

Trip Report – Kenya August 2022

It's been said before, but Kenya must be about the best country for mammal watching. Surely only in Kenya can you stay in a 5-star beach resort for a couple of days and score 12 mammal species without leaving the resort? More of that later!



Bushbuck, Aberdares NP

For our trip we booked Shem Mwathi through Greentours, and as Alex and Jon have both said he's a wonderful guide. Everything was always perfectly organised and he's a font of information about Kenya and ever moreso about mammals. Many thanks, Shem! Not forgetting great local guides like Willy at Arabuko-Sokoke, Professor at Tana River Primates and Kajengo for the bat caves near Watamu.

We started with Nairobi NP then went on to the Aberdares, then Meru NP, and then Tsavo East NP before heading to Arabuko Sokoke NR with a day trip to Tana River Primate Reserve and finally a couple of days at Diani Beach to unwind(-ish). If I were doing the trip again, I'd swap Meru NP for Samburu NR; there are a bunch more species available and far more chance of seeing them, unless you are absolutely dead keen on the Naked Mole-rat in which case Meru is the spot.

I think we're pretty casual mammal watchers: we don't have a thermal scope, we don't do any trapping and we can only ID bats if we can get a nice photo on a cave roof. So it's all down to Kenya that we got **75 species** in a two week trip!

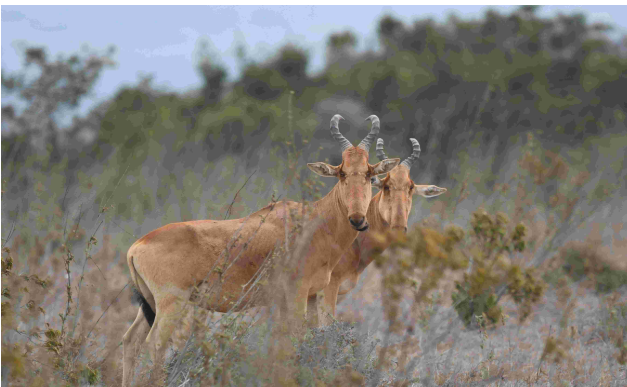
Though we had a brilliant trip, I do have some thoughts about Kenya in August (that any experts out there are welcome to correct!). What we struggled to see much of were: rodents, insectivores and smaller predators. I wonder if August, being the 3rd month of the dry season, is actually just a bit too dry? So that many of the prey species – be they mice or bugs – may have died off or gone quiescent. It was frustrating not to get a single serval, caracal, wild cat, civet or aardvark despite going for five night drives. Of course it may have just been bad luck.

Nairobi NP

Taking a drive around here is a good way to get into the swing of it. We didn't see anything that we wouldn't find again elsewhere on the trip, except for the **Blue Wildebeest**. But we did get Cape Buffalo, Impala, Lion, Masai giraffe, Hartebeest, Eland, Thompson's Gazelle, Plains Zebra, **White Rhinoceros** and Common Warthog.

Solio Rhino Concession

From Nairobi we drove on to our last-minute extra overnight spot (BA made us change our flight to 1 day earlier so we found ourselves with an extra day to kill) which was Naro Moru River Lodge. It's under an hour from Aberdare NP and close to Solio. It's a nice rambling riverside property, but although we got **Southern Tree Hyrax** easily we were too tired to go out with a spotlight. We were still pretty tired in the morning, as the hyraxes serenaded us with their awful caterwauling until 4am.



Lelwel Hartebeest, Solio Rhino Concession



Southern Tree Hyrax, Naro Moru Lodge

Solio is a popular concession not far from the Aberdares because it provides a good chance of both white and black rhinos (400 white and 100 black). It is mostly savannah thickets and some grassland. In an afternoon drive we got all the common game as well as maybe 20 **White Rhinoceros** but dipped on the black. They also have **Nubian (Rothschild) Giraffe** and the rare Lelwel subspecies of **Hartebeest**, both imported from their natural range but certainly wild here. We didn't check whether they will allow night drives.



