

Tour Report

Kalahari Conservation Experience

8 – 17 September 2023

Cheetah



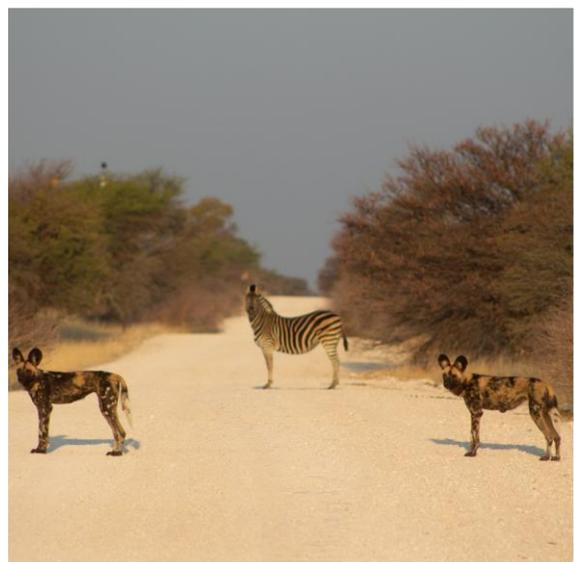
Pangolin



White rhino



Wild dog & zebra



Compiled by Helen Bryon

We spent one week in the beautiful Kalahari, home to a myriad of wonderful creatures, on South Africa's largest Big Five reserve. This was a holiday with a difference.

On these trips, the conservation initiatives vary according to the needs of the reserve's ecologist, and the week is very much centred on predator (wild dog in particular) and pangolin monitoring. The reserve is vast, but only one camp is currently located there (although plans are afoot for a lodge to open in 2024). One of the great benefits of this location is that we have the sightings all to ourselves. Whether we are following cheetah through the bush at speed, watching them hunt to record the frequency of kills and what they are eating, assessing camera trap footage or performing tree surveys, long but rewarding days in the field are to be expected as we explore this timeless land.

Day 1: London Heathrow to Johannesburg

Friday 8 September 2023

Four of the group met up with Tour Leader Helen in the Departure Lounge at Heathrow's Terminal 5 for their nonstop flight to Johannesburg with British Airways.

Day 2: Johannesburg to the Kalahari

Saturday 9 September 2023

Weather: sunny and clear, 30 degrees centigrade

Touching down in Johannesburg an hour later than scheduled, we began disembarking at 8.12am and by 9.30am we had located the final two members of the group and were on our way to the reserve with transfer driver Matthew.

Our day-long transfer was broken up with an initial stop at Ventersdorp, where we briefly stopped to buy 'elevenes', which we ate onboard the eight-seater minibus as we continued on our way. Passing cattle farms and fields of harvested corn, we saw ostrich, pied crow, house sparrow, Cape turtle dove (or ring-necked doves as they are now known), little swifts and Cape glossy starlings. We reached Vryburg at 1.45pm and stopped for lunch. After a brief leg stretch, we decided to go for a drive-through fast food option to capitalise on the good time we were making. Suitably nourished, we watched the farms and villages diminish in frequency as we drove deeper into the bush, taking in sightings of grey go-away bird, helmeted guineafowl, white-backed mousebird, lilac-breasted roller, yellow-billed hornbill, red-eyed bulbul and red-crested and Northern black korhaan, amongst other bird life. Mammals too were making an appearance as ground squirrel, warthog, impala, kudu and steenbok lining the roads.

At 4.45pm, the tar ran out and for the remainder of our journey, we travelled along gravel roads. The sun was gradually descending, a giant red orb in the dusty sky, as we reached our destination and the reserve gate at 6pm. Gary, our host, guide and camp co-owner met us and led the way into camp, passing blue wildebeest and Plain's zebra along the way. There, Edyta, his wife and fellow co-owner, met us with their three dogs: Betty, Sweeney and new addition, Pluto, a Great Dane puppy. Introductions were made, and then we were taken to our tents to settle in. We reconvened at 7pm in the communal 'mess tent' for drinks, the signing of indemnity forms and a delicious lasagne and salad dinner. After a long 24 hours of travelling, we retired for an early night.

