

# **BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB OF AUSTRALIA**

## **PEREGRINE BIRD TOURS**

### **MADAGASCAR**

18 JUNE – 11 JULY 2004

### **TOUR REPORT**

**LEADER:** CHRIS DOUGHTY

Our 2004 Madagascar tour was a great success, producing many of the most south-after specialties, including three species of ground-rollers all 11 species of couas, four species of owls and 12 species of vangas, including the recently described Red-shouldered Vanga. We also did very well for mammals observing Ring-tailed Mongoose, Fanaloka and no less than 14 species of delightful Lemurs.

We began the trip by driving east from Antananarivo to the rainforests of Perinet Reserve and Mantadia National Park. On the way, a brief roadside stop produced great scope views of a Madagascar Green-Pigeon, a species which proved to be rather scarce. Perinet is well known as the home of the Indri, the largest of all the lemurs, whose call is ear-splitting at close range, as we were to discover for ourselves. Perinet also produced great looks at the Common Brown Lemur and the nocturnal Greater Dwarf Lemur, as well as a variety of chameleons and the amazing Satanic Leaf-tailed Gecko. Rainforest birding is not easy; however, we enjoyed great looks at an adult Madagascar Little Grebe on a small lake, surrounded by a sea of mud! It was here that we enjoyed our only sightings of Henst's Goshawk, the very uncommon, Common Sunbird-Asity, Nuthatch Vanga, Madagascar Brush Warbler and our best looks at Ward's Flycatcher. However, best of all was superb looks in the spotlight, of the very uncommon Madagascar Long-eared Owl.

An hour's flight from Antananarivo took us to the small coastal town of Toamasina, where we had a short break, before flying on to Maroantsetra in northeastern Madagascar. Toamasina just happens to be the only place in Madagascar where the House Sparrow has been introduced and this species was duly added to our list along with African Palm Swift and Madagascar Red Fody. In Maroantsetra our local guide Julian took us spotlighting after dinner. We enjoyed very close looks at a superb Brown Mouse Lemur and brilliant looks at a Madagascar Scops-Owl.

Maroantsetra is the gateway to the largest parcel of unbroken forest in Madagascar, which includes the newly created Ambanizana National Park. A three hours morning boat ride took us to our campsite on the edge of the national park, where we were to spend the next three nights. The boats always leave in the morning, before the wind

builds up and the crossing proved to be fairly comfortable, well at least no one was seasick! In the river, before entering the bay, we observed Black Egret, Purple Heron and our only sighting of Mascarene Martins for the trip. On entering the bay a Comb Duck flew by our two boats as did the only Greater Crested Tern of the tour. Out in the middle of the bay an adult Masked Booby flew close to our boats, this is only the second sighting of this species in Madagascar waters. A small pod of Common Bottlenosed Dolphins also swam around one of the boats. Unfortunately, it rained for most of the next three days. We were very fortunate, that our campsite had bungalows a dining room and a toilet. We were able to place the tents inside the bungalows, so at least we all had a roof over our heads and mosquito-free nights. All the trails were steep and muddy and the heavy rain didn't make things any easier! Birding along the beach was a much easier alternative and produced large numbers of Little Egrets and a small number of Great Egrets. A pair of Madagascar Malachite Kingfishers regularly put in an appearance and Chabert's Vangas were commonly observed in casuarinas growing alongside the beach. A short boat trip back from a distant walking trail produced a large group of Lesser Crested Terns together with a single Roseate Tern. The birding in the rainforest was difficult; however, we did enjoy good looks at Madagascar and Frances's Sparrowhawks, Madagascar Buzzard, Brown Mesite, Madagascar Wood-Rail, Madagascar Turtle-Dove, stunning views of Lesser Vasa Parrots, great looks at the range restricted Red-breasted Coua and the more widespread Red-fronted Coua. Beautiful Blue Couas and Madagascar Bulbuls were abundant and Madagascar Spinetails flew overhead. We also observed a few Long-billed Greenbuls and good numbers of Spectacled Greenbuls, we enjoyed good looks at Tylas Vanga and we played hide-and-seek with a pair of Crossley's Babblers. Common Newtonia, Madagascar Paradise-Flycatcher, Souimanga Sunbird, Madagascar White-eye, Madagascar Starling and Crested Drongo all proved to be plentiful. Mammalian highlights included Weasel Sportive Lemur, Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemur, White-fronted Lemur and the incredibly handsome Red-ruffed Lemur.

