

Malawi

2024 Trip Report



White-winged Apalis © Michael Mills

Text and photographs by Michael Mills

SUMMARY

Malawi offers a fine selection of sought-after specials. Main birding sites visited during the two weeks were Dzalanyama, Luwawa, Nyika, Vwaza Marsh, Liwonde National Park and Zomba, with a strong focus on miombo and Afromontane forest habitats. Top birds seen included White-winged Babbling Starling, Yellow-throated Apalis, White-winged Apalis, Plateau Lark, Pel's Fishing Owl, Southern White-faced Owl, Stierling's Woodpecker, Whyte's Double-collared Sunbird, Scarlet-tufted Malachite Sunbird, Thyolo Alethe, Lilian's Lovebird and Olive-flanked Robin-Chat.

Our circuit commenced at Dzalanyama where Anchietta's Sunbird, Sousa's Shrike, Boulder Chat and Böhm's Flycatcher were seen, plus Lesser Seedcracker for some. On our way to Nyika we paused at Luwawa, where highlights were Bertram's Weaver, Olive-headed Greenbul, Black-browed Mountain Greenbul, Malawi Batis, Chapin's Apalis, Red-faced Crimsonwing and African Broadbill. A full two days at Nyika added forest birds such as Sharpe's Greenbul, Sharpe's Akalat, Bar-tailed Trogon and Black-fronted Bushshrike, and more open habitats produced Red-winged Francolin, Denham's Bustard, Churring Cisticola, Black-lored

Cisticola, Yellow-browed Seedeater, Blue Swallow and Montane Marsh Widowbird. The journey south was broken with stops at Vwaza Marsh and along the shores of Lake Malawi with African Barred Owl. Next we visited Liwonde where highlights included Racket-tailed Roller, Dickinson's Kestrel, Speckle-throated Woodpecker, Collared Palm Thrush, Böhm's Bee-eater and Southern Brown-throated Weaver. Next on our agenda were the forests of Zomba and Mulanje, before looping back to Lilongwe via Blantyre with Southern Carmine Bee-eater, Lemon-breasted Canary and Locust-finches among the last key birds seen.

Yellow-throated Apalis © Michael Mills



White-winged Babbling Starling © Michael Mills

ITINERARY

- 2 Oct: Lilongwe to Dzalanyama.
- 3 Oct: Dzalanyama.
- 4 Oct: Dzalanyama.
- 5 Oct: Dzalanyama to Luwawa.
- 6 Oct: Luwawa to Nyika.
- 7 Oct: Nyika.
- 8 Oct: Nyika.
- 9 Oct: Nyika to Lake Malawi via Vwaza.
- 10 Oct: Lake Malawi to Liwonde.
- 11 Oct: Liwonde.
- 12 Oct: Liwonde to Zomba.
- 13 Oct: Zomba to Mount Mulanje.
- 14 Oct: Mount Mulanje to Blantyre.
- 15 Oct: Blantyre to Lilongwe.

BIRDS RECORDED

Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris*—Seen at several times (*mitratus*)

Phasianidae

Coqui Francolin *Campocolinus coqui*—Heard (*coqui*)

Red-winged Francolin *Scleroptila levaillantii*—Superb views at Nyika (*crawshayi*)

Hildebrandt's Francolin *Pternistis hildebrandti*—Nice views at Nyika (*johnstoni*)

Red-necked Spurfowl *Pternistis afer*—Great views at Liwonde (*humboldtii*)

Anatidae

White-faced Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna viduata*—Seen

Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis*—Numerous at Liwonde (*gambensis*)

Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis [m.] melanotos*—One seen

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca*—Seen at Liwonde

Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata*—Seen at Kasungu Dam and Nyika (*undulata*)

Red-billed Teal *Anas erythrорhyncha*—Seen at Kasungu Dam

Caprimulgidae

Fiery-necked Nightjar *Caprimulgus [p.] pectoralis*—Great views at Liwonde and Dzalanyama (*fervidus*)

Rwenzori Nightjar *Caprimulgus [poliocephalus] ruwenzorii*—Good views at Nyika (*guttifer*)

Freckled Nightjar *Caprimulgus tristigma*—Heard at Dzalanyama

Square-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus fossii*—Good views at Liwonde (*welwitschii*)

Pennant-winged Nightjar *Caprimulgus vexillarius*—Heard only

Apodidae

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus [p.] parvus*—Common (*myochrous*)

Mottled Swift *Tachymarptis aequatorialis*—Seen distantly at Mt Mulanje (*aequatorialis*)

Little Swift *Apus affinis*—Seen several times (*aerobates*)

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer*—Seen

Musophagidae

Livingstone's Turaco *Tauraco livingstonii*—Seen at Zomba and Mt Mulanje (*livingstonii*)

Schallow's Turaco *Tauraco schalowi*—Seen at Dzalanyama; heard elsewhere

Purple-crested Turaco *Gallirex porphyreolophus*—Heard at Liwonde (*chlorochlamys*)

Grey Go-away-bird *Crinifer concolor*—Seen at Liwonde (*concolor*)

Otididae

Denham's Bustard *Neotis denhami*—Good views at Nyika (*jacksoni*)

Cuculidae

Burchell's Coucal *Centropus [superciliosus] burchellii*—Seen a few times (*fasciopygialis*)

