Madagascar

Highlights II

18th October to 1st November 2023 (15 days)

Trip Report



Pitta-like Ground Roller by Armin Schneider

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader: Nigel Redman

Tour Summary

Despite Air Madagascar's best efforts to disrupt our itinerary, this year's Madagascar Highlights tour proved to be a great success, and we managed to visit all the places on our itinerary, achieving great looks at a high proportion of the available endemics. The many highlights included all five endemic bird families, all five ground rollers (for some), 15 species of vangas including all four species of newtonias (the 'newtonia slam!'), 8 species of couas and many other amazing birds. Almost everyone who had not been to Madagascar before saw more than 100 new birds. But Madagascar also has lemurs, and we saw 17 species of these on the tour including the iconic Indri, mesmerising ruffed lemurs and dancing sifakas. We also managed a few spectacular chameleons, a decent number of other reptiles, and some very bizarre trees. Madagascar is unlike anywhere else on Earth.

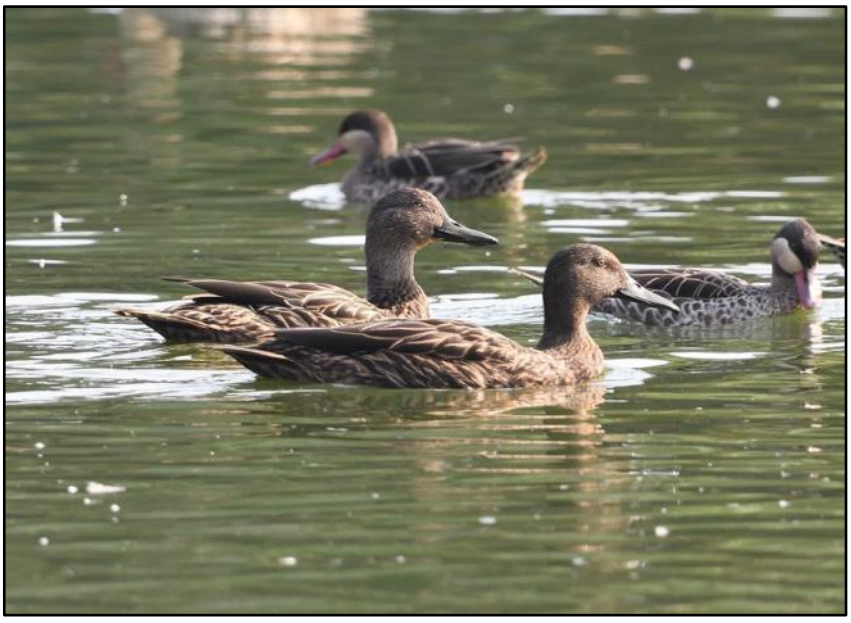


Red-shouldered Vanga by Duane Morse

Tour in Detail

The tour began with an early morning visit to Lake Alarobia. As usual it was teeming with ducks and herons. It did not take long to find our first Meller's Ducks amongst the many hundreds of Red-billed Teals. A pair of Knob-billed Ducks was a bonus. As we scanned through the many breeding herons sporting their spectacular plumes, we eventually found a couple of exquisite Malagasy Pond Herons. All too soon it was time to head to the airport for our flight to Tulear. In the afternoon, we explored an area of spiny scrub forest where we found Verreaux's and Red-capped Couas, Chabert Vanga, and several more widespread species. The big prize was a superb male, Red-shouldered Vanga that showed particularly well to everyone at length.

Our second morning saw us catch an early boat out to the little island of Nosy Ve. On the way, an encounter with several Humpback Whales was unexpected. At the island, we quickly found a group of Crab-plovers which showed well repeatedly. Other shorebirds included the delightful White-fronted Plover, and a few Lesser Crested Terns were also present. The true highlight on the island were the breeding Red-tailed Tropicbirds which gave amazing views. Returning to the mainland, we birded the scrub at Anakao, finding gems such as Subdesert Brush Warbler, Littoral Rock Thrush and Madagascar Buttonquail. We also had amazing encounters with a trio of Madagascar Nightjars at their day roost, a pair of Madagascar Hoopoes, a couple of Malagasy Coucals and some stunning Sakalava Weavers. In the afternoon, we returned to the spiny forest near Tulear. Here we had amazing views of Verreaux's,



Meller's Ducks by Armin Schneider

Red-capped and Running Couas, as well as many of the birds from the previous afternoon. However, a single male Lafresnaye's Vanga only showed briefly twice, although it called a few times.



Long-tailed Ground Roller by Andreas Deissner

Heading north from Tulear, we stopped at Belalanda Lake where we managed to see a pair of Greater Painted-snipes and a pair of Baillon's Crakes – the latter showed extremely well – as well as some Greater Flamingos and many Kittlitz's Plovers. Further on, a single Three-banded Plover was a welcome addition to the list. At Ifaty saltpans, we made a long stop, getting great views of a variety of waders, but not the much-desired Madagascar Plover. Around mid-morning, we entered the spiny forest at Ifaty. In a short space of time, our guides found us Subdesert Mesite and Long-tailed Ground Roller. We returned to the saltpans in the afternoon where we eventually had great views of a couple of Madagascar Plovers. We ended the day back in the spiny forest. A pair of Sickle-billed Vangas at a nest was the undoubted highlight, but a pair of Madagascar Cuckooshrikes and several Crested Couas were also much appreciated.

