

Brief Itinerary, Mammals, and Other Non-bird Wildlife of Kenya Seen on our Trip July 1-12, 2019

Brief Itinerary

July 2: Landed in Nairobi after dark and went straight to hotel.

July 3: Short drive from our hotel to Nairobi National Park and spent 3-4 hours there. Then drove to Crater Lake area with a stop at Manguo Swamp on the way. Spent the night at Crater Lake Tented Camp with short drives in the vicinity.

July 4: Spent the morning in the Crater Lake area with a short stop at the shore of Lake Naivasha on the way to Kinangop Plateau. Birded the plateau including the access gravel road. Drove from here to Masai Mara National Reserve. Birded much of this drive as well. Slept at Sarova Mara Game Camp, a short ways into the reserve.

July 5: Spent the entire day in Masa Mara National Reserve. Drove from the Sarova Mara Game Camp to the Mara River and back. Birded and mammal watched the entire day from sun up to sun down.

July 6: Spent the entire day inside the Masai Mara National Reserve. Drove south from the Sarova Mara Game Camp to near and along the Tanzania border to a Mara River crossing and back. Birded and mammal watched the entire day from sun up to sun down.

July 7: Left Masai Mara first thing through the Talek Gate and headed west towards Lake Victoria. Birded the shore of Lake Victoria at Kisumu Waterfront and area. Then went north to Kakamega Rainforest. Birded there on the way in but was dark soon after arriving. Stayed at Rondo Rereat.

July 8: Spent the entire day inside Kakamega Rainforest. Drove and hiked various roads and trails.

July 9: Birded the road out of Kakamega going east. Spent a lot of the day driving to the Lake Bagoria area. Briefly stopped at a lookout overlooking the African Rift Valley. Birded from the car with various stops along this route including a lunch break at Kerio View Hotel. Went to Lake Bagoria and saw the flamingo flocks. Then drove a short ways to our accommodation on the shore of Lake Baringo – Soi Safari Lodge.

July 10: Went on a boat tour of Lake Baringo in the morning and birded the surrounding area on land in the afternoon. Slept at Soi Safari Lodge again.

July 11: Birded the cliff area near Lake Baringo, checked out of our hotel, and birded the road back to Nairobi with several roadside stops. Flew out of Nairobi at midnight.

