



# Somaliland & Djibouti

## 2025 Trip Report



*Little Brown Bustard © Michael Mills*

***Text and photographs by Michael Mills***

## SUMMARY

The first ever all-hotel-accommodated birding tour of Somaliland and Djibouti was a resounding success. In just 10 days in Somaliland we found all of the territory's specials and endemics (except for Sharpe's Lark, which is yet to be rediscovered). Top birds included Collared Lark, Warsangli Linnet, Little Brown Bustard, Heuglin's Bustard, Somali Golden-winged Grosbeak, Somali Lark, Lesser Hoopoe-Lark and Somali Thrush.

After some introductory birding in the Hargeisa area, our first stop was at the Beira Hills, where Somali Wheatear and Arabian Warbler were our first specials. Near Berbera we found Somali Pigeon, and on the mudflats at Berbera found Crab-plover, Black Heron and Yellow-billed/Intermediate Egret. Moving on to the Burao area we paused at Sheikh Pass for Sombre Rock Chat, before seeing our first Little Brown Bustards. Crossing numerous plains en route to Erigavo we found Heuglin's Bustard, Lesser Hoopoe-Lark, Somali Lark and Philippa's Crombec. The spectacular Daalo escarpment produced all its specials by lunch on the first day (Somali Golden-winged Grosbeak, Somali Thrush, Warsangli Linnet), and

we enjoyed point-blank views of Archer's/Orange River Francolin. Heading back to Burao we detoured to see the very special Collared Lark, before returning to Hargeisa with 'Brown-tailed Rock Chat' en route. Two days spent searching for Sharpe's Lark were unsuccessful in that regard, but we added Somali Short-toed Lark, African Swallow-tailed Kite and Beira to the lists before it was time to fly to Djibouti City. An early morning outing in Djibouti City produced a variety of resident and migrant birds, before we headed to Day Forest for a two-nights stay. Here Djibouti Francolin gave itself up after a bit of a tussle on the first morning, and other highlights included Gambaga Flycatcher and Sombre Rock Chat.

*Collared Lark © Michael Mills*



*Heuglin's Bustard © Michael Mills*

## ITINERARY

- 1 Apr: Arrive Hargeisa.
- 2 Apr: Hargeisa to Berbera.
- 3 Apr: Berbera to Burao.
- 4 Apr: Berbera to Erigavo.
- 5–6 Apr: Daalo escarpment and forest.
- 7 Apr: Erigavo to Burao.
- 8 Apr: Collared Lark Day Trip.
- 9 Apr: Burao to Hargeisa.
- 10 Apr: Ban Tunyo Day Trip.
- 11 Apr: Day south of Hargeisa.
- 12 Apr: Hargeisa to Djibouti City.
- 13 Apr: Djibouti City to Day Forest.
- 14 Apr: Day Forest.
- 15 Apr: Day Forest to Djibouti City.

