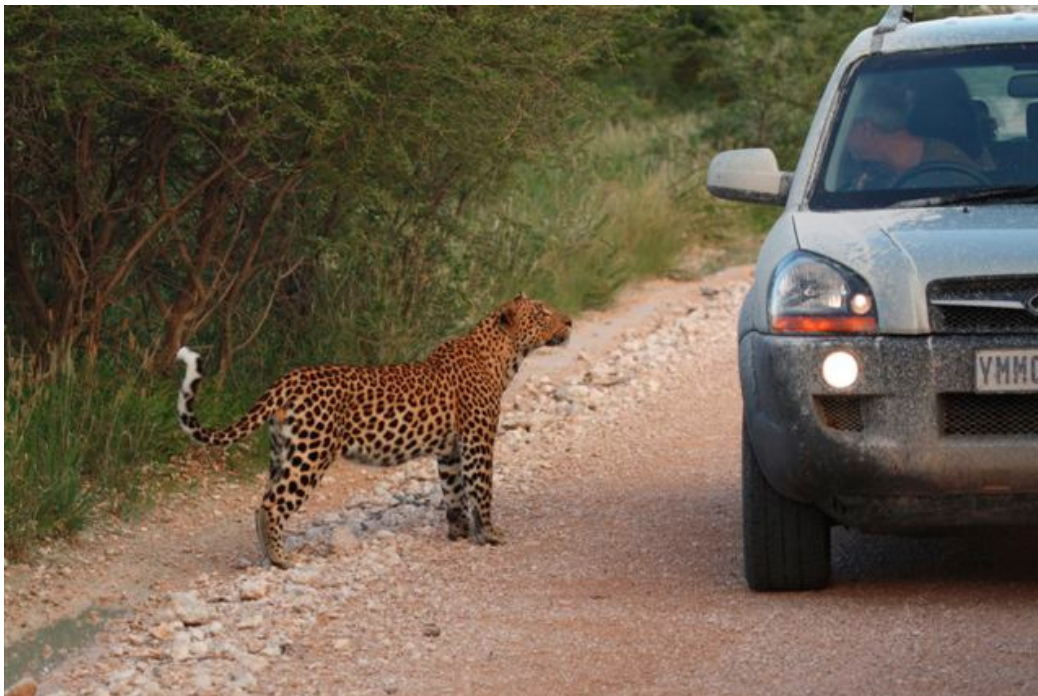


# Naturetrek Three Countries 2010

Windhoek to Livingstone – 28 February to 13 March

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	Mr Roger McDaniel	Mrs Sylvia McDaniel
	Mr Colin Johnson	Mrs Jean Johnson
	Mr Roger Beament	Mrs Anne Beament



## 319 BIRD SPECIES

## 39 MAMMAL SPECIES

## 11 REPTILE SPECIES

Day 1 27 February

Neil and Robbie met the group at Hosea Kutako International Airport, Windhoek. Drive from Windhoek to Waterberg. We explained that we would have a travelling day to get to Waterberg and would not stop for too much other than .....Travelling day! Left the airport at 15:00 arrived at Waterberg at 19:00. Several birds including Martial eagle, Tawny eagle, Abdim's Stork. Just before arriving at Waterberg we saw 2 Caracal in the road .... Very brief view by some people. Overcast and good travelling weather.

Day 2 28 February

Pre breakfast walk. Drove to Etosha National Park after breakfast to book into our overnight accommodation at Halali Restcamp. Heard Hartlaub's Francolin and Rockrunner calling. Red-billed Francolin, Swainson's Francolin, Fork-tailed Drongo, Grey-backed Cameroptera, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, White-bellied Sunbird, Acacia Pied Barbet, Klaas's Cuckoo, Damara dik-dik, Dwarf mongoose, Pale-winged, Cape glossy and Burchell's glossy Starling, Marico Sunbird, Ruppel's Parrot, Black-backed Puffback, Bru-bru, Diedericks Cuckoo. Groundscraper Thrush, African paradise Flycatcher, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, Shaft-tailed and Paradise Wydah, Purple, Lilac-beasted and Eurasian Roller. Rattling, Desert and Tinkling Cisticola. White-browed Sparrow-weaver, Masked Weaver, Chestnut Weaver, Red-billed Buffalow-weaver, Lesser-masked Weaver. Lion, Springbok, Wildebeest, Red hartebeest, Ostrich, Blue Cranes, Northern Black Korhaan, Kori bustard. Sabota's Lark. Wood Sandpiper, Spotted Thick knee. Wahlberg's Eagle. Black and Yellow billed Kites.