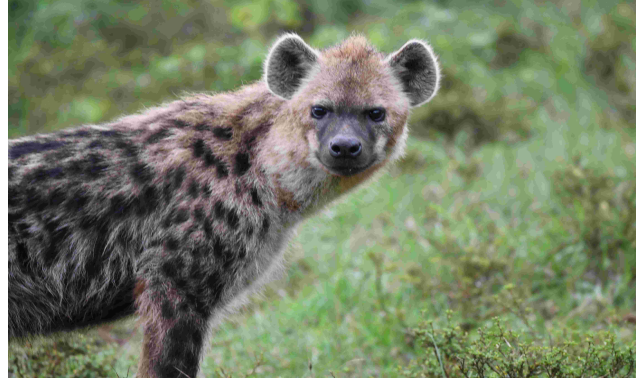
Nubian Giraffe, Solio Concession

Aberdares

We drove up into the Aberdares and spent the whole day out, so that we could drive up from the lower forest through the bamboo forests where we got **Syke's Monkey** and up into the high moorland all the way to Fishing Lodge. In the lower forests we picked up a **Giant Forest Hog** emerging onto a grassy patch. We stopped in time not to disturb him and then 4 others appeared and browsed their way in our direction until they were only a few metres from the car. I would have amazing photos... except that it was very misty the whole time we were in the Aberdares, making mammal spotting and photography a bit tricky. We got a **Spotted Hyena** too and a pair of **Slender Mongoose** as well as more hogs. In the bamboo forests we got **Syke's Monkey** and in moorland we got a **Mountain Reedbuck** crossing the road, as well as plenty of **Bushbuck**.



Giant Forest Hog. Love these guys!

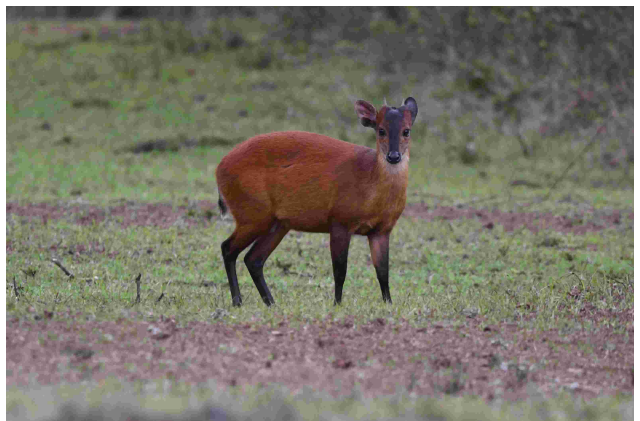


Spotted Hyena, Aberdares NP

We stayed the night at the Aberdare Country Club, outside the park. This is a good idea as the lawns border on their extensive conservancy land and we easily saw two **Harvey's Red Duiker** on the lawn along with zebra, impala, bushbuck, warthogs and a **Mountain Suni** nearer to dusk. **Ochre Bush Squirrels** scamper all around the main building in daylight. Spotlighting is allowed and we saw many **Scrub Hare** and **Southern Tree Hyrax**. At about 21:15 we heard movement in some ornamental bushes on the entrance driveway right by the car park. After a few moments, out popped a **Maned Rat**. It crossed the drive and we followed it for five minutes as it potted about on the lawns. I'm going to put our reaction down as "gob-smacked"! We showed Shem the exact spot next morning, in case you go with him.



Maned Rat on the lawn, Aberdares Country Club



Harvey's Duiker on the lawn, Aberdares Country Club

Back in the Aberdares next morning and it was still foggier. We got more Giant Forest Hog (I think you'd be unlucky to miss these if you spent a day in the Aberdares) and an **African Elephant**. The fog made scanning for monkeys hard, but we had a bit of a view of some **Guereza Colobus**. Then we went to the Ark, to stay in the park.

One night at The Ark seems plenty, especially when it's so flippin' cold! We didn't pack for 12C. In the bedroom. The waterhole was home to Giant Forest Hogs, Common Warthogs, Elephants, Scrub Hare and a brief Spotted Hyena. Along the side of the building where they hang washing we spotted a couple of **Blotched Genet** and a **White-tailed Mongoose** with the black tail variant. Someone really needs to rename this species. Apparently they are camera-trapping for the remaining Bongo and all the recent pictures of them were a long way from the Ark.

On the drive from Aberdare to Meru NP we stopped for lunch at Trout Tree. The trout is truly excellent. There were at least 3 different sunbird species to watch, and they have a very habituated troop of **Guereza Colobus** that shouldn't be hard to find. We were allowed to hand-feed an old fella called Julius. He's a colobus, just to be clear.



Blotched Genet, The Ark

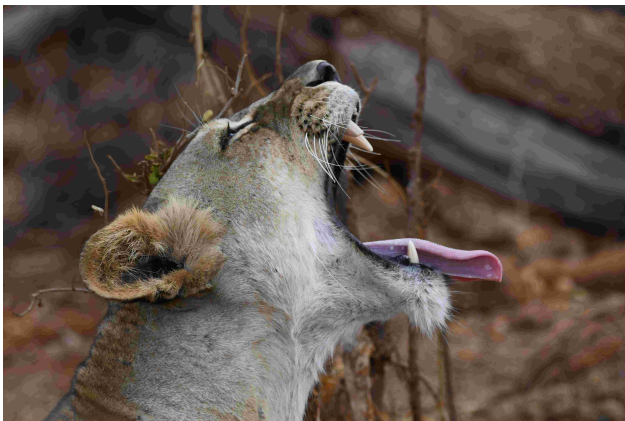


Guereza Colobus, Trout Tree near Nanyuki

Meru National Park

Overall we found a much lower concentration of game in Meru than other parks, perhaps because there's a lot less open country. I think unless you're really determined on Naked Mole-rats and Somali Dwarf Mongoose, you're probably better off at another park. We hoped for Gerenuk and Grevy's Zebra here but got neither of them with two days of game drives (no night drives allowed).