Green Yellowbill *Ceuthmochares [aereus] australis*—Seen at Liwonde

Thick-billed Cuckoo *Pachycoccyx audeberti*—Seen at Liwonde

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas*—Heard

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius*—Seen at Dzalanyama; heard elsewhere

African Cuckoo *Cuculus gularis*—Brief views only

Columbidae

Rock Dove or Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*—Feral Pigeon was common

African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix*—Seen at Nyika

Lemon Dove *Columba larvata*—One seen at Nyika (*larvata*)

Dusky Turtle Dove *Streptopelia lugens*—Seen at Nyika

African Mourning Dove *Streptopelia decipiens*—Seen at Chikwawa (*ambigua*)

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*—Common

Cape Turtle Dove | Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola*—Common (*tropica*)

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis*—Seen at Liwonde (*senegalensis*)

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos*—Seen several times

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*—Seen at Zomba

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria*—Seen once

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis*—Seen (*capensis*)

African Green Pigeon *Treron [c.] calvus*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*salvadorii*)

Sarothruridae

Red-chested Flufftail *Sarothrura rufa*—Seen at Luwawa (*rufa*)

Rallidae

African Rail *Rallus caerulescens*—Heard at Luwawa

Black Crake *Zapornia flavirostra*—Seen at Liwonde

Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata*—Seen at and Nyika and Kasungu Dam

Podicipedidae

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus [r.] ruficollis*—Seen at Nyika (*capensis*)

Burhinidae

Water Thick-knee *Burhinus vermiculatus*—Seen at Liwonde (*vermiculatus*)

Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus [h.] himantopus*—Seen

Charadriidae

Long-toed Lapwing *Vanellus crassirostris*—Seen at Liwonde (*leucopterus*)

Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus*—Several at Liwonde

Senegal Lapwing *Vanellus lugubris*—Seen at Liwonde

African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus*—Seen a few times (*lateralis*)

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*—Seen at Liwonde

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius*—Seen at Chikwawa

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius [t.] tricollaris*—Seen at Chikwawa (*tricollaris*)

Jacanidae

African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus*—Seen

Scolopacidae

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*—Seen by Chris at Chikwawa

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*—Seen

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucus*—Seen

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*—Seen

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*—Seen

Glareolidae

Temminck's Courser *Cursorius temminckii*—Seen briefly at Nyika

Laridae

African Skimmer *Rynchops flavirostris*—Seen by Jan-Joost at Liwonde

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon [n.] nilotica*—Seen at Liwonde (*nilotica*)

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*—Seen at Liwonde (*delalandii*)

Ciconiidae

Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis*—Seen at Liwonde

African Openbill *Anastomus lamelligerus*—Seen (*lamelligerus*)

Saddle-billed Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*—Seen at Liwonde

Phalacrocoracidae

Reed Cormorant | Long-tailed Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus*—Seen a few times (*africanus*)

White-breasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax [carbo] lucidus*—Seen at Liwonde

Anhingidae

African Darter *Anhinga rufa*—Good numbers at Liwonde (*rufa*)

Threskiornithidae

African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus*—Seen at Liwonde

Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash*—Seen at Liwonde (*brevirostris*)

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*—Seen at Liwonde

Ardeidae

White-backed Night Heron *Gorsachius leuconotus*—Incredible views at Liwonde

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*—Common at Liwonde (*nycticorax*)

Striated Heron *Butorides [s.] striata*—Seen at Liwonde (*atricapilla*)

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*—Seen at Liwonde

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus [i.] ibis*—Several sightings

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*—Seen several times (*cinerea*)

Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala*—Seen

Goliath Heron *Ardea goliath*—Seen at Liwonde

Great Egret *Ardea alba*—Several sightings (*melanorhynchos*)

Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca*—Seen at Liwonde

Little Egret *Egretta [g.] garzetta*—Seen (*garzetta*)

Scopidae

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta*—Seen several times (*umbretta*)

Pandionidae

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*—Seen at Liwonde (*haliaeetus*)

Accipitridae

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*—Seen (*caeruleus*)

African Harrier-Hawk *Polyboroides typus*—Seen (*typus*)

Palm-nut Vulture *Gypohierax angolensis*—Seen at Makuzi Beach and Zomba

African Cuckoo-Hawk *Aviceda cuculoides*—Seen at Liwonde (*verreauxii*)

White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus*—Seen at Nyika

Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos*—Seen at Nyika (*tracheliotos*)

Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus*—One at Dzalanyama

Western Banded Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens*—Seen at Liwonde

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus*—Seen at Liwonde

Wahlberg's Eagle *Hieraetus wahlbergi*—Seen at Liwonde

Lizard Buzzard *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*—Seen (*meridionalis*)

African Goshawk *Accipiter [t.] tachiro*—Seen at Luwawa (*sparsimfasciatus*)

Little Sparrowhawk *Accipiter minullus*—Brief views at Liwonde (*minullus*)

Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk *Accipiter rufiventris*—Great views at Nyika where one was seen to take a Black-lored Cisticola (*rufiventris*)

Black Sparrowhawk *Accipiter melanoleucus*—Seen (*melanoleucus*)

Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus [migrans] aegyptius*—Seen a few times (*parasitus*)

African Fish Eagle *Icthyophaga vocifer*—Seen at Liwonde

Augur Buzzard *Buteo [a.] augur*—Seen at Nyika and Dedza

Strigidae

African Scops Owl *Otus [s.] senegalensis*—Good views at Liwonde (*senegalensis*)