Day 3 1 March

Breakfast at 7.30. Game drive in Etosha National Park. Before we left the camp on our game drive, we had excellent views of 2 white faced owls and an African Scop's Owlet. The morning drive delivered great views of Sabota's, Rufous-naped and Monotonous Larks. Violet-eared Waxbill, Red and Southern Yellow-billed Hornbills, Grey hornbill, Red-crested Korhaan, Black faced Impala, Southern Giraffe and Steenbok were spotted. Egyptian Geese, Red-billed Teal, Dabchick, Blacksmith Lapwing, Eurasian bee-eaters, Lilac-breasted and Purple Rollers, Yellow-billed Kite, Black-chested and Martial Eagles. Abdim's Stork. Golden-breasted Bunting, Long-billed Crombec, Black-throated Canary, Spotted Flycatcher, Marico Flycatchers, Fork-tailed Drongo's were common. Returned to camp at 12:40 for lunch. Afternoon game drive @ 16:00. Several Kori Bustards, Blue Crane, Northern Black Korhaan, Crowned and Blacksmith Lapwing, Saddle-billed Stork, Abdim's Stork, Yellow-billed Egret, Cattle Egret, Wood Sandpiper, Gymnogene, Sabota's and Monotonous Larks. Springbok, Red Hartebeest, Blue Wildebeest,

Southern Giraffe, Springbok, Ground Squirrel, Tree Squirrel, Yellow Mongoose, Gemsbok, Black-faced Impala. Marsh Terrapin, Flap-necked Chameleon. On our way back towards the camp at around 7 pm, we experienced something extraordinary with 5 lions on and next to the road, just a few meters away from our vehicles. Two lionesses, two sub adults as well as one very large male lion. We spent around 30 minutes with this pride scattered all around us! The lions made their way across the road and on towards some Red hartebeest that were standing a few meters away. They were certainly going to hunt. Less than two minutes away on the main road back towards the camp ..... Stop! A young male leopard right next to the road! (Well spotted by Adam). We spent the next 10 minutes watching this leopard just lying right next to the road, less than 8 meters away. The leopard eventually got up and walked straight towards the road and only a few meters away from us, right on the open road surface. We unfortunately had to leave the leopard as the sun was setting and we had to make our way back to the base. An absolutely stunning experience, to see these different cats so close in proximity! An experience I am sure that will remain with all of us for many, many years.

Day 4 2 March

Breakfast at 7:30. Game drive at 8:30. Two young lions in the road drinking water at the side of the road from the previous days rain. Two African Hawk Eagles, African Golden Oriole, African Hoopoe, Hammerkop, Painted Snipe. Sabota's Lark, Rufous-naped Lark, Springbok, Red Hartebeest, Southern Giraffe, Gemsbok, Steenbok. Afternoon game drive at 16:00. All the usual mammals, but also good views of Spotted Hyenas and Yellow Mongoose. Gymnogene, Secretary Bird, Red-necked Falcon, Amur and Western red-footed Falcons. Blue Cranes, Kori bustards, Abdim's, White and Marabou Storks.