While on the beach waiting to board the boats back to Maroantsetra, we observed a distant Humpback Whale. During the boat trip we passed a small island, where there was a large colony of Madagascar Flying Foxes. We then flew from Maroantsetra to Antananarivo, where we spent the night.

The following morning we flew to Mahajanga in northwestern Madagascar, where we drove one of the best roads in the country to the Ampijoroa Forest Reserve. We broke the long drive with a birding stop at Amboromalandy Lake where we observed several Squacco and Striated Herons and a few Glossy Ibis as well as a distant Humblot's Heron. There was also a few Kittlitz's Plovers and a pair of Three-banded Plovers. Other birds included Namaqua Dove and Madagascar Bushlark. An afternoon walk in Ampijoroa Forest produced Madagascar Harrier-Hawk, Madagascar Kestrel and great looks at the very uncommon Banded Kestrel. We enjoyed super close looks at the one of the specialties of the area, the White-breasted Mesite. Other birds included Madagascar Buttonquail, Grey-headed Lovebird, Crested Coua, Ashy Cuckoo-shrike, Rufous, Sickle-billed and Blue Vangas, Madagascar Magpie-Robin, Stripe-throated Jery, Long-billed Green Sunbird and best of all a superb male Schlegel's Asity, one of the other specialties of this area. The following morning a pleasant walk in the forest enabled us to observe

an immature Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo, both Coquerel's and Red-capped Couas, great looks at the very attractive Madagascar Hoopoe and the equally attractive White-headed Vanga. However, the bird that really stole the show was a Van Dam's Vanga, yet another of the specialties of this area. We also found the lemur specialties of this area which included Grey Mouse Lemur, Milne-Edwards Sportive Lemur, Red-fronted Lemur, Western Avahi and the very handsome Coquerel's Sifaka. In the late morning we visited nearby Lake Ravelobe where we were shown a nest of the endangered Madagascar Fish-Eagle. An adult bird was incubating eggs, we enjoyed good scope views of the bird and were very pleased when the bird stood up in the nest to have a bit of a stretch, showing off its beautiful white head and tail. We also observed a couple of Darters and great looks at the endangered Madagascar Crested Ibis. In the afternoon we broke the long drive back to Mahajanga with a birding stop at a remote corner of Amboromalandy Lake. Here we added Grey Heron, White-faced Whistling-Duck, the uncommon African Pygmy-goose, Red-billed Teal, Madagascar Jacana, Whiskered Tern and Madagascar Cisticola.

The following day we took a chartered motorboat to the mudflats and mangroves along the Betsiboka Estuary, which feeds into the large bay at Mahajanga. Our main target birds were two of Madagascar's most endangered birds, the Madagascar Sacred Ibis and the Madagascar Teal. On arriving at the mudflats and mangroves we quickly managed to find several Madagascar Sacred Ibis, which only occurs in this habitat. The Madagascar Teal took a little bit longer to find but in the end we enjoyed very good close looks at a good number of this rarely seen bird, dabbling in the mud at the edge of the mangroves. Although this species of duck looks quite plain in the field guide, when close to the bird we found it to be a very attractive species. This very unusual species of duck nests in tree cavities in mangroves. At one stage it was thought that there were only 10 pairs of this species left in existence. Even now, there are probably no more than 250 pairs and unfortunately the population continues to decline. We also enjoyed watching large numbers of migratory waders feeding on the mudflats, the vast majority where Curlew Sandpipers, but scattered amongst them were a few Whimbrels and Terek Sandpipers and a solitary Greater Sandplover. Best of all however, was a flock of 19 Crab Plovers; this extraordinary species is restricted to the coasts of the Indian Ocean. Its tunnel-nesting habit, its pure white egg and its nidicolous young are unique among waders; it is little wonder that this bird is placed in a family all on its own. We then flew to Antananarivo where we spent the night.

