

Many trip reports about the Dzanga Sangha area in Central African Republic (CAR) have been written and posted on MammalWatching.com with some amazing lists of iconic mammals that can be observed there and very positive feedback about the experience in such a remote place deep in the African forest. However, most of the reports start to be quite old dating before year 2020 and I found it quite difficult to find reliable and recent information about what's going on in this country since the civil war in 2013 and if you read all the official travel warnings from the European embassies, things can look very quickly scary. Fortunately, Ian Thomson and Paul Carter spent two weeks there in 2025 with up-to-date information and were kind enough to answer all my questions about the safety situation in Bangui or Bayanga, what to do and who to contact to self-organize a trip to Dzanga Sangha.

Travelling to the CAR capital Bangui from France is actually pretty straightforward with Air France or Ethiopian Airlines via Addis Abeba. I chose Ethiopian because there were much cheaper than AF and since there is nowadays a direct flight from Marseille to Addis, this is also very convenient timewise. Since we had only a long week to spend in Dzanga Sangha, we booked the domestic flight operated by Via Air from Bangui and chartered by the lodges in Bayanga for their guests. This comes with a high cost for sure (as a matter of fact, the short Via Air flight was more expensive than our return flight with Ethiopian!) but saves a tremendous amount of time compared to the drive by road to Bayanga which was anyway no longer recommended because of the safety situation. However, the local people told us it should now be OK again as all the army checkpoints have stopped. We decided to take the charter flights on the same days as our international flights to/from Bangui to save time and because the flight schedules were matching well. This turned out to work very well as we were travelling during the dry season with good weather conditions. There is always a risk the charter flight would not leave Bangui if there is rain and poor visibility so spending a night in Bangui might be safer to avoid any bad surprise.

We visited Dzanga Sangha in April during the dry season to maximize our chance to see Bongos that I absolutely wanted to see as this is supposedly the best season to see them in Dzanga Bai. As a matter of fact, during the entire week we spent there, we didn't have a single drop of rain. It was hot but temperatures were OK and added to the fact it didn't rain at all, I found the humidity conditions in Dzanga to be nicer compared to what we experienced a few months before in the Taï Forest in Ivory Coast.

Visiting CAR requires to have a VISA for French citizens. The VISA application was not too difficult but has to be done the old way directly to the CAR embassy in Paris as they don't have any online VISA system. The lodges in Bayanga can take care of and send you all the required documents (invitation letter and booking confirmation). The VISA is not cheap (80€) but was treated quickly. Be careful, getting a VISA upon arrival in Bangui (message porté) now requires to stay 24h in Bangui before receiving it, so if you are tight in schedule the only viable option is to get your VISA before departure at your nearest CAR embassy.

For the accommodation in Dzanga Sangha and given all the trip reports I could read, I naturally contacted first the famous Sangha Lodge founded by Rod and Tamar Cassidy who basically started the ecotourism operations in the area thanks to their great and passionate work. I was in contact with a very nice guy who gave me lots of information about the lodge, proposed activities and current situation, but the price asked by Sangha Lodge was way too expensive even if I understand all the logistic challenges and associated cost in such a place but still... Then, and after reading Ian's report, I contacted Doli Lodge located at the edge of Bayanga village. This lodge is run by WWF. The current manager is Nuria Ortega, a very friendly Spanish women that you can contact easily by email (Dolilodge@wwfcar.org or nortega@wwfcar.org) and who answered to all my emails/questions efficiently and with patience. She took care of all the trip organization, charter flights and activities for this trip, and for basically half the cost of Sangha Lodge! Of course, the Doli Lodge location is not as inspiring, wild and deep into the forest as Sangha Lodge but there is still nice wildlife there (as you will see later in this report) and it is also located on the bank of the Sangha River. In addition, the lodge was refurbished a few years ago and thus, the rooms are very nice, comfortable and clean; the restaurant has excellent food and the staff is very welcoming and helpful. I found this was a great alternative choice versus Sangha Lodge if you are a short on budget.