Southern White-faced Owl *Ptilopsis granti*—Excellent views at Dzalanyama

Spotted Eagle-Owl *Bubo [a.] africanus*—Seen at Nyika

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl *Ketupa lactea*—Great views at Liwonde

Pel's Fishing Owl *Scotopelia peli*—Cracking views at Liwonde

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii*—Good views at Dzalanyama where actively hunting an African Green Pigeon that landed on our dinner table but seemed to make a successful escape (*woodfordii*)

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum*—Seen near Vwaza Marsh (*licua*)

African Barred Owlet *Glaucidium [c.] capense*—Excellent views at Makuzi Beach and seen at Liwonde (*ngamiense*)

Coliidae

Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus*—Seen (*berlepschi* in the north, *integralis* in the south)

Red-faced Mousebird *Urocolius indicus*—Brief views (*mossambicus*)

Trogonidae

Bar-tailed Trogon *Apaloderma vittatum*—Seen at Nyika

Upupidae

African Hoopoe *Upupa [epops] africana*—Seen a few times

Phoeniculidae

Green Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus purpureus*—Seen a few times (*marwitzii*)

Common Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*—Seen at Liwonde (*schalowi*)

Bucorvidae

Southern Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus leadbeateri*—Seen at Liwonde

Bucerotidae

Southern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus [erythrorhynchus] rufirostris*—Seen at Liwonde

Crowned Hornbill *Lophoceros albicularis*—Seen

African Grey Hornbill *Lophoceros nasutus*—Seen at Liwonde (*epirhinus*)

Pale-billed Hornbill *Lophoceros pallidirostris*—Good views at Vwaza Marsh and Dzalanyama (*neumanni*)

Trumpeter Hornbill *Bycanistes bucinator*—Seen at Liwonde

Silvery-cheeked Hornbill *Bycanistes brevis*—Great views at Mt Mulanje

Coraciidae

Racket-tailed Roller *Coracias spatulatus*—
Good views at Liwonde

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus*—Seen regularly (*caudatus*)

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*—
Seen a few times (*suahelicus*)

Alcedinidae

Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala*—Seen (*pallidiventris*)

Brown-hooded Kingfisher *Halcyon albiventris*—Seen at Liwonde (*orientalis*)

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti*—Seen at Liwonde (*chelicuti*)

African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ispidina picta*—
Seen (*natalensis*)

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis [c.] cristatus*—Seen (*cristatus*)

Giant Kingfisher *Megacyrle maxima*—Seen

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*—Seen (*rudis*)

Meropidae

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater *Merops hirundineus*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*furcatus*)

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus*—Seen (*meridionalis*)

White-fronted Bee-eater *Merops bullockoides*—
Seen at Chikwawa

Böhm's Bee-eater *Merops boehmi*—Seen at Liwonde

Olive Bee-eater *Merops superciliosus*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*superciliosus*)

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*—Seen a few times

Southern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicoides*—Seen at Chikwawa

Lybiidae

White-eared Barbet *Stactolaema [l.] leucotis*—
Seen at Zomba (*leucotis*)

Moustached Green Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus leucomystax*—Great views at Nyika

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus [b.] bilineatus*—Seen at Zomba (*bilineatus*)

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus*—Seen a few times (*extoni*)

Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus*—Seen (*zomba*)

Brown-breasted Barbet *Lybius melanopterus*—
Seen at Liwonde

Crested Barbet *Trachyphonus vaillantii*—Seen at Liwonde (*suahelicus*)

Indicatoridae

Green-backed Honeybird *Prodotiscus zambesiae*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*zambesiae*)

Brown-backed Honeybird *Prodotiscus regulus*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*regulus*)

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator [m.] minor*—
Seen at Dzalanyama (*teitensis*)

Scaly-throated Honeyguide *Indicator variegatus*—Seen at Dzalanyama and Zomba

Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator*—Seen

Picidae

Bennett's Woodpecker *Campetheria [b.] bennetti*—Seen at Vwaza Marsh (*bennetti*)

Speckle-throated Woodpecker *Campetheria [bennetti] scriptoricauda*—Great views at Liwonde

Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campetheria abingoni*—Seen (*suahelica*)

Little Spotted Woodpecker *Campetheria [c.] cailliautii*—Seen at Dzalanyama and Vwaza Marsh (*loveridgei*)

Bearded Woodpecker *Chloropicus namaquus*—
Seen at Liwonde

Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens*—Seen (*hartlaubii*)

Stierling's Woodpecker *Dendropicos stierlingi*—Good views at Dzalanyama

Olive Woodpecker *Dendropicos griseocephalus*—Seen at Nyika (*ruwenzori*)

Falconidae

Dickinson's Kestrel *Falco dickinsoni*—Great views at Liwonde

Psittacidae

Brown-necked Parrot *Poicephalus [robustus] fuscicollis*—Great views at Dzalanyama and Liwonde (*suahelicus*)

Meyer's Parrot *Poicephalus meyeri*—Heard at Vwaza Marsh (*matschiei*)

Brown-headed Parrot *Poicephalus cryptoxanthus*—Seen at Liwonde (*tanganyikae*)

Psittaculidae

Lilian's Lovebird *Agapornis lilianae*—Seen in good numbers at Liwonde

Calyptomenidae

African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis*—Good views at Luwawa (*albigularis*)