# BIRDS RECORDED

## Numididae

**Helmeted Guineafowl** *Numida meleagris*—Seen twice

## Phasianidae

**Orange River Francolin** *Scleroptila gutturalis*—Spectacular views of Archer's Francolin at Daalo.

**Crested Francolin** *Ortygornis sephaena*—Regular sightings

**Djibouti Francolin** *Pternistis ochropectus*—Good views at Day Forest

**Yellow-necked Spurfowl** *Pternistis leucoscepus*—Regular sightings

## Anatidae

**Egyptian Goose** *Alopochen aegyptiaca*—Seen at Hargeisa

## Caprimulgidae

**Nubian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus nubicus*—Good day-time views near Beira Hills

**Donaldson Smith's Nightjar** *Caprimulgus donaldsoni*—Excellent views near Burao

**Plain Nightjar** *Caprimulgus inornatus*—Seen near Hargeisa and at Day Forest

## Apodidae

**Alpine Swift** *Tachymarptis melba*—Seen at Sheikh Pass and Day Forest

**Nyanza Swift** *Apus niansae*—Seen at Daalo and Sheikh Pass

**Little Swift** *Apus affinis*—Seen

## Musophagidae

**White-bellied Go-away-bird** *Crinifer leucogaster*—Seen

## Otididae

**Kori Bustard** *Ardeotis kori*—Seen twice east of Hargeisa

**Heuglin's Bustard** *Neotis heuglinii*—Two excellent sightings east of Burao

**White-bellied Bustard** *Eupodotis senegalensis*—Seen east of Hargeisa

**Little Brown Bustard** *Heterotetrax humilis*—Many excellent sightings

**Buff-crested Bustard** *Lophotis gindiana*—Several seen

## Cuculidae

**White-browed Coucal** *Centropus [s.] superciliosus*—Seen near Erigavo and Burao

## Pteroclidae

**Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** *Pterocles exustus*—Seen regularly

## Columbidae

**Rock Dove or Feral Pigeon** *Columba livia*—Seen

**Speckled Pigeon** *Columba guinea*—Seen daily

**Somali Pigeon** *Columba oliviae*—Excellent views inland of Berbera

**African Olive Pigeon** *Columba arquatrix*—Just a couple at Daalo

**African Collared Dove** *Streptopelia roseogrisea*—Seen along the coast

**African Mourning Dove** *Streptopelia decipiens*—Seen

**Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semitorquata*—Seen at Daalo and Sheikh Pass

**Cape Turtle Dove | Ring-necked Dove** *Streptopelia capicola*—Seen

**Laughing Dove** *Spilopelia senegalensis*—Seen

**Emerald-spotted Wood Dove** *Turtur chalcospilos*—Seen near Hargeisa

**Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis*—Seen

**Bruce's Green Pigeon** *Treron waalia*—Seen at Daalo and Day Forest

## Podicipedidae

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus [r.] ruficollis*—Seen at Hargeisa

## Phoenicopteridae

**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus*—Seen at Berbera

## Burhinidae

**Spotted Thick-knee** *Burhinus capensis*—Seen near Erigavo and Hargeisa

## Charadriidae

**Spur-winged Lapwing** *Vanellus spinosus*—Seen at Hargeisa and Djibouti City

**Crowned Lapwing** *Vanellus coronatus*—Seen regularly

**Grey Plover | Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*—Seen

**Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*—Seen

**Three-banded Plover** *Charadrius [t.] tricollaris*—Seen

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius [a.] alexandrinus*—Seen at Berbera

**Tibetan Sand Plover** *Charadrius [mongolus] atrifrons*—Seen at Berbera

**Caspian Plover** *Charadrius asiaticus*—Seen by Bob near Hargeisa

## Scolopacidae

**Eurasian Whimbrel** *Numenius [p.] phaeopus*—Seen

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata*—Seen

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*—Seen

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*—Seen

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*—Seen

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*—Seen

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*—Seen

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus*—Seen

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucus*—Seen

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus*—Seen

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*—Seen

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*—Seen

## Dromadidae

**Crab-plover** *Dromas ardeola*—Two at Berbera

## Glareolidae

**Somali Courser** *Cursorius somalensis*—Seen daily in Somaliland

**Double-banded Courser** *Rhinoptilus africanus*—Seen in Somaliland

## Laridae

**Slender-billed Gull** *Chroicocephalus genei*—Seen in Djibouti

**White-eyed Gull** *Ichthyaetus leucophthalmus*—Seen at Berbera and Djibouti City

**Sooty Gull** *Ichthyaetus hemprichii*—Seen at Berbera and Djibouti City

**Caspian Gull** *Larus cachinnans*—One at Berbera

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** *Larus fuscus*—Seen at Berbera

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon [n.] nilotica*—Seen at Berbera

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*—Seen at Berbera

**Greater Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bergii*—Seen at Berbera

**Lesser Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bengalensis*—Seen at Berbera

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*—One at Berbera

## Procellariidae

**Persian Shearwater** *Puffinus [bailloni] persicus*—About 30 seen offshore from Berbera

## Ciconiidae

**Yellow-billed Stork** *Mycteria ibis*—One in Djibouti

**Abdim's Stork** *Ciconia abdimii*—Seen in Somaliland

**Marabou Stork** *Leptoptilos crumenifer*—Seen at Hargeisa

#### Threskiornithidae

**African Sacred Ibis** *Threskiornis aethiopicus*—Seen

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*—One at Berbera

**African Spoonbill** *Platalea alba*—One at Djibouti City

#### Ardeidae

**Striated Heron** *Butorides [s.] striata*—Seen in Djibouti

**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus [i.] ibis*—Seen

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Black-headed Heron** *Ardea melanocephala*—Seen