We did find a lone female **Lion** drinking at a river crossing, and watched her a while, which felt like a nice echo of Elsa from Born Free. Elsa's Kopje is the most deluxe camp in Meru but also definitely in the best areas for game; from Rhino River camp you've got 45 mins drive to get out of the scrub. Rhino River was a lovely quality camp on the edge of the park, they have habituated **Short-eared Greater Galago** that come around dinner time and we spotted **Bush Duiker** as well as Syke's Monkey and Olive Baboons around camp.

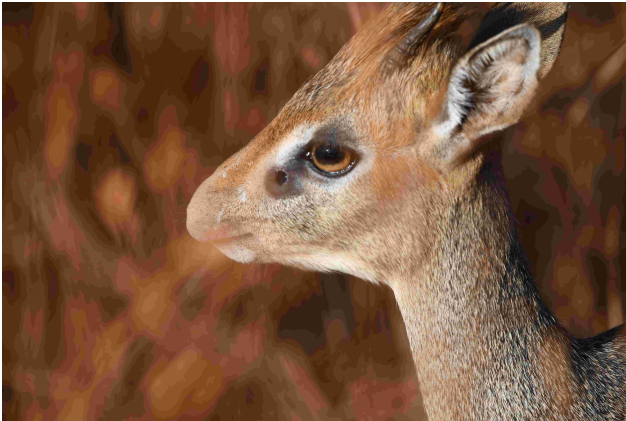


Lion, Meru NP



Somali Dwarf Mongoose, Meru NP

In the park we ended up with a respectable list including **Ellipsen Waterbuck**, **African Elephant**, **Striped and Unstriped Ground Squirrel**, **Reticulated Giraffe**, **Vervet Monkey** and **Lesser Kudu**. A third of the park is a rhino reserve and we got one **Black Rhinoceros** as well as numerous white rhinos. We also saw **Bright's Gazelle** and both **Kirk's Dikdik** and **Gunther's Dikdik**. At least, we're as sure as we can be that the ones with a bigger hooter and also maybe a smaller head-body ratio are the Gunthers! After quite a bit of searching we found two bands of **Somali Dwarf Mongoose** in quick succession. Look out for the termite mounds that have smooth round tunnels in them. We saw plenty of Naked Mole-rat diggings and stared at them for a while, but nothing happened. Looking at photos later, it appears we also saw **Desert Warthog** at Meru.



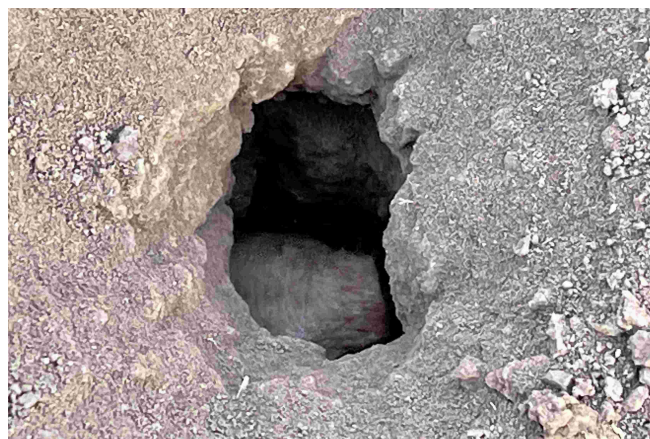
Kirk's Dikdik, Meru NP



Gunther's Dikdik, Meru NP

One interesting point about this visit in August, when Meru was decidedly colder than the rest of the year, is that we got more wildlife in the park after midday – especially dikdiks and the Somali dwarf mongoose. This is completely in contrast to any other savannah game drives I've done, when it starts to get very quiet and dull after 10-11am.

The next day, as we left the park and drove out through the nearby village, Shem stopped the car and said a bad word. Then he reversed a bit. He had just driven over a tiny hole in the middle of the road that was erupting dirt like a little dirt geyser. We got out and crept closer, peering down into the hole to see... a **Naked Mole-rat** hard at work. Either we are super-silent creepers or they really aren't too bothered about vibrations!



