

As the world started to open up more and more Royle Safaris was contacted by one of our long established ground handlers in East Africa to invite Martin on a little scouting trip to try some new places, a new vehicle and in general just make good relations again after a couple of years of nothing happening in the world of travel. So whilst discussing where would be good to go and some target species we hit upon a week 8 night itinerary that would visit the Central Serengeti National Park, Ngorogoro Crater National Park and also visit Jozani Forest and Mtende Forest in Zanzibar. This would be a somewhat rushed trip to visit these places in a short amount of time, but would provide a good basis for several new itineraries to be developed in this remarkable country for wildlife watching. Particularly in Zanzibar where there are currently no dedicated multi-day wildlife watching trips. Royle Safaris is aiming to change that with a special endemic and rare mammals tour to Zanzibar in the pipe line (we are so busy with the covid backlog of trips that it may be some time before we finalise and publish any such itinerary online, but for anyone interested please contact us now and we can set up a private itinerary for Zanzibar and or Tanzania (info@royle-safaris.co.uk)).

So with a rough itinerary in place we started to look at dates and it turned out that Martin would have his 8 year old son Tiger for the May/June half-term holiday and what a good time to introduce an animal mad little boy to the world of safaris. Since he could understand what it is Martin did for a job he has been itching to come on a safari and with a great combination of (1) well known species (2) plenty of wildlife to see at all times (3) world class lodges with great pools, food and all of the amenities a family would need and (4) the wonderful beaches of Zanzibar, this itinerary is almost the perfect beginner safari. So the quote was adjusted to reflect Martin, his wife Becky and son Tiger. Well the expansion of this quick research didn't end there as the May / June half term fell conveniently close to Martins mums' 60th birthday. Having wanted to take her and her partner on a safari for years the stars were aligning into something special. So a second room was added to the booking and with the amazing hospitality of our ground agents the whole trip was either complimentary or cost price, we were going to make the most of this amazing opportunity and with 3 first time safari goers on the trip we were assured of some wonderful memories being made.

So the basic premise of the trip (as alluded to above) would be general big game viewing in Serengeti and Ngorogoro (hopefully ticking off the Big Five during this time) and then a couple of days to try and see the endemic and rare mammals of Zanzibar, with a view of seeing if it would be possible to dedicate a week long trip to this amazing island in search of the rarities here. The first half of the trip was (as to be expected of one of the world's greatest wildlife watching hotspots) just amazing. The migration was still going through the area and with many lions, nice leopards and a surprising amount of servals we had a whale of time. Ngorogoro was our shot for black rhino (to complete the Big Five dream of the new safari goers) but the weather was poor, windy and chilly and as a result the rhinos do not often come out into the open and they alluded us....until we returned to the rim of the crater on our way out and we stopped at a view point, scanned carefully and found 2 black rhinos feeding below us. Not great sightings, but unmistakable rhinos. Zanzibar was also amazing, in a very short time we made the most of things, other than visiting the famous and playful Zanzibar red colobus and Syke's monkeys in Jozani Forest Martin's mum, partner, son and wife stayed behind from the night walks Martin did and only Martin and Becky went out to Mtende forest to look for the very rare, nearly mythical and inexcusably still trophy hunted Ader's duiker. We held little hope of seeing this shy species here, but almost immediately we heard the duiker's distinctive wheezy alarm call and crashing through bushes a couple of times. However optimism was dampened when at every scent marking tree we came across the local guide first showed us the scent marking post (complete with stained surface from years of repeated use from the duikers) and then pointed around 5m away to where the hunting hide would be set up for the trophy hunter to kill the duiker. After seeing so many such hunting spots we were convinced we imagined the alarm calls and that this duiker is surely extinct here. In fact the forest was very quiet in general and it was only the way out of the forest and around 20m from the road and our vehicle did we see a blackand-rufous sengi and then Becky and the local guide found an Ader's duiker just near the path and moving away from us after looking at us for a second. Amazing! Later that day Martin saw another Ader's duiker at night too, we have pictures and videos of this amazing and added together with nearly all of the other endemics on the island our plan of a dedicated mammalwatching safari to Zanzibar looks well and truly on.

All of the pictures below are from Martin Royle with his permission.

Species List Tanzania & Zanzibar Wildlife Tour (short scouting trip) May/Jun 2022

Mammals

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	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Common impala	Aepyceros melampus
2	Coke's hartebeest	Alcelaphus cokii
3	African golden wolf	Canis lupaster
4	Ader's duiker	Cephalophus adersi
5	Syke's monkey	Cercopithecus albogularis
6	Little freetail bat	Chaerephon pumilus
7	Vervet monkey	Chlorocebus pygerythrus
8	Blue wildebeest	Connochaetes taurinus
9	Spotted hyena	Crocuta crocuta
10	Common mole-rat	Cryptomys hottentotus
11	Topi	Damaliscus lunatus
12	Eastern tree hyrax	Dendrohyrax validus
13	Black rhino	Diceros bicornis
14	Straw-coloured fruit bat	Eidolon helvum
15	Minor epauletted fruit bat	Epomophoros minor
16	Plains zebra	Equus quagga
17	Thompson gazelle	Eudorcas thomsonii
18	Senegal galago	Galago senegalensis
19	Zanzibar dwarf galago	Galagoides zanzibaricus
20	Masai giraffe	Giraffa tippelskirchi
21	Common dwarf mongoose	Helogale parvula
22	Common slender mongoose	Herpestes sanguineus
23	Bush hyrax	Heterohyrax brucei
24	Common hippopotamus	Hippopotamus amphibius
25	Sundevall's roundlead bat	Hipposideros caffer
26	Common waterbuck	Kopus ellipsiprymnus
27	Yellow-winged bat	Lavia frons
28	Typical striped grass mouse	Lemniscomys striatus
29	Serval	Leptailurus serval
30	East African hare	Lepus victoriae