The following day was predominantly a travel day, our bus driver was a very good, safe driver but the narrow twisting road through the hills made our progress from Antananarivo to Ranomafana National Park, very slow. The trip was greatly enlivened by the superb sighting of a Peregrine Falcon, of the black-backed local race, which flew around a small valley, not far from the bus. At the end of the long drive, the lights of the small spa town twinkled invitingly, and we settled down to some French cuisine and a couple of bottles of Three Horses beer.

Next morning together with our highly skilled local guides, we entered the forest and began searching for birds and lemurs. Birds were hard to find; however, we did find a

small mixed species feeding party, where we had quick looks at White-throated Oxylabes and Wedge-tailed and Green Jerys. We did rather better for mammals enjoying good looks at a delightful pair of Red-bellied Lemurs, a family party of Golden Bamboo Lemurs, a couple of Red-fronted Lemurs and one or two Eastern Red Forest Rats. In the afternoon we enjoyed good close looks at a stunning Ring-tailed Mongoose, which stood along the edge of the road and we were able to see it very well from the bus. At dusk we set off back into the forest to search for one of the endemic civets that occurs in Madagascar, the Fanaloka. This nocturnal carnivore comes into a feeding station in the forest, where it is fed small scraps of meat. As we were walking up the narrow trail, to our surprise we found a Pitta-like Ground-Roller feeding on the trail and we were able to see it fairly well in the torchlight. At the feeding station a young Fanaloka came in to be fed, we enjoyed superb looks at this very special mammal. On our way back down the track, we found an adult Fanoloka, which we again saw very well.

The next morning we visited Vohiparara Forest, slightly higher up the valley than Ranomafana. We walked the muddy forest trails and spent a very frustrating morning hearing and seeing very little. Chris managed to see a pair of Grey-crowned Greenbuls, during a comfort stop and unfortunately this was the only bird added during the morning walk. An afternoon visit to a nearby marsh produced good looks at the bizarre Grey Emutail, who responded well to tape. Up to three birds dipped and dived amongst the dense vegetation, occasionally clambering up a stalk to give their little rattles. Later in the afternoon we had a quick glimpse of the extremely secretive Madagascar Flufftail, who also responded to a tape.

The following morning an early start was called for in order to reach the scenic Isalo massif in good time to search for Benson's Rock-Thrush. We drove south all day, through the centre of the country, passing through panoramas of termite mounds, blue skies and red sandy roads. Most of the time we were driving through dry, grassy plains, stretching as far as the eye could see. On the way, we passed through a small town of wooden storefronts on either side of the only road, with hastily built shacks for human habitation behind the store fronts. This town of 30,000 inhabitants sprang up after the discovery of sapphires in a riverbed. The Sapphire Rush of Madagascar was on; new arrivals who had sold all their belongings in their hometowns are fair game in this lawless frontier in the middle of nowhere. Our main target bird during the drive was the Reunion Harrier, a very uncommon bird of swamps and grasslands. Early in the afternoon Pat shouted 'there's one', pointing to a bird flying over the grasslands. It actually wasn't a Reunion Harrier; it was the even less common African Marsh Owl. We all jumped out of the bus and enjoyed great looks at this very uncommon species of owl, hunting in broad daylight over the grassland. We had not been in the bus very long when Sue and Michael shouted 'there's one on the right'. Once again, the bus came to a screeching halt and we all jumped out and enjoyed great looks at an adult female Reunion Harrier quartering the grassland. We arrived at the very comfortable hotel Relais de la Reine carved out of the rock outcroppings and set about searching for the localized endemic Benson's Rock-Thrush. It did not take long for us to enjoy good scope views of both males and females of this very attractive species.