Day 3: Pangolin monitoring and SD card collection and analysis

Sunday 10 September 2023

Weather: sunny and clear, 34 degrees centigrade

Who needs an alarm clock? From 5am, lions were heard around camp and this continued for the next hour. Breakfast was planned for 6.30am, after which our planned morning activities were to monitor a recently released pangolin, and then collect two SD cards from camera traps in different locations.

Before we left camp, ground scraper thrush and white-browed sparrow-weavers busied themselves around us as Gary filled us in on the background of the pangolin - a young male that had been rescued from poachers a few months ago. After being monitored by vets, he was brought here and released, a process that so far had been a resounding success. Our role would be to locate the pangolin through the use of telemetry and follow it, monitoring its behaviour. We were also tasked with trying to weigh him, three times per week where possible. Departing on our open-sided, roofed, nine-seater safari vehicle at around 7.30am, we headed for the burrow site, making a small detour when the distinctive nest of a Cape penduline-tit was seen hanging from a tree. The final approach was on foot, but the pangolin was firmly ensconced underground so we carried on, planning to come back in the afternoon.

We continued to the closest waterhole to camp where blue wildebeest, oryx, Plain's zebra and eland were gathered to drink. A lone blacksmith lapwing stood alongside multitudes of Burchell's sandgrouse that were drawing water up using their chest feathers to take back to their chicks. As we eagerly scanned the water's edge for more bird activity, Gary suddenly announced the presence of a Kalahari male lion sitting right in front of us! One became two and we watched as they dozed, keeping a lazy eye on the herds as they fought sleep. We moved the vehicle so as not to give away their location, and watched them from a different angle, all the while enjoying yellow canaries, bulbuls and doves flying down to the water to drink and bathe. The morning was warming up and we didn't expect much movement from the lions, so we decided to head towards camera trap number one.

Passing an open area not far away, we spotted meerkats and approached for a closer look. They were incredibly skittish and despite trying to approach on foot, they kept moving away so we left them to it, hoping to see more during our stay. Passing a waterhole, we were considering stopping there for morning tea or coffee, until we saw a lone buffalo bull partially hidden by a stunted tree. Carrying on, we collected both SD cards and stopped for a break at another waterhole where we watched oryx wading into the water to drink and saw our first Southern giraffe of the trip.

Heading home, we stopped to view the lions again (unsurprisingly in the heat, they hadn't moved) and then tucked into a lovely lunch of pasta salad, crab salad and tuna on crackers. Gary downloaded the SD card footage onto his computer and we watched as numerous brown hyena, aardwolf, leopard, wild dog, porcupine and one very pregnant lioness walked by onscreen. Gary was able to identify various individuals and wild dog packs, then feed the dates and locations back to the reserve ecologist.

Our afternoon departure was scheduled for 4pm, and we headed straight back to the pangolin burrow. As Gary got out of the vehicle, he thought he heard some rustling but proceeded to check the signal with telemetry and it turned out to be strong. So strong that we almost didn't believe it when he pointed to the centre of the raisin bush directly behind him and said, "He's in there."

We crept around for a closer look and sure enough, the scales were plain to see! The pangolin was feeding at the root of the bush and we waited for him to move out. He walked right up to one client (we'd been warned to stay still if this happened, allowing him to stay on his scent trail), passed her and proceeded to the next bush.

At a suitable moment, Gary picked him up in order to weigh him. He was steadily putting on weight and later walked on his hind legs, holding his tail high as he went...all signs of a healthy animal. He fed, dug and displayed behaviours suggesting he was completely relaxed in our presence. We followed him, hearing him smelling, breathing and feeding as he walked with gusto through the bush. He was perfectly lit in the late afternoon light and we wondered how we'd beat this as it was only our first full day on the reserve. What an absolute privilege!

The pangolin partially disappeared into a small hole underneath another raisin bush and began excavating more deeply, most likely extending a new burrow. We decided to give him some space as we would be looking for him again during our stay after all.

We headed towards the lions we'd seen earlier, catching a fleeting glimpse of a slender mongoose as it ran across the road in front of us, and once again, the big cats hadn't moved. We decided to have sundowners with them, hoping that they may be on the lookout for their next meal. A male giraffe drank deeply from the waterhole with the glowing, setting sun dropping to the horizon behind him.