We were up early the next morning and headed back to the spiny forest. It was alive with birds, a great many of them Souimanga Sunbirds and Stripe-throated Jeries. A pair of Madagascar Paradise Flycatchers showed well, as did a pair of Madagascar Buttonquails. Our top two targets, the unique Thamnornis and the more subtle Archbold's Newtonia, both put on a great display. Another Long-tailed Ground Roller was a welcome bonus, and we marvelled at its improbably small nest burrow in the sand right next to the path. Later, we revisited the saltpans where a Madagascar Harrier-Hawk treated us to magnificent views. We also searched the mangroves nearby, which held a small number of shorebirds. In the afternoon, we returned to the spiny forest, where after a long search, we finally found a pair of obliging White-headed Vangas. A pair of Madagscar Harrier-Hawks also put on a great display for us, while several more Crested Couas showed well.



Subdesert Mesite by Nigel Redman

On our final morning, we headed first to the saltpans. Here a Humblot's Heron gave great views, perching in the top of a tree quite close to us. We then returned to the spiny forest for our fifth visit. We did well for couas seeing at least 10 of three different species, including a Red-capped on its nest. A Long-tailed Ground Roller also performed well for the photographers. There were not many new birds, but Madagascar Cuckoo-

Hawk, Madagascar Spinetail and Madagascar Turtle Dove were all new for the trip for most. We also had great views of both Common and Archbold's Newtonias, as well as a final look at a Sickle-billed Vanga on its nest. Leaving Ifaty, we headed back to Tulear, stopping at Belalanda Lake on the way. It was late morning by the time we got there, and the birding was difficult. The Greater Flamingos showed well, as did a variety of waders and ducks, but rails were less obliging. A few Malagasy Black Swifts were the only addition to the trip list. In the afternoon we flew back to Tana.



Sickle-billed Vanga by Nigel Redman

Our flight to Fort Dauphin was delayed, unsurprisingly, and we arrived there in time for a late lunch. The road to Berenty was an improvement on what it used to be, but much work is still being undertaken and so progress was slow. On arrival, we had time to settle into our rooms and photograph the lemurs before going on a short night walk in the spiny forest before dinner. The Red-and-grey Mouse Lemurs were particularly numerous and active as it was a dark night. We also found a number of more sluggish White-footed Sportive Lemurs and a Warty Chameleon. There were no birds other than a pair of roosting Madagascar Turtle Doves.

After heavy rains and deafening thunder during the night, the following morning was pleasantly dry and cool. We spent time searching for Madagascar Sandgrouse, and eventually found a flock of 19. Multiple flocks of Grey-headed Lovebirds provided some distraction. After breakfast, we found a Hook-billed Vanga outside the restaurant and our first Giant Coua nearby. In the morning we birded the spiny forest, adding Madagascar Cuckoo and Torotoroka Scops Owl to the list. It was also good for reptiles and we saw various lizards, chameleons and snakes, as well as several spider tortoises. Later, we ventured into the gallery forest, finding an obliging White-browed Owl. We returned to the gallery forest in the afternoon. Once again, the lemurs performed superbly, with Verreaux's Sifakas dancing across the tracks and giving fabulous views. Hundreds of Madagascar Flying Foxes were flying round and round over the forest, and a second White-browed Owl announced its presence. In the evening a short night walk in the gallery forest produced several Grey Mouse Lemurs and another White-browed Owl.



Giant Coua by Armin Schneider

We visited another area of spiny forest on our last morning at Berenty, where a Hook-billed Vanga gave brilliant views, as well as a variety of the usual dry-country birds. Later we ventured into a different section of gallery forest where we finally got to grips with a pair of Frances's Sparrowhawks. But there was little new to see and we returned to the lodge at Berenty by late morning. In the afternoon, the weather clouded over, the wind blew strongly, and the rain poured down. It was time to leave and we headed back to Fort Dauphin. At the hotel there, we found a few Malagasy Palm Swifts braving the squally weather, and two Kelp Gulls flew over to roost.



Ring-tailed Lemur by Andreas Deissner

An early start saw us driving into the foothills to Andohahela NP. The area of the park we were visiting was Manangotry. Unfortunately, the heavy rains of the previous day and the constant early morning drizzle had turned parts of the road into a mudbath. We persevered and after two hours had reached the point at which we continued on foot. An hour's walk took us in to the forest. The light inside the forest was poor, the drizzle persisted, the path was treacherous and slippery, and there were numerous leeches to contend with. Nevertheless, we carried on, and fairly quickly found a pair of Red-tailed Newtonias, our target species with a very patchy distribution in Madagascar. In the same area, we also found some Madagascar Blue Pigeons and had brief views of two Red-collared Lemurs. We retreated quickly and headed back to Fort Dauphin for lunch. In the afternoon, we flew back to Tana.

It was a long drive to Andasibe, partly due to roadworks, but also heavy traffic. We made two stops, one for several Hamerkops and Malagasy Kingfisher, and the other at the Mangoro River. At the latter, a pair of Madagascar Swamp Warblers performed superbly for us. At our well-appointed lodge at Andasibe, we were soon watching Brown Lemurs at close range and a variety of new birds. In the forest in the afternoon, we managed to see Madagascar Wood Rail, Nuthatch Vanga, Blue Coua, Rainforest Scops Owl and Madagascar Owl, all in quick succession. A non-vocal family of Indris provided the non-avian interest, giving us great views as they quietly fed in the lower canopy.



Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher by Armin Schneider

The whole of the following day was spent in Mantadia NP. We started early,

stopping for a Rand's Warbler on the way, until we reached the rainforest proper. We quickly found an incredibly obliging Pitta-like Ground Roller which posed for us for ages. Further on, a pair of Madagascar Pygmy Kingfishers eventually showed well to everyone. On the river trail, Madagascar Ibises showed three times, but each time the views were brief. It took time to track down the Short-legged Ground Rollers, but one posed well for us in the end. Scaly Ground Roller was more troublesome. Having located one bird, it showed only to the leaders before disappearing. During the rest of the day, other good birds included Red-fronted Coua, Madagascar Starling, Greater Vasa Parrot and Red-tailed Vanga. On our way back, we made a successful stop for a pair of Madagascar Rails which showed several times to everyone. Mammals were also good too, and we added Lowland Streaked Tenrec, Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur and Diademed Sifaka to the list.