The following morning we went birding in the recently created Zombitse National Park. Here we enjoyed our first good looks at the very special Cuckoo-Roller. We also found a Giant Coua hiding in a tree, after a great deal of effort, everyone managed to see it. The main target bird here was the Appert's Greenbul; it is the only place on earth where this species occurs. We were not to be disappointed and we enjoyed good looks at several small family parties, at what is a particularly attractive greenbul. We also enjoyed very good close looks at the rarely encountered Red-tailed Sportive Lemur, sitting in a tree. We continued our drive to Toliara and booked in at our hotel.

In the morning we took a boat trip out to Nosy Ve Island to observe a breeding colony of Red-tailed Tropicbirds. We saw many breeding birds; some were sitting on eggs, while others had well grown chicks. On the beach around the island we also found small numbers of White-fronted Plover, Ruddy Turnstone and Kelp Gull. Leaving the island we traveled to the small fishing village of Anakao, where we enjoyed a delightful lunch, at an attractive holiday resort. Birding in the coral rag scrub, which surrounded the resort, was surprisingly good. Two very range restricted species occur here, the Running Coua and the Littoral Rock-Thrush. We soon encountered large numbers of Sakalava Weavers and then enjoyed great looks at several Littoral Rock-Thrushes. We enjoyed good looks at Lafresnaye's Vanga and flight views of a Verreaux's Coua. We then caught up with the last of the range restricted species, the uncommon Running Coua. On a short boat trip further down the coast, we observed a solitary Caspian Tern.

Southwestern Madagascar, with its weird spiny forest, is very different from the rainforest of the east. It hosts a completely different set of endemics and with the help of Mousa our local guide, we headed off on a bright sunny morning into the spiny forest, where we were soon admiring the first of a few Madagascar Nightjars. It was not long before Mousa and his two sons had encircled a Long-tailed Ground-Roller, which flew up into a bush, allowing prolonged views and many photographs to be taken.



A short time later Mousa and his sons, 'treed' a Subdesert Mesite, which sat motionless, allowing close study. A short time later both Green-capped and Running Couas had been 'treed' and were observed very well. Other specialties of the area included Archbold's Newtania and Thamnornis Warbler, not perhaps the most inspiring of the local specialties! Some of the group also saw Hook-billed Vanga in the grounds of our hotel. .

Visits to Lake Belalande and Andranobe produced Little Grebe, Greater Flamingo, Hottentot Teal, Red-knobbed Coot, Black-winged Stilt, Madagascar Plover, Lesser Sandplover, Common Greenshank and Madagascar Swamp-Warbler and a walk on nearby mudflats produced a solitary Sanderling. On our last morning at Toliara, Mousa the Magician managed to conjure up a pair of Red-shouldered Vangas, which was only described as recently as 1997. Mousa followed this up with two pairs of the uncommon Madagascar Sandgrouse.

Madagascar has a relatively small avifauna, but its fascination cannot be measured by mere numbers. There is a real 'lost world' feel to the island and it is good to see that not only are there good areas of prime habitat still remaining, but also that more and more local people are taking an interest in their unique heritage.

It was with some regret that we finally returned to Antananarivo, where a Barn Owl was observed in flight at the airport. The following day we flew home to a very wintry Australia.

BIRDS OBSERVED ON THE MADAGASCAR TOUR

18 JUNE – 11 JULY 2004

Places Visited

Antananrivo	-	AO
Mangoro	-	MG
Perinet Reserve	-	PR
Mantadia National Park	-	MT
Toamasina	-	TS
Maroantsetra	-	MN
Ambanizana National Park	-	AZ
Mahajanga	-	MJ
Amboromalandy Lake	-	AL
Ampijoroa Forest Reserve	-	AJ
Lake Ravelobe	-	LR
Betsiboka Estuary	-	BE
Near Ambositra	-	NA
Ranomafana National Park	-	RF
Vohiparara Forest	-	VF
Small swamp near Vohiparara Forest	-	SV
Near Ranohira	-	NR
Isalo National Park	-	IL
Zombitze National Park	-	ZB
Toliara	-	TL
Nosy Ve, a small island near Toliara	-	NV
Anakao, near Toliara	-	AK
Ifaty Spiny Forest	-	IS
Ifaty	-	IT
Lake Belalande	-	LB
Lake Andranobe	-	LA
Mudflats at Ifaty	-	MF

