



# ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## Angola

### Endemics Overland Adventure

*11<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011 (20 days)*



*Rockjumper Birding Tours is excited to again offer a birding tour to this incredibly rich African destination! After 30 years of crippling civil war, this vast land is now at peace and actively encouraging tourism. During our 19-day tour, we plan to visit key sites for the numerous Angolan endemics and near-endemics, from the fabled Gabela Forests to the spectacular Tundavala Escarpment, which drops more than 1000m onto the coastal plains below. Habitats we will cover range from the parched Namib deserts to misty scarp forests and tracts of pristine, broad-leafed Miombo woodlands. We can expect to find many birds seen by just a handful of ornithologists and explorers and possibilities still remain for rediscovering several species or perhaps even finding new species! Our 2011 itinerary has been expanded to include sites for the recently rediscovered Braun's Bushshrike and White-headed Robin-Chat. Join us for what will be a truly exciting tour of this stunning and little-explored country!*

## THE TOUR AT A GLANCE...

### DETAILS

<b>Tour Dates</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011 (20 days)</b>
<b>Tour Price</b>	<b>US\$ 6,250.00 per person sharing (see details below)</b>
<b>Tour Size</b>	<b>This tour is limited to a maximum of 12 participants (see below)</b>

### THE ITINERARY

<b>11<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Arrival in Windhoek and drive to Etosha National Park</b>
<b>12<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Etosha to Southern Angola Camp</b>
<b>13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Southern Angola Camp to Tundavala Escarpment</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Tundavala Escarpment</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Day trip to Namibe</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Lubango to Mount Moco</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> &amp; 18<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Mount Moco</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Mount Moco to Kumbira Forest, Gabela</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> &amp; 21<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>Kumbira Forest</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>Kumbira Forest to Kissama National Park</b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>Kissama NP (Southern Section)</b>
<b>24<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Kissama NP (Northern Section)</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Kissama NP to Calandula via N'Dalatando</b>
<b>26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Calandula region</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Calandula to Camabatela</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Camabatela to Uige region</b>
<b>29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Uige region</b>
<b>30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Uige region to Luanda and departure</b>

## THE TOUR IN DETAIL...

**Day 1, 11<sup>th</sup> September: Arrival in Windhoek and drive to Etosha National Park.** Upon early arrival in Namibia's capital, Windhoek, we shall depart for the world-famous Etosha National Park. The word "Etosha" means "Great White Place" in the local Herero language. Etosha is one of Africa's premier big game destinations and medium and large mammals teem around the huge pan. Our afternoon will be enjoyed exploring this vast wilderness in search of the Park's abundant wildlife. Species commonly encountered at and around the many waterholes dotted throughout the park include



the regal Gemsbok, Greater Kudu, Springbok, Giraffe, Elephant, Warthog, Kongoni (Hartebeest), Blue Wildebeest, Burchell's Zebra, Black-faced Impala and the diminutive Damara Dik-dik. These waterholes don't only attract the attention of thirsty grazers and photographers, but also predators; Black-backed Jackal, African Wild Cat, prides of lazing Lion, Spotted Hyena and even Cheetah and Leopard are included in the possible suite of carnivores.



Birds are also abundant in and around Namutoni Camp and we may see Grey Go-away-bird, African Hoopoe, Southern Yellow-billed and Southern Red-billed Hornbills, Cardinal Woodpecker, Wattled and the ubiquitous Cape Starlings, Brubru, Marico, White-bellied and Scarlet-chested Sunbirds and Green-winged Pytilia. The open grasslands and sparse Acacia savanna may produce species such as the huge Martial and Tawny Eagles, elegant Red-necked Falcon, Greater Kestrel, the magnificent Kori Bustard (the world's heaviest flying bird), Spotted Thick-knee, Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark, Red-capped and Pink-billed Larks, Capped Wheatear and flocks of angry-looking Scaly-feathered Weaver. In the evening, hundreds of Double-banded,

Namaqua and Burchell's Sandgrouse come to drink at some of the waterholes and occasionally Barn and Marsh Owls hunt in the vicinity.