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*—One in Djibouti

**Yellow-billed Egret** *Ardea [intermedia] brachyrhyncha*—One at Berbera

**Black Heron** *Egretta ardesiaca*—One at Berbera

**Little Egret** *Egretta [g.] garzetta*—Seen in Djibouti

**Western Reef Heron** *Egretta gularis*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

#### Scopidae

**Hamerkop** *Scopus umbretta*—Seen twice

#### Pandionidae

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*—One in Djibouti

#### Accipitridae

**Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*—One near Hargeisa

**African Swallow-tailed Kite** *Chelictinia riocourii*—Two at Ban Tunyo

**Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron percnopterus*—Good numbers in Djibouti but absent in Somaliland

**Hooded Vulture** *Necrosyrtes monachus*—Seen at Hargeisa

**Short-toed Snake Eagle** *Circaetus gallicus*—Four sightings in Somaliland

**Black-chested Snake Eagle** *Circaetus pectoralis*—One at Ban Tunyo

**Booted Eagle** *Hieraetus pennatus*—One at Day Forest

**Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis*—Two at Hargeisa

**Bonelli's Eagle** *Aquila fasciata*—Seen at Day Forest and on our way back to Djibouti City

**Gabar Goshawk** *Micronisus gabar*—Seen

**Eastern Chanting Goshawk** *Melierax poliopterus*—Several seen

**Shikra** *Accipiter badius*—One seen

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*—Seen at Day Forest

**Pallid Harrier** *Circus macrourus*—One at Ban Tunyo

**Yellow-billed Kite** *Milvus [migrans] aegyptius*—Seen at Hargeisa

**Augur Buzzard** *Buteo [a.] augur*—Archer's Buzzard was seen at Daalo

#### Strigidae

**African Scops Owl** *Otus [s.] senegalensis*—One in the day at Daalo. In my opinion they are normal African Scops Owls.

**Greyish Eagle-Owl** *Bubo [africanus] cinerascens*—Nice views in Djibouti

**Little Owl** *Athene noctua*—Seen well near Erigavo

#### Coliidae

**Blue-naped Mousebird** *Urocolius macrourus*—Seen often

#### Trogonidae

**Narina Trogon** *Apaloderma narina*—Heard at Daalo

#### Upupidae

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa [e.] epops*—Both resident and migrant birds seen

#### Phoeniculidae

**Black-billed Wood Hoopoe** *Phoeniculus somaliensis*—Seen at Erigavo

**Abyssinian Scimitarbill** *Rhinopomastus minor*—Seen several times

#### Bucerotidae

**Northern Red-billed Hornbill** *Tockus [e.] erythrorhynchus*—Seen most days

**Von der Decken's Hornbill** *Tockus [d.] deckeni*—Seen twice

**Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill** *Tockus flavirostris*—Seen most days

**Hemprich's Hornbill** *Lophoceros hemprichii*—Seen at Erigavo, Daalo and Day Forest

#### Coraciidae

**Rufous-crowned Roller | (African) Purple Roller** *Coracias naevius*—Seen most days

**Lilac-breasted Roller** *Coracias caudatus*—Lilac-throated Roller was seen a few times

#### Alcedinidae

**Grey-headed Kingfisher** *Halcyon leucocephala*—One at Ban Tunyo

#### Meropidae

**Little Bee-eater** *Merops pusillus*—Seen several times

**Somali Bee-eater** *Merops revoilii*—Many good sightings

**White-throated Bee-eater** *Merops albicollis*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops persicus*—Seen at Djibouti City

**Olive Bee-eater** *Merops superciliosus*—Seen most days in Somaliland

**European Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*—Seen in Djibouti

**Northern Carmine Bee-eater** *Merops nubicus*—Seen in the Burao area

#### Lybiidae

**Red-fronted Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus pusillus*—Seen at Sheikh Pass and Daalo

**Black-throated Barbet** *Tricholaema melanolecephala*—Seen several times

**Red-and-yellow Barbet** *Trachyphonus erythrocephalus*—Good views around Burao

**Yellow-breasted Barbet** *Trachyphonus margaritatus*—Seen at Beira Hills and Day Forest

#### Indicatoridae

**Lesser Honeyguide** *Indicator [m.] minor*—Seen at Sheikh Pass

**Greater Honeyguide** *Indicator indicator*—Seen near Hargeisa

#### Picidae

**Eurasian Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*—One at Daalo

**Nubian Woodpecker** *Campetheria nubica*—Seen most days

**Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens*—Seen several times

#### Falconidae

**Pygmy Falcon** *Polihierax semitorquatus*—Seen twice

**Common Kestrel** *Falco [t.] tinnunculus*—Seen a few times

**Greater Kestrel** *Falco rupicoloides*—Seen near Erigavo and on Ban Silo

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco [p.] peregrinus*—Seen near Berbera and at Daalo