**SYSTEMATIC LIST**

PODICIPEDIDAE

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis* LB, LA

**Madagascar Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus pelzelinii* MT

PHAETHONTIDAE

**Red-tailed Tropicbird** *Phaethon rubricauda* NV

SULIDAE

**Masked Booby** *Sula dactylatra* AZ

ANHINGIDAE

**Darter** *Anhinga melanogaster* LR

ARDEIDAE

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea* AL, NV, LA, MF

**Humblot's Heron** *Ardea humbloti* AL, BE, LA, MF

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea* MN, AL

**Black Egret** *Egretta ardesiaca* AZ, AL

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta* AO, AZ, AL, BE, NR, NV, LB, LA, MF, TL

**Great Egret** *Ardea Alba* AO, MG, PR, AZ, MJ, AL, LR, BE, NR, LB, LA, MR, TL

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* AL, LB, LA

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* AO, MG, PR, TS, MJ, AL, SV, NR, TL, AK, LB, TL

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striatus* MG, AL, TL, LB, LA, MF

SCOPIDAE

**Hamerkop** *Scopus umbretta* MG, AO, IT

THRESKIORNTHIDAE

**Madagascar Sacred Ibis** *Threskiornis bernieri* BE

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* AL

**Madagascar Crested Ibis** *Lophotibis cristata* LR

PHOENICOPTERIDAE

**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus ruber* LB

ANATIDAE

**White-faced Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna viduata* AL, BE, LB, LA

**Comb Duck** *Sarkidiornis melanotos* MN, AL, LA

**African Pygmy-goose** *Nettapus auritus* AL

**Madagascar Teal** *Anas bernieri* BE

**Red-billed Teal** *Anas erythrorhyncha* AL, LB, LA

**Hottentot Teal** *Anas hottentota* LA

ACCIPITRIDAE

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans* MG, MN, MJ, AL, LR, BE, SV, NR, TL, LB

**Madagascar Fish-Eagle** *Haliaeetus vociferoides* LR

**Reunion Harrier** *Circus maillardi* NR

**Madagascar Harrier-Hawk** *Polyboroides radiatus* AJ, LR, ZB, LA



**Frances' Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter francesii* PR, AZ, ZB  
**Madagascar Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter madagascariensis* AZ  
**Henst's Goshawk** *Accipiter henstii* PR  
**Madagascar Buzzard** *Buteo brachypterus* AZ, LR, SV, ZB, LB

FALCONIDAE

**Madagascar Kestrel** *Falco newtoni* AO, MG, PR, MJ, AL, BE, RF, NR, IL, ZB, TL,  
AK, IT, IS, LB, LA  
**Banded Kestrel** *Falco zoniventris* AZ, AJ  
**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* NA

MESITORNTHIDAE

**White-breasted Mesite** *Mesitornis variegata* AJ  
**Brown Mesite** *Mesitornis unicolor* AZ  
**Subdesert Mesite** *Monias benschi* IS

TURNICIDAE

**Madagascar Buttonquail** *Turnix nigricollis* AJ, AK, IS, LA

RALLIDAE

**Madagascar Flufftail** *Sarothrura insularis* SV  
**Madagascar Wood-Rail** *Canirallus kioloides* PR, AZ, RF  
**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* PR, AZ, TL, LA  
**Red-knobbed Coot** *Fulica cristata* LB, LA