1. Warthog – Seen in Nairobi National Park, near Crater Lake, and Masai Mara

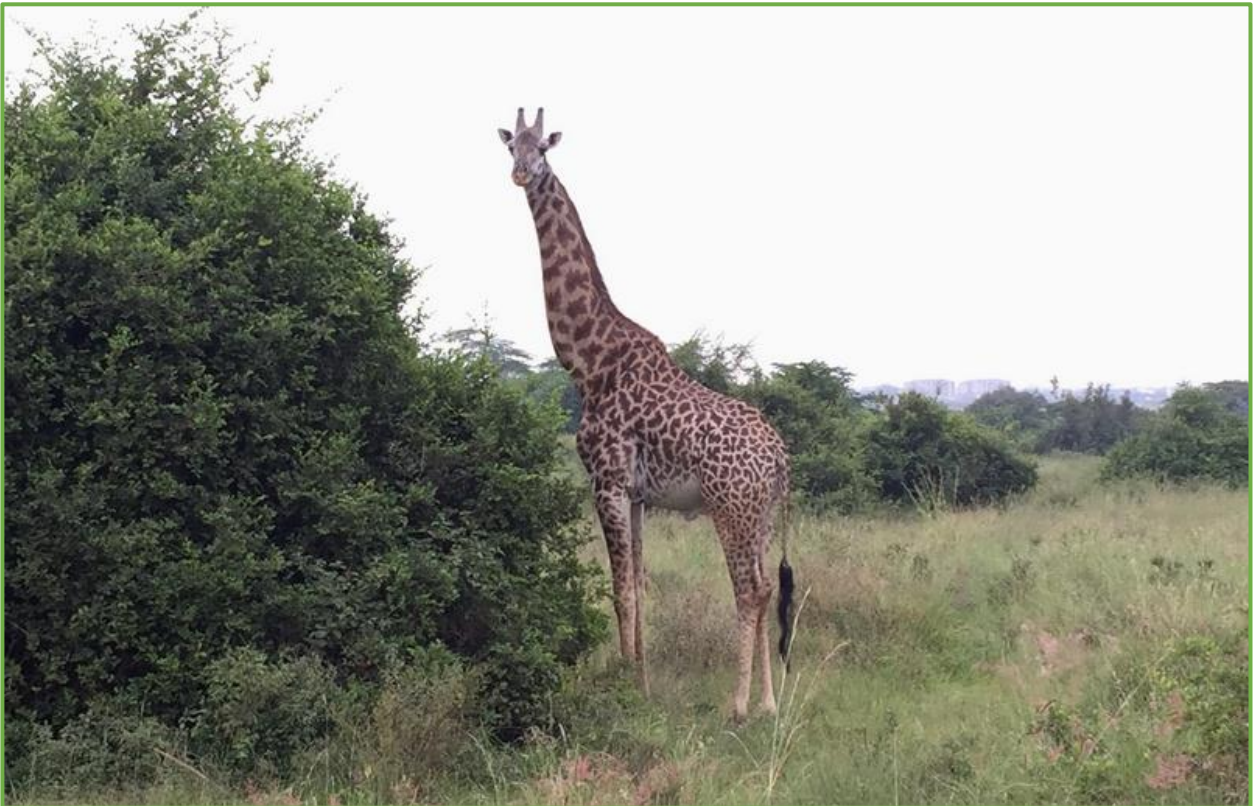


2. Hippopotamus – seen first in Crater Lake. Also seen in the Mara River in Masai Mara National Reserve and in Lake Baringo where two of them charged our boat. Abundant in appropriate habitat.





3. Masai Giraffe – seen in Nairobi National Park, along the road in several wild places, and many in Masai Mara National Reserve. Abundant in appropriate habitat.



