

From the Kalahari to the Indian Ocean...

Day 1 & 2: Chobe National Park **FB/HL**

From the Kasane airport we head into Botswana's Chobe National Park where our tented camp is located in the extensive teak woodlands. The Chobe is home to an enormous variety of birdlife as well as spectacular herds of elephant and many other mammal species. (African Skimmer, African Finfoot, Half-collared Kingfisher, Goliath Heron, Racket-tailed Roller, Lesser Jacana)

Day 3: Victoria Falls **FB/HL**

Our next destination is the town of Victoria Falls from which we explore the banks of the mighty Zambezi as well as a visit to the awe-inspiring Victoria Falls. (Trumpeter Hornbill, Eastern Bearded Scrub-robin, Rock Pratincole, Olive Woodpecker, Crowned Hornbill, Schalow's Turaco, Narina Trogon)

Day 4: Matopos **FB/HL**

We head east towards the city of Bulawayo and the famous granite hills of the Matopos areas. Birding in and around the Matopos area provides us with some excellent new habitat. (Boulder Chat, Cape Batis, Mottled Swift, Southern Hyliota, African Crowned Eagle, Verreaux's Eagle)

Day 5 & 6: Midlands (Harare) **FB/HL**

Gaining elevation we move towards Harare in the center of the country, this area is home to a great variety of *miombo* specials and our birding efforts will be concentrated in the surrounding *miombo* woodlands. (Miombo Blue-eared Starling, Spotted Creeper, White-breasted Cuckoo-shrike, Miombo Tit, Miombo Rock-thrush,

Highlights:

The Chobe and Zambezi rivers and associated wildlife. The awesome Victoria Falls. Miombo birding in the Midlands. The Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe. Mount Gorongosa and the quest for the Green-headed Oriole. Birding the lowland forests of Chinazua. Forest & coastal birding around Rio Savane



Malachite Kingfisher - Chobe National Park

Whyte's Barbet, Western Violet-backed Sunbird, Red-faced Crombec)

Day 7 & 8: Eastern Highlands (Nyanga) **FB/HL**

Our next destination is the renowned Eastern Highlands which is generally regarded as one of the most productive birding hotspots in the sub-region. Our birding in this area will include a visit to the spectacular World's View. (Blue Swallow, Yellow-streaked Greenbul, Black-fronted Bush-shrike, Singing Cisticola, Red-faced Crimsonwing, White-tailed Crested Flycatcher, Chirinda Apalis)

Days 9 & 10: Eastern H/lands (Honde Valley) **FB/HL**

Staying in the Eastern Highlands but now moving south we explore the Honde Valley which is another remarkable birding destination with its own host of specials. Vast tea estates cover many of the

hillsides here but there is still an excellent selection of birding habitats in this area. (Green-backed Woodpecker, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Bronzy Sunbird, Blue-spotted Wood-Dove, Pallid Honeyguide, Moustached Grass-Warbler, Twinspot Indigobird)

Day 11: Eastern Highlands (Vumba) **FB/HL**

Our last destination in the Eastern Highlands is the Vumba region where we will search for the remaining specials of the area. (Swynnerton's Robin, Buff-spotted Flufftail, Lemon Dove, Livingstone's Turaco, Bronze-naped Pigeon, Variable Sunbird, Starred Robin).

Day 12: Mt. Gorongosa **FB/HL**

We cross the border into Mocambique where our destination is the iconic Mt. Gorongosa which hosts one of the most range-restricted species in Southern Africa, the Green-headed Oriole. (Black-and-White Flycatcher, Swynnerton's Robin, Moustached Warbler, Nyassa Seedcracker, Chirinda Apalis)

Day 13 & 14: Chinizua **FB/HL**

We get down to some serious exploration of this remote and rewarding region. Our efforts are focused on the lowland forests of Chinizua where a host of new specials are to be found (Chestnut-fronted Helmet-Shrike, Plain-backed Sunbird, Mascarene Martin, **Angola Pitta**, White-chested Alethe, East Coast Akalat, Marsh Tchagra, Palm-nut Vulture)

Day 15 & 16: Rio Savane / Beira **FB/HL**

Our final destination is Rio Savane, another of Mocambique's birding hotspots where we will spend one night and a full day before heading to our hotel in Beira for the final night. (Blue Quail, Locustfinch, Black-rumped Buttonquail, Mangrove Kingfisher, Crab Plover)

Day 17: Our adventure ends after breakfast with a transfer to the airport for onward flights.



White-chested Alethe - Mocambique (Hugh Chittenden)

Total possible species for safari: 650+
Likely to record (Summer): 400 - 450

Price per person: USD4750.00
Single supplement: USD475.00

ABBREVIATIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

FB/TC: Full Board in Letaka Tented Camp
Includes all meals, drinks and accommodation

FB/HL: Full Board Hotel or Lodge
Includes accommodation dinner and breakfast. Includes mineral water but excludes all other drinks.

Price Excludes: all flights, gratuities for guides and staff, any applicable visa fees, medical & travel insurance, entry fees to Victoria Falls, optional excursions not included in this itinerary.



2011 Departures

07 March 2011 ex Kasane, 28 March 2011 ex Beira (runs in reverse)