**Day 2, 12<sup>th</sup> September: Etosha to Southern Angola Camp.** We will have an early morning drive in the Etosha National Park before packing up and departing on the long drive towards the Angola border. Species we are likely to encounter this morning include the spectacular Bateleur, Shikra, Helmeted Guineafowl, Meyer's Parrot, Fawn-coloured Lark, flocks of quizzical White-crested Helmetshrike, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Yellow-throated Petronia, Red-crested Korhaan, Crowned Lapwing, Burchell's Sandgrouse, Namaqua Dove, Red-faced Mousebird, African Grey Hornbill, White-browed Scrub Robin, Burnt-neck Eremomela, Chinspot Batis, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver, flocks of Red-billed Quelea (sometimes numbering many thousands) and Blue Waxbill. Vultures are often numerous in this area and may include Lappet-faced, White-headed and wheeling flocks of White-backed.

The shallow Fischer's Pan, an eastern extension of the main Etosha Pan, is a notable natural feature of this area and lies to the north of Namutoni camp. Water levels vary tremendously and the pan is most often completely dry, but if water is present we may find flamingos, huge Saddle-billed and Yellow-billed Storks, Red-billed Teal, South African Shelduck and large numbers of migratory waders.

As we drive north towards the border we will keep a look out for roadside species, especially raptors, which seem to be particularly common here. These could include Cape, Lappet-faced and White-headed Vultures, Tawny, Martial, African Hawk, Black-chested and Brown Snake Eagles, Pale-chanting Goshawk, Ovambo Sparrowhawk, Rock and Greater Kestrel, Peregrine, Red-necked and the delightful little Pygmy Falcon. Other birds we will keep our eyes peeled for include Red-billed Francolin, Temminck's and Double-banded Coursers, Kori Bustard, Northern Black Korhaan, numerous species



of hornbills and larks, as well as more common species such as Sociable, Scaly-feathered and Red-billed Buffalo Weavers. We will set up camp in the late afternoon just to the north of the Angolan border.



**Day 3, 13<sup>th</sup> September: Southern Angola Camp to Tundavala Escarpment.** This morning we will depart for the drive to the peaceful city of Lubango, Angola, again keeping a look out for any interesting birds along the way. This southern city escaped the ravages of the war and life seems pretty normal here; there is even a traditional artists shop! We will make our way to the nearby Tundavala Escarpment, just 15km from Lubango, where we will camp for three nights.

**Day 4, 14<sup>th</sup> September: Tundavala Escarpment.** This incredible site lies within 15km of Lubango and offers the most dramatic scenery in the country: huge cliffs dropping over 1,000m onto the coastal plain below. We will spend our time exploring the extensive grasslands, patches of Afro-montane forest and rugged gorges at an approximate altitude of 2,200m.

Tundavala is one of the sites for the little known and recently rediscovered Swierstra's Francolin. Other Angolan endemics that occur here are the fabulous Angola Cave Chat, the uncommon Angola Slaty Flycatcher and the diminutive Angola Batis. Other birds recorded during our earlier visits included Peregrine Falcon, Spotted Eagle-Owl, Freckled Nightjar, Bradfield's and Alpine Swifts, Black-collared Barbet, Western Tinkerbird, Pallid Honeyguide, Greater Striped Swallow, Fülleborn's Longclaw, Striped Pipit, Bocage's Akalat, Miombo and White-winged Black Tits, Short-toed Rock Thrush, Sharp-tailed Starling, Wailing and Wing-snapping Cisticolas, Green-capped Eremomela, Oustalet's and Ludwig's (Montane) Double-collared Sunbirds, Jameson's Firefinch, Orange-breasted (Zebra) and Yellow-bellied Waxbills (the unique Angolan highland race of the latter species is a stunning bird, and strikingly different from the species with which it is lumped), Black-throated Canary and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting.