The trip

After a smooth and uneventful flight with Ethiopian Airlines through the large and modern Addis Abeba airport (appretly they are planning to build an even more impressive one in the coming months), we landed in Bangui, which by contrast was the most underdeveloped capital of Africa that I have ever been to. The international airport was tiny and the main terminal totally down in reconstruction. As a consequence, all passengers are transferred to a small building where going through immigration and passport control was a bit chaotic. A yellow fever certificate is mandatory to enter in CAR but nobody asked for it when we arrived. On the other hand, the officers controlled it when we left the country. Not sure I understand the rationale here 😊. We asked Doli Lodge to organize a fixer while in Bangui, which proved to be useful to ease the process to go through all the points of control at the airport upon arrival and departure. With our passports stamped, we then moved to the next room to collect our luggage that was

for some reason quickly checked by a military person. Except for a money exchange booth (with nobody inside 😊) there was nothing else in the arrival airport building.

We walked 50m to another building to directly take our domestic flight where we had to recheck our luggage, fill other documents, pay some kind of departure tax, be scanned through security to wait in an even smaller room for the local flight with Via Air. All this went smoothly thanks to the help of our fixer and I'm also glad we had him since he could find the guy to change some money for us. Only 8 persons were booked in the domestic flight: 2 other tourists, 1 Belgian guy doing some civil engineering prospection and 3 locals. We walked on the tarmac to the small plane we would take to Bayanga and were greeted by the pilot: a young and smiling South African girl. Besides our domestic flight, I saw many planes from Médecins Sans Frontières and UN aligned on the tarmac but nothing else as the only commercial plane from Ethiopian left Bangui with other passengers about only an hour after landing. When we booked the domestic flight, nobody warned us about any luggage weight limits (we usually travel light anyway) but when we saw all the luggage and cargo sitting in front of the plane, there was clearly too much. Hopefully for us, after some discussion between the Via Air company crew and the pilot, it was decided to leave some cargo in Bangui so that all passengers could fly with their luggage.

The short flight (about 50min) between Bangui and Bayanga was wonderful. Flying over hundreds of kilometers of rainforest that looked in good shape with no large clearings nor forest fire was such an impressive sight. When we started our descent towards Bayanga we could see well the Dzanga Bai and even elephants from the plane, awesome! Flying and turning over the Sangha River finally allowed us some nice view of the village and surroundings when we landed to the dirt runway. Many locals were waiting for the plane as this must be one key attraction there and we were greeted by Lambert, the manager of Doli Lodge since Nuria and her kids were not there during our week. We drove for just about 5min from the airport to Doli Lodge where a warm team was waiting for us with some cold drinks and gave us a general briefing on how things worked in the lodge and showed our room. As mentioned earlier, I found this lodge to be lovely and the team very nice. After a quick rest, we were presented to Leonce who would be our private guide for our entire stay in Dzanga Sangha. Leonce was a nice person, very knowledgeable about the wildlife, the local people and their culture, and he worked hard to find us all the mammals and birds in the area. He was also speaking perfect French, nice for us and for extended talks about his experience as a guide in the area and the local people 😊 In addition to Leonce, we were also assigned a tracker from the Baaka (pygmy) tribe, named Raimond. Unfortunately he was not speaking very good French or English so communication with him was fairly limited.

All the activities were done through Doli Lodge. We booked and organized them in advance with Nuria through a detailed agenda along the week. As described in many reports, some activities with the Baakas are proposed there. I'm usually not very fond of such types of said cultural experience with local tribes: they are often tourist traps and in addition I feel uneasy visiting places or villages with local, and often very poor, people. However Nuria recommended we should do something with the Baakas and I finally agreed. Finally, I must admit I was very pleased by such activities that I found quite authentic and people seemed genuinely happy to do them. I'm not naïve anyway and I know they were paid for this but at least I'm glad some money is going to these people given how poor they are. On the first day right after arriving at Doli Lodge, we went to the nearby Mossapoula village for some Baaka dances and songs, and watch the water drumming they play during bathing in the river. It was interesting to hear that. On the last day of the week, we went to another village south of Bayanga for a hunting session with the Baakas. This was an interesting experience where they collected and explained the effect of several medicinal plants, showed us how to build huts and tried net hunting but they did not catch anything.