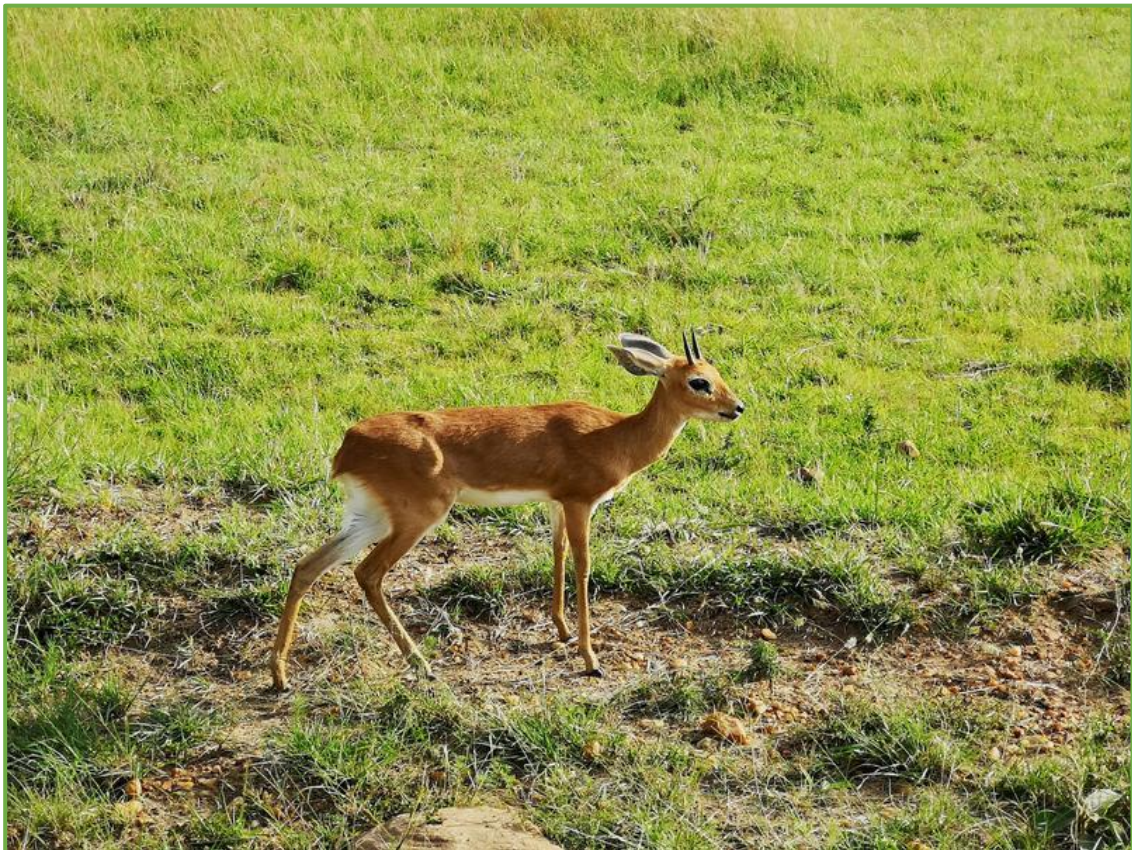


4. Rothschild's Giraffe – seen 3 or 4 along the road in the Lake Naivasha area on the way to Crater Lake. No photos.
5. Kirk's Dik Dik – seen in wild areas just north of Crater Lake (4) and on the grounds of Sarova Mara Game Camp in Masai Mara National Reserve (3).





6. Steinbok – Seen one inside Masai Mara National Reserve.



7. Oribi – Seen one inside Masai Mara National Reserve laying down.



8. Bushbuck – seen two (an adult and young) on the grounds of Sarova Mara Game Camp inside Masai Mara National Reserve.



9. Eland – Seen one inside Nairobi National Park.



10. Defassa Waterbuck – Seen inside Masai Mara National Reserve. Approximately 10 seen.





11. Wildebeest – Abundant in Masai Mara National Reserve. We caught migration in full swing. Saw thousands including hundreds migrating.





12. Bohor Reedbuck – seen one in Nairobi National Park



13. Topi – Abundant in Masai Mara National Reserve.



14. Cokes Hartebeest – Seen approximately 10 in Nairobi National Park



15. Impala – abundant in Nairobi National Park, abundant in Masai Mara National Reserve, and several groups seen along the road.



