

CATS - FELIDAE				1st seen	Location	Country	The very first sighting
1	Lion	Panthera	leo	Oct-22	Greater Kruger	South Africa	2 males resting in the tall grass. In the open there was a huge buffalo carcass on which a crocodile was feeding. The lions were only noticed after some 10 minutes
2	Jaguar	Panthera	onca	Oct-23	Southern Pantanal	Brazil	a flock of vultures was calling my attention. After an hour or so, a huge male appeared and slowly walked towards us. We enjoyed magnificent views for a very long time
3	Leopard	Panthera	pardus	Dec-97	(Royal) Chitwan N.P.	Nepal	my very 1st 'big cat' sighting: a sudden flash leaped across the track right in front of our vehicle and then vanished into the elephant grass
4	Tiger	Panthera	tigris	Jan-23	Panna N.P.	India	a female with her belly full of rich milk. Unfortunately no sight of her cubs. This ended a 30-year long frustration of not seeing any Tiger in the wild (despite multiple visits to multiple parks in India and Nepal)
5	Ocelot	Leopardus	pardalis	Oct-18	Kabalebo	Suriname	When walking through the forest on a birdwatching (sic!) trip, a sudden disturbance ahead of me where a Chacalaca flew off. A frustrated Ocelot sped right towards me and passed within a few meters only
6	Eurasian Lynx	Lynx	Lynx	Mar-24	Bieszczady	Poland	On the very first night of arrival ... Able to approach on foot up to 30-40 mtr distance, after which it disappeared into the forest. Once we took a few steps back, it re-appeared
7	Cheetah	Acinonyx	jubatus	Apr-23	Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park	South Africa	Right next to the road, a rather unsure young cheetah was watching potential prey ahead of us
8	Jaguarundi	Herpailurus	yagouaroundi	Oct-23	Southern Pantanal	Brazil	On my very first afternoon in the Pantanal and after only 2 hours in the jeep, we came across this weird-looking cat. The male Jaguarundi was as surprised as we were, allowing me take great pictures
9	Rusty-spotted Cat	Prionailurus	rubiginosus	Jan-23	Panna N.P.	India	A small cat fled from the dirt road, stopped and turned its head towards us, only just visible from behind the grass. It took a few seconds to realize this was a Rusty -spotted. Could have taken great pictures, if I had not been fumbling with the manual focus of my new lens
10	Fishing Cat	Prionailurus	viverrinus	Feb-24	Willpattu	Sri Lanka	An immature escaping from us. When searching the surroundings something made me look over my shoulder and it then sneaked past right behind me. I got a better view of an adult one on the very last night of the trip near Sigiriya, but no photos; alas!
11	Domestic Cat	Felis	catus	Feb-58	Paramaribo	Suriname	our family's very 1st pet cat, named "Tommy". After him all our subsequent cats got the names of either Tommy or Flipje
12	Jungle Cat	Felis	chaus	Dec-97	Sariska Tiger Reserve	India	While hoping in vain for a tiger, I noticed a small cat. It was only later I realized there are such felines called Jungle Cat
13	African Wild Cat	Felis	lybica	Apr-23	Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park	South Africa	Just before a heavy thunderstorm was to be unleashed, it passed right by my cabin
14	European Wild Cat	Felis	silvestris	Jul-19	Bavaria	Germany	while cycling through the countryside, we noticed an unusually large cat a hundred meters away. The thick tail with black rings made it clear it wasn't a domestic one. In 2024, I saw many more at close range in Poland