**Day 5, 15<sup>th</sup> September: Day trip to Namibe.** Today we will take advantage of one of the best roads in Angola and drive down to the seaside village of Namibe. Our first main birding site will be the absolutely breath-taking Leba Scarp. This area produced some top class birding during our 2004 tour, and here we had our closest encounters with the stunning Angola Cave Chat, as well as the bizarre Hartlaub's Spurfowl (we were treated to scope views of a singing bird on our last tour), African Hawk-Eagle, Schalow's Turaco, Rockrunner (Damara Rock-jumper) and the highly sought-after Cinderella Waxbill.

Once we reach the bottom of the escarpment, the scenery will become progressively more arid until we enter the Namib Desert's gravel plains. We will find a wide range of birds in these varied habitats that we visit today, including many species previously considered to be Namibian specials.

We will look out for Red-crested Korhaan, Burchell's Courser, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Monteiro's and Damara (split



from Red-billed) Hornbills, Grey's, Stark's, Benguela Long-billed and Sabota Larks (the local form of the last mentioned species is often split as Bradfield's Lark), Herero, Karoo and Tractrac Chats, Mountain and Capped Wheatears, Kalahari Scrub Robin, Chat and Marico Flycatchers, the cute White-tailed Shrike is very common, Ashy and Carp's Black Tits, Burchell's and Meves's Starlings, Scaly-feathered Weaver and Great Sparrow.

**Day 6, 16<sup>th</sup> September: Lubango to Mount Moco.** This morning we will make our way north to Mount Moco. This site is now famous as the little known Swierstra's Francolin was recently re-discovered here after not having been seen for 40 years. During the drive we will make some comfort stops as well as stop for any unusual sightings. We should arrive in the late afternoon where we will set up camp for the next three nights.



**Days 7 & 8, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> September: Mount Moco.** We have two full days to enjoy this incredible area. One of our main targets will be the endemic Swierstra's Francolin; however this species is particularly shy and we would count ourselves very lucky if we see it. The mountain supports a number of other specialties and so there is plenty to look for. We will traverse various habitats including an isolated patch of Afromontane forest, Miombo scrub and associated grasslands in order to have the best chance of seeking out these specials. We'll also keep a careful look overhead for Fernando Po Swift. Slowly working the forest patches, we'll

be on the lookout for the delightful Laura's Woodland Warbler (rare), which usually alerts one to its presence by its sweet song, smart Bocage's Akalat that forages in the forest undergrowth, Margaret's Batis and endemic Angola Slaty Flycatcher. Time spent in the Miombo scrub should produce a different set of specials, including Ludwig's Double-collared, Oustalet's and Bocage's Sunbirds, Black-collared Bulbul, Spotted Creeper and Anchieta's Barbet. Several seedeaters can be seen in the area including the interesting bocagei race of Yellow-bellied Waxbill; this black-faced form may well represent a separate species. An isolated population of Dusky Twinspot also occurs here. In the grasslands we may be lucky to find Finsch's Francolin and Angola Lark. Other notable species occurring in the area include Augur Buzzard, Ruwenzori Nightjar, Schalow's Turaco, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Western Tinkerbird, Black-collared Barbet, Cabanis's Greenbul, Striped Pipit, Evergreen Forest Warbler, Rock-loving, Wailing and Red-faced (the endemic race *lepe* sometimes split as a separate species) Cisticolas, Mountain Wheatear, Miombo Rock Thrush, Grey Apalis, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, African Hill Babbler, Bronzy Sunbird, Red-headed Weaver, Fawn-breasted Waxbill, Thick-billed Seed eater, Yellow-crowned and Black-faced Canaries and Cabanis's Bunting.