Barking geckos began calling around us and as the light faded, the silhouettes of two white rhinos appeared as they came down to drink. The cats still hadn't moved. Stars began to appear, the Milky Way became ever brighter, and still they did not move. As we turned our engine on, thinking about heading back for dinner, one sat up and slowly groomed himself, yawning intermittently. As these are often signs of potential movement, we stayed a little longer and were rewarded with them moving a whole ten metres before flopping back down!

A little while later we still had no movement, so we decided to call it quits. On the way home, we picked up an African wild cat in our spotlight and watched as it moved across the road and disappeared into the grass. Soon afterwards we got our first springhare. A wonderful little creature, they leap like miniature kangaroos, delighting us as they go! A lovely curry dinner topped off a cracking first day in the Kalahari.

Day 4: Wild dog and pangolin monitoring plus anti-poaching presentation Monday 11 September 2023

Weather: sunny and very windy, 19 degrees centigrade

It was blowing a hooley when we woke up this morning and the wind chill affected the temperature dramatically. Wrapping up warm, we headed to breakfast at 6.30am, and by 7am we had begun our wild dog quest. One of the packs on the reserve has three collared individuals and we had their 6am and 7am readings, so we knew they were not far away, but they were mobile, most probably hunting.

We passed a tawny eagle drinking at a waterhole and as we drove part of the fence line, we saw a number of beautiful female sable on private land on the other side. By 7.45am, we were with them and my word, what a sighting it was! The morning light was beautiful. The sun was behind us and incredibly, we had arrived shortly after the dogs had made a kill in an open area right next to the road. There wasn't a huge amount of meat left but there was enough for some of the dogs to run off with legs and other body parts in front of us, whilst two or three took hold of the spine, trying to tug it off the others.

We disembarked the vehicle, staying close to it, which enabled us to get some eye-level shots. Some of the dogs were inquisitive, others were shy, and others were far more intent on stealing more scraps. Forty-five minutes later, they had disappeared off into the bush. We started to follow them off-road, but they simply vanished. We therefore decided to continue on our way after a simply magical sighting. A large herd of eland were spotted shortly afterwards and as we made our way back to camp. We visited the pangolin burrow, and he was (sensibly if we may anthropomorphise) underground, keeping out of the wind.

After morning tea and coffee back at camp, Gary began a presentation on poaching within South Africa. This hard-hitting but factual presentation continued until lunch at 1pm, which consisted of chicken schnitzel and cous cous salad. It was still very cold after lunchtime, due to the wind chill, so we took advantage of a few hours of downtime to sit on our balconies, thawing out, out of the wind.

At 4.30pm, we headed out once again and went straight to the pangolin burrow. After a short walk, we located him on his side, propped up against a log, busy feeding on snouted termites. He was having a field day and we watched as he had his fill and continued on his feeding mission. Next up, he started digging at the base of grasses to start on cocked-tail ants. We logged his feeding and searched unsuccessfully for some scat close to his burrow. (If found, this is collected and analysed by the pangolin research team to see which other species he has been dining on).

Satisfied that he was doing well, we drove to the closest waterhole for a spot of birding and sundowners. It was still bitterly cold, so was quite quiet on the wildlife front, but we had been warned that this may be the case. A lone black-backed jackal came down to drink and as the colours in the sky changed, we headed home to sit around a beautifully warm fire and ate steak, boerewors (sausage), coleslaw and corn on the cob under the stars. Our electric blankets were very welcome by the time we hit the hay!

Day 5: Tree survey and night drive

Tuesday 12 September 2023

Weather: sunny, cold and clear, 23 degrees centigrade

We were expecting a cold morning (4 degrees ish) so settled on breakfast at 7 am, to be followed by the end of the anti-poaching presentation. The wind had died down and it was clear and crisp, a perfect day for some reserve work in the form of a tree survey.

60 sites around the reserve are surveyed on an annual basis to assess trends in vegetation growth and decline. Once all sites have been surveyed, the reserve ecologist is able to extrapolate the information to gauge an idea of what is happening across the area. We set off shortly after 9 am for the chosen site and prepared to be out all morning.