Madagascar Rail by Duane Morse

Our first morning in Analamazaotra NP was largely devoted to searching for Rufous-headed Ground Roller, and after a short search in prime habitat we all managed to see this fabulous species. On the way, a male Velvet Asity performed at length and at close range. Other good birds during the morning included an early-migrant Eleonora's Falcon, White-throated Oxylabes, Long-billed Bernieria, Spectacled Tetraka, a superb Collared Nightjar at day roost, Red-breasted Coua, and a pair of Henst's Goshawks at a nest. A fly-over Cuckoo-roller was a disappointing view for such a special bird. Back at the lodge, a family of White-throated Rails provided entertainment below the restaurant. The afternoon was predictably quiet, but a pair of Ward's Flycatchers was a welcome addition to the list. A night walk at the Community Park was incredibly productive, with four new species of nocturnal lemur, three new chameleons, a couple of bright-eyed frogs and two wacky leaf-tailed geckos.



Henst's Goshawk by Armin Schneider

For our final full day, we visited Iaroka Forest. Some of the group headed down into the lush riverine forest while others stayed on the ridge. In the early morning, we easily found Cryptic Warblers and Dark Newtonias, alongside more common species. In the mossy forest we added Forest Rock Thrush, a pair of superb Common Sunbird-Asities, several Velvet Asities, and an obliging Madagascar Cuckoo-Hawk which showed really well for us. We also finally caught up with Madagascar Blue and Tylas Vangas. The ultra-elusive

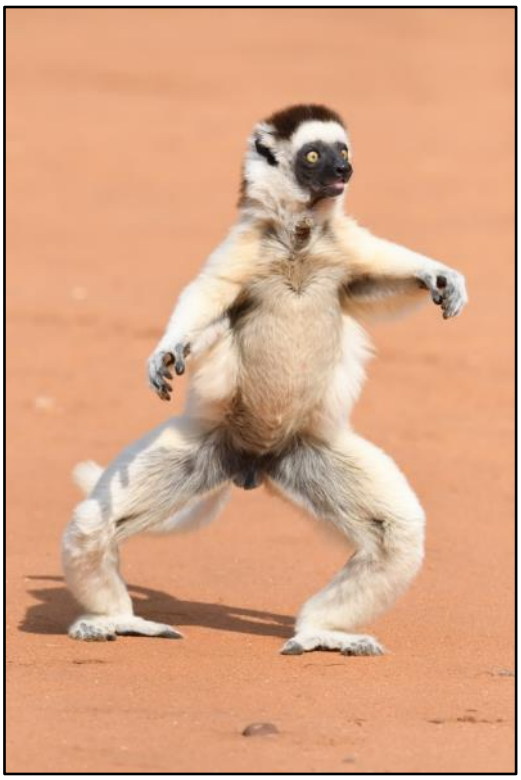
Brown Emutail put in a couple of appearances, albeit typically brief. Later, Forest Fody and Malagasy Green Subird were also seen well, while the final birds of the day were a few Madagascar Green Pigeons close to the lodge.



Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher by John Bjorkman

On our last morning at Andasibe, we revisited the Community Reserve. Here, we had our best view of a Madagascar Ibis, perched at length high in a big tree. Two pairs of Madagascar Wood Rails were also seen well, as well as a few Spectacled Tetrakas, including one on a nest. A small flock comprised several Red-tailed Vangas and a couple of Blue Vangas, while Forest Fody and Malagasy Green Sunbird were catch-ups for some. The only new bird for the trip was a Madagascar Sparrowhawk which soared low overhead. In the afternoon we returned to Tana, enduring a gruelling six-hour ride thanks to heavy traffic and many roadworks. Our two-week tour had proved to be a great success, once again, with a high proportion of the endemics and many wonderful lemurs and chameleons.

Acknowledgements



Verreaux's Sifaka by Armin Schneider

Armin Schneider, Andreas Deissner, John Bjorkman and Duane Morse kindly provided the images for this report, all taken during the tour. Special thanks to our wonderful guide, Jean Tsimihampy, who accompanied us for the entire journey, and to our dedicated local guides, especially Mosa, Benoit and Patrice, without whom we would have seen far fewer of the most special birds. Thanks also to our many drivers, who got us to all the places that we wanted to go to, and safely.

Bird of the Trip (as voted by the tour participants):

1. Pitta-like Ground Roller (23 votes)
2. Subdesert Mesite (16 votes)
3. Madagascar Ibis (11 votes)
4. Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher (10 votes)
5. Sickle-billed Vanga (9 votes)

Annotated List of species recorded

Note: The number in brackets at the beginning of each species entry indicates the number of days on the tour that the species was recorded.

Birds (151 species seen)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follow Gill F., Donsker, D. & Rasmussen, P. (eds). 2023. IOC World Bird List (v13.1). doi: 10.14344/IOC.ML.13.1.

Abbreviations: **NP** = National Park; **SR** = Special Reserve.

IUCN codes: CR = Critically Endangered, **EN** = Endangered, **VU** = Vulnerable, **NT** = Near Threatened, **DD** = Data Deficient

Visited Locations:

Antananarivo: Alarobia Lake

Tuléar (Toliara): Nose Ve; Anakao; La Table; Belalanda Lake; Ifaty saltpans; Tsingoritelo mangroves; Ifaty spiny forest (Parc Mosa)

Fort Dauphin (Tolagnaro): Berenty Reserve; Manangotry (Andohahela NP)

Andasibe (Perinet): Feon'ny Ala, Analamazoatra SR; VOI MMA Community Reserve; Mantadia NP; Iaroka Forest

Ducks, Geese and Swans *Anatidae*

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata*

(2) At least 200 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10 and 50 Belalanda Lake 22.10.

Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*

(1) 2 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10.

Blue-billed Teal *Spatula hottentota*

(1) About 20 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10.

Meller's Duck (EN) *Anas melleri*

(1) 4 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10.

Red-billed Teal *Anas erythrorhyncha*

(4) At least 1000 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 7 Belalanda Lake 20.10, 50 Belalanda Lake 22.10 and 20 Analamazoatra SR 30.10.

Guineafowl *Numididae*

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris mitratus*

(2) 50 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 3 Berenty Reserve 25.10.

Nightjars *Caprimulgidae*

Collared Nightjar *Gactornis enarratus*

(1) 1 at day roost Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Madagascar Nightjar *Caprimulgus madagascariensis madagascariensis*

(10) 1 heard Tuléar 18.10, 3 Anakao 19.10, up to 3 Ifaty 20–22.10, 1 heard Antananarivo 22.10, up to 3 Berenty Reserve 23–24.10, 1 Antananarivo 26.10, 1 heard Antananarivo 27.10 and 1 heard Analamazoatra SR 28.10.

Swifts *Apodidae*

Madagascar Spinetail *Zoonavena grandidieri grandidieri*

(4) 2 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 1 Ifaty 22.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10 and 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Malagasy Palm Swift *Cypsiurus gracilis gracilis*

(4) 2 La Table 18.10, 2 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 10 Fort Dauphin 25.10 and 6 Fort Dauphin 26.10.

Alpine Swift *Tachymarptis melba willsi*

(1) 3 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Malagasy Black Swift *Apus balstoni balstoni*

(5) 4 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 27.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 4 Analamazoatra SR 31.10.

Cuckoos *Cuculidae*

Malagasy Coucal *Centropus toulou toulou*

(13) Singles or pairs seen or heard almost every day.

Crested Coua *Coua cristata*

(6) Up to 4 Ifaty 20–22.10 and up to 10 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10.

Verreaux's Coua *Coua verreauxi*

(2) 2 La Table 18.10 and 3 La Table 19.10.

Blue Coua *Coua caerulea*

(4) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 30.10, 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10 and 5 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Red-capped Coua *Coua ruficeps*

(5) 2 La Table 18–19.10, and sinngles Ifaty 20–22.10, including one on a nest on 22.10.

Red-fronted Coua *Coua reynaudii*

(2) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10 and 2 heard Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Running Coua *Coua cursor*

(5) 1 heard La Table 18.10, 1 La Table 19.10, 1 heard Ifaty 20.10, 4 Ifaty 22.10 and 1 heard Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Giant Coua *Coua gigas*

(2) 6 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 3 Berenty Reserve 25.10.

Red-breasted Coua *Coua serriana*

(1) 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Madagascar Cuckoo *Cuculus rochii*

(9) Frequently heard throughout, and several birds were seen at Berenty Reserve 24–25.10.

Mesites *Mesitornithidae*

Subdesert Mesite (VU) *Monias benschi*

(1) 1 Ifaty 20.10.

Sandgrouse *Pteroclidae*

Madagascar Sandgrouse *Pterocles personatus*

(1) 19 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Pigeons and Doves *Columbidae*

Rock Dove *Columba livia domestica*

(8) Regular sightings in towns and villages.

Malagasy Turtle Dove *Nesoenas picturatus picturatus*

(8) Up to 2 Ifaty 20–22.10, up to 8 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis aliena*

(8) 15 La Table 18.10, 10 La Table 19.10, 2 Anakao 19.10, up to 10 Ifaty 20–22.10, 5 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 6 Berenty Reserve 24–25.10 and 2 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10.

Madagascar Green Pigeon *Treron australis*

(2) 3 VOI MMA Community Reserve 30.10 and 4 Analamazoatra SR 31.10.

Madagascar Blue Pigeon *Alectroenas madagascariensis*

(6) 3 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10, up to 5 Analamazoatra SR 27–31.10 and 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Flufftails and allies *Sarothruridae*

Madagascar Wood Rail *Mentocrex kioloides*

(3) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10, 2 heard Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 4 seen VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Madagascar Flufftail *Sarothrura insularis*

(3) 1 heard Mantadia NP 28.10, 2+1 heard Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 1 heard VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Rails, Crakes and Coots *Rallidae*

Madagascar Rail (VU) *Rallus madagascariensis*

(1) 2 seen well Mantadia NP 28.10.

White-throated Rail *Dryolimnas cuvieri cuvieri*

(6) 2 heard Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 2 heard Belalanda Lake 20.10, 1 heard Belalanda Lake 22.10 and a family party of 5 seen at Feon'ny Ala 29–31.10.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus pyrrhorrhoa*

(2) 10 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10 and 4 Mantadia NP 28.10.

Baillon's Crake *Zapornia pusilla intermedia*

(2) 2 Belalanda Lake 20.10 and 2 Belalanda Lake 22.10.

Flamingos *Phoenicopteridae*

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus*

(2) About 25 Belalanda Lake 20.10 and 32 Belalanda Lake 22.10.

Buttonquails *Turnicidae*

Madagascar Buttonquail *Turnix nigricollis*

(5) 1 Anakao 19.10, 2 Ifaty 21.10, 1 Ifaty 22.10, 2 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 1 Berenty Reserve 25.10.

Stilts and Avocets *Recurvirostridae*

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

(3) About 40 Belalanda Lake 20.10, 6 Ifaty saltpans 21.10 and 20 Belalanda Lake 22.10.

Plovers *Charadriidae*

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola squatarola*

(2) 10 Nosy Ve 19.10 and 20 Tsingoritelo mangroves 21.10.