**Day 9, 19<sup>th</sup> September: Mount Moco to Kumbira Forest, Gabela.** This morning we will continue north towards Gabela. We will make roadside stops along productive areas of forest and enjoy our first taste of the exciting Angolan scarp forest birding.

Loud, raucous calls here betray the presence of the exquisitely



beautiful Red-crested Turaco, Angola's most beautiful endemic, and we will find this delightful bird rather common in these forests. The impossibly deep hoots emanating from the understory don't belong to some undiscovered giant owl, but another giant, the beautiful Gabon Coucal. Bird parties abound and the commonest bird seems to be Falkenstein's (Yellow-necked) Greenbul, which always seems to



pop into view whilst scanning! Other highly sought-after species here include the diminutive Yellow-throated Nicator, Hartert's Camaroptera (an Angolan endemic sometimes split from Grey-backed Camaroptera), Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher, Carmelite and the very localized Ludwig's (Montane) Double-collared Sunbird and Red-headed Bluebill.

Other species recorded by Rockjumper Birding Tours in this forest patch include African Emerald Cuckoo, Yellowbill (this form now split off as Blue Malkoha), the bizarre Yellow-billed Barbet, Western Tinkerbird, Black Saw-wing, Yellow-whiskered Greenbul, Fraser's Rufous and African Thrushes, Buff-throated and Black-throated Apalises, Green Hylia, African Blue Flycatcher, Pink-footed Puffback, Green-headed, Collared, Olive-bellied and Superb Sunbirds, Dark-backed and Black-necked Weavers, Red-headed Malimbe, Grey-headed Nigrita and Black-and-white Mannikin.

In the late afternoon we will drive to a remote site where we will pitch camp deep in the forest for a three night stay.

**Days 10 & 11, 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> September: Kumbira Forest.** From our peaceful campsite, we will set out on foot to explore the surrounding forests and woodlands. During our 2004 tour, we found many of the very special birds of Gabela Forest right around our campsite, including Gabela Akalat in good numbers (previously only known from nine specimens), Pale-olive Greenbul, the little-known Pulitzer's Longbill, Forest Scrub Robin, Angola Batis, Monteiro's and Gabela Bushshrikes and Red-crested Turaco.

Other species seen here include the isolated Angolan forms of Dusky Tit, Brown-chested Alethe, both Hairy-breasted and Naked-faced Barbets (all possibly distinct and localized enough to attain full species status), Palmnut Vulture, African Harrier-Hawk, Red-necked Buzzard, Long-crested Eagle, Black Sparrowhawk, African Goshawk, African Hobby, Tambourine and Blue-spotted Wood Doves, African Pygmy, Brown-hooded and Striped Kingfishers, Crowned Hornbill, Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird, Pallid Honeyguide, Brown-eared, Elliot's and Buff-spotted Woodpeckers, African Broadbill, Petit's and Purple-throated Cuckooshrikes, Brown Illadopsis, Lowland Masked and Grey Apalises, Dark-capped Yellow Warbler, Ashy Flycatcher, Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher, Gorgeous (sometimes split as Perrin's), Orange-breasted and Many-coloured Bushshrikes, Mackinnon's Shrike, Red-capped Robin-Chat, Southern and Yellow-bellied Hyliotas, Black-throated and Yellow-bellied Wattle-eyes, Bannerman's and Western Olive Sunbirds, the attractive



Brown-capped and Vieillot's Black Weavers, Green Twinspot, Red-faced Crimsonwing, Grey (Black-tailed) Waxbill and Black-faced Canary. Furthermore, Buff-spotted Flufftail, African Wood and Southern White-faced Owls should compete well into the night around our campsite.



**Day 12, 22<sup>nd</sup> September: Kumbira to Kissama National Park.**

After a final early mornings birding, we will depart for the drive to Kissama National Park. The huge Kissama National Park protects 110km of coastline south of Luanda, as well as a variety of great birding habitats that include West Africa's most southerly mangroves, the vast Kwanzo flood-plain that teems with waterbirds, riverine forests and a mix of dry woodland types.