For the wildlife activities, we took the full package. We had one full day observation in Dzanga Bai but also spent and slept one night on the platform. This is very nice to observe the wildlife late evening and early morning with different lights and the sounds made by the elephants through the night are quite amazing! Bring your earplugs if you want to get some sleep 😊 We booked one tour with the habituated Mangabey group and we did the hike along the small Bais in the Bai Hokou area. We took a dugout canoe tour on the small Mossapoula river stream near the lodge hoping we could see some wildlife from the boat and we did a guided walk along the trail North of Doli Lodge towards the Mossapoula village. We also booked a motorboat excursion along the Sangha River towards the Valley of giants and waterfalls where sometimes the iconic grey-necked picathartes can be observed. We knew that April was unfortunately not the good season to observe these birds but we wanted to give a try and spoiler alert: we saw none! In addition, we organized one night with Leonce and two trackers a spotlighting session along the main road to Sangha Lodge to try with tree pangolin. Last but not least, we booked one tracking session with a newly habituated group of Western lowland gorillas and I'm so glad we waited a year before travelling to CAR/Bayanga to make sure we could include during our trip to Dzanga Sangha such an amazing and unforgettable experience with these magnificent animals. Indeed, the two previous habituated groups that all the past trip reports were mentioning were no longer possible to track since the silverbacks were killed during fights with

other gorillas. The park rangers and trackers worked hard to quickly habituate a new group but it took them about 2 years still, which was actually pretty fast as we learned that it normally takes 4 to 5 years but in this case, some females were already coming from the past habituated groups and so, they mostly had to work on the new silverback.

With all this booked, it was a busy week with little time to relax but it was so well worth it. All the activities taking place in the National Park were starting from the visitors center located next to the Doli Lodge so this was very convenient. We would go to Dzanga Bai or Bai Hokou car 4x4 car along pretty well-maintained tracks and since it was the dry season the driving conditions were good. On the other hand, it appeared that our 4x4 car was not in pretty good shape and we had several issues during the week, from a flat tire that had to be changed after the long night session near Sangha Lodge to the right front wheel bearing that broke and had to be repaired twice. As a result, the first time my wife and I had to finish the drive back to Doli Lodge all together on a motorbike, and the second time, walk for a big part to the Baaka net hunting place under the heat sun. Funny after all and well, this is Africa 😊

Instead of doing a day-by-day description of what we did and saw in terms of wildlife, I will explain it by location as it should be less boring.

The places visited

I will start with Doli Lodge and its surroundings since this is where we spent a fair amount of time during our week in the Dzanga Sangha area. Although very close but well separated to the Bayanga village, the Doli Lodge gardens and surroundings were hosting some rich and interesting wildlife I found. During the day, we had once an **African forest elephant** coming to eat between the bungalows. Every day, there were lots of **moustached monkeys** eating, playing and sleeping in the trees in the lodge gardens but also all along the entrance road between the airport and Doli Lodge. These monkeys were very common but always quite shy, so not easy to take nice pictures. We did not see any other monkey species there during our week. Among the squirrels that we could clearly identify, we saw once a **green bush squirrel** eating in a fruiting tree and a few times **forest giant squirrels**. Along the trail North of the lodge towards the Mossapoula village, we saw a few **forest elephants**, one actually being next to the main road going to Bangui. Elephants were clearly everywhere! In the other hand we did not observe any other mammals. During the dugout canoe tour we took on the small river stream North of the lodge and besides several interesting birds, the only mammal we saw was a nice and noisy **fire-footed rope squirrel**. Without any doubt, the most interesting time to observe mammals around Doli Lodge was at night. I was pleasantly surprised by the number of species I could see during 4 night walks done along the main entrance road between the airport and the Lodge. Despite the trip report and recommendations from Paul Carter / Ian Thomson but given all the elephants we saw in the area during the day, I did not have the courage to try at night the other small tracks in the forest around the lodge and we only stayed and walked back and forth the main entrance road. Our guide also recommended us to do so and we were not disappointed given all what we could see. The most common species observed at night were **Southern needle-clawed galagos** and **Demidoff's galagos** that were abundant every night. The second most common species was **Milne-Edward's potto** and I could see at least 4 of them in pretty good conditions. One night I also observed very well, although a bit in the distance, a confident **African Palm civet**. There were loads of flying bats turning around me, bats of different sizes and flying behaviors, but I wasn't able to identify any of them (I have no bat detector). The only bats I could clearly tell the species were for those roosting in the trees and they were all **hammer-beaded fruit bats**. They were in large numbers, especially in a big tree next to our bungalow! I could also observe on two different occasions **Lord Derby's anomalures** and had once a superb observation of one individual jumping / flying from tree to tree right next to the Doli Lodge gardens. Very nice! The last and memorable observation we had one night when we came back to our bungalow was an unexpected mongoose that froze a few meters from us surprised I guess by our head lights. It was very close to the garbage area of the lodge. I was also quite surprised myself and by the time I reacted to try a photo, he ran away deep into the forest. It was quite large and dark in color so I assume it could either be a **marsh mongoose or a long-nosed mongoose** since they are both present in the area. Our guide Leonce told me it should most likely be a long-nosed mongoose but with no guarantee. I tried to stay longer near the garbage area on other nights but had no luck to see it again unfortunately. I don't count the few feral dogs and cats I observed during these night walks 😊