Madagascar Plover (VU) *Charadrius thoracicus*

(1) 2 Ifaty saltpans 20.10.

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius*

(3) About 40 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 6 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 10 Belalanda Lake 20.10 and 20 Belalanda Lake 22.10.

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris bifrontatus*

(1) 1 Ifaty saltpans 20.10.

White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus tenellus*

(3) 4 Nosy Ve 19.10, 2 Ifaty saltpans 20.10 and 1 Ifaty saltpans 21.10.

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii scythicus*

(1) 1 Tsingoritelo mangroves 21.10.

Painted-snipes *Rostratulidae*

Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula benghalensis*

(1) 2 Belalanda Lake 20.10.

Sandpipers, Snipes and allies *Scolopacidae*

Eurasian Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

(4) About 200 Tuléar 19.10, 5 Nosy Ve 19.10, 10 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 20 Tsingoritelo mangroves 21.10 and 4 Ifaty 22.10.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres interpres*

(3) 12 Nosy Ve 19.10 and 20 Ifaty saltpans 20–21.10.

Curlew Sandpiper (NT) *Calidris ferruginea*

(3) 10 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 40 Ifaty saltpans 21.10 and 2 Belalanda Lake 22.10.

Sanderling *Calidris alba alba*

(2) 12 Nosy Ve 19.10 and 6 Tsingoritelo mangroves 21.10.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

(3) 1 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 1 Tsingoritelo mangroves 21.10 and 3 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

(4) 2 Tuléar 19.10, 6 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 10 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 10 Tsingoritelo mangroves 21.10 and 20 Belalanda Lake 22.10.

Crab-plover *Dromadidae*

Crab-plover *Dromas ardeola*

(1) 9 Nosy Ve 19.10.

Gulls, Terns and Skimmers *Laridae*

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus melisandae*

(2) 2 Fort Dauphin 25.10 and 2 Fort Dauphin 26.10.

Lesser Crested Tern *Thalasseus bengalensis bengalensis*

(1) 5 Nosy Ve 19.10.

Tropicbirds *Phaethontidae*

Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda rubricauda*

(1) 6 Nosy Ve 19.10.

Ibises and Spoonbills *Threskiornithidae*

Madagascar Ibis (NT) *Lophotibis cristata*

(4) 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Herons and Bitterns *Ardeidae*

Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus podiceps*

(1) 1 Belalanda Lake 20.10.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*

(3) At least 100 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 1 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata rutenbergi*

(4) 1 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 1 Ifaty saltpans 22.10, 1 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10 and 1 Feon'ny Ala 28.10.

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*

(4) At least 200 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 1 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 1 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10 and 1 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10.

Malagasy Pond Heron (EN) *Ardeola idae*

(1) 2 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

(7) Many at Alarobia lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 2 Belalanda Lake 20.10, 30 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 10 Fort Dauphin 25.10, 30 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10 and 2 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea firasa*

(3) 1 Nosy Ve 19.10, 1 Ifaty saltpans 20.10 and 1 Ifaty saltpans 21.10.

Humblot's Heron (EN) *Ardea humbloti*

(1) 1 Ifaty saltpans 22.10.

Great Egret *Ardea alba melanorhynchos*

(5) 6 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, up to 2 Ifaty saltpans 20–22.10 and 6 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10.

Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca*

(3) At least 50 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 1 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10 and 1 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10.

Dimorphic Egret *Egretta dimorpha*

(10) At least 100 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 30 Nosy Ve 19.10, up to 20 Ifaty saltpans 20–22.10, 10 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 2 en route from Fort Dauphin to Berenty 23.10, many Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10, 1 Feon'ny Ala 29–30.10, and 10 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Hamerkop *Scopidae*

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta umbretta*

(2) 5 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10 and 1 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Kites, Hawks and Eagles *Accipitridae*

Madagascar Harrier-Hawk *Polyboroides radiatus*

(5) 1 Ifaty 20.10, 2 Ifaty 21.10, 1 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 1 Analamazoatra SR 30.10.

[Madagascar Serpent Eagle (EN) *Eutriorchis astur*]

(1) 1 distant bird at Iaroka Forest 30.10 was tentatively identifed as this species, but not confirmed.

Madagascar Cuckoo-Hawk *Aviceda madagascariensis*

(2) 1 Ifaty 22.10, 1 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Frances's Sparrowhawk *Accipiter francesiae francesiae*

(2) 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 2 Berenty Reserve 25.10.

Madagascar Sparrowhawk (NT) *Accipiter madagascariensis*

(1) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Henst's Goshawk (VU) *Accipiter henstii*

(2) 1 heard Mantadia NP 28.10 and 2 seen at a nest Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius parasitus*

(10) 2 Tuléar 18.10, 1 Tuléar 19.10, 2 Ifaty 20.10, 1 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 1 Ifaty saltpans 22.10, up to 20 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10, 4 Fort Dauphin 26.10 and 1 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10.

Madagascar Buzzard *Buteo brachypterus*

(3) 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 1 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Barn Owls *Tytonidae*

Western Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

(1) 2 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Owls *Strigidae*

White-browed Owl *Athene superciliaris*

(1) 3 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Torotoroka Scops Owl *Otus madagascariensis*

(1) 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Rainforest Scops Owl *Otus rutilus*

(1) 1 Analamazoatra SR 27.10.

Madagascar Owl *Asio madagascariensis*

(1) 1 Analamazoatra SR 27.10.

Cuckoo-roller *Leptosomidae*

Cuckoo-roller *Leptosomus discolor discolor*

(2) 2 heard Mantadia NP 28.10 and 1 seen Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Hoopoes *Upupidae*

Madagascar Hoopoe *Upupa marginata*

(6) 1 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 2 Anakao 19.10, 2 Ifaty 21.10, 2 Ifaty 22.10, 3 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 2 Berenty Reserve 25.10.