Naked Mole-rat, just outside Meru NP

Here's a couple of short videos of mole-rat-in-action: <https://youtu.be/ZYzQBA0um14>
<https://youtu.be/3Y9aDuu1gNk>

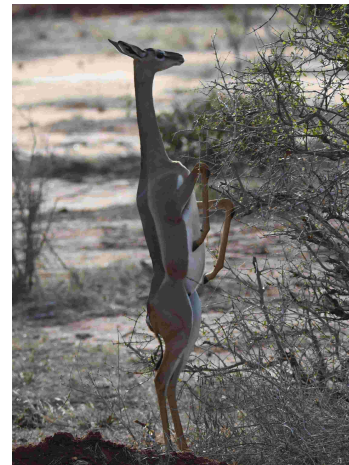
Tsavo East National Park

Including the mole-rat stop, it took a heroic 11.5 hours to get from Meru to Tsavo's Voi Gate and the gate guards made Shem spend ages talking to people and filling out forms to show how unimpressed they were at us arriving 30 minutes after closing time! But as we had booked Voi Lodge in the park, apparently they did have to let us in. Voi Lodge has stunning views (and useful – with binoculars you can scan a big swathe of grassland though we didn't see much), and a bunch of **Yellow-spotted Bush Hyrax** always hanging around. On one drive we saw a **Klipspringer** on the rocks just outside the lodge gates.

So we had 2 full days in the park and also did 2 night drives. We went out to the Aruba area and after scanning for a few minutes Maureen's hawk eye settled on two antelope sitting in the grass that “looked a bit different”. They were indeed **Hirola** and the only two we saw. The horns are very distinctive and an all-white tail is another solid identification. We were delighted with a whole bunch of **Gerenuk** sightings, including their amazing stand-up routine. I hadn't realised this, but they are not really leaning on the bushes. One of them walked across to an adjacent bush without bothering to drop onto four legs first!

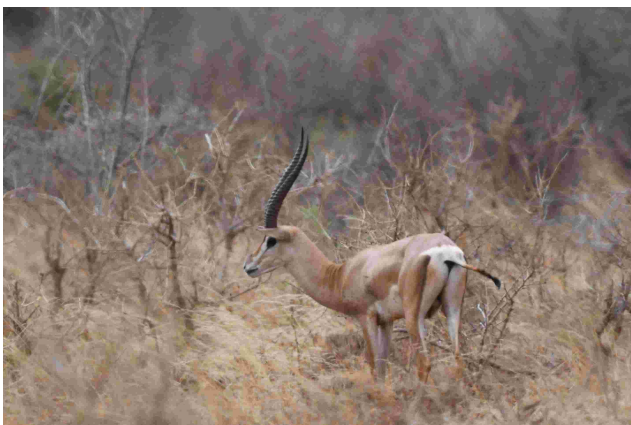


Gerenuk, Tsavo East NP. I love their weird little heads!

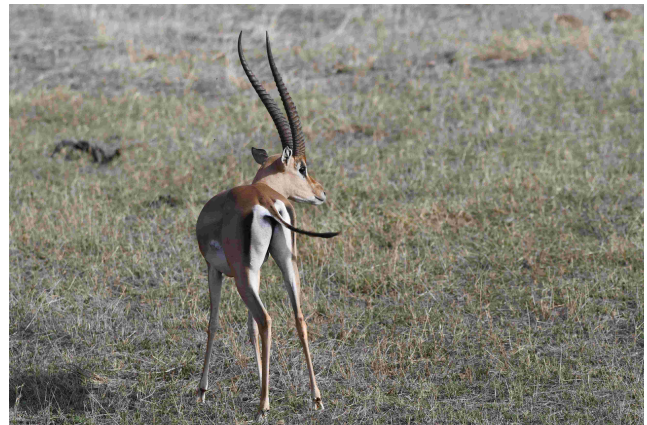


Gerenuk ballet

Along with the numerous elephants, hartebeest, lions, impala & zebra we also got plenty of **Tana Gazelles** (the shape of the white bum patch seems to best distinguish them from Bright's Gazelle, though the distribution maps also help), **Banded Mongoose**, **Fringe-eared Oryx**, **Reticulated & Masai Giraffe** and **Dwarf Mongoose** either nesting in empty termite mounds or the rock-mound park signs near Voi Lodge. On our second day we drive north to the Tsavo River; we saw far less game on this day but we did spot a **Hippopotamus** in the muddy wallow of a nearly dry river.



Bright's Gazelle, Meru NP - white patch extends to tail



Tana Gazelle, Tsavo NP - small white patch only on bum

Night drives were a bit disappointing. From two drives we got: **Cape Hare**, **Small-spotted Genet**, **Black-backed Jackal**, **White-tailed Mongoose**, **Spotted Hyena** and a **Senegal Galago** in the trees near Voi Gate. Absolutely no small cats by day or night, and no rodents either (except a few ground squirrels). There was also a strong breeze blowing both nights. Most of the things we saw were right at the end of the drive, heading for 9pm. Shem said he was going to look into starting night drives at Tsavo from 9pm-11pm, if the park rangers are amenable.

Leaving the park, the drive from Aruba across to Sala Gate is notable for being pretty much devoid of anything except a few more Gerenuk!