JACANIDAE

**Madagascar Jacana** *Actophilornis albinucha* AL

DROMADIDAE

**Crab Plover** *Dromas ardeola* BE

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* LB, LA, TL

CHARADRIIDAE

**Madagascar Plover** *Charadrius thoracicus* IT  
**Kittlitz's Plover** *Charadrius pecuarius* AL, TL, IT, LB, LA  
**Three-banded Plover** *Charadrius tricollaris* AL, TL, IT, LB, LA  
**White-fronted Plover** *Charadrius marginatus* MV, MF  
**Lesser Sandplover** *Charadrius mongolus* LA  
**Greater Sandplover** *Charadrius leschenaultia* BE, MF

SCOLOPACIDAE

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus* BE, MV, IT  
**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* LA  
**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus* BE  
**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* MV

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba* MF  
**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea* BE

LARIDAE

**Kelp Gull** *Larus dominicanus* MV

STERNIDAE

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia* AK, MF  
**Lesser Crested Tern** *Sterna bengalensis* AZ, BE  
**Greater Crested Tern** *Sterna bergii* MN  
**Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougallii* AZ  
**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybridus* AL

PTEROCIDAE

**Madagascar Sandgrouse** *Pterocles personatus* TL

COLUMBIDAE

**Feral Pigeon** *Columba livia* AO, PR, MN, MJ, NR, IL, AK, IT, TL  
**Madagascar Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia picturata* AZ, AJ, NA, NR, IT, TL  
**Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis* MJ, AL, NR, IL, ZB, TL, AK, IT, IS, LB, LA  
**Madagascar Green-Pigeon** *Treron australis* MG, IT  
**Madagascar Blue-Pigeon** *Alectroenas madagascariensis* PR, MT, RF, VF

PSITTACIDAE

**Grey-headed Lovebird** *Agapornis canus* AJ, IL, ZB, AK, IT, TL  
**Greater Vasa Parrot** *Coracopsis vasa* MT, AJ, LR, ZB, IS, LA  
**Lesser Vasa Parrot** *Coracopsis nigra* PR, AZ, AJ, BE

CUCULIDAE

**Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo** *Cuculus rochii* AJ  
**Giant Coua** *Coua gigas* ZB  
**Coquerel's Coua** *Coua coquereli* AJ  
**Red-breasted Coua** *Coua serriana* AZ  
**Red-fronted Coua** *Coua reynaudii* AZ, RF  
**Red-capped Coua** *Coua ruficeps* AJ  
**Green-capped Coua** *Coua olivaceiceps* IS  
**Running Coua** *Coua cursor* AK, IS  
**Crested Coua** *Coua cristata* AJ, LR, LA  
**Verreaux's Coua** *Coua verreauxi* AK  
**Blue Coua** *Coua caerulea* PR, MT, AZ, RF, VF  
**Madagascar Coucal** *Centropus toulou* MT, AZ, AL, MJ, SV, AK, IT, IS, LB, LA

TYTONIDAE

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba* AO

STRIGIDAE

**Madagascar Scops-Owl** *Otus rutilus* MN

**Madagascar Long-eared Owl** *Asio madagascariensis* PR  
**African Marsh Owl** *Asio capensis* NR

CAPRIMULGIDAE

**Madagascar Nightjar** *Caprimulgus madagascariensis* IS, IT

APODIDAE

**Madagascar Spinetail** *Zoonavena grandidieri* PR, MT, AZ, SV, ZB, LA  
**African Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus* MT, TS, MN, AZ, MJ, AL, AJ, LR, BE, IL, LA  
**Little Swift** *Apus affinis* AO

ALCEDINIDAE

**Madagascar Malachite Kingfisher** *Alcedo vintsioides* MG, AZ, AL, LR, NR, LB, LA

MEROPIDAE

**Madagascar Bee-eater** *Merops superciliosus* MG, PR, MT, AZ, MN, MJ, AL, AJ, BE, NA, ZB, TL, AK, IT, IS, LB, LA

BRACHYPTERACIIDAE

**Pitta-like Ground-Roller** *Atelornis pittoides* RF  
**Rufous-headed Ground-Roller** *Atelornis crossleyi* AZ  
**Long-tailed Ground-Roller** *Uratelornis chimaera* IS