As said earlier, we tried one night with Leonce the entry road to Sanga Lodge in the hope of finding a pangolin. It was a long walk we did with two Baaka trackers. At some point, they heard something and ran into the forest, which I hoped was because they saw a pangolin but false alarm, noting special was eventually seen and they thought they saw running a giant forest rat. Like around Doli Lodge, we saw several galagos and pottos as well as one skittish rodent running high in the trees that we could not identify. The most interesting observation was a nice **Beecroft's Anomalure**. Nothing else was seen that night.

The second place we visited in the Dzanga Sangha National Park was the famous Dzanga Bai. We had two visits there: one full day and the second time we spent the night on the viewing platform. What an amazing place this is with a nice viewing platform,

a scenic forest clearing and wonderful wildlife observations. Even the 30min walk from the park rangers camp to the Bai is very nice through the forest, small fields and river stream we cross on foot. The Bai is world famous for its **African Forest Elephants** who come there in large numbers for the fresh water and minerals they can find by digging the soil. Looking at all these elephants drinking, digging the soft soil in some funny positions, interacting between each other in groups or between young and adults is so interesting that you never feel bored even spending full days and nights there. It was also striking to see the various colors the elephants could have (from white to yellow or red) depending on where they took their mud bath. We came to CAR in April to maximize our chances to see Bongos who are known to be regular in the Bai during the dry season and it was indeed the case: **Bongos** were there in large numbers and what a beautiful antelope this is! I was very happy to see so many of this prime mammal target I had when I prepared this trip. The third large mammal we saw were **Forest Buffalos** who came in and out of the Bai along the day. We also observed a couple of **Eastern black-and-white colobus** but in the distance in a large tree on the other side of the Bai from the viewing platform. Besides some cool birds that were in the Bai in good numbers like bee-eaters or grey parrots, the only other mammal we saw was a **red-legged sun squirrel** running in a large tree just behind the viewing platform. This was the somewhat frustrating part of our visit to Dzanga Bai: we saw lots of animals but not a great diversity of species. Indeed, we did not see any giant forest hogs, which was really surprising as from past reports I thought they were more or less guaranteed. We did not see red river hogs either although I knew for this species that the chances were lower. We also did not see any mammal during the night we spent at the Bai although we had our thermal cameras and stayed awake until quite late in the evening. At some point, I saw through the thermal scope an animal moving fast in the forest edge far away from the viewing platform. The size and shape reminded me of an **African civet**, which our guide Leonce also thought it was, but it was too far and too fast of an observation to be certain. Unlike other reports, we also did not see any monkey while hiking to the Bai from the camp. On the other hand, we saw once a big forest elephant bull nonchalantly drinking in the river stream we had to cross. Quite an impressive and close observation!

The first and last places we visited in the National Park were both in the Bai Hokou area. Our first visit was focused on tracking the newly habituated group of Western lowland Gorillas. For this activity, we first had to do a COVID test at the medical center close to the Doli Lodge. With our negative test results in hands, we then drove to the Bai Hokou park ranger camp located more than 30km deep in the forest away from Bayanga. During the long but straight drive on a good shape track since we were in the dry season, we came across several monkeys moving high in the forest trees. We stopped a couple of times to observe in fairly good conditions the usual **Moustached Monkeys**, a few **Putty-nosed Monkeys** and one **Grey-cheeked Mangabey**. When we arrived at the camp, we had a long briefing on how the experience with the gorillas would take place and then we started the walk. We were the only tourists that day for this activity. The walk was easy in flat terrain and since the gorilla group was not too far from the camp, we reached after only about 30min the place where the trackers were waiting for us and were following the gorillas since early morning. They gave us some face masks and we made the final approach to the **Western lowland Gorillas** group who luckily was not moving too much. We could enjoy one full hour with them and watch the impressive silverback who was paying close attention to us and who came very close to us a few times (I would say too close for my comfort zone!). There were 6 females in the group as well as 4 playful young gorillas including a cute baby one. Being so close to gorillas watching their behavior and social interactions for an hour, on top of that just the two of us with 3 trackers/guides was an incredible and unforgettable experience except for the zillions of sweat bees that were harassing us and really annoying. The worst is we knew there would be sweat bees and we came prepared with head nests but we forgot them in our bags that we left to our guide so that we could move more easily in the dense vegetation while following the gorillas. How stupid we can be 😊! After an hour sharp, we had to leave the gorillas and go back to the camp where we took our lunch prepared in a picnic box. We relaxed in the camp for a while, did some birding and went to the nearby little falls and cave where a colony of **Noack's Roundleaf Bats** uses to roost. I looked closely at all the bats and could not identify any other species. When we drove back to Doli Lodge on the same road track we took in the morning, we saw in the distance a few **African Forest Elephants** crossing the road and more interestingly two **bongos** walking along the road. They were, however, far away and quickly moved into the forest as soon as they saw our car approaching. What a day!

