recorded on two days around Ankasa on the 30th and 31st.
193	Tessmann's Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa tessmanni</i>	193	A group of 4 birds singing and chasing each other at Atewa on the 3rd.
194	Ussher's Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa ussheri</i>	194	At least 2 birds were seen well from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 27th and Pete A. saw 2 birds at the Picathartes forest on the 1st.
195	Grey-throated Tit-flycatcher	<i>Myioparus griseigularis</i>	195	Heard on the 2nd at Nyame Forest but seen well at Atewa on the 3rd.
196	Grey Tit (Lead-coloured) flycatcher	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>	196	Three birds seen well at the Shai Hills on the 25th and and another at Atewa on the 3rd.
197	Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher	<i>Bias musicus</i>	197	Heard singing at Atewa but we were unable to find a gap to view it!
198	Bioko Batis	<i>Batis poensis</i>	198	Gerry and Chris had a pair at the top of Atewa ridge.
199	Senegal Batis	<i>Batis senegalensis</i>	199	A pair of birds at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
200	Chestnut Wattle-eye	<i>Dyaphorophyia castanea</i>	200	Male birds recorded at Kakum and Ankasa over three days and another heard at Atewa on the 3rd.
201	Brown-throated (Common) Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>	201	Recorded at the Shai Hills on the 25th and also at the Brenu Beach Road.
202	Red-bellied Paradise-flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>	202	A very striking flycatcher seen well on a number of occasions and recorded on at least seven days.
203	Dusky (Blue-headed) Crested-flycatcher	<i>Elminia nigromitrata</i>	203	Heard on the 1st and then seen at Atewa on the 3rd briefly before we were distracted by the Yellow-throated Cuckoo!
204	Chestnut-capped Flycatcher	<i>Erythrocercus mccallii</i>	204	A few birds seen very well from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 27th.
205	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	205	A noisy and common species in suitable habitat recorded on four days.
206	Red-winged Warbler	<i>Heliosais erythropterus</i>	206	Two birds seen very well at the Brenu Beach Road.
207	Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythrops</i>	207	A single bird seen very well at the Brenu Beach Road.
208	Whistling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lateralis</i>	208	Heard along the Brenu Beach Road.

#	Common name	Scientific name	#	Notes
209	Winding Cisticola	<i>Cisticola marginatus</i>	209	Heard on the 25th at Sakumono Lagoon and seen very well at Cape Coast Lagoon on the 26th.
210	Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>	210	A number of birds seen well at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
211	Short-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola brachypterus</i>	211	Seen well at the Shai Hills on the 25th and heard on the Winneba Plains on the 26th.
212	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	212	Heard at Sakumono Lagoon on the 4th.
213	Oriole Warbler	<i>Hypergerus atriceps</i>	213	Heard singing at the Shai Hills as we descended from seeing the Tomb Bats
214	Black-capped Apalis	<i>Apalis nigriceps</i>	214	Gerry and Chris saw three birds well at Atewa ridge on the 3rd.
215	Sharpe's Apalis	<i>Apalis sharpii</i>	215	Good opportunities to see this species with its distinctive monotonous call. Best views from the Kakum canopy walkway & Atewa. Recorded on six days.
216	Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>	216	Recorded on at least three days with the best views at Shai Hills and outside the forest at Ankasa.
217	Yellow-browed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera superciliaris</i>	217	Recorded on four days with the best views just outside the forest at Ankasa.
218	Olive-green Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera chloronota</i>	218	Recorded on two days and seen briefly at Abrafo on the 28th.
219	Moustached Grass-warbler	<i>Melocichla mentalis</i>	219	Heard singing at the Shai Hills but refused to show itself!
220	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	220	A single bird showed well at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
221	Kemp's Longbill	<i>Macrosphenus kempii</i>	221	This tricky species was heard singing at Atewa but refused to show!
222	Grey Longbill	<i>Macrosphenus concolor</i>	222	Recorded on six days and typically heard more than seen but showed well in Kakum, Nyame and Atewa forests.
223	Violet-backed Hyliota	<i>Hyliota violacea</i>	223	Three of these beauties showed well from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 27th.
224	Green Hylia	<i>Hylia prasina</i>	224	A familiar sound of the forests and recorded on eight days with good views on a number of occasions.
225	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	225	Two birds in Ankasa on the 29th and at least one bird in Atewa on the 3rd.