Platysteiridae

Malawi Batis *Batis [capensis] dimorpha*—Seen at Luwawa and Nyika (*sola*)

Chinspot Batis *Batis molitor*—Seen regularly (*palliditergum*)

Black-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira peltata*—
Seen a few times (*peltata*)

Malaconotidae

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti*—Seen (*hypopyrrhus*)

Black-fronted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus nigrifrons*—Seen at Nyika (*nigrifrons*)

Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike | Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus*—Seen (*similis*)

Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis*—
Recorded several times (*minor*)

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus*—
Seen a few times (*armenus*)

Black-backed Puffback *Dryoscopus cubla*—
Seen regularly (*hamatus*)

Fuelleborn's Boubou *Laniarius fuelleborni*—
Good views at Nyika (*fuelleborni*)

Tropical Boubou *Laniarius [aethiopicus] major*—Seen well (*mossambicus*)

Brubru *Nilaus afer*—Seen (*nigritemporalis*)

Vangidae

White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus*—Seen regularly (*poliocephalus*)

Retz's Helmetshrike *Prionops retzii*—Seen several times (*tricolor*)

Campephagidae

White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Celepyris pectoralis*—Seen a few times

Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava*—Seen briefly

Laniidae

Sousa's Shrike *Lanius souzae*—Good views at Dzalanyama (*tacitus*)

Northern Fiscal *Lanius humeralis*—Seen regularly (*capelli*)

Oriolidae

(Eastern) Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus*—Seen a few times (*angolensis*)

African Golden Oriole *Oriolus auratus*—Seen (*notatus*)

Dicruridae

Common Square-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus [l.] ludwigii*—Seen at Mt Mulanje (*tephrogaster*)

Southern Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus [a.] adsimilis*—Seen regularly (*fugax*)

Monarchidae

African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone [v.] viridis*—Seen a few times (*plumbeiceps*)

Corvidae

Pied Crow *Corvus albus*—Common

White-necked Raven *Corvus albicollis*—Seen at Nyika

Stenostiridae

White-tailed Blue Flycatcher *Elminia albicauda*—Seen well

White-tailed Crested Flycatcher *Elminia albonotata*—Seen at Nyika and Zomba (*albonotata*)

Paridae

White-winged Black Tit *Melaniparus leucomelas*—Seen by Michael at Nyika (*insignis*)

Southern Black Tit *Melaniparus niger*—Seen at Liwonde (*ravidus*)

Rufous-bellied Tit *Melaniparus [r.] rufiventris*—Seen well at Dzalanyama (*masukuensis*)

Miombo Tit *Melaniparus griseiventris*—Seen at Dzalanyama

Remizidae

Grey Penduline Tit *Anthoscopus [c.] caroli*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*robertsi*)

Nicatoridae

Eastern Nicator *Nicator gularis*—Heard at Mukwadzi

Alaudidae

Fischer's Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix leucopareia*—Seen near Lake Malawi

Plateau Lark *Mirafra [a.] nigrescens*—Great views at Nyika (*nyikae*)

Red-capped Lark *Calandrella cinerea*—Seen a few times (*saturatior*)

Pycnonotidae

Dark-capped Bulbul *Pycnonotus [barbatus] tricolor*—Common (*layardi*)

Black-browed Mountain Greenbul *Arizelocichla fusciceps*—Seen at Luwawa and Nyika

Stripe-cheeked Greenbul *Arizelocichla [m.] milanjensis*—Heard at Mt Mulanje

Olive-headed Greenbul *Arizelocichla [milanjensis] striifacies*—Good views at Luwawa and Zomba (*olivaceiceps*)

Little Greenbul *Eurillas virens*—Seen a few times (*zombensis*)

Sombre Greenbul *Andropadus importunus*—Heard at Liwonde (*hypoxanthus*)

Yellow-bellied Greenbul *Chlorocichla flaviventris*—Heard at Liwonde (*occidentalis*)

Terrestrial Brownbul *Phyllastrephus terrestris*—Seen briefly (*intermedius*)

Grey-olive Greenbul *Phyllastrephus cerviniventris*—Seen at Dzalanyama

Placid Greenbul *Phyllastrephus [cabanisi] placidus*—Seen at Zomba

Yellow-streaked Greenbul *Phyllastrephus [f.] flavostriatus*—Seen at Mt Mulanje (*vincenti*)

Sharpe's Greenbul *Phyllastrephus [flavostriatus] alfredi*—Good views at Nyika

Hirundinidae

Black Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne pristoptera*—Seen regularly (*orientalis*)

Grey-rumped Swallow *Pseudhirundo griseopyga*—Seen at Nyika (*griseopyga*)

Banded Martin *Neophedina cincta*—Seen at Nyika (*suahelica*)

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*—Seen regularly

Angola Swallow *Hirundo angolensis*—Seen at Nyika

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii*—Seen (*smithii*)

Blue Swallow *Hirundo atrocaerulea*—Great views at Nyika

Pearl-breasted Swallow *Hirundo dimidiata*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*marwitzii*)

Red-throated Rock Martin *Ptyonoprogne [fuligula] rufigula*—Seen at Nyika and Dedza (*rufigula*)

Common House Martin *Delichon [urbicum] urbicum*—Seen near Dzalanyama

Lesser Striped Swallow *Cecropis abyssinica*—Seen a few times (*unitatis*)