After settling into our camp in the park, we will be ready for the upcoming two full day's exploration of the reserve.

**Day 13, 23<sup>rd</sup> September: Kissama NP (Southern Section).**

Today we will visit an interesting section of Kissama NP where we met with some incredible successes during our 2004 tour. We will visit a remote dry riverbed, surrounded by a wonderful riparian forest. The wide riverbed allows easy access for birding the best sections of this

forest. In 2004 we scored with not one but two groups of the mythical Gabela (Angola) Helmetshrike. Previously it had only ever been seen by two people! We also obtained the first sound recordings and photographs of this species; as well as obtaining many new park records from this site. Other great birds recorded here during our 2004 tour included Red-necked Spurfowl, Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo (a major southern range extension for this species), Narina Trogon, Yellow-bellied Greenbul, Forest Scrub Robin, the stunning Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye and Swamp (Gabon) Boubou. This habitat is also perfect for African Pitta and no doubt further exploration beyond our brief foray will reveal some exciting discoveries.

**Day 14, 24<sup>th</sup> September: Kissama NP (Northern Section).** Today we head for a different section of the park. Along the scenic coastal highway, we will stop at some lagoons to search for herons, egrets, waders and terns, but our first real birding will be along the mighty Kwanzo River. This stunning forest-lined river can be quite productive, and here we will search for Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Orange Weaver, Angola Swallow, Green-headed Sunbird, the near-endemic Bubbling Cisticola and, if we are fortunate, we will observe Mangrove (Mouse-brown) Sunbird, recently discovered along this river, this being a major southern range extension.

Today, we also hope to locate more Angolan endemics, and with the use of local guides we expect to see the little known Grey-striped Francolin. This secretive species lives in coveys in dense woodlands but are fortunately very tape responsive. On our previous tour, all participants obtained great views of this very poorly known species. We will also find Red-backed Mousebird (one of Angola's commonest endemics) and more Bubbling Cisticolas; both occur commonly in scrubby habitats. The lovely White-fronted Wattle-eye



prefers dense riverine thickets, while we may find flocks of Golden-backed Bishop foraging near wetlands.

Birding in Kissama produces an eclectic mix of both dry country and forest species, and other notable birds we observed during our 2004 tour included Little Sparrowhawk, Grey Kestrel, the near-endemic Rüppell's Parrot, the localized Violet Woodhoopoe, Black Scimitarbill, Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill (the local diminutive form is likely to be split as a separate species), Petit's Cuckooshrike, Green and Long-billed Crombecs, the near-endemic Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush and Angola Batis.



Over three hundred species have been recorded in the reserve, and we will no doubt be kept very busy!

**Day 15, 25<sup>th</sup> September: Kissama NP to Calandula via N'Dalatando.** This morning we will depart early for the drive east to N'Dalatando. *En route* we should pass several wetlands and, depending on water levels, we could find good numbers of waterbirds that include African Openbill, Yellow-billed Stork, African Spoonbill, White-faced Whistling Duck, Spur-winged Goose, Black Crake, Collared Pratincole and, if we are very lucky, Lesser Moorhen,

Allen's Gallinule and Greater Painted Snipe. Other species we will be on the lookout for in the open country include a number of raptors and possibilities include both Hooded and White-backed Vultures and Wahlberg's Eagle.

At the roadside we may see Purple Rollers perched up on dead snags, Angola Swallows flitting overhead, Southern White-crowned Shrike and White-winged Widowbird. Around N'Dalatando we'll concentrate on searching for scarp forest species we have not yet seen. Apart from these, more widespread species occur here and we may see the tiny Speckled Tinkerbird and beautiful Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Plain and Honeyguide Greenbuls, Red-tailed Bristlebill and, again if we are fortunate, Cassin's Honeybird. Thereafter we will make our way east to Calandula for a two night stay.