For the second visit to Bai Hokou, we did on the same day the tracking experience with habituated Agile Mangabeys and the Bai Tour, which consist of a long hike through several small Bais located in the area. When we arrived early morning and after checking with the trackers, our guide Leonce recommended we would start with the Mangabeys since the group was not far from the camp and we would then do the Bai Tour in the afternoon. There were other visitors that day so we had to split ourselves between the mangabeys and the Bais. Luckily our guide insisted my wife and I would be the first to reach the group of mangabeys before the other tourists since we were ready to go. Thank you Leonce! Here again the walk to meet the trackers who were already on site following the mangabeys was easy and short. One tracker was assigned to us and we followed him and the **Agile mangabeys** for about an hour to observe their behavior while

searching for food on the ground and it was very interesting to see their social interactions. At the beginning, I was surprised by how fast these monkeys were moving on the ground and thought it would be challenging to take nice photos but after some time, probably feeling more comfortable with our presence, they started to slow down and stayed closer to us, which allowed us to pause more often and find correct angles to take photos of the monkeys between the trees. At some point, the tracker stopped and tried to explain to me there was something behind a thick bush. By the time I realized what I was supposed to see, where to look exactly and try for a photo, the animal ran away and disappeared. The tracker and Leonce told me it was a **Peters Duiker**, and I trust them, but on my side I only saw an animal shape running so it doesn't count for me. After about an hour, the other tourists arrived on site so we decided to leave and go back to the camp since we had enjoyed enough the mangabeys. On the way back to the camp we found an antelope resting in a water pool in one of the small Bais we walked through. It did not see us and we stayed silent, which allowed us to move closer very slowly to the point where we could clearly identify which species it was, and to our surprise it turned out to be a beautiful **Yellow-backed Duiker**. Wow! It was very relaxed so the guide told us we could try to come even closer for better pictures, which we did until it finally saw us and stood up to walk away from us to another water pool. It didn't look scared at all as it did not run away and was just looking to freshen up in water pools because of the heat. What a nice and unexpected observation! We took our picnic lunch at the camp, rested a bit in the shade because of the midday heat and waited for the temperature to cool down before starting the Bai Tour. This tour consisted in walking for about 10kms in a loop going through several small Bais in search for any interesting wildlife that would show up. It was pretty quiet overall in terms of mammals: no monkey were seen but we saw few **African forest elephants**, a small group of **forest buffalos** that we could approach quite close and more interestingly a female **sitatunga** with a cute fawn. I was hoping to see a male sitatunga but we didn't see any. After this fairly long and pretty exhausting walk during which we didn't see much, we reached the camp late afternoon and then drove back to Doli Lodge. This time, we did not see any mammals along the road track towards Bayanga.

The last nature activity we did was the motorboat cruise on the Sangha River going North of Doli and Sangha lodges to waterfalls located on the other side of the river. This place is well known for the red-necked picatharte nets that were discover there some years ago. We knew April was not the good season to see these iconic birds and guess what, we did not see any... On top of that the waterfalls were totally dry, which clearly limited the interest of the activity. However, we tried to look for some animals during the hike to the falls but surprisingly there were no birds and the only mammals we saw were several **Noack's Roundleaf Bats** in some small caves down the falls. Brush-tailed porcupines are also known to sleep under the rocks near the falls but unfortunately we did not manage to find any.