Mosque Swallow *Cecropis senegalensis*—Heard at Liwonde

Macrophenidae

Long-billed Crombec *Sylvietta rufescens*—Seen at Liwonde (*pallida*)

Red-capped Crombec *Sylvietta ruficapilla*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*chubbi*)

Erythrocercidae

Livingstone's Flycatcher *Erythrocercus livingstonei*—Excellent sightings at Liwonde

Phylloscopidae

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*—Seen a few times

Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler *Phylloscopus ruficapilla*—Seen Zomba and at Mt Mulanje (*johnstoni*)

Acrocephalidae

Lesser Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus gracilirostris*—Seen at Luwawa (*leptorrhynchus*)

African Yellow Warbler *Iduna natalensis*—Seen at Luwawa (*natalensis*)

Mountain Yellow Warbler *Iduna similis*—Good views at Nyika

Locustellidae

Broad-tailed Warbler | Fan-tailed Grassbird *Catriscus brevirostris*—Seen at Dzalanyama

Evergreen Forest Warbler *Bradypterus lopezi*—Good views at Nyika (*usambarae*) and seen at Zomba (*granti*)

Cinnamon Bracken Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus*—Seen at Nyika (*nyassae*)

Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus [b.] baboecala*—Seen at Luwawa (*tongensis*)

Cisticolidae

Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops*—Seen by Michael

Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans*—Seen at Nyika (*muenzneri*)

Trilling Cisticola *Cisticola woosnami*—Heard at Nyika

Black-lored Cisticola *Cisticola [n.] nigriloris*—Great views at Nyika

Lazy Cisticola *Cisticola [a.] aberrans*—Seen at Dedza (*nyika*)

Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana*—Heard only

Churring Cisticola *Cisticola njombe*—Seen well at Nyika (*mariae*)

Wailing Cisticola *Cisticola [l.] lais*—Seen at Nyika (*semifasciatus*)

Rufous-winged Cisticola *Cisticola [g.] galactotes*—Heard only

Croaking Cisticola *Cisticola natalensis*—Seen near Lilongwe (*natalensis*)

Neddicky *Cisticola fulvicapilla*—Seen a few times (*muelleri*)

Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis*—Seen (*terrestris*)

Wing-snapping Cisticola *Cisticola ayresii*—Seen at Nyika (*ayresii*)

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava*—Seen a few times

Bar-throated Apalis *Apalis [t.] thoracica*—Seen at Luwawa (*youngi*)

Yellow-throated Apalis *Apalis [thoracica] flavigularis*—Seen well at Zomba

Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis [f.] flavida*—Seen a few times

White-winged Apalis *Apalis chariessa*—Cracking views at Zomba (*macphersoni*)

Black-headed Apalis *Apalis melanocephala*—Seen at Zomba and Mt Mulanje (*fuliginosa*)

Chapin's Apalis *Apalis chapini*—Seen at Luwawa (*strausae*)

Brown-headed Apalis *Apalis [cinerea] alticola*—Seen at Nyika (*alticola*)

Green-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera [b.] brachyura*—Seen at Liwonde (*bororensis*)

Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera [brachyura] brevicaudata*—Heard only

Stierling's Wren-Warbler *Calamonastes stierlingi*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*irwini*)

Yellow-bellied Eremomela *Eremomela [i.] icteropygialis*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*helenorae*)

Green-capped Eremomela *Eremomela scotops*—Seen regularly (*scotops*)

Burnt-necked Eremomela *Eremomela usticollis*—Seen at Liwonde (*rensi*)

Leiothrichidae

Arrow-marked Babbler *Turdoides jardineii*—Seen a few times (*kirkii*)

Sylviidae

African Hill Babbler *Sylvia [a.] abyssinica*—Brief views at Nyika (*stictigula*)

Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*—Seen by some at Dzalanyama

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*—Heard at Nyika

Brown Parisoma *Curruca lugens*—Good views at Nyika (*jacksoni*)

Zosteropidae

Southern Yellow White-eye *Zosterops [senegalensis] anderssoni*—Seen regularly (*stierlingi*)

Hyliotidae

Yellow-bellied Hyliota *Hyliota flavigaster*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*barbozae*)

Southern Hyliota *Hyliota [a.] australis*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*inornata*)

Certhiidae

African Spotted Creeper *Salpornis salvadori*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*salvadori*)

Sturnidae

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus*—Seen a few times (*sycobius*)

Miombo Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis [chloropterus] elisabeth*—Seen at Vwaza Marsh

Meves's Long-tailed Starling *Lamprotornis [m.] mevesii*—Seen at Liwonde

Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*—Seen (*verreauxi*)

Red-winged Starling *Onychognathus morio*—Seen at Zomba and Dedza (*morio*)

Waller's Starling *Onychognathus walleri*—Heard at Nyika

Babbling Starling *Neocichla gutturalis*—Great views at Vwaza Marsh (*angusta*)

Buphagidae

Red-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus erythrorhynchus*—Seen at Liwonde

Turdidae

Orange Ground Thrush *Geokichla gurneyi*—Heard at Nyika (*otomitra*)

Common Groundscraper Thrush *Turdus [l.] litsitsirupa*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*stierlingi*)

Kurrichane Thrush *Turdus libonyana*—Seen often (*tropicalis*)

Muscicapidae

Bearded Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas quadrivirgata*—Good views at Liwonde

Miombo Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas barbata*—Seen well at Dzalanyama

White-browed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys*—Seen at Mulanje (*zambesiana*)