226	Senegal Eremomela	<i>Eremomela pusilla</i>	226	A couple of birds seen well in the Shai Hills on the 25th.
227	Rufous-crowned Eremomela	<i>Eremomela badiceps</i>	227	These smart birds showed very well from the kakum canopy walkway on the 27th and Pete A. had 2 birds at the Picathartes forest on the 1st.
228	Northern Crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>	228	Heard at the Shai Hills.
229	Green Crombec	<i>Sylvietta virens</i>	229	Recorded on five days and seen well at Ankasa on the 30th.
230	Lemon-bellied Crombec	<i>Sylvietta denti</i>	230	A single bird was seen at Atewa on the 3rd whilst watching Tessman's Flycatchers!
231	White-necked Picathartes	<i>Picathartes gymnocephalus</i>	231	Stunning views as always of at least 4 birds coming to roost and bouncing around the forest floor near the village of Bonkro.
232	Black-capped Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis cleaveri</i>	232	Heard on four days in the forests and finally seen in Ankasa on the morning of the 30th.
233	Rufous-winged Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis rufescens</i>	233	A single bird was seen quite well with those that were with Robert in Ankasa on the morning of the 31st.
234	Pale-breasted Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis rufipennis</i>	234	A single bird was seen quite well with those that were with Robert in Ankasa on the morning of the 31st.
235	Brown Babbler	<i>Turdoides plebejus</i>	235	Heard at the Shai Hills on the 25th and seen briefly at the Winneba Plains on the 26th.
236	Tit-hylia	<i>Pholidornis rushiae</i>	236	Two birds showed well at Brimsu Reservoir on the evening of the 26th and at least one other on the 27th in Kakum.
237	Scarlet-tufted (Fraser's) Sunbird	<i>Deleornis fraseri</i>	237	Single birds seen on four days with the best views from the Kakum canopy walkway and in Ankasa.
238	Mouse-brown (Brown) Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes gabonicus</i>	238	A total of four birds seen very well beside the Amanzule River whilst travelling to Ankasa on the 28th.
239	Little Green Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes seimundi</i>	239	Singles recorded at Kakum, Ankasa and Nyame forests.
240	Collared Sunbird	<i>Anthodiaeta collaris</i>	240	A very common but nonetheless attractive species recorded on at least eight days.
241	Reichenbach's Sunbird	<i>Anabathmis reichenbachii</i>	241	Three of this coastal speciality were seen near the Ebi River en route to Ankasa on the 28th.
242	Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>	242	Robert saw a bird at the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st.
243	Blue-throated Brown Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra cyanolaema</i>	243	Good scope views at the Hartlaub's Duck pool on the 30th.

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244	Western Olive Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra obscura</i>	244	A common and obviously large sunbird recorded on at least four days.
245	Buff-throated Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra adalberti</i>	245	An immature male from the Kakum canopy walkway was a bit of a let down, so a stunning adult male at Bonsu Arboretum on the 3rd was well received!
246	Olive-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chloropygius</i>	246	A very attractive and common species seen well at a number of sites and recorded on six days.
247	Tiny Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris minullus</i>	247	Pete A. saw a single bird well at Ankasa on the morning of the 29th.
248	Splendid Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris coccinigastus</i>	248	First seen well at the Shai Hills and then recorded on at least another four days.
249	Johanna's Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris johannae</i>	249	A single bird showed well in Ankasa on the 29th shortly before seeing Congo Serpent Eagles!
250	Superb Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris superbus</i>	250	A great sunbird with an accurate name and recorded on at least three days.
251	Copper Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris cupreus</i>	251	A relatively common sunbird in suitable habitat recorded on five days.
252	African Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	252	Heard at a random stop en route to our hotel at Tafo on the 2nd and seen well at the start of the forest trail at Atewa on the 3rd
253	Western Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus brachyrhynchus</i>	253	Recorded on three days with the best views from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 28th and in Ankasa on the 29th.
254	Black-winged Oriole	<i>Oriolus nigripennis</i>	254	Similar to the above species but lacking the pale wing patch and a slightly different call. Recorded on three days.
255	Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	255	Recorded on eight days and typically seen from the bus whilst travelling.
256	Yellow-billed Shrike	<i>Corvinella corvina</i>	256	A group of these often tame and very striking shrikes showed well at Sakumono Lagoon on the evening of the 25th.
257	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>	257	Heard at the SHai Hills and the Winneba Plains and finally seen well at the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st.
258	Sabine's Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus sabini</i>	258	Good views of male birds from the Kakum canopy walkway on at least three days.
259	Northern Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>	259	A male showed very well at the Shai Hills on the 25th.