Conclusions

This one-week trip to Dzanga Sangha in Central Africa was wonderful. The place is amazing and much wilder than any other places we could visit in Africa. The rainforest is vast, impressive with huge trees and in good shape. The Sangha River is very scenic allowing nice sundowners from the Doli Lodge restaurant platform. The Baakas and other local people are really friendly and the place host very interesting wildlife with some mega mammals that are very hard to see elsewhere like bongos or western lowland gorillas. Travelling there by plane was actually fairly easy and the infrastructures in Dzanga Shanga, although limited, is good overall. I found the security situation to be very good there and it is a shame that all the Western countries still put the entire country in red, which strictly limits the number of tourists visiting this amazing place. Local people and officials are really sad about such a situation and really eager to see it changing to develop ecotourism in such a wonderful area of Africa that deserves it. Having said that given the current infrastructures in both Bangui and Dzanga Shanga, it would be very difficult to handle a higher flux of tourism if things are changing fast. Regarding wildlife observations and despite what was written in previous reports, I'm not sure I would put this place in the Top 10 mammal watching destination. Of course, we can see some mega mammals but if you put aside bats or rodents, I was not that impressed by the diversity of mammals (and birds) we could observe there. I don't know if the weather conditions played a role or if poaching that remains active there led to a depletion of animal density (like in many other places worldwide unfortunately) but considering what was described in older reports, we did not see so many species and we also had some major misses. Indeed, we did not see any giant forest nor red river hogs for example and surprisingly,

we did not see many monkeys and in few occasions besides the habituated primates and moustached monkeys. During that week, we observed a total of 24 mammal species, among which many lifers, which is not bad but clearly under what people saw in past trips. I would like to end this trip report by thanking all the people I was in contact with to prepare this trip (Ian Thomson, Nuria Ortega, French expatriates leaving in Bangui) who could give fresh updates about CAR and Dzanga Sangha, reassured us about the safety situation and convinced us we should definitely go there despite what is written in the official websites. I'm so glad we followed their advice. This is a great place so don't hesitate to travel there taking the advantage that the political situation in CAR is currently good and safety looks to be much better now (at least for the Southern part of the country). Bayanga and the Dzanga Sangha National Park deserve to be visited more.