Arabuko-Sokoke Forest

For our 3 nights here we stopped at Turtle Bay Resort in Watamu. Casting around the grounds at night we found a couple of **Four-toed Hedgehogs**, but interestingly only on the night when the sprinklers had been on (Shem thought hedgehogs only likely when there was rain to bring the bugs out).

Our first walk around the trails near the Forest HQ gave us brief glimpses of two **Golden-rumped Giant Sengi**, a couple of **Coastal Suni** and a **Zanj Sun Squirrel**. Willy, our local guide, called it an ochre squirrel and it did have a rusty-tan belly. But it also had a tail longer than its body and a very different head-shape to the Ochre Bush Squirrels from Aberdare so I'm fairly certain. We found an article saying that the coastal Zanj squirrels have more rufous bellies and less strongly barred tails, seeming to support this.



Zanj Sun Squirrel - tail longer than body, blunt snout



Ochre Bush Squirrel - shorter tail, pointed snout

On a late afternoon we went to a couple of local bat caves. Kajengo is a local guide who isn't really a bat expert himself, but is a great fella and knows exactly where the caves are. The first cave, Kaboga, was full of Striped Leaf-nosed Bats, African Sheath-tailed Bats and Least Long-fingered Bats, flying in droves around us and above us. There's also nothing weirder than walking on the soft spongy guano-and-bug floor of a big bat cave. The second cave, Makahuru, was even more impressive. Thousands of bats flying everywhere, flying around us and bumping into us, it's absolutely astonishing even if you're not trying to ID them. We picked out two clearly different bats: orange African Trident Bats among lots of black Least Long-fingered Bat. Looking at photos later, we also got a Sundeval's Roundleaf Bat. To be honest, we could probably only identify these due to the great photos on Jon and Alex Meyer's trip reports – thanks both!

Here's a video in Makahuru, to give some sense of the sheer battiness:

<https://youtu.be/NIWaPQxauMw>

A morning drive in the forest produced exactly nothing. Two night drives produced a handful of **Small-eared Greater Galago** and **Kenyan Coast Galago**, a couple of Coastal Suni and a single well-hidden **Four-toed Sengi** that we had to rely on Willy for identification. Lots of effort for very little and more support for my theory that August is just too far into the dry season. Or we just had lots of bad luck with night drives this trip. It's worth noting that you need a local guide and two park rangers for a night drive in the forest – so that was a car-load of 6 of us trundling around, which felt a little odd.

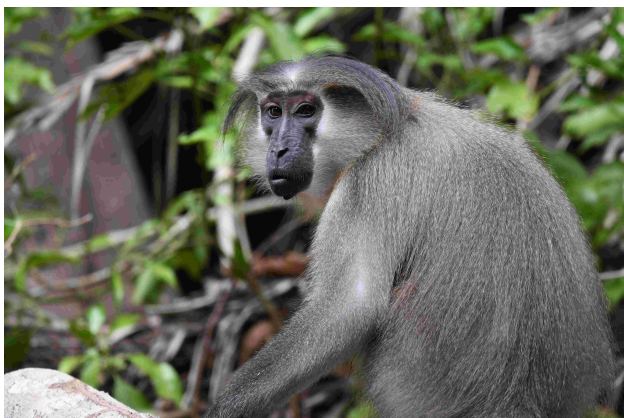
We asked for one extra walk on the morning before we left Arabuko, and this time we saw at least 5 different Golden-rumped Giant Sengi. We spotted one before he spotted us, stood very still, and enjoyed having him trot right past us less than 3m away. I cursed my giant 150-600mm lens as it just wouldn't focus that close!



Close encounters of the sengi kind: <https://youtu.be/X0CqBEifliY>

Tana River Primate Reserve

We took a day trip here from Arabuko-Sokoke, which is a 3.5 hour drive each way. Based on what Professor, our local guide, told us you really ought to get both rare primates in a morning even when they're being a bit awkward. In our case we found ourselves among a troop of **Tana River Mangabeys** less than 50m from the research station, and then a family of **Tana River Red Colobus** only a few paces further. There are Syke's Monkeys and Olive Baboons too. We had glimpses of **Harvey's Red Duiker** but always fleeing.



Tana River Mangabey, Tana River Primate Reserve

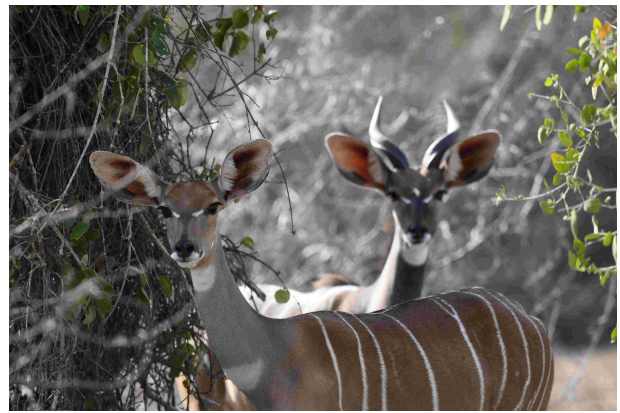


Tana River Red Colobus, Tana River Primate Reserve

On the drive north to Tana River from Watamu you end up driving through savannah scrub that is effectively an extension of Tsavo and at 8:15-8:30 we passed five different sounders of very easily identified **Desert Warthog** (but also very skittish, as you would be if you were bacon living near a major road). We also saw **Lesser Kudu** and **Kirk's Dikdik** on the final dirt drive into the primate reserve.