260	Yellow-crowned Gonolek	<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>	260	Some excellent views of this stunner with birds seen at Sakumono Lagoon, Winneba Plains and the Brenu Beach Road.
261	White-crested Helmet-shrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>	261	A gang of 9 birds showed very well whilst birding in the Shai Hills.
262	Red-billed Helmet-shrike	<i>Prionops caniceps</i>	262	A group of 7 adults were seen in Ankasa on the 29th as well as a very recently fledged juvenile bird.
263	Shining Drongo	<i>Dicrurus atripennis</i>	263	Always associated with a feeding flock and seen well at Abrafo and Ankasa.
264	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	264	Seen at Shai Hills only.
265	Velvet-mantled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus modestus</i>	265	This forest equivalent of the above species was recorded on six days in most forest areas.
266	Piapiac	<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>	266	Gerry saw one from the bus as we travelled through Accra on the 25th.
267	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	267	A very common species recorded daily.
268	(Forest) Chestnut-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus fulgidus</i>	268	Seen in Kakum and Nyame forests with the best views at Bonsu Arboretum where a flock of 15+ birds were seen on the 3rd.
269	Splendid Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis splendidus</i>	269	This large and attractive starling was recorded on six days.
270	Purple Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>	270	Good views at Sakumono Lagoon on the evening of the 25th.
271	Copper-tailed Glossy Starling	<i>Hylopsar cupreocauda</i>	271	This forest starling was seen at Abrafo on the 28th.
272	Common Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>	272	A very common species recorded daily.
273	Black-winged Bishop	<i>Euplectes hordeaceus</i>	273	Robert saw a bird at the Brenu Beach Road on the 31st.
274	Yellow-mantled Widowbird	<i>Euplectes macroura</i>	274	Good views of males and females along the Brenu Beach Road.
275	Compact Weaver	<i>Pachyphantes superciliosus</i>	275	Excellent views of a bird along the Brenu Beach Road.
276	Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	276	The commonest weaver species recorded on at least eight days.
277	Orange Weaver	<i>Ploceus aurantius</i>	277	This very localised weaver was seen very well at a number of sites on four days with the best views at Hans Cottage.
278	Vieillot's Black Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigerrimus</i>	278	A very striking “Black-and-Chestnut” weaver recorded on six days with a max. count of 20+ birds at Hans Cottage on the 1st.

#	Common name	Scientific name	#	Notes
279	Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>	279	This race lacks the black neck and was seen on the 30th and 31st whilst in the Ankasa area and Brenu Beach Road.
280	Slender-billed Weaver	<i>Ploceus pelzelni</i>	280	A single bird showed well along the Brenu Beach Road near the pools.
281	Yellow-mantled Weaver	<i>Ploceus tricolor</i>	281	This weaver was seen well from the Kakum canopy walkway, Nyame Forest and Bonsu Arboretum.
282	Maxwell's Black Weaver	<i>Ploceus albinucha</i>	282	These “miniature Jackdaws” of the forest were seen well at Kakum and Nyame forests with 13 birds the latter site.
283	Preuss's Weaver	<i>Ploceus preussi</i>	283	Two of these striking weavers showed very well from the Kakum canopy walkway on the morning of the 1st.
284	Crested Malimbe	<i>Malimbus malimbicus</i>	284	Single birds were seen well on three days with the most memorable being a bird building its nest at Nyame Forest on the 2nd.
285	Blue-billed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus nitens</i>	285	A number of opportunities to see this stunning species with birds at Kakum and Ankasa over three days.
286	Red-headed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus rubricollis</i>	286	The commonest of the marimbas and recorded on at least four days.
287	Red-vented Malimbe	<i>Malimbus scutatus</i>	287	A single bird from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 28th was followed by 12+ birds at the Hartlaub’s pool near Ankasa on the 29th.
288	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	288	A couple of birds were seen by some in the car park at Kakum.
289	White-breasted Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita fusconotus</i>	289	Good views of this species at Kakum on the 27th and Atewa on the 3rd.
290	Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita bicolor</i>	290	Great views at Kakum on the 27th and the 1st where a bird was visiting a nest.
291	Grey-headed Negrofinch	<i>Nigrita canicapillus</i>	291	A common sound of the forests and recorded on seven days.
292	Orange-cheeked Waxbill	<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>	292	A small group of these stunning waxbills were feeding with Black-rumped Waxbills & Bronze Mannikins along the Brenu Beach Road.
293	Black-rumped Waxbill	<i>Estrilda troglodytes</i>	293	A small group of birds were feeding with Orange-cheeked Waxbills & Bronze Mannikins along the Brenu Beach Road.