Lead-coloured Flycatcher | Grey Tit-Flycatcher *Fraseria plumbea*—Seen (*orientalis*)

White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher *Melaenornis fischeri*—Seen at Nyika (*nyikensis*)

Southern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis pammelaina*—Seen a few times (*pammelaina*)

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa [s.] striata*—Seen at Vwaza Marsh

Ashy Flycatcher *Fraseria caerulescens*—Seen (*vulturna*)

African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta*—Seen a few times (*subadusta*)

Böhm's Flycatcher *Bradornis boehmi*—Great views at Dzalanyama

White-chested Alethe *Chamaetylas fuelleborni*—Heard at Nyika

Thyolo Alethe *Chamaetylas choloensis*—Good views at Zomba and Mt Mulanje (*choloensis*)

Olive-flanked Robin-Chat *Dessonornis [a.] anomalus*—Seen well at Nyika (*macclounii*)

Cape Robin-Chat *Dessonornis caffer*—Seen at Nyika and Dedza (*iolaemus*)

White-browed Robin-Chat *Cossypha heuglini*—Seen a few times (*intermedia*)

Red-capped Robin-Chat *Cossypha natalensis*—Heard at Mt Mulanje

White-starred Robin *Pogonocichla stellata*—Seen at Luwawa and Zomba (*orientalis*)

Sharpe's Akalat *Sheppardia sharpei*—Seen at Nyika (*sharpei*)

East Coast Akalat *Sheppardia gunningi*—Glimpsed at Mukwadzi (*bensonii*)

Collared Palm Thrush *Cichladusa arquata*—Excellent views at Liwonde

Miombo Rock Thrush *Monticola angolensis*—Seen well at Dzalanyama (*hylophilus*)

African Stonechat *Saxicola [t.] torquatus*—Seen at Nyika and Zomba (*promiscuus*)

Mocking Cliff Chat *Thamnolaea [c.] cinnamomeiventris*—Heard near Dedza

Arnot's Chat *Myrmecocichla [a.] arnotti*—Seen at Liwonde (*arnotti*)

Familiar Chat *Oenanthe familiaris*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*falkensteinii*)

Boulder Chat *Pinarornis plumosus*—Seen well at Dzalanyama

Nectariniidae

Anchieta's Sunbird *Anthreptes anchietae*—Good views at Dzalanyama

Western Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes longuemarei*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*angolensis*)

Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris*—Seen in the south (*zambesiana*)

Green-headed Sunbird *Cyanomitra verticalis*—Seen well at Luwawa (*viridisplendens*)

Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea*—Seen at Nyika (*lowei*) and Zomba (*alfredi*)

Amethyst Sunbird *Chalcomitra amethystina*—Seen a few times (*kirkii*)

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis*—Seen a few times (*gutturalis*)

Bronzy Sunbird *Nectarinia kilimensis*—Seen at Luwawa (*arturi*)

Malachite Sunbird *Nectarinia famosa*—One nice male at Nyika (*cupreonitens*)

Scarlet-tufted Malachite Sunbird *Nectarinia johnstoni*—Good views at Nyika (*nyikensis*)

Eastern Miombo Sunbird *Cinnyris manoensis*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*manoensis*)

Western Miombo Sunbird *Cinnyris gertrudis*—Seen near Nyika

Whyte's Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris [ludovicensis] whytei*—Seen well at Nyika

Forest Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris fuelleborni*—Seen at Luwawa (*fuelleborni*) and Zomba (*bensonii*)

Purple-banded Sunbird *Cinnyris bifasciatus*—Seen at Lake Malawi (*microrhynchus*)

White-bellied Sunbird *Cinnyris talatala*—Seen at Liwonde (*talatala*)

Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus*—Seen a few times (*falkensteinii*)

Passeridae

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*—Common

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer diffusus*—Common at Liwonde (*stygiceps*)

Yellow-throated Petronia *Gymnoris superciliaris*—Seen regularly (*bororensis*)

Ploceidae

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali*—Common at Liwonde (*pectoralis*)

Baglafecht Weaver *Ploceus baglafecht*—Seen at Nyika (*nyikae*)

Bertram's Weaver *Ploceus bertrandi*—Great views at Luwawa

Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis*—Seen (*suahelicus*)

Yellow Weaver | Eastern Golden Weaver *Ploceus subaureus*—Good views at Makuzi Beach (*aureoflavus*)

Holub's Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops*—Several sightings

Southern Brown-throated Weaver *Ploceus xanthopterus*—Seen well at Liwonde (*xanthopterus*)

Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius*—Seen at Makuzi Beach (*cabanisi*)

Southern Masked Weaver *Ploceus velatus*—Seen near Dedza (*velatus*)

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus*—Seen (*paroptus*)

Dark-backed Weaver *Ploceus bicolor*—Seen at Mt Mulanje (*stictifrons*)

Southern Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes [r.] rubriceps*—Seen a few times, some with traces of Northern Red-headed Weaver in their plumage

Northern Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes [rubriceps] leuconotos*—Seen a few times

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea*—Seen at Chikwawa (*lathamii*)

Black-winged Red Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus*—Seen (*hordeaceus*)

Southern Red Bishop *Euplectes [o.] orix*—Seen at Chikwawa (*nigrifrons*)

Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis*—Seen (*crassirostris*)

Yellow-mantled Widowbird *Euplectes macroura*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*macroura*)