Rollers *Coraciidae*

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus glaucurus*

(6) 1 La Table 18.10, 6 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 2 Berenty Reserve 25.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Ground Rollers *Brachypteraciidae*

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

(1) 2 Mantadia NP 28.10.

Scaly Ground Roller (VU) *Geobiastes squamiger*

(1) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10.

Pitta-like Ground Roller *Atelornis pittoides*

(1) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10.

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

(2) 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 2 heard Iaroka Forest 30.10.

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

(3) Up to 2 Ifaty 20–22.10.

Kingfishers *Alcedinidae*

Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher *Corythornis madagascariensis*

(1) 2 Mantadia NP 28.10.

Malagasy Kingfisher *Corythornis vintsioides vintsioides*

(4) 1 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 22.10, 2 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10, 1 Feon'ny Ala 29.10 and 31.10, and 1 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Bee-eaters *Meropidae*

Olive Bee-eater *Merops superciliosus superciliosus*

(8) 6 La Table 18–19.10, 2 Anakao 19.10, 4 Ifaty 20.10, 2 Ifaty 21.10, 4 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 2 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10 and 1 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Falcons *Falconidae*

Malagasy Kestrel *Falco newtoni newtoni*

(11) 2 La Table 18.10, 1 La Table 19.10, 1 Tuléar 19.10, up to 3 Ifaty 20–22.10, 1 Berenty Reserve 23.10, 8 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 2 Fort Dauphin 25.10, 3 Fort Dauphin 26.10, 1 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10 and 1 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Eleonora's Falcon *Falco eleonorae*

(1) 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Old World Parrots *Psittaculidae*

Greater Vasa Parrot *Coracopsis vasa*

(1) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10.

Lesser Vasa Parrot *Coracopsis nigra*

(11) Up to 5 Ifaty 20–22.10, up to 2 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10, 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 3 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Grey-headed Lovebird *Agapornis canus*

(4) 2 Belalanda Lake 20.10, 2 Ifaty 20–21.10, at least 50 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 10 Berenty Reserve 25.10.

Asities *Philepittidae*

Velvet Asity *Philepitta castanea*

(2) 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 4 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Common Sunbird-Asity *Neodrepanis coruscans*

(1) 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Vangas and Allies *Vangidae*

Red-tailed Vanga *Calicalicus madagascariensis*

(3) 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 4 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Red-shouldered Vanga (VU) *Calicalicus rufocarpalis*

(1) 1 La Table 18.10.

Hook-billed Vanga *Vanga curvirostris*

(3) 1+1 heard Berenty Reserve 24.10, 2 Berenty Reserve 25.10 and 1 Analamazoatra SR 30.10.

Lafresnaye's Vanga (NT) *Xenopirostris xenopirostris*

(1) 1 seen briefly La Table 19.10.

Sickle-billed Vanga *Falculea palliata*

(3) Up to 2 at a nest Ifaty 20–22.10.

White-headed Vanga *Artamella viridis*

(2) 2 Ifaty 21.10 and 1 heard VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Chabert Vanga *Leptopterus chabert*

(8) 6 La Table 18.10, 4 La Table 19.10, 1 Ifaty 21.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 27.10, 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, up to 2 Analamazoatra SR 29–31.10 and 1 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Madagascar Blue Vanga *Cyanolanius madagascarinus*

(2) 3 Iaroka Forest 30.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 30.10 and 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Tylas Vanga *Tylas eduardi*

(3) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 3 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Nuthatch Vanga *Hypositta corallirostris*

(1) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10.

Dark Newtonia *Newtonia amphichroa*

(1) 4 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Common Newtonia *Newtonia brunneicauda*

(7) 1 La Table 18.10, 1 Ifaty 22.10, 2 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, 3 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 10 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 3 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Archbold's Newtonia *Newtonia archboldi*

(2) 2 Ifaty 21.10 and 2 Ifaty 22.10.

Red-tailed Newtonia (VU) *Newtonia fanovanae*

(1) 2 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10.

Ward's Flycatcher *Pseudobias wardi*

(2) 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 30.10.

Cuckooshrikes *Campephagidae*

Madagascar Cuckooshrike *Ceblepyris cinereus*

(5) 2 Ifaty 20.10, 1 Ifaty 21.10, 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 4 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Drongos *Dicruridae*

Crested Drongo *Dicrurus forficatus forficatus*

(13) Singles or pairs seen almost every day, with a maximum count of 10 on 25.10.

Monarchs *Monarchidae*

Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone mutata mutata*

(8) 2 Ifaty 21.10, 8 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 6 Berenty Reserve 25.10, 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10, 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, 4 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 4 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Crows and Jays *Corvidae*

Pied Crow *Corvus albus*

(10) 2 La Table 18–19.10, 2 Nosy Ve 19.10, 10 Ifaty 20.10, 20 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 6 Ifaty 22.10, 20 en route from Fort Dauphin to Berenty 23.10, 30 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 20 Berenty Reserve 25.10, 20 Fort Dauphin 26.10 and 6 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10.

Larks *Alaudidae*

Madagascar Lark *Eremopterix hova*

(6) 1 La Table 18.10, 8 La Table 19.10, 4 Anakao 19.10, 2 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 2 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 4 Belalanda Lake 22.10 and 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Bulbuls *Pycnonotidae*

Malagasy Bulbul *Hypsipetes madagascariensis madagascariensis*

(14) Seen every day, usually singly or in pairs, and particularly common in the Andasibe area.

Swallows and Martins *Hirundinidae*

Mascarene Martin *Phedina borbonica madagascariensis*

(9) 10 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 2 Ifaty 21.10, 1 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 15 Antananarivo 23.10, 10 Antananarivo 26.10, 2 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10, 10 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 5 Analamazoatra SR 31.10.