294	Western Bluebill	<i>Spermophaga haematina</i>	294	A singing bird was seen briefly just outside the Ankasa Forest on the morning of the 31st.
295	Bar-breasted Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i>	295	Recorded on three days with birds at Shai Hills, Brenu Beach Road and our hotel in Old Tafo.
296	Bronze Mannikin	<i>Spermestes cucullata</i>	296	A very common species recorded on 10 days.
297	Magpie Mannikin	<i>Spermestes fringilloides</i>	297	This larger cousin of the Black-and-White Mannikin with striking black breast patches was seen well in Abrafo and Ankasa.
298	Black-and-white Mannikin	<i>Spermestes bicolor</i>	298	Seen well just outside Ankasa Forest on the 31st.
	MAMMALS & REPTILES			
1	Olive Baboon	<i>Papio anubis</i>	1	Good numbers recorded at the Shai Hills.
2	Callithrix Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus sabaeus</i>	2	Small numbers seen well at the Shai Hills.
3	Lowe’s Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus lowei</i>	3	A single animal was seen by some of the group from the Kakum canopy walkway on the 27th.
4	Demidoff’s Galago	<i>Galagoides demidoff</i>	4	Its distinctive almost laughing trill was heard in Kakum and walking back from the Picathartes. Seen by torchlight by some in Ankasa on the 29th.
5	Straw-coloured Fruit Bat	<i>Eidolon helvum</i>	5	Recorded on four days with incredible numbers seen in Accra and near Atewa.
6	Mauritian Tomb Bat	<i>Taphozous mauritanus</i>	6	The roosting colony was seen at the Shai Hills in the Sayu Cave on the 25th.
7	Hammer Bat	<i>Hypsignahus monstrosus</i>	7	Seen flying above Brimsu Reservoir on the evening of the 26th.
8	Striped Grass Mouse species	-	8	One seen near our hotel at Ankasa on the 30th by some of the group.
9	Striped Ground Squirrel	<i>Euxerus erythropus</i>	9	A single animals seen by some on the 2nd.
10	Fire-footed Rope Squirrel	<i>Funisciurus pyrropus</i>	10	Recorded on two days in Kakum Forest.
11	Green Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus poensis</i>	11	Recorded on four days mostly in Ankasa and Atewa.
12	Red-legged Sun Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus rufobrachium</i>	12	Seen in Ankasa on the 29th and 31st.
13	African Giant Squirrel	<i>Protoxerus stangeri</i>	13	Seen in Ankasa on the 31st and Pete A. saw one at the Picathartes forest on the 1st.

#	Common name	Scientific name	#	Notes
14	Pel's Anomalure	<i>Anomalurus peli</i>	14	Great views of this amazing animal by torchlight from the Kakum canopy walkway on the evening of the 27th.
15	African Palm Civet	<i>Nandinia binotata</i>	15	Seen by spotlight in a tree in Ankasa on the 29th. A dead animal was being sold by the roadside whilst travelling from Nyame forest to Atewa on the 2nd.
16	Western Tree Hyrax	<i>Dendrohyrax dorsalis</i>	16	The spine-chilling calls of this mammal were heard at night in Kakum and Ankasa.
17	Maxwell's Duiker	<i>Cephalophus maxwelli</i>	17	Dead for sale at the roadside on the 2nd whilst travelling from Nyame forest to Atewa
18	(Buffon's) Kob	<i>Kobus kob</i>	18	A group of 3-4 animals including a male was seen at the Shai Hills.
19	Tree Pangolin	<i>Phataginus tricuspis</i>	19	A sad encounter with an animal being sold by the roadside on the 2nd as we travelled towards Tafo. We took the animal & released it in the protected Bonsu Arboretum.
1	Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	1	Recorded at Hans Cottage.