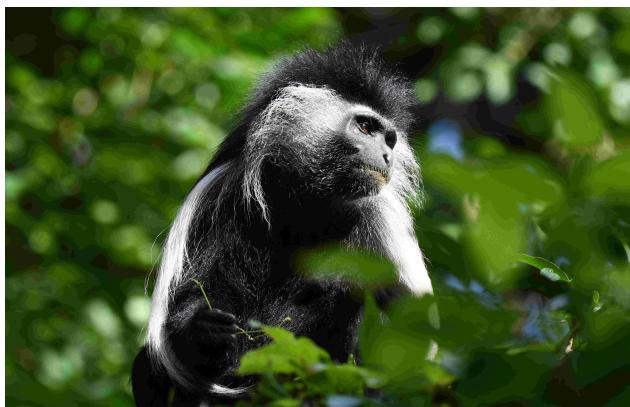
Desert Warthog - note wart and curled ears



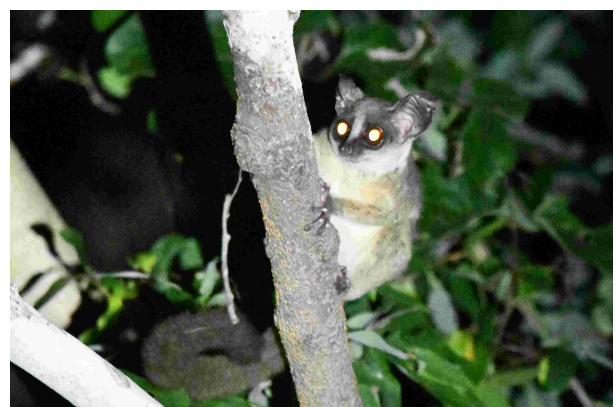
Lesser Kudu, near Tana River Primate Reserve

Diani Beach

Finally Shem dropped us at Sands at Nomad resort on Diani Beach, for some rest and relaxation. So of course we found 12 mammals just around here. The resort has a little 20 acre fragment of coastal forest attached, with a winding “nature trail” running through it. We went for a 7am nature walk with local guide Eric (not really a mammal guy, but runs the local snake conservation centre and probably very handy to know if you're bitten!) and got the tiniest glimpse of a fleeing **Black and Rufous Elephant Shrew** around 7:20. There were also **Red-bellied Bush Squirrel**, **Zanj Sun Squirrel** and **Coastal Suni** in the woods. As well as Vervet Monkey, Yellow Baboon and Syke's Monkey we also found a troop of **Angolan Colobus** pretty easily and got them the next morning too. Here's one browsing: <https://youtu.be/dPWqgz8L2Sk>



Angola Colobus, Diani Beach



Diani (Kenya Coast) Galago, Diani Beach

We made the mistake(?) of asking permission to night spotlight on the trail, and were hit with a flurry of “sorry no” and then “we'll ask” and then “management can't accept liability” and so forth. Luckily after the morning walk Eric introduced us to Atti who owns all the land the resort is on and is a keen conservationist. He said that with a thermal scope he has got up to 15 Four-toed Sengi and also reckons a Leopard might be present at the moment. He has a theory that the Brush-tailed Mongoose are living off beach crabs (he finds prints and broken shells) so that might be a good stake-out. Somehow after talking to Atti our night walk suddenly became okay, as long as we used red filters.

Ridiculously, two minutes into the night walk we had a beautiful clear view of a **Brush-tailed Mongoose**, jet black with a bottle-brush tail. Wow. Just too brief to photograph. Clearly the night couldn't improve, and it didn't: we saw about a dozen Coastal Suni and **Kirk's Dikdik** but nothing else. Either the thermal scope is vital for Four-toed Sengi, or they just aren't out every night.

Because we also dipped on galagos, we went out the following night and walked the driveway track and quickly picked up a **Kenyan Dwarf Galago** and a couple of **Small-eared Greater Galago**. That's 12 mammals at a beach resort!

What we missed

Cats! Leopard, Cheetah, Serval, Caracal, African Wildcat – any of these would have been nice, especially Caracal which still eludes us. We also haven't seen a Civet or a Porcupine in all our Africa trips before and still haven't. Sokoke Dog Mongoose would have been lovely but clearly needs a big dose of luck in such a dense forest environment. We drove by day along the tracks from the southern gate of Arabuko-Sokoke and there are more openings into the forest which might improve viewing chances at night compared with the central gate we used for night spotting.