LEPTOSOMATIDAE

**Cuckoo Roller** *Leptosomus discolor* AZ, AJ, NR, ZB

UPUPIDAE

**Madagascar Hoopoe** *Upupa marginata* AJ, IL, AK, LA

PHILEPITTIDAE

**Velvet Asity** *Philepitta castanea* AZ, RF  
**Schlegel's Asity** *Philepitta schlegeli* AJ  
**Common Sunbird Asity** *Neodrepanis coruscans* PR

ALAUDIDAE

**Madagascar Bushlark** *Mirafraga hova* MJ, AL, NA, NR, IL, TL, AK, IT, IS, LB, LA

HIRUNDINIDAE

**Brown-throated Sand Martin** *Riparia paludicola* AO, MG, PR, MT, MN, NA, RF, SV, NR, TL

**Mascarene Martin** *Phedina borbonica* MN

MOTACILLIDAE

**Madagascar Wagtail** *Motacilla flaviventris* AO, MG, PR, RF, VF, SV,

CAMPEPHAGIDAE

**Ashy Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina cinerea* PR, MT, AJ, RF, VF, IS

PYCNONOTIDAE

- Long-billed Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus madagascariensis* MT, AZ, AJ  
**Spectacled Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus zosterops* PR, MT, AZ, RF, VF  
**Appert's Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus apperti* ZB  
**Grey-crowned Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus cinereiceps* VF  
**Madagascar Bulbul** *Hypsipetes madagascariensis* PR, MT, AZ, AJ, RF, VF, IL, ZB,  
TL, IT, IS, LB, LA

TURDIDAE

- Benson's Rock-Thrush** *Pseudocossyphus bensoni* IL  
**Littoral Rock-Thrush** *Pseudocossyphus imerinus* AK

CISTICOLIDAE

- Madagascar Cisticola** *Cisticola cherinus* AL, NA, SV, TL, NV, IS, IT, LB, LA

SYLVIIDAE

- Grey Emutail** *Dromaeocercus seebohmi* SV  
**Madagascar Brush-Warbler** *Nesillas typical* PR  
**Subdesert Brush-Warbler** *Nesillas lantzii* TL, AK  
**Thamnornis Warbler** *Thamnornis chloropetoides* IS  
**Madagascar Swamp-Warbler** *Acrocephalus newtoni* LB  
**Common Newtonia** *Newtonia brunneicauda* PR, MT, AZ, AJ, RF, VF, ZB, IS  
**Archbold's Newtonia** *Newtonia archboldi* IS

MUSCICAPIDAE

- Madagascar Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus albospecularis* AJ, RF, IL, ZB, IS, LA  
**African Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata* AO, MG, PR, MT, RF, SV, NR, IL, ZB

PLATYSTEIRIDAE

- Ward's Flycatcher** *Pseudobias wardi* PR, MT, RF

MONARCHIDEA

- Madagascar Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone mutata* PR, MT, MN, AJ, RF, VF

TIMALIIDAE

- Common Jery** *Neomixis tenella* PR, MT, AZ, AJ, VF, ZB, AK, IS, LA, IT, TL  
**Green Jery** *Neomixis viridis* RF  
**Stripe-throated Jery** *Neomixis striatigula* AJ, ZB, IT  
**Wedge-tailed Jery** *Hartertula flavoviridis* RF  
**White-throated Oxylabes** *Oxylabes madagascariensis* RF  
**Crossley's Babbler** *Mystacornis crossleyi* AZ