Brown-throated Martin *Riparia paludicola cowani*

(1) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10.

Reed Warblers and allies *Acrocephalidae*

Malagasy Brush Warbler *Nesillas typica*

(6) 2 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 1 heard VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 4 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 6 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Subdesert Brush Warbler *Nesillas lantzii*

(3) 10 Anakao 19.10, 1 Ifaty 21.10 and 1 heard Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Madagascar Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus newtoni*

(2) 1 Belalanda Lake 22.10 and 2 at the Mangoro River, between Antananarivo and Andasibe 27.10.

Grassbirds and allies *Locustellidae*

Brown Emutail *Bradypterus brunneus*

(1) 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Tetrakas and allies *Bernieridae*

White-throated Oxylabes *Oxylabes madagascariensis*

(1) 3 Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Long-billed Bernieria (Tetraka) *Bernieria madagascariensis*

(3) 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 3 Analamazoatra SR 30.10 and 1 heard VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Cryptic Warbler *Cryptosylvicola randrianasoloi*

(1) 10 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Thamnornis *Thamnornis chloropetoides*

(2) 1 heard Ifaty 20.10 and 1 seen well Ifaty 21.10.

Spectacled Tetraka *Xanthomixis zosterops*

(3) 4 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 30.10 and 4 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Rand's Warbler *Randia pseudozosterops*

(1) 1 Feon'ny Ala 28.10 and 1 Mantadia NP 28.10.

Cisticolas and allies *Cisticolidae*

Common Jery *Neomixis tenella*

(11) 2 La Table 18.10, 2 Tuléar 19.10, 2 Tuléar 20.10, 2 Ifaty 21.10, 1 Tuléar 22.10, 3 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 2 Fort Dauphin 25.10, many en route to Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 8 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 2 Analamazoatra SR 31.10.

Green Jery *Neomixis viridis*

(5) Up to 6 Analamazoatra SR 27–29.10, 4 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 2 Analamazoatra SR 31.10.

Stripe-throated Jery *Neomixis striatigula*

(11) 2 La Table 18.10, 2 La Table 19.10, up to 30 Ifaty 20–22.10, 6 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 4 Berenty Reserve 25.10, 6 Mantadia NP 28.10, 6 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 2 Analamazoatra SR 31.10.

Madagascar Cisticola *Cisticola cherina*

(7) 10 Nosy Ve 19.10, 20 Belalanda Lake 20.10, 10 Ifaty saltpans 21.10, 20 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 2 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 6 Berenty Reserve 25.10 and 4 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10.

White-eyes *Zosteropidae*

Malagasy White-eye *Zosterops maderaspatanus maderaspatanus*

(8) 2 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 12 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 1 Berenty Reserve 25.10, 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10, 6 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 4 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Starlings *Sturnidae*

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis tristis*

(13) Very common throughout except in the Andasibe area.

Madagascar Starling *Hartlaubius auratus*

(3) 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 4 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Chats and Old World Flycatchers *Muscicapidae*

Madagascar Magpie-Robin *Copsychus albospecularis*

(8) 4 La Table 18.10, 1 Ifaty 20.10, 6 Ifaty 21.10, 6 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 10 Berenty Reserve 25.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 27.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10 and 1 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Littoral Rock Thrush *Monticola imerina*

(1) 2 Anakao 19.10.

Forest Rock Thrush *Monticola sharpei*

(1) 1 male Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Madagascar Stonechat *Saxicola sibilla*

(7) 1 Belalanda Lake 22.10, 3 Antananarivo 23.10, 1 Fort Dauphin 26.10, 2 Antananarivo 27.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 8 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Sunbirds *Nectariniidae*

Souimanga Sunbird *Cinnyris sovimanga*

(12) 1 La Table 18.10, up to 50 Ifaty 20–22.10, 6 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 8 Berenty Reserve 25.10, 6 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10, 10 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10, 15 Mantadia NP 28.10, 6 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 10 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 10 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Malagasy Green Sunbird *Cinnyris notatus notatus*

(4) 1 Ifaty 21.10, 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10, 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Weavers *Ploceidae*

Nelicourvi Weaver *Ploceus nelicourvi*

(5) 4 Analamazoatra SR 27.10, 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, 6 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 30.10 and 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Sakalava Weaver *Ploceus sakalava*

(8) 4 La Table 18.10, 6 La Table 19.10, 20 Anakao 19.10, up to 20 Ifaty 20–22.10, 10 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 2 Berenty Reserve 25.10 and 1 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10.

Red Fody *Foudia madagascariensis*

(9) 6 Alarobia Lake, Antananarivo 18.10, 2 Tuléar 19–20.10, 6 Antananarivo 23.10, 1 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10, 8 Antananarivo 27.10, 4 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Forest Fody *Foudia omissa*

(2) 3+2 heard Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Waxbills, Munias and allies *Estrildidae*

Madagascar Mannikin *Lepidopygia nana*

(7) 2 Tuléar 19.10, 15 Ifaty saltpans 20.10, 2 Antananarivo 23.10, 2 Antananarivo 27.10, 3 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 30.10.

Wagtails and Pipits *Motacillidae*

Madagascar Wagtail *Motacilla flaviventris*

(7) 1 Antananarivo 18.10, 2 Antananarivo 23.10, 8 Antananarivo to Andasibe 27.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 27.10, 6 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10, 3 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 6 Andasibe to Antananarivo 31.10.

Mammals (21 species seen)

Tenrecs *Tenrecidae*

Lowland Streaked Tenrec *Hemicentetes semispinosus*

(3) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10, 1 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Rorquals *Balaenopteridae*

Humpback Whale *Megaptera novaeangliae*

(1) 3 Nosy Ve 19.10.