**Day 16, 26<sup>th</sup> September: Calandula region.** The key target bird of today is the fabulous White-headed or Heinrich's Robin-Chat. This location is where the type specimen of this most stunning and impressive of the robin-chats was collected and where it was rediscovered and found not to be uncommon in 2005. Other species we may find in the gallery forest include African Broadbill – its presence often made known by the sound of its whirring wings as it displays at dawn, cute Grey-winged Robin-Chat, Shining-blue and Chocolate-backed Kingfishers, stunning Double-toothed Barbet, Olive Woodpecker, Narina Trogon, Brown-headed Apalis, White-chinned Prinia, Brown Illadopsis, Square-tailed Drongo and Dark-backed Weaver. In the climax Miombo woodlands we will search for Finsch's Francolin, Thick-billed Cuckoo, Pale-billed Hornbill, the localized Anchieta's and lovely Black-backed Barbet, Miombo Scrub Robin, Hartlaub's Babbler, the very seldom recorded Slender-tailed Cisticola, Retz's Helmetshrike, Anchieta's Sunbird, Sharp-tailed Starling and Rufous-bellied Tit.



Wetlands nearby may produce Chestnut-headed Flufftail, Stout (sometimes split as Angola) and Red-faced Cisticolas, Fan-tailed Grassbird, Marsh Widowbird and Red-headed Quelea.

**Day 17, 27<sup>th</sup> September: Calandula to Camabatela.** We will have the early morning to search for any specials we may not have seen before continuing north to Camabatela. We will check any bridges in the area for Red-throated Cliff Swallow. Other species we'll be on the lookout for include Landana (Pale-billed) Firefinch, Bateleur, Meyer's Parrot, Black-backed Barbet, Yellow-throated Leaflove, White-browed Robin-Chat, Miombo Scrub Robin, Sooty Chat, Croaking, Whistling and Short-winged Cisticolas, Miombo Wren-Warbler, Salvadori's Eremomela, Western Violet-backed Sunbird and Brown Twinspot. We will spend the night camping near Camabatela.

**Day 18, 28<sup>th</sup> September: Camabatela to Uige region.** The prime target today will of course be the lovely endemic Braun's Bushshrike, and we have a good chance of finding this very recently rediscovered species. Other birds we will look for include



Congo Serpent Eagle, Cassin's Hawk-Eagle, White-spotted Flufftail, Western Bronze-naped Pigeon, Great Blue and Green Turacos, Black Bee-eater, Piping Hornbill, Speckled Tinkerbird, African Piculet, Rufous-sided Broadbill, Honeyguide Greenbul, Red-tailed Bristlebill, Yellow-browed Camaroptera, Brown-crowned Eremomela, African Shrike-flycatcher, Fraser's (Scarlet-tufted), Green, Little Green, Blue-throated Brown and Green-throated Sunbirds, Crested Malimbe, Narrow-tailed Starling and Black-winged Oriole. We will also keep a careful watch for Bobtail Weaver which has recently been seen in this region. The area where we will

camp is mixed riverine forest and climax Miombo woodlands.

**Day 19, 29<sup>th</sup> September: Uige region.** We will have a full day here to search for Braun's Bushshrike if we haven't already seen it, as well as any other specialties we may have missed. This region is home to the little known northern scarp forests. These forests support a greater diversity of species than the southern scarp since they are closer to the main Guinea-Congo Forest biome. Other species we may see here include Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo, Afep Pigeon, Mottled Spinetail, Speckled Mousebird, Black Bee-eater, Broad-billed Roller, Bristle-nosed Barbet, Yellow-crested Woodpecker, Buff-throated Apalis, Yellow Longbill, Tit-Hylia, Copper Sunbird, Chestnut-winged and Splendid Starlings, Yellow-mantled Weaver and Chestnut-breasted and White-breasted Nigritas.