We decided to pass the open area where we had glimpsed the meerkats on Sunday, but they were nowhere to be seen. Instead, our attention was drawn to a partially eaten eland carcass. With no sign of any predators or scavengers in the vicinity, we carried on. Gary stopped to point out what looked like a ring doughnut around the base of an *Acacia mellifera* (blackthorn). This was caused by the presence of pugnacious ants: they move further down into the earth's crust in winter, rising to the surface again in spring and summer, hence the elevated rise and fall of soil around the base of these trees across the seasons. Insects are just fascinating!

By 11.45am, we were at our survey sight and it was explained that starting from a central set of stones, we were to lay a tape measure 50 metres north and then 50 metres south, in order to take measurements from four quadrants, northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast. In each quadrant, we had to locate and identify tree species in order to measure height, canopy width and height of first leaf growth. Working steadily as a team, we completed the northern transects before stopping for a tea and coffee break. We then set upon the southern section and were done 90 minutes later. It was satisfying work and we headed home for lunch (butternut soup with other vegetables and beans, plus beer bread). En route, we stopped to photograph oryx, red hartebeest and pale chanting goshawk.

At 4.30pm, we boarded our game viewer and set off for the rescued pangolin site. The pangolin was due to be weighed today, so we located him using telemetry, finding that he was deep in a burrow. Gary got down at ground level to listen for signs of activity and it appeared he was digging, possibly excavating the burrow further. We backed away and waited quietly to see if he would appear, but by 5.30pm, with not long to go until sundown, we decided to drive east looking for wild dog and anything else that we may come across.

We set off following a road showing plenty of signs of rhino activity, but the creatures themselves were proving elusive. We found dog tracks but were unable to follow them due to diminishing light. We decided to forego sundowners and continue with a night drive. An unidentified medium-sized owl kicked us off, but it was flying away from us so we continued without stopping. Upon reaching a waterhole, we were about to turn for home when Helen spotted a pair of forward-facing eyes on the far side. A predator!

Approaching for a closer look, we realised we'd come across a stationary lioness who was watching us warily. A second pair of eyes was seen and as we changed position, then a mature blond-maned lion came into focus, sitting right next to an oryx kill. He got up to move and his belly was nicely full! The female put some distance between us by disappearing behind the scrub, so we watched him for a while as numerous black-backed jackals loitered waiting for their share of the spoils.

It was a chilly night as we headed for home, but the bush wasn't finished with us yet, as a Southern African wildcat walked down the road ahead of us. It was smaller than the specimen we had seen a few nights before, but not a million miles away from the other's location, we wondered if this was perhaps a kitten. It disappeared into the bush so we returned to camp and enjoyed risotto with green beans and carrot cake around the fire once again. A lovely evening!

Day 6: Camera trapping and wild dog monitoring

Wednesday 13 September 2023

Weather: Sunny and clear, 28 degrees centigrade

Today was due to be warmer so we reverted to our usual 6.30am breakfast and departed for an extended game drive shortly after 7am. We needed to replace the SD card in one of the camera traps we had visited earlier in the week and we also wanted to move another trap to a new location. Taking our time, we drove via last night's lion sighting to see if they were still there. The male was, but the female was nowhere to be seen. They had both been vocalising for much of the night so she probably wasn't too far away. The scene was overrun with opportunistic jackals, still patiently waiting for the male to either abandon the kill or go for a drink. He could barely hold his head up so had probably been fending off scavengers all night.

We drove past a few pans, adding white-backed vulture and red-billed quelea to our species list. A lone male giraffe loitered close to the first camera trap and we came across swallow-tailed bee-eaters and a purple roller. Plains game were out in force and we saw our first ostrich on the reserve. After successfully securing the other camera trap to its new position, we routed via an open area hoping to come across meerkats. Fortunately they were there, and we approached three 'brave' individuals on foot. Although they kept their distance, they stood tall, keeping sentry, enabling us to enjoy them for a little while. Gary thought he heard buffalo approaching, so we returned to the vehicle and made it back to camp at 2.00pm, where a lunch of stuffed gem squash, spring rolls, samosas and onion rings awaited us. A relatively quick turnaround saw us on the road again at 3.30pm with the aim of finding a breakaway group of female wild dogs.