Montane Marsh Widowbird *Euplectes psammacromius*—Great views at Nyika of males in full breeding plumage

Estrildidae

Orange-winged Pytilia *Pytilia afra*—Good views at Dzalanyama

Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba*—Seen (*grotei*)

Green Twinspot *Mandingoa nitidula*—Heard at Luwawa (*nitidula*)

Red-faced Crimsonwing *Cryptospiza reichenovii*—Great views at Luwawa (*australis*)

Lesser Seedcracker *Pyrenestes minor*—Seen at Dzalanyama by some

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala*—Seen at Liwonde (*rendalli*)

African Firefinch *Lagonosticta rubricata*—Seen (*haematocephala*)

Blue Waxbill *Uraeginthus angolensis*—Seen regularly (*niassensis*)

Yellow-bellied Waxbill *Coccycgia quartinia*—Seen at Nyika and Zomba (*stuartirwini*)

Common Waxbill *Estrilda [a.] astrild*—Seen a few times (*cavendishi*)

Orange-breasted Waxbill | Zebra Waxbill *Amandava subflava*—Brief views (*clarkei*)

Bronze Mannikin *Spermestes cucullata*—Seen (*scutata*)

Red-backed Mannikin *Spermestes bicolor*—Several good sightings

Locust Finch *Paludipasser locustella*—seen near Dedza, in flight.

Viduidae

Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura*—Seen

Broad-tailed Paradise Whydah *Vidua obtusa*—Non-breeding plumaged birds at Dzalanyama

Motacillidae

Mountain Wagtail *Motacilla clara*—Seen at Zomba and Mt Mulanje (*torrentium*)

African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp*—Seen regularly (*vidua*)

Yellow-throated Longclaw *Macronyx croceus*—Seen at Liwonde and Dzalanyama

African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus*—Seen at Nyika and Zomba (*lichenya*)

Long-billed Pipit *Anthus [s.] similis*—Heard at Nyika (*winterbottomi*)

Wood Pipit *Anthus nyassae*—Seen at Dzalanyama and near Dedza (*nyassae*)

Striped Pipit *Anthus lineiventris*—Seen well at Dzalanyama

Fringillidae

Southern Citril *Crithagra hyposticta*—Seen well at Luwawa (*hyposticta*)

Lemon-breasted Canary *Crithagra citrinipectus*—Several seen along the Shire River

Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica*—Seen regularly (*mozambicus*)

Brimstone Canary *Crithagra sulphurata*—Seen a few times (*sharpii*)

Reichard's Seedeater *Crithagra [r.] reichardi*—Seen well at Dzalanyama (*reichardi*)

Black-eared Seedeater *Crithagra mennelli*—Good views at Dzalanyama

Yellow-browed Seedeater *Crithagra [striolata] whytii*—Seen at Nyika

Yellow-crowned Canary *Serinus flavivertex*—Seen at Nyika (*sassii*)

Emberizidae

Cinnamon-breasted Bunting *Emberiza [t.] tahapisi*—Seen at Dzalanyama and Dedza (*tahapisi*)

Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris*—Seen a couple of times (*kalaharica*)

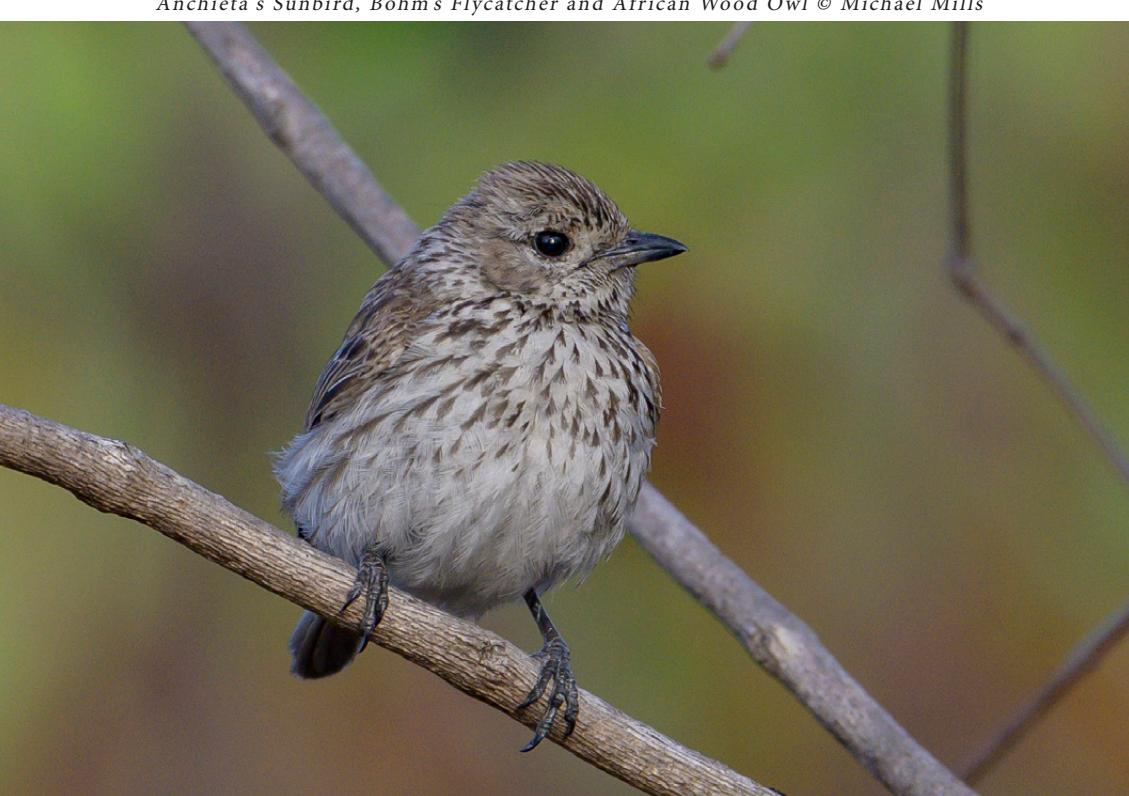
Cabanis's Bunting *Emberiza cabanisi*—Seen at Dzalanyama (*orientalis*)

