



# Cisticola

BIRDING AND NATURE TOURS IN EAST AFRICA

## KENYA BIRDING AND WILDLIFE TOUR



*Jackson's Spurfowl/ Francolin*

Cisticola Tours LTD

[www.cisticolatours.com](http://www.cisticolatours.com)

## **DAY 1: ARRIVAL AND NAIROBI AREA BIRDING**

On arrival you will be met by our guide at the airport. You will then proceed to your hotel, crossing the city as you enjoy your first birds of the trip.

If time allows, this afternoon, we shall visit a local forest for some birding.

Night in Nairobi.

## **DAY 2 AND 3: SAMBURU NATIONAL RESERVE**

We shall leave early for Samburu. As we approach Samburu, we shall be keeping an eye for specialties such as the Straw-tailed Whydah, Steel-blue Whydah, Chestnut-headed Sparrow-Lark, Rufous Bush Chat, Fan-tailed Raven, Bristle-crowned Starling, Fischer's Starling, Magpie Starling, Ruppell's Vulture, Egyptian Vulture, Donaldson-Smith's Sparrow-Weaver, Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse, White-bellied (Variable) Sunbird and Pink-breasted Lark.

Later, we shall spend time scouting for extra birds as we enjoy the local mammals, such as Leopard, Beisa Oryx, Gerenuk, Grevy's Zebra, Reticulated Giraffe, Lion and Elephants.

More birds will be expected here including Somali Ostrich, Somali Courser, Golden Pipit, Golden-breasted Starling, Abyssinian Scimitarbill, Rosy-patched Bushshrike, Pringle's Puffback, Northern Puffback, Northern White-crowned Shrike, White-headed Mousebird, Hunter's Sunbird, Black-bellied Sunbird, Shining Sunbird, Red-billed Hornbill, Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Von der Decken's Hornbill, Black-faced Sandgrouse, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Fire-fronted Bishop, Somali Bee-eater, Stone Partridge, African Orange-bellied Parrot, Yellow-vented Eremomela, Northern Crombec, Northern Grey Tit, Black-capped Social Weaver, Northern Brownbul, Buff-crested Bustard, African Bare-eyed Thrush, Somali Sparrow, Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar, Dusky Nightjar, Vulturine Guineafowl, Rufous Chatterer, African Mourning Dove, Egyptian Vulture, Bateleur, Martial Eagle and Tawny Eagle.

Nights in Samburu.



*Somali Ostrich*

#### **DAY 4: MT. KENYA**

Continuing on our tour, we shall head to the highlands of Mt. Kenya. We shall scan the forest, wetlands and grasslands hoping to find species such as the African Cuckoo-Hawk, Mountain Buzzard, Crowned Eagle, Alpine Swift, Purple-throated Cuckoo-Shrike, Grey Cuckoo-Shrike, Mountain Wagtail, Cape Wagtail, Slender-billed Greenbul, Mountain Yellow-Warbler, Cinnamon Bracken Warbler, Black-throated Apalis, Black-collared Apalis, Chestnut-throated Apalis, White-browed Crombec, Hunter's Cisticola, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Crowned Hornbill, African Black Duck, Red-fronted Parrot, Hartlaub's Turaco, Spectacled Weaver, Grey-headed Nigrita, Scaly Francolin, Brown-backed Scrub-Robin, Rueppell's Robin-Chat, Abyssinian Crimsonwing, Abyssinian Ground Thrush, Black-fronted Bushshrike, Malachite Sunbird, Golden-winged Sunbird, Eastern Double-collared Sunbird, Black-headed Waxbill, Olive Ibis, Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo, Slender-billed Starling, Abbott's Starling, Sharpe's Starling, Kenrick's Starling, Waller's Starling, Kikuyu White-eye, Fine-banded Woodpecker,



White-headed Wood-Hoopoe, Bar-tailed Trogon, Yellow-crowned Canary, Dusky Turtle Dove, African Green Pigeon, Lemon Dove, African Olive Pigeon, and Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon.

Montane mammals are likely, including monkeys, antelopes, mongooses, genets etc.

Night at Mt. Kenya.