We arrived at their last known location just under an hour later and we scoured the area. Suddenly we spotted them emerging from blackthorn thickets directly ahead of us. We killed the engine and watched their body language. Numbering just four individuals, with no clear alpha yet, they seemed quite comfortable with our presence, coming towards us steadily before settling down to lie in the grass not far away. We sat and watched their enormous satellite ears appear and disappear behind the grass inflorescence and noted that they were a little thin. We had decided to sit and wait with them, in the hope that they may head off on a hunt as the afternoon progressed.

In the interim, Gary talked us through the challenges of managing wild dog populations until sure enough, they started to sneeze repeatedly (some suggest that this is the precursor to a hunt) and stretch luxuriously before setting off in a northerly direction. They split up in a hunt formation and the challenge of following them off road began. Not only did we need to keep up with them (ideally with the lead dogs), but we also needed to navigate around logs, stumps and thick bush and avoid the numerous excavations by porcupine, armadillo and pangolin along the way.

Working really well together as a team, we kept vigil for over an hour. The dogs were sniffing the base of many trees and shrubs as they moved in a haphazard direction through the bush (they generally move erratically and hunt by sight). Suddenly a scrub hare exploded out of the bush, followed closely by one of the wild dogs. We lost them all completely for a short while before they appeared again in front of the setting sun. We continued to follow them until the darkness made it impossible to continue and we made the decision to head for home.

A quick pass by the waterhole revealed that the male lion was still guarding his oryx kill, keeping jackals at bay. If we had been betting people, we would have thought he might have abandoned it by now. He was

moving to and fro though, perhaps debating whether or not to go for a drink. Eventually he did, and we followed him to the water, parking opposite him and illuminating him softly with our headlights.

A magical scene unfolded as he crouched down to drink, his silhouette perfectly reflected in the still water. We listened to him lapping away under the Milky Way and before long, he lay down completely, folding his massive paws underneath his great head to avoid them getting wet. We watched entranced and committed the scene to memory, a special moment to contemplate in the future.

Once finished, we trotted back to the kill and we followed him briefly before heading for home. The night wasn't done with us yet, however, as a pair of eyes was seen and these proved to belong to a brown hyena! Although we only had a fleeting glance before the hyena turned and ran, we were a little giddy at all we had experienced that afternoon. The conversation flowed until we got home at 8pm, after which we met for a drink and then tucked into a delicious cottage pie with salad. We had been out ten and a half hours and were eager to see what the next day would bring. Cheetahs were on the wish list. Would the universe listen?!

Day 7: Wild dog monitoring

Thursday 14 September 2023

Weather: Sunny and clear, 28 degrees centigrade

After our usual breakfast at 6.30am, we set off at 7am for the central part of the reserve. Tracks on the roads revealed plenty of animal activity in the night, with rhino spoor particularly abundant. We were heading for the last known location of a coalition of cheetah males when suddenly the shout, "Rhino!" was heard.

A huge white rhino bull was watching us warily on our right-hand side. He stood contemplating us for a moment before charging across the road and stopping in a blackthorn thicket. We took a few shots of him before he disappeared. Finally, we had our first sighting! Passing through a scenic area of low grassland, we refuelled at the reserve's head office, and flushed out our radiator after yesterday's off-roading exploits, before trying to find the cheetah. Eventually, cheetah were spotted lying in the shade with very full bellies, the result of a recent kill. We spent an hour with them, repeatedly re-positioning the vehicle as they moved with the shade. It was heating up though and they were sleeping off their large meal so we didn't feel that they would be moving any time soon.

We knew that the four female wild dogs were not far away, so we checked in on them and their bellies suggested they had made a small kill. As the heat continued to build, we turned towards camp, driving via the open area where we had previously seen the meerkats. We were almost there when a client spotted a lioness walking parallel to us. We followed her as she found some shade, lay down, and watched us with interest. She was a beauty! The cheetah made a contact call, so we stayed a short while to see if others would join her before continuing to look for meerkats. We saw them briefly, but they were very skittish, so we returned to camp, getting a fleeting view of baboons running from the waterhole en route, before enjoying carrot and apple salad with quiche.