**Psittacidae**

**African Orange-bellied Parrot** *Poicephalus rufiventris*—Seen several times

**Psittaculidae**

**Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri*—Seen at Djibouti City

**Platysteiridae**

**Grey-headed Batis** *Batis orientalis*—Seen several times

**Pygmy Batis** *Batis perkeo*—Seen near Burao

**Malaconotidae**

**Rosy-patched Bushshrike** *Telophorus cruentus*—Seen most days

**Three-streaked Tchagra** *Tchagra jamesi*—Good views near Burao

**Black-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra senegalus*—Seen at Daalo and Day Forest

**Slate-coloured Boubou** *Laniarius funebris*—Seen near Hargeisa

**Red-naped Bushshrike** *Laniarius ruficeps*—Good views near Burao

**Ethiopian Boubou** *Laniarius [a.] aethiopicus*—Seen at Sheihk Pass and Day Forest

**Brubru** *Nilaus afer*—Seen often

**Vangidae**

**White-crested Helmetshrike** *Prionops plumatus*—Seen near Burao

**Laniidae**

**Northern White-crowned Shrike** *Eurocephalus ruppelli*—Seen several times

**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Isabelline Shrike** *Lanius isabellinus*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Red-tailed Shrike** *Lanius phoenicuroides*—Seen a few times

**Great Grey Shrike** *Lanius excubitor*—Seen near Berbera and in Djibouti

**Somali Fiscal** *Lanius somalicus*—Seen daily in Somaliland

**Masked Shrike** *Lanius nubicus*—One at Djibouti City

**Oriolidae**

**Eurasian Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*—One seen

**Dicruridae**

**Fork-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus adsimilis*—Seen most days

**Monarchidae**

**African Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone [v.] viridis*—Seen at Daalo

**Corvidae**

**House Crow** *Corvus splendens*—Common at Berbera

**Pied Crow** *Corvus albus*—Small numbers in Somaliland

**Somali Crow** *Corvus edithae*—Seen most days in Somaliland

**Fan-tailed Raven** *Corvus rhipidurus*—Seen regularly

**Paridae**

**Acacia Tit | Somali Tit** *Melaniparus thruppi*—Seen several times

**Remizidae**

**Mouse-coloured Penduline Tit** *Anthoscopus musculus*—Seen several times

**Alaudidae**

**Greater Hoopoe-Lark** *Alaemon alaudipes*—Good views at Berbera

**Lesser Hoopoe-Lark** *Alaemon hamertoni*—Excellent views en route to Erigavo and at Ban Tunyo

**Desert Lark** *Ammomanes deserti*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark** *Eremopterix nigriceps*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Chestnut-headed Sparrow-Lark** *Eremopterix signatus*—Just 3 seen near Burao

**Gillett's Lark** *Mirafr a gillettei*—Seen regularly

**Collared Lark** *Mirafr a collaris*—Excellent views of a pair south-east of Burao

**Somali Lark** *Mirafr a somalica*—Excellent views en route to Erigavo and at Ban Tunyo

**Short-tailed Lark** *Spizocorys fremantlii*—Seen en route to Erigavo

**Thekla's Lark** *Galerida theklae*—Seen on the plateau

**Crested Lark** *Galerida [c.] cristata*—Seen along the coast

**Rufous-capped Lark** *Calandrella [blanfordi] eremica*—Good views near Erigavo, and brief views south of Hargeisa

**Somali Short-toed Lark** *Alaudala [s.] somalica*—Good views south of Hargeisa

**Pycnonotidae**

**Somali Bulbul** *Pycnonotus [barbatus] somaliensis*—Seen at Hargeisa and in Djibouti

**Dodson's Bulbul** *Pycnonotus [barbatus] dodsoni*—Seen from Burao eastwards

**Hirundinidae**

**(Common) Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*—Seen once

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*—Regular sightings

**Ethiopian Swallow** *Hirundo aethiopica*—Regular sightings

**Pale Crag Martin** *Ptyonoprogne [fuligula] obsoleta*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis [d.] daurica*—Seen at Daalo