Day 5 3 March

Breakfast @ 7:00. Depart to Namutoni at 08:30. All morning game drive through the Park. Lunch in the Eastern most camp in the park, Namutoni. Bataleur and Tawney Eagles, Springbok, Black Faced Impala, Greater Kudu, Gemsbok, Steenbok, Burchell's Zebra, Southern Giraffe and Blue Wildebeest. Greater and Lesser Flamingo, African Spoonbill, Black-necked and little Grebe, South African Shellduck, Egyptian Goose, Cape and Red-billed Teal, Comb Duck, Greenshank, Ruff. Aftern Lunch, Hammerkop, Three-banded Plover, Temmick's Coursers, Grey Go Away Bird, Namaqua, Cape Turtle and Laughing Doves, Cape Glossy Starling, Yellow-billed, Red-billed and Grey Hornbills. As we are leaving the park, one Grey Hooded Kingfisher!

Day 6 4 March

Coffee and Tea @ 7:15. Pre-breakfast bird walk at 7:30. Breakfast at 08:00. Bare-cheeked Babblers, Red-billed Hornbill, African Paradise Flycatcher, Long-tailed Paradise Whydah, Shaft-tailed Whydah, Bru-bru, Marico Flycatcher, White-bellied Sunbird, Golden-breasted and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting, Common Scimitarbill, Green-winged Pitillia, Grey Go Away Bird, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, Familiar Chat, Red-billed Francolin, Helmeted Guineafowl, Cape Glossy Starling, Fork-tailed Drongo, Blue Waxbill, Red-eyed Bulbul. Due to vehicle problems we stay at !Uris Lodge for an extra night.

Day 7 5 March

An early breakfast at 06:00. Depart at 07:00. Visit the Tsumeb water works. Yellow-billed Egret, Cattle Egret, Little Grebe, Common and Wood Sandpiper, Squaco Heron, Grey Heron, Red-billed Teal, Ruff, Eurasian Swallow. Continue the journey to Grootfontein and on to Rundu for lunch. Short boat excursion after lunch. Black Cuckoo, Deiderick's Cuckoo, Red-eyed Dove, Reed Cormorant, Village Weaver, Pied Kingfisher, Green-backed and Black-crowned Night Heron, Water thick-knee, Comb Duck, Spur-winged Goose, White-faced Duck, African Jacana, Greenshank, Wattled Lapwing, Red-billed oxpecker, African Openbill and Woolly-necked Storks, Blue-checked, Little and Carmine bee-eaters. A wonderful experience on the Kavango River. Continued our journey to Mahango Safari Lodge. Black Chested Snake Eagle, Martial Eagle, Bataleur, Grey-rumped Swallow and Wire-tailed Swallows. Coppery tailed Coucal and Water thick-knee as we arrive at our final destination. Heard Hipopotamus .

Day 8 6 March

Early morning coffee and tea at 06:00. Drive to Mahangu Park. Just a few meters after entering the park we see our first Roan antelope, Impala, Red Lechwe, Wildebeest, Zebra, Southern Giraffe, Warthog, Vervet Monkeys. African Fish Eagle, Woolly-necked Stork, Marabou Stork, Little, Blue checked, Carmine and White-fronted Bee-eaters. Giant Kingfisher, Slaty Egret, Pied Kingfisher, Woodland Kingfisher, Grey Hooded Kingfisher and Pygmy Kingfisher. Fawn-coloured Lark, Orange Breasted Bush Shrike, Long-tailed and Burchell's Starling, Purple-banded Sunbird, Chestnut-vented Titbabler, Coppery tailed and White-browed Coucal, Egyptian and Spurwinged Goose, Pygmy Goose, Comb Duck, White-faced Duck, Brown-crowned Chagra, Southern-grey Headed Sparrow, Magpie Shrike, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Swamp Bou Bou, Lapped-faced and White-backed Vulture, Bearded Woodpecker, White-browed Robin Chat, Common and Wood Sandpiper, Black-winged Stilt, Thick-billed Roller, Southern Black Tit. We returned to the lodge for lunch just before 13:00. Afternoon tea and cake at 16:00. Game drive to Mahangu shortly afterwards. A small herd of Roan Antelope, Blue Wildebeest, Tsessebe, Warthog, Impala, Greater Kudu, Red Lechwe, Bushbuck, One Sable antelope. White-backed Vulture, Hooded Vulture, African Fish Eagle, Dark-chanting Goshawk, Lilac-breasted Roller, Little, Carmine and Blue-checked Bee-eaters, Giant, Pied and Woodland Kingfishers, Pygmy Goose, White-faced Duck, Spurwing and Egyptian Goose, Blacksmith, Crowned and Wattled Lapwings, Western-banded Snake Eagle, Green-backed Heron, Little Egret, Great Egret, Black-winged Stilt, Coppery-tailed and White-browed Coucals, Scarlet-chested Sunbird. Return to the lodge at sunset. Dinner at 20:00.