Otherwise we really got all our targets. With a total of **75 mammals** and **46 new to our life-list** we've had a brilliant first trip through Kenya. Big thank you to Shem Mwathi for being a superb guide for dedicated mammal watchers and tourists alike. Also thank you to Ian at Greentours for getting the whole trip rearranged from Feb to Aug when COVID paused our original plans.



Dwarf Mongoose, Tsavo East NP

Trip List

| Species | Nairobi NP | Aberdare NP | Solio Reserve | Meru NP | Tsavo East NP | Arabuko-Sokoke | Tana River PR | Diani Beach |
|---|------------|-------------|---------------|---------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Southern Tree Hyrax * (<i>Dendrohyrax arboreus</i>) | | X | | | | | | |
| Yellow-spotted Bush Hyrax * (<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>) | | | | | X | | | |
| African Bush Elephant (<i>Loxodonta Africana</i>) | | X | | X | X | | | |
| Four-toed Sengi * (<i>Petrodromus Tetradactylus</i>) | | | | | | X | | |
| Golden-rumped Giant Sengi * (<i>Rhynchocyon chrysopygus</i>) | | | | | | X | | |
| Black-and-rufous Giant Sengi * (<i>Rhynchocyon petersi</i>) | | | | | | | | X |
| Tana River Red Colobus * (<i>Piliocolobus rufomitratu</i> s) | | | | | | | X | |
| Angola Colobus * (<i>Colobus angolensis</i>) | | | | | | | | X |
| Guereza Colobus * (<i>Colobus guereza</i>) | | X | | | | | | |
| Olive Baboon * (<i>Papio anubis</i>) | | X | X | X | | | | |
| Yellow Baboon * (<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>) | | | | | X | | X | X |
| Tana River Mangabey * (<i>Cercocepus galeritus</i>) | | | | | | | X | |
| Syke's Monkey * (<i>Cercopithecus albogularis</i>) | | X | | R | | X | X | X |
| Vervet Monkey (<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>) | | | X | X | X | | | X |
| Diani Galago * (<i>Galagoides cocos</i>) | | | | | | X | | X |
| Small-eared Galago * (<i>Autolemur garnettii</i>) | | | | R | | X | | X |
| Senegal Galago (<i>Galago senegalensis</i>) | | | | | X | | | |
| Naked Mole-rat * (<i>Heterocephalus glaber</i>) | | | | X | | | | |
| Zanj Sun Squirrel * (<i>Heliosciurus undulatus</i>) | | | | | | X | | X |
| Ochre Bush Squirrel * (<i>Paraxerus ochraceus</i>) | | X | | | | | | |
| Red-bellied Bush Squirrel * (<i>Paraxerus palliatus</i>) | | | | | | | | X |
| Striped Ground Squirrel * (<i>Xerus erythropus</i>) | | | | X | X | | | |
| Unstriped Ground Squirrel * (<i>Xerus rutilus</i>) | | | | X | X | | | |
| Maned/Crested Rat * (<i>Lophiomys imhausi</i>) | | C | | | | | | |
| Cape Hare (<i>Lepus capensis</i>) | | | | | X | | | |
| Scrub Hare (<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>) | | X | | | | | | |
| African Four-toed Hedgehog * (<i>Atelerix albiventris</i>) | | | | | | W | | |
| Little Freetailed Bat * | | | | | X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <i>(Chaerephon pumilus)</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Least Long-fingered Bat * <i>(Miniopterus minor)</i> | | | | | | W | | |
| Sundeval's Roundleaf Bat * <i>(Hipposideros caffer)</i> | | | | | | W | | |
| African Trident Bat * <i>(Triaenops afer)</i> | | | | | | W | | |
| Striped Leaf-nosed Bat * <i>(Macronycteris vittatus)</i> | | | | | | W | | |
| African Sheath-tailed Bat * <i>(Coleura afra)</i> | | | | | | W | | |
| Black-backed Jackal <i>(Canis mesomelas)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Lion <i>(Panthera leo)</i> | X | | | X | X | | | |
| Common (Small-spotted) genet <i>(Geneta geneta)</i> | | | | | X | X | | |
| Blotched (Large-spotted) genet <i>(Geneta maculata)</i> | | X | | | | | | |
| Spotted Hyena <i>(Crocuta crocuta)</i> | | X | | | X | | | |
| Slender Mongoose <i>(Herpestes sanguineus)</i> | | X | | | | | | |
| White-tailed Mongoose <i>(Ichneumia albicauda)</i> | | X | | | X | | | |
| Bushy-tailed Mongoose * <i>(Bdeogale crassicauda)</i> | | | | | | | | X |
| Banded Mongoose <i>(Mungos mungo)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Somali Dwarf Mongoose * <i>(Helogale hirtula)</i> | | | | X | | | | |
| Dwarf Mongoose <i>(Helogale parvula)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Common (Plains) Zebra <i>(Equus quagga)</i> | X | | X | X | X | | | |
| Black Rhinoceros <i>(Diceros bicornis)</i> | | | | X | | | | |
| White Rhinoceros <i>(Ceratotherium simum)</i> | X | | X | X | | | | |
| Giant Forest Hog * <i>(Hylochoerus meinertzhageni)</i> | | X | | | | | | |
| Desert Warthog * <i>(Phacochoerus aethiopicus)</i> | | | | X | X | | M | |
| Common Warthog <i>(Phacochoerus africanus)</i> | X | X | X | | | | | |
| Common Hippopotamus <i>(Hippopotamus amphibius)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Nubian (Rothschild's) Giraffe * <i>(Giraffa camelopardalis)</i> | | | X | | | | | |
| Reticulated Giraffe * <i>(Giraffa reticulata)</i> | | | | X | | | | |
| Masai Giraffe * <i>(Giraffa tippelskirchi)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| African (Cape) Buffalo <i>(Syncerus caffer)</i> | X | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Lesser Kudu * <i>(Tragelaphus imberbis)</i> | | | | X | | | X | |
| Bushbuck <i>(Tragelaphus scriptus)</i> | | X | | X | | X | | |
| Common Eland | X | | X | X | X | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <i>(Taurotragus oryx)</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Suni (Mountain & Coastal) * <i>(Nesotragus moschatus)</i> | | C | | | | X | | X |
| Bush Duiker <i>(Sylvicapra grimmia)</i> | | X | | R | | | | |
| Harvey's Red Duiker * <i>(Cephalophus harveyi)</i> | | C | | | | | X | |
| Kirk's Dikdik * <i>(Madoqua kirkii)</i> | | | | X | X | | X | X |
| Gunther's Dikdik * <i>(Madoqua guentheri)</i> | | | | X | | | | |
| Thompson's Gazelle * <i>(Eudorcas thompsoni)</i> | X | | X | | | | | |
| Tana Gazelle * <i>(Nanger petersi)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Bright's Gazelle * <i>(Nanger notata)</i> | | | | X | | | | |
| Gerenuk * <i>(Litocranius walleri)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Mountain Reedbuck * <i>(Redunca chanleri)</i> | | X | | | | | | |
| Waterbuck (Defassa & Ellipsen) <i>(Kobus ellipsiprymnus)</i> | | X | X | X | X | | | |
| Klipspringer <i>(Oreotragus oreotragus)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Impala <i>(Aepyceros melampus)</i> | X | C | X | X | X | | | |
| Hirola * <i>(Beatragus hunteri)</i> | | | | | X | | | |
| Hartebeest (Lelwel & Coke's) <i>(Alcelaphus puselaphus)</i> | X | | X | X | X | | | |
| Brindled Gnu (Wildebeest) <i>(Connochaetes taurinus)</i> | X | | | | | | | |
| Beisa (Fringe-eared) Oryx * <i>(Oryx beisa)</i> | | | X | | X | | | |