**Macrosphenidae**

**Eastern Crombec** *Sylvietta [brachyura] leucopsis*—Seen several times

**Philippa's Crombec** *Sylvietta philippae*—Excellent views south-east of Burao

**Somali Crombec** *Sylvietta isabellina*—Seen south-east of Burao

**Phylloscopidae**

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*—Seen

**Brown Woodland Warbler** *Phylloscopus umbrovirens*—Seen at Daalo and Day Forest

**Acrocephalidae**

**Eastern Olivaceous Warbler** *Iduna pallida*—One east of Burao

**Cisticolidae**

**Ashy Cisticola** *Cisticola cinereolus*—Seen in the Erigavo region

**Short-winged Cisticola** *Cisticola brachypterus*—Seen at Day Forest. The birds here have been treated as an unknown entity but appear to be this species.

**Desert Cisticola** *Cisticola aridulus*—Seen several times

**Graceful Prinia** *Prinia [g.] gracilis*—Seen at Berbera and Djibouti City

**Tawny-flanked Prinia** *Prinia subflava*—Seen at Hargeisa (second record for Somaliland)

**Pale Prinia** *Prinia somalica*—Seen east of Burao

**Red-fronted Warbler** *Prinia rufifrons*—Seen often in Somaliland

**Brown-tailed Apalis** *Apalis [flavida] flavocincta*—Seen a few times

**Grey-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera [brachyura] brevicaudata*—Seen at Sheikh Pass and Day Forest

**Grey Wren-Warbler** *Calamonastes simplex*—Recorded regularly

**Yellow-bellied Eremomela** *Eremomela [i.] icteropygialis*—Seen a few times

**Yellow-vented Eremomela** *Eremomela flavigrissalis*—Seen once at the Collared Lark site

**Leiothrichidae**

**Scaly Chatterer** *Argya aylmeri*—Excellent views near Burao and Hargeisa

**Sylviidae**

**Eurasian Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*—Seen at Day Forest

**Barred Warbler** *Curruca nisoria*—One in our Hargeisa hotel garden immediately pre-tour

**Arabian Warbler** *Curruca leucomelaena*—Two excellent sightings

**Common Whitethroat** *Curruca communis*—Seen once

**Banded Parisoma** *Curruca boehmi*—Recorded regularly

**Zosteropidae**

**Abyssinian White-eye** *Zosterops [a.] abyssinicus*—Seen at Sheikh Pass, Daalo and Day Forest.

**Sturnidae**

**Wattled Starling** *Creatophora cinerea*—Seen regularly

**Golden-breasted Starling** *Lamprotornis regius*—Seen in the Burao area

**Superb Starling** *Lamprotornis superbus*—Seen often

**Shelley's Starling** *Lamprotornis shelleyi*—Seen south-east of Burao

**White-crowned Starling** *Lamprotornis albicapillus*—Seen often

**Violet-backed Starling** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*—Seen at Day Forest

**Somali Starling** *Onychognathus blythii*—Seen often

**Magpie Starling** *Speculipastor bicolor*—Good numbers seen in the Burao area

**Buphagidae**

**Red-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus erythrorhynchus*—Seen quite often

**Turdidae**

**Somali Thrush** *Turdus ludoviciae*—Excellent views at Daalo

**Muscicapidae**

**Black Scrub Robin** *Cercotrichas podobe*—Seen at Burao

**Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin** *Cercotrichas galactotes*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**White-browed Scrub Robin** *Cercotrichas leucophrys*—Seen in the Burao area

**Pale Flycatcher** *Agricola pallidus*—Seen at the Collared Lark site

**African Grey Flycatcher** *Bradornis microrhynchus*—Seen regularly

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa [s.] striata*—Seen at Day Forest

**Gambaga Flycatcher** *Muscicapa gambagae*—Rather common at Day Forest

**White-throated Robin** *Irania gutturalis*—Excellent views at Sheikh Pass

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*—One female at Daalo

**Common Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Common Rock Thrush** *Monticola saxatilis*—Seen on 3 days

**Little Rock Thrush** *Monticola rufocinereus*—Seen at Sheikh Pass and Daalo

**Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe [o.] oenanthe*—Seen in small numbers

**Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina*—Rather common

**Pied Wheatear** *Oenanthe pleschanka*—Seen several times

**Somali Wheatear** *Oenanthe phillipsi*—Excellent views at several locations

**Blackstart** *Oenanthe melanura*—Seen regularly in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Brown-tailed Rock Chat** *Oenanthe scotocerca*