Day 9 7 March

Pre breakfast birdwalk, breakfast at 08:00. Drive to Drotsky's Cabin's for lunch in Botswana, where we depart with boats to Xaro Lodge. Giant Kingfisher, Pied Kingfisher, Woodland Kingfisher, Malachite Kingfisher, Buffy Pipit, Magpie Shrike, Fawn-coloured and Rufous-naped Lark, Black-backed Puffback, Golden Weaver, White-browed Robin Chat, Village Weaver, Southern Grey Headed Sparrow, Swamp Bou Bou, Black Chested Snake Eagle, Bataleur, Blue Waxbill, Black-eyed Bulbul, Pintailed Wydah, Black-throated Canary, Collared Sunbird, Pel's Fishing-Owl, Wood Owl, Marabou Stork, White-backed Vulture.

Mammals include Tree Squirrel, Chacma Baboon, Greater Kudu, Roan Antelope, Sable Antelope, Impala, Warthog, Red Lechwe.

Day 10 8 March

Coffee at 07:00 with some birding around the camp. Breakfast at 07:30. Depart the Island at 08:30 and boat cruise to Drotsky's. Leave Botswana and return to Namibia. Tried to call Greater Swamp Warbler with no success. Pied Kingfisher, Malachite Kingfisher, Darter, Reed Cormorant, Golden and Brown-throated Weaver, Thick-billed Weaver, Rattling and Tinkling Cisticola, Bataleur, Tawney, Lesser Spotted, Martial and African Fish Eagle, Black and Yellow billed Kites, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Dickinson's Kestrel, Red-footed and Amur Falcons, Red-necked Falcon, Peregrine, Eurasian Hobby. Blue-cheeked, Carmine and Little Bee-eaters. Elephant, Reedbuck, Red Lechwe and Impala. Crowned, Wattled and Blacksmith Lapwing, White-faced Duck, Pygmy Goose, Spurwing Goose, Grey, Red-billed and Southern Yellow-billed Hornbills. Brilliant view of a displaying male Finfoot in the middle of the mighty Zambezi River.

Day 11 9 March

Coffee at 06:45. Birdwalk on the grounds at 07:00. Breakfast at 08:00. Stunning views of Bronze Mannikin, Black-collared Barbet, Dusky Flycatcher, Spotted Flycatcher, African Paradise Flycatcher, Mourning and Red-eyed Doves, Pied Wagtail, African Yellow White-eye, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Dark-capped Bulbul, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Pied Crows, Slaty Egret and Fulvous Duck flying over the river, Green-backed Heron, Little and Yellow-billed Egret, Grey Heron. Depart the lodge at 09:00. We leave Namibia for the final time and head towards Chobe Park in Botswana. En-route we saw Bataleur perched on a tree next to the road. Eurasian Roller, Broad-billed Roller, Lilac-breasted Roller, White-fronted, Little and Blue-cheeked Bee eaters, Martial Eagle, African and Eurasian Orioles, Ground Hornbills, Grey, Yellow-billed and Red-billed Hornbill, Collared Sunbird, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Northern Grey Headed Sparrow, Blue Waxbill. Elephant, Waterbuck, Impala, Warthog, Sable and Chacma Baboons. Village Indigobird, Lesser-masked, Village and Masked weavers, White-browed Sparrow Weaver, African Jacana, Lesser Blue-eared, Cape Glossy, Burchell's and Meve's Starling. Chobe Bushbuck and Banded Mongoose.