2	Nile Monitor	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	2	One seen on the 1st.
3	Rock Agama	<i>Agama agama</i>	3	Recorded on eight days.
4	House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus mabouia</i>	4	Recorded on four days.
	BUTTERFLIES			
	<i>Hesperidae</i> & Skippers			
	Common Forest Sylph	<i>Ceratrachia phocion</i>		Atewa
	Scarce Pathfinder Skipper	<i>Pardaleodes sator</i>		Nyame
	Bouvier's Elfin	<i>Sarangesa bouvieri</i>		Atewa
	Clouded Flat	<i>Tagiades fesus</i>		Atewa & Kakum
	<i>Lycaenidae</i>, Blues, Hairstreaks & Pierid Blues			
	Common Indigo Ciliate Blue	<i>Anthene sylvanus</i>		Abrafo
	Silky Ciliate	<i>Anthene lachares</i>		Atewa
	Common Ciliate Blue	<i>Anthene larydas</i>		Nyame
	Smoky Bean Cupid	<i>Euchrysops malathana</i>		Ankasa
	Western Pierid Blue	<i>Larinopoda eurema</i>		Ankasa & Atewa
	Simple Liptena	<i>Liptena simplicia</i>		Ankasa
	Common Ginger White	<i>Oberonia punctatus</i>		Ankasa
	Clench's On-off	<i>Tetrahania symplocus</i>		Ankasa
	Blotched Ciliate Blue	<i>Triclema lamias</i>		Kakum Visitor Centre
	African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysa</i>		Kakum Visitor Centre

#	Common name	Scientific name	#	Notes
	Pieridae, Whites, Yellows etc.			
	African Emigrant	<i>Catopsilia florella</i>		Hans Cottage
	Common Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema hecabe</i>		Ankasa & Atewa
	Common Dotted Border	<i>Mylothris chloris</i>		Atewa
	Karsch's Dotted Border	<i>Mylothris jaopura</i>		Atewa
	Nepheronia sp.	-		Atewa
	Papilionidae & Swallowtails			
	Large Striped Swordtail	<i>Graphium antheus</i>		Shai Hills
	Veined Swallowtail	<i>Graphium leonidas</i>		Shai Hills
	Common White-banded Swallowtail	<i>Papilio cyproeofila</i>		Abrafo & Atewa
	Mocker Swallowtail	<i>Papilio dardanus</i>		Atewa & Hans Cottage
	Citrus Swallowtail	<i>Papilio demodocus</i>		Shai Hills
	Danaidae & Monarchs			
	Common Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>		Nyame
	Nymphalidae, incl. Browns & Acraeids			
	Bonasia Acraea	<i>Acraea bonasia</i>		Ankasa
	Abadina Acraea	<i>Acraea pseudegina</i>		Hans Cottage
	African Castor	<i>Ariadne enotrea</i>		Atewa
	Forest Glade Nymph	<i>Aterica galene</i>		Ankasa
	Light Brown Forester	<i>Babearia zonara</i>		Atewa
	Light Bush Brown	<i>Bicyclus dorothea</i>		Ankasa
	African Joker	<i>Byblia anvatara,</i>		Ankasa
	Oberthur's Pathfinder	<i>Catuna oberthueri,</i>		Ankasa
	Pearl Charaxes	<i>Charaxes varanes</i>		Shai Hills
	Shining Red Charaxes	<i>Charaxes zingha</i>		Atewa
	Common Glider	<i>Cymothoe caenis</i>		Nyame
	Common Yellow Glider	<i>Cymothoe egesta</i>		Atewa
	Ceres Forester	<i>Euphaedra ceres,</i>		Hans Cottage
	Crocker's Forester	<i>Euphaedra crockeri</i>		Atewa
	Widespread Forester	<i>Euphaedra medon</i>		Atewa
	Common Nymph	<i>Euriphene barombina</i>		Atewa
	The Guineafowl	<i>Hamanumidia daedalus</i>		Shai Hills

#	Common name	Scientific name	#	Notes
	False Tiger	<i>Hypolimnias misippus</i>		Nyame
	Blue Diadem	<i>Hypolimnias salmacis</i>		Ankasa, Atewa & Nyame
	Dark Blue Pansy	<i>Junonia oenone</i>		Kakum Visitor Centre
	Little commodore	<i>Junonia sophia</i>		Ankasa
	Brown Pansy	<i>Junonia stygia</i>		Atewa
	Soldier Pansy	<i>Junonia terea</i>		Kakum
	Blotched Leopard	<i>Lachnoptera anticlia</i>		Atewa
	Scalloped Sailor	<i>Neptidopsis ophione</i>		Ankasa
	Club-dot Sailor	<i>Neptis agouale</i>		Atewa
	Usher's Palla	<i>Palla usheri</i>		Atewa
	Leopard Fritillary	<i>Phalanta eurytis</i>		Atewa
	Western Blue Beauty	<i>Protophormora cytor</i>		Atewa
	Common False Acraea	<i>Pseudoacraea eurytus</i>		Nyame
	Libytheidae & Snout Butterflies			
	African Beak	<i>Libythea labdaca</i>		Ankasa

Wise Birding Holidays

Bird and mammal watching tours