—One seen well between Berbera and Sheikh Pass

**Sombre Rock Chat** *Oenanthe dubia*—Good views at Sheikh Pass and Day Forest

**Abyssinian Wheatear** *Oenanthe [lugens] lugubris*—Seen at Daalo

**White-crowned Wheatear** *Oenanthe leucopyga*—Seen in Djibouti

**Nectariniidae**

**Eastern Violet-backed Sunbird** *Anthreptes orientalis*—Seen several times

**Nile Valley Sunbird** *Hedydipna metallica*—Good views in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Hunter's Sunbird** *Chalcomitra hunteri*—Seen several times

**Marico Sunbird** *Cinnyris mariquensis*—Seen at Hargeisa and Burao

**Shining Sunbird** *Cinnyris [h.] habessinicus*—Seen regularly in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Variable Sunbird** *Cinnyris venustus*—Rather common in Somaliland (white-bellied form)

**Passeridae**

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*—Seen at Berbera

**Somali Sparrow** *Passer castanopterus*—Seen in good numbers

**Swainson's Sparrow** *Passer [griseus] swainsonii*—Common

**Yellow-throated Petronia** *Gymnoris superciliaris*—Seen several times

**Ploceidae**

**White-headed Buffalo Weaver** *Dinemellia dinemelli*—Seen often

**Red-billed Buffalo Weaver** *Bubalornis niger*—Seen several times

**Rüppell's Weaver** *Ploceus galbula*—Good sightings in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Lesser Masked Weaver** *Ploceus intermedius*

—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Vitelline Masked Weaver** *Ploceus vitellinus*—Seen in Somaliland and Djibouti

**Speke's Weaver** *Ploceus spekei*—Seen once between Erigavo and Burao

**Chestnut Weaver** *Ploceus rubiginosus*—Numerous in Hargeisa

**Northern Red-headed Weaver** *Anaplectes [rubriceps] leuconotos*—Just nests seen on the Sheikh Pass

**Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea*—Seen a few times

**Northern Red Bishop** *Euplectes franciscanus*—One at Hargeisa

**Estrildidae**

**Green-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia melba*—Seen at Daalo and near Burao

**Cut-throat Finch** *Amadina fasciata*—Seen at Erigavo and Burao

**Red-billed Firefinch** *Lagonosticta senegala*—Seen at Hargeisa and Djibouti City

**Blue-capped Cordon-bleu** *Uraeginthus cianocephalus*—Seen near Hargeisa, where only found in 2023

**Purple Grenadier** *Granatina ianthinogaster*—Seen near Hargeisa

**Crimson-rumped Waxbill** *Estrilda rhodopyga*—Seen between Hargeisa and Berbera

**African Silverbill** *Eudice cantans*—Seen just once

**Viduidae**

**Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura*—Seen by some in Hargeisa

**Motacillidae**

**Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*—A few seen

**African Pipit** *Anthus cinnamomeus*—Seen several times

**Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*—Seen several times

**Long-billed Pipit** *Anthus [s.] similis*—Seen at Daalo, Sheikh Pass, Erigavo and Day Forest

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*—Seen at Day Forest

#### Fringillidae

**Somali Golden-winged Grosbeak** *Rhynchostruthus louiseae*—Good views at Daalo

**Yellow-rumped Seedeater** *Critchagra xanthopygia*—Good views at Day Forest, where one bird showed some yellow on the throat