NECTARINIIDAE

- Souimanga Sunbird** *Cinnyris sovimanga* PR, MT, MN, AZ, MJ, AJ, LR, RF, VF,

SV, IL, ZB, TL, AK, IT, IS

**Long-billed Green Sunbird** *Cinnyris notatus* AJ, RF, IS, IT

ZOSTEROPIDAE

**Madagascar White-eye** *Zosterops maderaspatanus* PR, MT, AZ, AJ, RF, VF

VANGIDAE

**Red-tailed Vanga** *Calicalicus madagascariensis* PR, VF, IS

**Red-shouldered Vanga** *Calicalicus rufocarpalis* TL

**Rufous Vanga** *Schetba rufa* AJ

**Hook-billed Vanga** *Vanga curvirostris* IT

**Lafresnaye's Vanga** *Xenopirostris xenopirostris* AK, IS

**Van Dam's Vanga** *Xenopirostris damii* AJ

**Sickle-billed Vanga** *Falcolea palliate* AJ, IT

**White-headed Vanga** *Artamella viridis* PR, AJ,

**Chabert's Vanga** *Leptopterus chabert* MT, AZ, AJ, RF, ZB, AK, IS, IT, LA

**Blue Vanga** *Cyanolanius madagascarinus* PR, MT, AJ

**Tylas Vanga** *Tylas eduardi* PR, AZ, RF

**Nuthatch Vanga** *Hypositta corallirostris* PR

DICRURIDAE

**Crested Drongo** *Dicrurus forficatus* MG, PR, MT, MN, AZ, MJ, AJ, VF, IL, ZB, TL,  
AK, IT, IS, LB, LA

CORVIDAE

**Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* MG, MN, AZ, MJ, AL, BE, NA, NR, IL, ZB, TL, AK, IT, IS,  
LB, LA

STURNIDAE

**Madagascar Starling** *Saroglossa aurata* PR, AZ, RF

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis* AO, MG, PR, MN, NA, NR, TL, AK, IT, LB, LA

PASSERIDAE

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* TS

PLOCEIDAE

**Nelicourvi Weaver** *Ploceus nelicourvi* MT, AZ, RF, VF

**Sakalava Weaver** *Ploceus sakalava* AK, IT, LB, LA, TL

**Madagascar Red Fody** *Foudia madagascariensis* MT, MN, AZ, MJ, AL, TL, IT, LB,  
LA

**Forest Fody** *Foudia omissa* MG, MA, RF, VF

ESTILDIDAE

**Madagascar Mannikin** *Lonchura nana* MT, AL, MJ, RF, NR

MAMMALS

PTEROPODIDAE

**Madagascar Flying Fox** *Pteropus rufus* MN

NESOMYINAE

**Eastern Red Forest Rat** *Nesomys rufus* RF

MURINAE

**Brown Rat** *Ratus norvegicus* TL

VIVERRIDAE

**Fanaloka** *Fossa fossana* RF

HERPESTIDAE

**Ring-tailed Mongoose** *Galidia elegans* AZ, RF,

CHEIROGALEIDAE

**Grey Mouse Lemur** *Microcebus murinus* AJ

**Brown Mouse Lemur** *Mucricebus rufus* TS

**Greater Dwarf Lemur** *Cheirogaleus major* PR, AZ

LEMURIDAE

**Weasel Sportive Lemur** *Lepilemur mustelinus* AZ

**Milne-Edwards Sportive Lemur** *Lepilemur edwardsi* AJ

**Red-tailed Sportive Lemur** *Lepilemur ruficaudatus* ZB

**Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemur** *Hapalemur griseus* AZ

**Golden Bamboo Lemur** *Hapalemur aureus* RF

**Red-bellied Lemur** *Eulemur rubriventer* RF

**Common Brown Lemur** *Eulemur fulvus* PR

**White-fronted Lemur** *Eulemur Albifrons* AZ

**Red-fronted Lemur** *Eulemur rufus* RF

**Red Ruffed Lemur** *Varecia rubra* AZ

INDRIIDAE

**Western Avahi** *Avahi occidentalis* AJ

**Coquerel's Sifaka** *Propithecus coquereli* AJ

**Indri** *Indri indri* PR

BALENOPTERIDAE

**Humpback Whale** *Megaptera novaeangliae* AZ

DELPHINIDAE

**Common Bottlenosed Dolphin** *Tursiops truncatus* AZ

Please note that in very recent literature, the various races of Brown Lemur have now been split into full species. White-fronted and Red-fronted Lemurs are now considered full species. Coquerel's Sifaka is now also considered a full species.