Old World Fruit Bats *Pteropodidae*

Madagascan Flying Fox (VU) *Pteropus rufus*

(1) Several hundred at Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Dwarf and Mouse Lemurs *Cheirogaleidae*

Crossley's Dwarf Lemur (VU) *Cheirogaleus crossleyi*

(1) 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10.

Red-and-grey (Grey-brown) Mouse Lemur *Microcebus griseorufus*

(2) 12 Berenty Reserve 23.10 and 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Goodman's Mouse Lemur (NT) *Microcebus lehilahytsara*

(1) 3 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10.

Grey Mouse Lemur *Microcebus murinus*

(1) 3 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Sportive Lemurs *Lepilemuridae*

White-footed Sportive Lemur (EN) *Lepilemur leucopus*

(3) Up to 10 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10.

Common Sportive Lemur (VU) *Lepilemur mustelinus*

(1) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10.

Petter's Sportive Lemur (EN) *Lepilemur petteri*

(1) 1 Ifaty 20.10.

Lemurs *Lemuridae*

Red-collared Lemur (EN) *Eulemur collaris*

(1) 2 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10.

Brown Lemur (VU) *Eulemur fulvus*

(4) 10 Analamazoatra SR 27.10, 2 Mantadia NP 28.10, 15 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 10 Analamazoatra SR 30.10.

Red-fronted Lemur (VU) *Eulemur rufus*

(2) 20 Berenty Reserve 24.10 and 5 Berenty Reserve 25.10.

Eastern Bamboo Lemur (VU) *Hapalemur griseus*

(2) 8 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 2 Analamazoatra SR 30.10.

Ring-tailed Lemur (EN) *Lemur catta*

(3) Up to 50 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10.

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

(1) 5+2 heard Mantadia NP 28.10.

Indrid Lemurs and Sifakas *Indriidae*

Eastern Woolly Lemur (VU) *Avahi laniger*

(1) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10.

Indri (CR) *Indri indri*

(5) 4 seen VOI MMA Community Reserve 27.10 and 4 seen Analamazoatra SR 30.10. Also heard daily at Mantadia NP, Analamazoatra SR, Iaroka Forest and VOI MMA Community Reserve 28–31.10.

Diademed Sifaka (CR) *Propithecus diadema*

(3) 4 Mantadia NP 28.10, 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10 and 4 Analamazoatra SR 30.10.

Verreaux's Sifaka (CR) *Propithecus verreauxi*

(3) Up to 30 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10.

Malagasy Rats and Mice *Nesomyidae*

Eastern Red Forest Rat *Nesomys rufus*

(1) 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Reptiles (21 species seen)

Tortoises *Testudinidae*

Southern Spider Tortoise (CR) *Pyxis arachnoides*

(1) 4 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Chameleons *Chamaeleonidae*

Brown Leaf (Stump-tailed) Chameleon *Brookesia superciliaris*

(1) 3 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10.

Short-horned Chameleon *Calumma brevicorne*

(2) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Nose-horned Chameleon *Calumma nasutum*

(1) 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10.

Parson's Chameleon (NT) *Calumma parsonii*

(2) 1 Iaroka Forest 30.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Labord's Chameleon *Furcifer labordi*

(1) 1 Ifaty 22.10.

Carpet (Jewelled) Chameleon *Furcifer lateralis*

(1) 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Warty Chameleon *Furcifer verrucosus*

(3) Up to 5 Berenty Reserve 23–25.10.

Madagascan Iguanas *Opluridae*

Madagascar Iguana (Three-eyed Lizard) *Chalarodon madagascariensis*

(6) 1 Anakao 19.10, up to 10 Ifaty 20–22.10, and 6 Berenty Reserve 24–25.10.

Merrem's Madagascar Swift *Oplurus cyclurus*

(1) 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Geckos *Gekkonidae*

Common House Gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus*

(2) 1 Ifaty 20.10 and 1 Antananarivo 26.10.

Southern Dwarf Gecko *Lygodactylus tuberosus*

(1) 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Striped Day Gecko *Phelsuma lineata*

(4) 1 Mantadia NP 28.10 and 1 each day Analamazoatra SR 29–31.10.

Modest Day Gecko *Phelsuma modesta*

(1) 4 Fort Dauphin 26.10.

Thicktail Day Gecko *Phelsuma mutabilis*

(1) 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Standing's Day Gecko (VU) *Phelsuma standingi*

(1) 2 Ifaty 20.10.

Southern Flat-tail (Mossy Leaf-tailed) Gecko *Uroplatus sikorae sikorae*

(1) 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10.

Plated Lizards *Gerrhosauridae*

Madagascar Girdled Lizard *Zonosaurus madagascariensis madagascariensis*

(2) 2 Mantadia NP 28.10 and 1 VOI MMA Community Reserve 31.10.

Skinks *Scincidae*

Gravenhorst's Skink *Trachylepis gravenhorstii*

(1) 2 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

Lamprophiid Snakes *Lamprophiidae*

Lateral Water Snake *Thamnosophis lateralis*

(3) 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10, 1 Manangotry (Andohahela NP) 26.10 and 2 Analamazoatra SR 29.10.

Sand Snakes *Psammophiidae*

Mahafaly Sand Snake *Mimophis mahfalensis*

(3) 1 Ifaty 20.10, 1 Belalanda Lake 22.10 and 1 Berenty Reserve 24.10.

Amphibians (2 species seen)

Mantellas *Mantellidae*

Madagascar Bright-eyed Frog *Boophis madagascariensis*

(2) 2 VOI MMA Community Reserve 29.10 and 1 Analamazoatra SR 30.10.

Analamazaotra Madagascar Frog *Spinomantis aglavei*

(1) 1 Iaroka Forest 30.10.

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