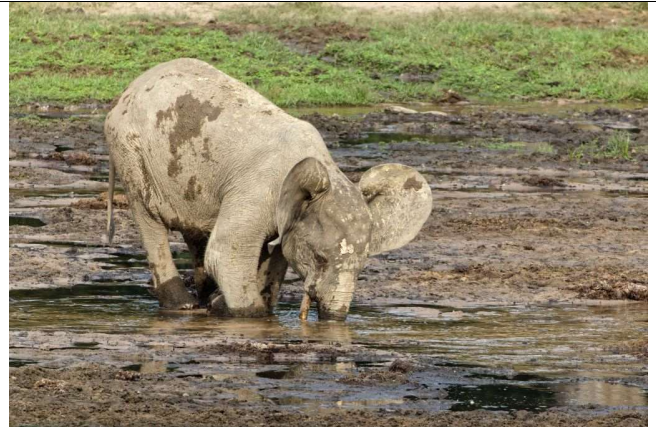
Mammals with photos or well seen (lifers in green)				
Species	Espèces	Latin Name	Where seen	Pic
Western lowland Gorilla	Gorille des plaines Ouest	Gorilla gorilla	A magical moment spent with a habituated group of 11 individuals including 4 juveniles	X
Eastern black-and-white colobus	Colobe guéréza	Colobus guereza	2 individuals seen in the distance at Dzanga Bai	X
Agile Mangabey	Cercocèbe agile	Cercocebus agilis	Habituated group observed in Bai Hokou	X
Grey-cheeked Mangabey	Mangabey à joues grises	Cercocebus albigena	One individual observed only once on the way to Bai Hokou	
Putty-nosed Monkey	Hocheur	Cercopithecus nictitans	Two individuals observed once on the way to Bai Hokou	X
Moustached Monkey	Moustac	Cercopithecus cephus	Common around Doli Lodge	X
Milne-Edwards' potto	Potto d'Afrique Centrale	Perodicticus edwardsi	Several observed at night on the main entrance road to Doli Lodge and the entrance road to Sangha Lodge	X
Southern needle-clawed galago	Galago élégant	Euoticus elegantulus	Common at night on the main entrance road to Doli Lodge and entrance road to Sangha Lodge	X
Demidoff's dwarf galago	Galago de Demidoff	Galagoides demidoff	A few observed at night on the main entrance road to Doli Lodge	X
Hammer-headed Bat	Hypsignathe monstrueux	Hypsignathus monstrosus	Heard and seen every night in the Doli Lodge gardens	X
Noack's Roundleaf Bat	Chauve-souris de Noack	Hipposideros ruber	Groups roosting at the small cave in Bai Hokou and at the Waterfall site	X
Forest giant squirrel	Écureuil de Stanger	Protoxerus stangeri	A couple observed in Doli Lodge	X
Red-legged sun squirrel	Héliosciure à pattes rousses	Heliosciurus rufobrachium	One observed in Dzanga Bai	X
Green Bush Squirrel	Écureuil vert	Paraxerus poensis	One observed in Doli Lodge	X
Fire-footed Rope Squirrel	Écureuil de Cuvier	Funisciurus pyrropus	One observed near Doli Lodge during a dugout canoe tour	X
Lord Derby's Anomalure	Anomalure de Derby	Anomalurus derbianus	One observed on the main entrance road to Doli Lodge and another splendid observation of one individual flying from tree to tree near Doli Lodge	X
Beecroft's Anomalure	Anomalure de Beecroft	Anomalurus beecrofti	One observed on the entrance road to Sangha Lodge	X
Long-nosed Mongoose or Marsh Mongoose	Mangouste du Congo ou Mangouste des marais	Herpestes naso or Atilax paludinosus	One unexpected but brief observation in the Doli Lodge gardens one night	
African Palm Civet	Nandinie	Nandinia binotata	One individual observed in the distance at night at the start of the entrance road to Doli Lodge	X
African forest Elephant	Éléphant de forêt d'Afrique	Loxodonta cyclotis	Common. Two observed near Doli Lodge and plenty at Dzanga Bai.	X
Forest Buffalo	Buffle de forêt	Syncerus caffer nanus	3 observed in Bai Hokou and a small group in Dzanga Bai	X
Bongo	Bongo	Tragelaphus euryceros	Tenths of this truly magnificent forest antelope observed at Dzanga Bai and 2 others on the dirt road towards Bai Hokou	X
Sitatunga	Sitatunga	Tragelaphus spekei	1 female and baby observed in Bai Hokou	X
Yellow-backed Duiker	Céphalophe à dos jaune	Cephalophus silvicultor	One unexpected and superb observation of one individual taking bath in the open in Bai Hokou	X
		Total Species Recorded = 24		

Other mammals that I don't count given the observation circumstances				
Peters Duiker	Céphalophe de Peter	Cephalophus callipygus	Something seen running away inside the thick forest while looking for Agile Mangabey and the trackers said it was this species	
African civet	Civette africaine	Civettictis civetta	One individual observed through the thermal camera in the distance at Dzanga Bai. The shape and size reminded of an African civet but not 100% sure and could have been a large mongoose	
Unidentified Rodent	Rongeur indéterminé	???	One rodent observed running in the light during our night walk along the entrance road to Sangha Lodge but could not identify species	
Unidentified Bats	Chauve-souris indéterminées	???	Numerous flying bats of different sizes and flying behaviors observed during all night walks that I could not have clear identification	

I'm adding below some pictures of the mammals we could observe during this trip...