*African Elephant*

## **DAY 5 AND 6: LAKE BARINGO**

We shall head for Lake Baringo, as we bird along the way. If time allows, we shall stop briefly at a roadside dam near the lake, to check for some waterfowl. We shall drive and walk around the scrubland and the cliffs surrounding the lake, in search of Spotted ( & Greyish) Eagle-Owl, Northern White-faced Scops Owl, Shikra, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Verreaux's Eagle, Slender-tailed Nightjar, Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar, Heuglin's Courser, Blue-capped Cordon-bleu, D'Arnaud's Barbet, Black-throated Barbet, Brubru, Grey-headed Bushshrike, Somali Fiscal, Three-streaked Tchagra, Spotted Thick-knee, Senegal Thick-knee, African Pygmy Kingfisher, Nubian Woodpecker, Crimson-rumped Waxbill, Little Weaver, Jackson's Golden-backed

Weaver, Northern Masked Weaver, White-billed Buffalo-Weaver, White-bellied Canary, Beautiful Sunbird, Black-headed Plover, Jackson's Hornbill, Yellow-billed Hornbill, Hemprich's Hornbill, Northern Red Bishop, Brown-tailed Rock Chat, Mocking Cliff-Chat, Somali Sparrow and Bristle-crowned Starling, among many other wonderful species of this region.

A boat ride of Lake Baringo will be done on one morning, in search of water birds like African Jacana, Black Crake, Goliath Heron, Little Bittern, Purple Heron and White-faced Whistling Duck. The boat ride experience will also help you enjoy the beauty of the lake and see the local African Fish Eagles advertising their territories as they hunt too.

Nights in Baringo.



*African Fish Eagle*

## **DAY 7: LAKE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK**

This park is famed as the birdwatchers' paradise, and indeed was the first national park in Africa to be set up with an avian conservation objective. Up to a million flamingos have been recorded in this park depending on their regional migration. Most of these are Lesser Flamingos with Greater Flamingos making a smaller population. Other birds include the Woolly-necked Stork, Arrow-marked Babbler, Little Rock-Thrush, Mocking Cliff Chat, White-browed Robin-Chat,



Reed Cormorant, Pink-backed Pelican, Pied Avocet, Kittlitz's Plover, Blacksmith Plover, Coqui Francolin, Hildebrandt's Francolin, Black Cuckoo, Levallant's Cuckoo, African Cuckoo, Grey-crested Helmetshrike, Cape Teal, Brimstone Canary, Blue-billed Teal, Red-billed Teal, Dusky Nightjar, Montane Nightjar; with Palearctic water migrants being abundant in the right season. The park is also a great sanctuary for rhinos; without forgetting other three members of the Big Five (Lion, Leopard, African Buffalo), and these may be encountered as we move around the park. Other mammals will be seen, especially herds of grazing herbivores; and the Rothschild's Giraffe.

We shall spend the night in Nakuru.



*Southern White Rhinos*

## **DAY 8, 9 AND 10: MASAI MARA NATIONAL RESERVE**

Renowned for the annual wildebeest migration, which is often regarded as the 8th Wonder of the World, Masai Mara National Reserve is the crown of an African Safari experience. Considered the ultimate wildlife haven in Kenya, this reserve has a lot to offer. From all members of the Big 5 to the numerous herbivores grazing the landscape in huge herds, this place is indeed amazing. Enjoy interesting game drives as you track the Big 5- African Lion, Cape Buffalo, Savannah

Elephant, Black Rhino, Leopard. The reserve is also known as the haven of the Big Cats- Leopard, Lion and Cheetah. Other mammals here will include Topi and Maasai Giraffe.

Birds include Southern Ground-Hornbill, Rufous-bellied Heron, Pennant-winged Nightjar, Square-tailed Nightjar, Dusky Nightjar, Schalow's Turaco, Grey-crested Helmetshrike, Red-necked Spurfowl, Red-winged Francolin, Bare-faced Go-away-bird, Rufous-chested Swallow, Lappet-faced Vulture, Short-toed Snake-Eagle, White-headed Vulture, Ruppell's Vulture, Secretarybird, Grey Kestrel, Temminck's Courser, Rosy-breasted Longclaw, Green-capped Eremomela, Black Coucal, African Quailfinch, Kori Bustard, Bush Pipit, Latakoo Lark, Flappet Lark, Athi Short-toed Lark, Rufous-tailed Weaver, Grey-capped Social Weaver, Karamoja Apalis, Black-backed Cisticola, Long-tailed Cisticola, Pale Wren-Warbler, Usambiro Barbet, Familiar Chat, Sooty Chat, African Wattled Plover, Woolly-necked Stork, Saddle-billed Stork and Magpie Shrike.

Nights in Mara.



*Cheetah*



## **DAY 11: MASAI MARA TO NAIROBI**

On this day, we shall enjoy some morning birding in the Mara. We shall then start the journey back to Nairobi, as we enjoy birding stops on the way. Later in the afternoon, we shall arrive in Nairobi.

We shall then head to the airport for the flight home; marking the end to our lovely tour.



*Secretarybird*