Day 12 10 March

Breakfast at 07:30. Depart our lodge at 08:30. Boat cruise to Chobe Park at 09:00. Elephants drinking, playing and bathing in the river, very close Hippopotamus, Water buck, Impala, Vervet Monkeys, Chacma Baboons, Greater Kudu, large Nile Crocodiles, Water Monitors. African Fish Eagle, Martial Eagle, Gymnogene, Lappet-faced Vulture, Shikra, Gabar Goshawk, Eurasian, Blue Cheeked and Little Bee eaters, Pied, Brown-hooded and Malachite Kingfisher, Luapula and Chirping Cisticola, Pied, Cape and Yellow Wagtails, White-faced Duck, Spurwing Goose, Fulvous Duck, Marabou Stork and Open-billed Stork, Water Thicknee, Pygmy Goose, Common and Wood Sandpiper, Red Bishop, Fantailed Widow, African Stonechat, African Jacana, Black Crake, Laughing, Red-eyed and Cape Turtle Dove. An absolutely stunning day on the Cobe River. Afternoon boat cruise at 15:00 till sunset.

Day 13 11 March

Early morning bird walk, breakfast at 07:30. A stunning and very exciting bird walk with Trumpeter Hornbill, Orange-breasted Bush Shrike, Grey-headed Bush Shrike, Collared Sunbird, Yellow-bellied Greenbul, Terrestrial Brownbul, White-browed Robin Chat, Black Backed Puffback, Southern Grey Headed Sparrow, Grey Headed Kingfisher, Blue Waxbill, Olive Woodpeckers. Depart the lodge at 08:30 to cross from Botswana into Zambia via the ferry at Kazangula. Arrive at Livingstone for lunch. Bataleur Eagle, Black-chested Snake Eagle, Open-billed Stork, Marabou Stork, Vervet Monkey, Chacma Baboons, Chobe Bushbuck, Impala. Visit the Victoria Water Fall in the late afternoon, Trumpeter Hornbills, Red-winged Starling, Red-billed Firefinch new for the list. Dinner at Maramba River Lodge.

Day 14 12 March

Day at leisure with different activities. Flight of Angels, Walk with Rhino. A drive to the local sewage ponds produced some new species. Red-necked Falcon, Black-headed Heron, Purple Heron, Purple Swampphen, Allen's Gallinule, Black Crake, Blue and Common Waxbill, Bataleur Eagle, Open-billed Stork, White-headed Vulture, Black-crowned Tchagra, Neddicky, Grey Hornbill, African Marsh Warbler, Little and Red-fronted Bee eaters, Black-collared Barbet, Grey Hooded and Pied Kingfisher, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, Little Egret, Cattle Egret, Reed Cormorant. White Rhino, Impala, Chacma Baboon and Vervet Monkey. Nile Crocodile. Afternoon boat cruise on the Zambezi with dinner on board. A very hot afternoon on the Mighty Zambezi. Great company and a stunning sunset made up for the lack of desert ..... Three new bird species as well. Hadedda Ibis, Glossy Ibis and White-crowned Lapwing. Other birds included Cattle, Little, Black and Great White Egret, Grey Heron, Green-backed Heron, Squaco Heron, Marabou and Open-billed Stork, Malachite, Pied and Grey Headed Kingfisher, Egyptian Goose, Spurwing Goose, White-faced Duck, Common and Wood Sandpipers, Pied Wagtail, Eurasian and Wire-tailed Swallow, Blacksmith Lapwing, Red Bishop, Water Thicknee, Bown-throated Weaver, Allen's Gallinule, Reed Cormorant, Darter, Eurasian Oriole, Hippo and Nile Crocodile.

Day 15 13 March

Depart from the lodge and visit the Livingstone Museum en route to the airport. We all say our goodbyes with hugs and kisses. On behalf of Robbie and myself, I would like to thank each and every-one on tour for making this safari a great success.

**"Any safari can only be as good as the group itself"**

Neil MacLeod