16. Grants Gazelle – seen along the road near Crater Lake and then common in Masai Mara National Preserve.





17. Thompsons Gazelle – seen along the road near Crater Lake but abundant in Masai Mara National Reserve.



18. Cape Buffalo – abundant in Nairobi National Park and abundant in Masai Mara National Reserve.



19. African Elephant – Seen in Masai Mara National Preserve where they were common in groups.



20. Common Zebra – common in most places containing grassland habitat on the trip.



21. White Rhinoceros – Seen 2 adults and one young at Nairobi National Park.



22. Tree Hyrax – common during the night screaming from trees inside the Sarova Mara Game Camp.



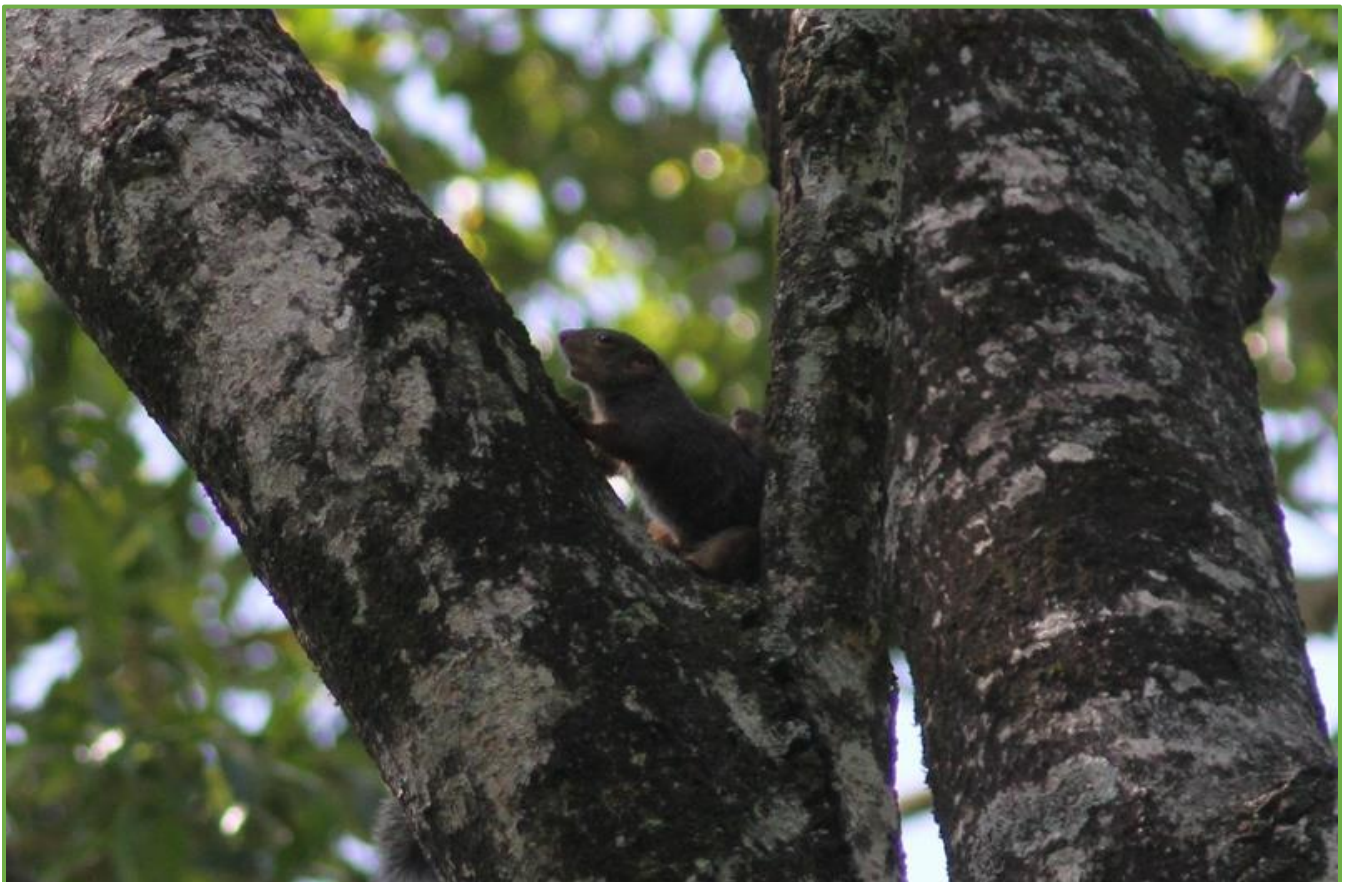
23. Rock Hyrax – Seen along the cliffs near Lake Baringo early morning. Saw dens for many but only 1 actually seen by our group.



24. Striped Ground Squirrel – seen one along the road near the SE shore of Lake Naivasha. No photo.
25. Unstriped Ground Squirrel – seen one first near Lake Victoria and common in the Lake Baringo area.



26. African Giant Squirrel – seen two in Kakamega Forest.



27. Red-legged Sun Squirrel – seen 3 in Kakamega Forest.



28. Scaly-tailed Flying Squirrel – seen one just after dark on the grounds of the Rondo Retreat Lodge in Kakamega Forest.



29. African Hare – seen one along the road and one near Lake Baringo. Mistakenly deleted photos 😞
30. Black-backed Jackal – seen a pair in Masai Mara National Reserve and several others from the road that goes north from the Talek Gate of Masai Mara.



31. Slender Mongoose – seen one briefly from the road going north from Crater Lake Tented Camp. No photos.
32. Banded Mongoose – common in Masai Mara National Reserve. Seen in groups.



33. Dwarf Mongoose – seen a family at the Mara Bridge near the Tanzania border in Masai Mara National Reserve.



34. Spotted Hyaena – Seen in Masai Mara National Reserve. Saw one large group and several pairs or individuals. Heard at night from the Sarova Mara Game Camp on both nights we stayed there.