Olive-flanked Robin-Chat © Michael Mills





Anchieta's Sunbird, Böhm's Flycatcher and African Wood Owl © Michael Mills





African Broadbill and Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk with Black-lored Cisticola © Michael Mills



Baglafecht Weaver and Bertram's Weaver © Michael Mills





Black-lored Cisticola and Churring Cisticola © Michael Mills



Denham's Bustard and Collared Palm Thrush © Michael Mills





Grey-olive Greenbul and Blue Swallow © Michael Mills



Dickinson's Kestrel and Fülleborn's Boubou © Michael Mills





Eastern Miombo Sunbird and Western Miombo Sunbird © Michael Mills



Whyte's Double-collared Sunbird and Malawi Batis © Michael Mills





Lilian's Lovebird and Mountain Marsh Widowbird © Michael Mills



Stierling's Woodpecker and Moustached Green Tinkerbird © Michael Mills





Miombo Scrub Robin and Red-winged Francolin © Michael Mills



Bearded Scrub Robin and Plateau Lark © Michael Mills





White-backed Night Heron and Southern White-faced Owl © Michael Mills



Verreaux's Eagle-Owl and Thyolo Alethe © Michael Mills





Speckle-throated Woodpecker and Scarlet-tufted Malachite Sunbird © Michael Mills



Sousa's Shrike and Red-faced Crimsonwing © Michael Mills

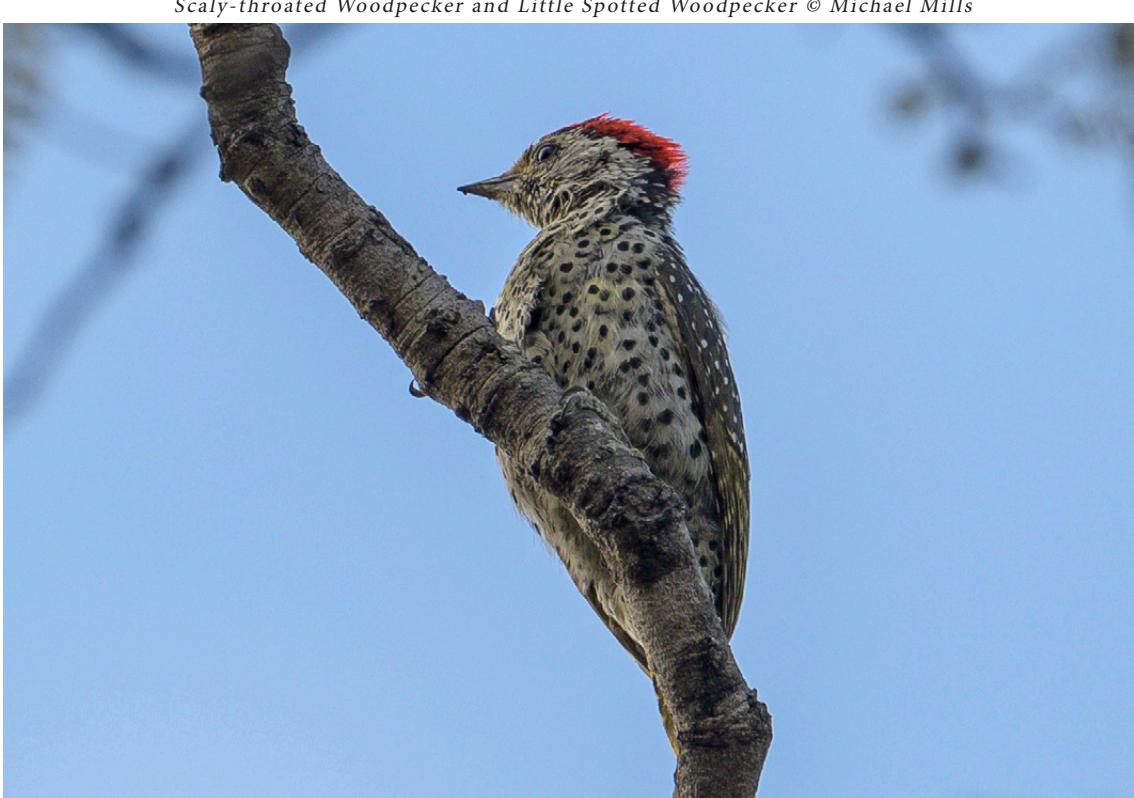




Red-necked Spurfowl © Michael Mills



Olive-headed Greenbul © Michael Mills





White-winged Apalis, White-starred Robin and Böhm's Bee-eater © Michael Mills



Pel's Fishing Owl © Michael Mills