We were out again at 3.30pm and wanted to follow the dogs once more, if possible. Taking an easterly route to their earlier location, Helen couldn't believe her eyes when the glint of the sun gave away quills seemingly dancing in the golden grasses. It turned out to be a porcupine! Never having seen one by day, we turned off-road for a closer look. This remarkable animal stood behind a tree and began to investigate before moving further away from us. Leaving it to forage, we carried on to a large pan where a lone white rhino bull stood in the afternoon heat. He showed no concern at our presence and the scene was probably unchanged for millennia as wildebeest, zebra and springbok grazed behind him. Leaving him be, we were back with the dogs by 5pm.

We watched the dogs snooze until at 5.20pm on the dot (the same time as yesterday), they began to groom each other, stretch and sneeze. They proceeded to a nearby road and watched the zebras crossing a little further down. The wild dogs started trotting towards the zebra, and a herd of wildebeest began snorting

alarms and watching them with intent. Heading north off-road, we proceeded towards the scene as they trotted ahead of us. The bush was more open than yesterday, but it still proved challenging at times. We kept visual with the dogs until darkness fell, only losing them once when they shot off at great speed. Catching up with them on a nearby road a little later, they had been unsuccessful with whatever had caught their attention and we ended up leaving them, in the dark, barely 300 metres from where we had started!

On the way home to a pasta bake with garlic bread, we stumbled across three white rhino, including a mother and calf, drinking at a waterhole, a brown hyena drinking at another waterhole and then a final brown hyena just outside the camp.

Day 8: Pangolin and predator monitoring

Friday 15 September 2023

Weather: sunny and clear, 32 degrees centigrade

It felt very cold today as we set off at 7am to try and find the recently released pangolin. His last known location was worryingly close to a fence line (electrocution is a cause of many pangolins deaths here) so we wanted to see where he was with some urgency. Two bat-eared foxes were spotted along the way and it was with relief, that we found the pangolin a short walk later, feeding intently on sugar ants. He was heading back towards his usual burrow system and we walked with him for a while before weighing him (as requested by the organisation monitoring his release). Satisfied that all was well, we continued our morning drive, wanting to find the wild dog females to see whether they had successfully hunted last night. Finding them in an open area, their bellies looked full and one had blood on her face. A good sign.

We stopped for morning tea and coffee at a waterhole, approaching only once a positively huge, old male warthog had finished his drink. It was proving to be a very hot day so were driving home when perfect, fresh lion tracks were seen at a junction in the road. Although it was already midday, we unanimously agreed to follow them and half an hour later, arrived at a waterhole. The lion was most likely tucked underneath a thicket watching us, but we could not see it for love nor money. We had flushed out a spotted-eagle owl though and it had been very satisfying following his movements...even if he had given us the run around!

After a quinoa salad with halloumi and a short rest, we headed out again at 3.30pm. Cheetah and elephants had been requested, if possible, so we set off, ever hopeful. A glimpse of a lioness got the adrenaline going and two more rhino white were seen at a pan. After a slow start, they were really coming out of the woodwork!

We found the cheetah and our timing was superb as they were beginning to move through the bush as we arrived. Although they had not fed long ago, they were aware of plains game around them and scent-marked various shepherd's trees as they moved in predominantly single file through the late golden light. Once again, the beauty of this reserve really came to the fore as we followed them until darkness fell, with no one else coming to join the sighting.

As dusk fell, the cheetah became aware of a few red hartebeest on the edge of a thicket just ahead of us. Everything about their body language changed. Foot placement, heads down, positioning together. We watched enthralled as they cautiously approached, still a few hundred metres away. Eland, oryx and zebra were also in the area and they began alarm calling and running. The brothers watched and relaxed, their cover blown. They continued walking steadily through the bush and as the sky glowed deep orange, we turned for home. What an afternoon.

As we drove, we passed a waterhole and the backside of a black rhino appeared on the track ahead of us. As it ran, we noticed another few black rhino running with it, with calves too. At the waterhole itself, a further three white rhino were drinking and a male giraffe appeared in our spotlight too. Springhares were out in force, we came across a scrub hare and two porcupines and to top off a wonderful week here, a fleeting glimpse of a striped polecat coated our sightings.

We didn't get home until 8.30pm, but we demolished our babotie dinner (a classic South African dish) and retired to bed to get ready for our departure tomorrow.