35. Lion – saw a group in Nairobi National Park, saw several groups and individuals in Masai Mara National Reserve.



36. Leopard – Saw 3 individuals all inside Masai Mara National Reserve. Watched one stalk a group of Impala on our first day inside Masai Mara.



37. Cheetah – saw 5 brothers at a kill in Masai Mara National Reserve. Saw one individual on the road north out of the Talek Gate of Masai Mara.



38. African Wild Cat – seen near Lake Baringo. A group of birds were interested in something on the ground and we walked over to investigate believing it could have been a snake. An African Wild Cat ran out of the area. No photos.
39. Olive Baboon – Seen first near Lake Naivasha, seen along the road in several places, and seen inside Masai Mara National Reserve.



40. Sykes/Blue Monkey – One seen in Nairobi National Park and then also seen in Kakamega Rainforest.





41. Black-faced Vervet Monkey – Seen a group in Nairobi National Park and seen in Masai Mara National Reserve. The most common monkey species seen on the trip in terms of individuals.

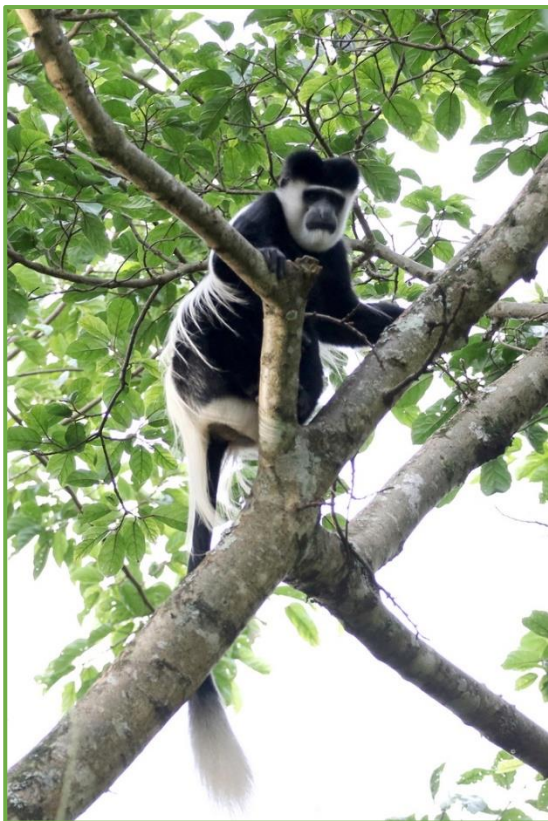




42. Red-tailed Monkey – seen in Kakamega Rainforest areas. Local, but not uncommon.



43. Black and White Colobus – first seen inside the Crater Lake Tented Camp grounds but also saw in Kakamega Rainforest.



44. Fruit Bat (not sure which specific kind) – saw several at a rift valley overlook area.



45. Four-toed Elephant Shrew – saw one near Lake Baringo.



46. Brown House Snake – saw one on the grounds of our accommodation on the shore of Lake Baringo. Saw another smaller one on a short snake walk the last night.



47. Puff Adder – we paid a local person some money to take us on a snake walk. After a short ways a person with a Puff Adder was obviously waiting on the path ahead. It was clear that this was a set up to show us a Puff Adder. We thought it might have been from the local reptile center but it was confirmed the next day that they didn't have one there and no one would keep one as a pet. The story from the person we paid was that the person had caught it the night before in order to show us. Ethics aside, it appeared to be a wild Puff Adder. Not sure what to make of the encounter or where it ended up after we left...



48. Agama Lizard – common lizard found many areas of our trip. We nicknamed it the Spiderman Lizard based on its colour pattern.



49. Striped Skink – Seen first in Masai Mara National Reserve but seen in other places as well.



50. Common House Gecko – seen after dark around lights at various places we stayed.



51. Nile Monitor – Seen first at the Mara River near the Tanzania border, seen again along the shore at Lake Baringo.



52. Nile Crocodile – first seen in Nairobi National Park, also seen in Masai Mara National Reserve. Huge.



53. Leopard Tortoise – First seen along the road in Lake Baringo area. Saw between 5-10.



54. Dung Beetle



55. African Giant Millipede



56. Termites



57. African Land Snail – no photo.