**Day 20, 30<sup>th</sup> September: Uige region to Luanda.** We will depart early for the long drive back to Luanda. En route, we may stop off to look for Luanda's enigmatic dark swifts that seem to most closely match the little-known Fernando Po Swift. These huge, notched-winged swifts breed on buildings in downtown Luanda and are rather a mystery! Thereafter we will transfer to the airport for our international departure flights.

#### **GROUP SIZE:**

This tour will be limited to 12 participants & 2 Rockjumper leaders.

#### **FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:**



The fee for the **Angola Endemics Overland Adventure** tour is **US\$ 6,250.00** per person sharing. The single supplement cost for the Angola tour is **US\$ 420**, and will be charged if you wish to have single accommodation. If RBT cannot provide you with a rooming partner although you choose to share, the single supplement will become applicable. We will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that a rooming partner is found if you do wish to share.

**The tour price includes:**

- All birding activities from arrival on 11<sup>th</sup> September until departure on 30<sup>th</sup> September;
- Use of three 4x4 vehicles through-out;
- All meals from lunch on day 1 to lunch on day 20;
- Camping equipment;
- Drinking water;
- All park entries and guide fees;
- All guiding services (including local guides and tour leaders); and
- Tips for local guides and services.

**...and excludes:**

- ANY International flights;
- Passport and visa fees;
- Any drinks;
- Special gratuities; and
- Telephone calls, laundry and other items of a personal nature.

**IMPORTANT: Rates are based upon group tariffs; if the tour does not have sufficient registration (a minimum of 8 paying participants) a small party supplement will have to be charged. Furthermore these costs are subject to major foreign exchange fluctuations and unforeseen increases in tour related costs and may have to be adjusted as a result. Lastly, we may be forced to change or alter the itinerary at short or no notice due to unforeseen circumstances; please be aware that we will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.**

**Tipping:**

As noted above, gratuities (drivers, porters etc.) are included on this tour. However, this does not include your Rockjumper leaders. Therefore, if you feel that they have given you excellent service, it is entirely appropriate to tip them.

**Special Note:**

- Please note that this will be a strenuous trip with some long drives on some of the worst roads in the world, numerous nights spent camping and an active pace. However, the rewards of exploring and birding Angola are truly tremendous!
- Much of our time is spent in vehicles, as we do have to cover long distances in order to get to the best areas for birds. The more luggage you pack the less room there is in the vehicle, so it is important for the comfort of your fellow travelers that you do not over-pack. Kindly stick to 20kg for check in luggage and 8kg for hand luggage.

**ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE DETAILS:**

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This tour **does not** include any international airfares. The tour will depart from Windhoek International Airport on day 1 at **07:00**; kindly arrive in advance of this time on this day or arrive the day before. The tour will conclude at Luanda international airport on day 20. Departure flights should be no earlier than **18:00**. If you wish to arrive early and/or depart late and would like assistance in this regard kindly contact the Rockjumper office.

**FLIGHTS:**

Luanda is the main port of entry for international flights in Angola and is serviced by some major airlines. We have the capacity to advise you on the best route according to your preferences, but your local travel agent will best be able to book these flights for you. If you would like further assistance kindly contact the Rockjumper office, we have a full-time in-house travel consultant that will happily help you plan your route. **However, please DO NOT book your international flights until you have consulted the Rockjumper office for confirmation on the status of the tour.**

**Photo Credits:** Red-crested Turaco (A. Riley), Northern Black Korhaan (M. Lilje), Etosha Waterhole Scenery (J. Rossouw), Cinderella Waxbill (D. Hoddinott), White-tailed Shrike (K. Valentine), Gabela Forest (A. Riley), Spotted Creeper (M. Matthiessen), African Broadbill (H. Chittenden), Gabela Akalat (A. Riley), Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye (D. Shackelford), Gabela Helmetshrike (J. Hornbuckle), Violet Woodhoopoe (K. Valentine), Angola Batis (J. Hornbuckle) and Retz' Helmetshrike (L. Gutteridge).

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