Day 9: Return to Johannesburg

Saturday 16 September 2023

Weather: sunny and clear, 32 degrees centigrade

Some of the group were continuing their holiday with trips to Botswana and to Zambia, while others were flying home. Departing the reserve in the morning, they drove back to Johannesburg for their onward connections.

Day 10: Arrive London

Sunday 17 September 2023



Checklist for Kalahari Conservation Experience



	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9
	MAMMALS									
1	Ground squirrel	<i>Xerus inauris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	✓	✓					✓	
4	Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	✓	✓						
5	Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Plain's zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
7	Blue wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Oryx (gemsbok)	<i>Oryx gazella</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
9	Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
10	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
11	Black-backed jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
12	Suricate (meerkat)	<i>Suricata suricatta</i>		✓			✓	✓		
13	Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>		✓						
14	Giraffe	<i>Giraffa Camelopardalis</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	



15	Red hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
16	Ground pangolin	<i>Manis temminckii</i>		✓	✓				✓	
17	Slender mongoose	<i>Galerella sanguinea</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	
18	White rhino	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>		✓				✓	✓	
19	Springhare	<i>Pedetes capensis</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
20	Southern African wildcat	<i>Felis silvestris cafra</i>		✓		✓				
21	Sable	<i>Hippotragus niger</i>			✓					
22	Wild dog	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	
23	Scrub hare	<i>Lepus saxtilis</i>					✓		✓	
24	Chacma baboon	<i>Papio hamadryas ursinus</i>					✓			
25	Brown hyena	<i>Hyaena brunnea</i>					✓	✓		
26	Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>						✓	✓	
27	Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>						✓	✓	
28	Bat-eared fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>							✓	
29	Black rhino	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>							✓	
30	Striped polecat	<i>Ictonyx striatus</i>							✓	
	BIRDS									
1	House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓							
2	Dark-capped bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>	✓							

3	Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	✓							
4	Grey go-away bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>	✓							
5	Helmeted guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	✓							
6	Fork-tailed drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	✓							
7	Cape turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	✓							
8	Cape glossy starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	✓							
9	Southern yellow-billed hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>	✓							
10	Red-crested korhaan	<i>Lophotis ruficrista</i>	✓							
11	White-backed mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>	✓							
12	Southern masked weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	✓							
13	Northern black korhaan	<i>Afrotis afraoides</i>	✓							
14	Ground scraper thrush	<i>Psophocichla litsitsirupa</i>		✓						
15	White-browed sparrow weaver	<i>Plocapasser mahali</i>		✓						
16	Crowned lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>		✓						
17	Burchell's sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles burchelli</i>		✓						
18	Yellow canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>		✓						
19	Kalahari scrub robin	<i>Cercotrichas paena</i>		✓						
20	African red-eyed bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>		✓						
21	Crimson-breasted shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>		✓						

22	African hoopoe	<i>Upupa Africana</i>		✓						
23	Pin-tailed whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>		✓						
24	Southern pied babbler	<i>Turdoides bicolor</i>		✓						
25	Blacksmith lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>		✓						
26	Kori bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>		✓						
27	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>		✓						
28	Pale chanting goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>		✓						
29	Tawny eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>			✓					
30	Scaly-feathered finch	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>			✓					
31	Common scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopamastus cyanomelas</i>			✓					
32	Golden-tailed woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>			✓					
33	Black-chested prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>			✓					
34	Marico flycatcher	<i>Bradornis mariquensis</i>			✓					
35	Black-throated canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>				✓				
36	Fawn-coloured lark	<i>Calendulauda africanoides</i>					✓			
37	White-backed vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>					✓			
38	Swallow-tailed bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>					✓			
39	Purple roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>					✓			
40	Red-billed quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>					✓			

41	Black-backed vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>					✓			
42	Cape sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>						✓		
43	Southern grey-headed sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>						✓		
44	Orange River francolin	<i>Scleroptera levaillantoides</i>						✓		
45	Bronze-winged courser	<i>Rhinoptilus chalcopterus</i>						✓		
46	Gabar goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>							✓	
47	Black-shouldered kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>							✓	
48	Spotted eagle-owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>							✓	