African Forest Elephant



African Forest Elephant



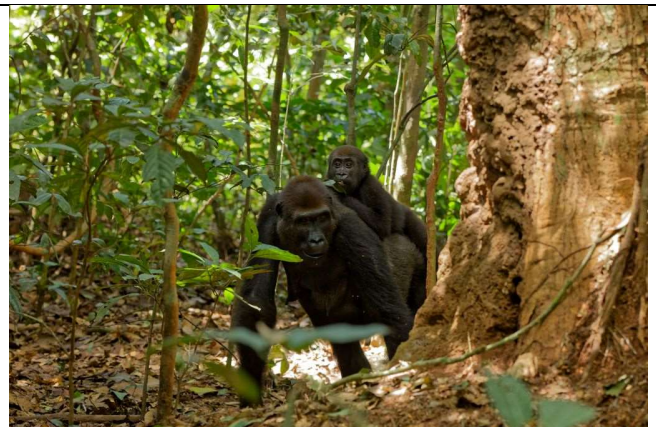
Bongos



Forest buffalos



Western Lowland gorilla



Western Lowland gorilla



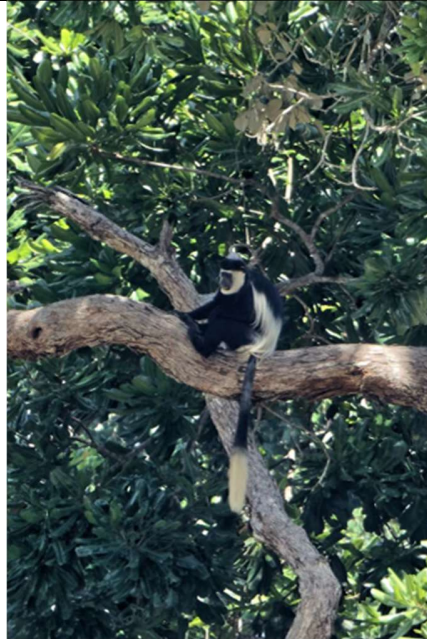
Moustached monkeys



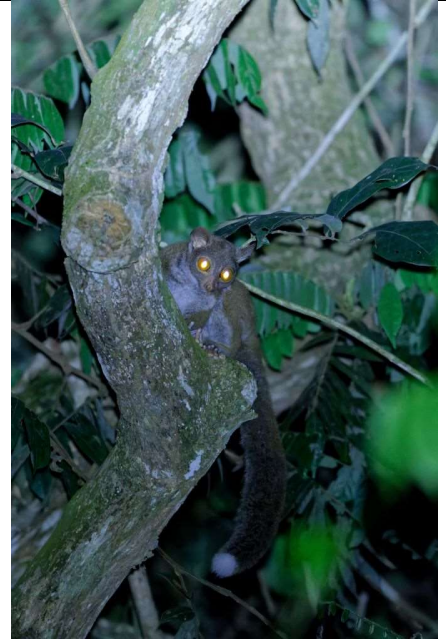
Agile Mangabey



Putty-nosed monkey



Eastern black-and-white colobus



Southern needle-clawed galago



Yellow-backed Duiker



Sitatunga



Fire-Footed Rope Squirrel



Forest Giant Squirrel



Milne-Edwards' potto



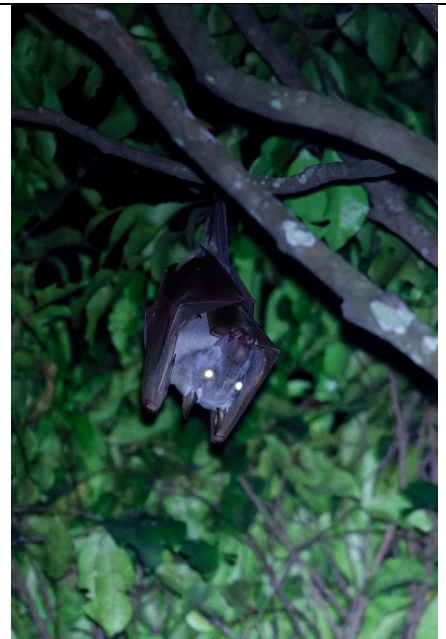
Noack's Roundleaf Bat



Green Bush Squirrel



Red-legged Sun Squirrel



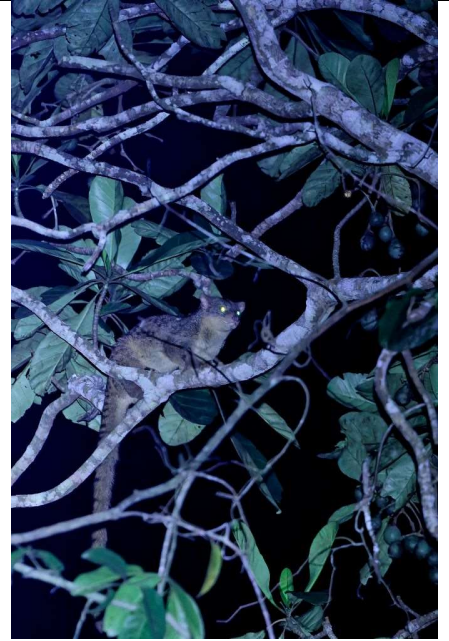
Hammer-headed Bat



Lord Derby's Anomalure



Beecroft's Anomalure



African Palm Civet



Western Lowland gorilla



Dzanga Bai 1



Dzanga Bai 2



Dzanga Bai 3