R = at Rhino River Camp

C = at Aberdare Country Club

M = main road north to Tana River Primate Reserve

W = Watamu area

* = new to our life list

Birds

Reed cormorant
Hamerkop
Grey heron
Great white egret
Black-crowned night heron
Hadeda ibis
Sacred ibis
Great white pelican
Marabou stork
Woolly-necked stork
Egyptian goose
Black kite
African fish-eagle
Egyptian vulture
Lappet-faced vulture
Ruppell's vulture
Brown snake-eagle
Bateleur
Eastern chanting goshawk
African goshawk
Mountain buzzard
Long-crested eagle
Martial eagle
African crowned eagle
Helmeted guineafowl
Crested guineafowl
Vulturine guineafowl
Scaly spurfowl
Yellow-necked spurfowl
Grey crowned crane
Black-bellied bustard
Spotted thick-knee
Emerald-spotted wood-dove
Namaqua dove
Burchell's coucal
Nightjar sp.
Lilac-breasted roller
Common ostrich
Somali ostrich
Secretarybird
Eastern yellow-billed hornbill
Jackson's hornbill
Green barbet
Pied wagtail
White wagtail
Fork-tailed drongo
House crow
Pied crow
Dark-capped bulbul
Dusky flycatcher
Rosy-patched bush-shrike
Superb starling
Hildebrandt's starling
Yellow-billed oxpecker
African yellow white-eye
White-headed buffalo weaver
Golden palm weaver
Baglafaecht weaver
Red-cheeked cordobleu
Northern double-collared sunbird
Golden-winged sunbird
Red-chested sunbird
Eastern double-collared sunbird
Amethyst sunbird
Variable sunbird