**White-bellied Canary** *Critchagra dorsostriata*—Several sightings

**Northern Grosbeak-Canary** *Critchagra donaldsoni*—Excellent views near Burao

**Brown-rumped Seedeater** *Critchagra tristriata*—Good views at Daalo, and also seen at Sheikh Pass

**Warsangli Linnet** *Linaria johannis*—Not many at Daalo this time, but we all saw one

#### Emberizidae

**Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*—One at Sheikh Pass

**Cinnamon-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza [t.] tahapisi*—Seen near Erigavo

**Somali Bunting** *Emberiza poliopleura*—Seen a few times





Beira, Blue-capped Cordon-bleu and Hunter's Sunbird © Michael Mills





Grey-headed Batis and Lesser Hoopoe-Lark © Michael Mills



Gillet's Lark and Brown-rumped Seedeater © Michael Mills





Gambaga Flycatcher and Magpie Starling © Michael Mills



Northern Carmine Bee-eater and Scaly Chatterer © Michael Mills

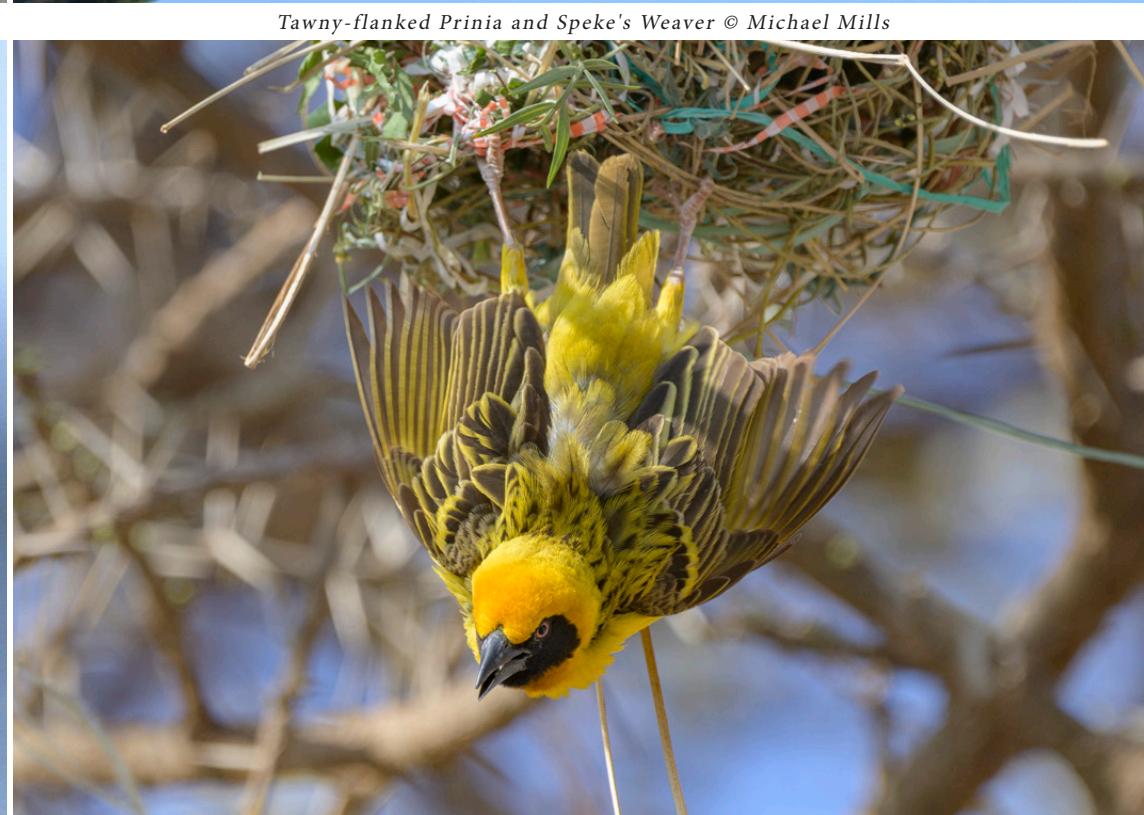




White-throated Robin and Warsangli Linnet © Michael Mills



Tawny-flanked Prinia and Speke's Weaver © Michael Mills





Somali Pigeon and Somali Golden-winged Grosbeak © Michael Mills



Somali Bee-eater and African Scops Owl © Michael Mills





Barred Warbler and Black Heron (with African Sacred Ibis) © Michael Mills



Collared Lark and Graceful Prinia © Michael Mills





Greyish Eagle-Owl and Little Owl © Michael Mills



Nubian Nightjar and Somali Crombec © Michael Mills





Short-winged Cisticola and Somali Fiscal © Michael Mills



Black-crowned Sparrow-Lark and Greater Hoopoe-Lark © Michael Mills





Red-naped Bushshrike and Rufous-capped Lark © Michael Mills



Sombre Rock Chat and Variable Sunbird © Michael Mills





Philippa's Crombec and Djibouti Francolin © Michael Mills



Plain Nightjar and Ashy Cisticola © Michael Mills





Somali Wheatear, Somali Courser and Red-and-yellow Barbet © Michael Mills





Donaldson Smith's Nightjar © Michael Mills