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31	African bush elephant	Loxadonta africana
32	Black-backed jackal	Lupulella mesomela
33	Cavendish's dikdik	Madoqua cavendishi
34	Thomas's dikdik	Madoqua thomasi
35	Least long-fingered bat	Miniopterus minor
36	Banded mongoose	Mungos mungo
37	African pam civet	Nandinia binotata
38	Grant's gazelle	Nanger granti
39	Banana serotine	Neoromicia nanus
40	Klipspringer	Oreotragus oreotragus
41	Small-eared greater galalgo	Otolemur garnetti
42	Lion	Panthera leo
43	Leopard	Panthera pardus
44	Olive baboon	Papio anubis
45	Four-toed elephant shrew	Petrodromus tetradactylus
46	Common warthog	Phacochoerus africanus
47	Rock hyrax	Procavia capensis
48	Zanzibar red colobus	Procolobus krikii
49	Bohor reedbuck	Redunca redunca
50	Ruppell's horseshoe bat	Rhinolophus fumigatus
51	Black-and-rufous elephant shrew	Rhychocyon petersi
52	Common duiker	Sylvicapra grimmia
53	Cape buffalo	Syncerus caffer
54	Common eland	Taurotragus oryx

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Note: Some bats identified 100% at roosts or with good views. Others identified with spectrograms in combination with sightings (no spectrograms without visual confirmation are recorded as a sighting), behaviour and habitat – so not 100% but best educated guesses. For more information please email me.

Birds

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Common sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos
2	Fischer's lovebird	Agapornis fischeri
3	Eygptian goose	Alopochen aegyptiaca
4	Cape teal	Anas capensis

Key: Arusha (ARU) Central Serengeti (CSE) / Greater Serengeti Ecosystem (GSE) / Ngorogoro NP (NGO) / Jozani Forest (JOZ) / Mtende Forest (MTE)							
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^{‡ -} Sign only – no actual sighting

5	African black duck	Anas sparsa
6	African pipit	Anthus cinnamomeus
7	White-rumped swift	Apus caffer
8	Tawny eagle	Aquila rapax
9	Large egret	Ardea alba
10	Grey heron	Ardea cinerea
11	Intermediate egret	Ardea intermedia
12	Black-headed heron	Ardea melanocephala
13	Rufous chatterer	Argya rubiginosa
14	Grey crowned crane	Balearica regulorum
15	Cattle egret	Bubalcus ibis
16	Red-billed buffalo-weaver	Bubalornis niger
17	Spotted eagle owl	Bubo africanus
18	Verreaux's eagle owl	Bubo lacteus
19	Yellow-billed oxpecker	Buphagus africanus
20	Stone curlew	Burhinus vermiculatus
21	Augur buzzard	Buteo augur
22	Silver-cheeked hornbill	Bycanistes brevis
23	Coqui francolin	Campocolinus coqui
24	Square-tailed nightjar	Caprimulgus fossii
25	Fan-tailed grassbird	Catriscus brevirostris
26	Mosque swallow	Cecropis senegalensis
27	White-browed coucal	Centropus superciliosus
28	Little-ringed plover	Charadrius dubius
29	Common ringed plover	Charadrius hiaticula
30	Klittitz's plover	Charadrius pecuarius
31	White-winged tern	Chidonias leucopterus
32	Grey-hooded gull	Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus
33	Abdim's stork	Ciconia abdimii
34	White stork	Ciconia ciconia
35	Black-chested snake eagle	Circaetus pectoralis
36	Zitting cisticola	Cisticola juncidis
37	Croacking cisticola	Cisticola natalensis
38	Speckled mousebird	Colius striatus
39	Speckled pigeon	Columba guinea
40	Feral pigeon	Columba livia
41	Lilac-breasted roller	Coracias caudatus
42	Pied crow	Corvus albus
43	Cape crow	Corvus capensis

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44	House crow	Corvus spendens
45	Wattled starling	Creatophora cinerea
46	Bare-faced go-away bird	Crinifer personatus
47	White-bellied canary	Crithaga dorostriata
48	African citril	Crithagra citrinelloides
49	African palm swift	Cypsiurus parvus
50	Fork-tailed drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
51	White-headed buffalo weaver	Dinemellia dinemelli
52	Dimorphic egret	Egretta dimorpha
53	Little egret	Egretta garzetta
54	Black-shouldered kite	Elanus axillaris
55	Common waxbill	Estrilda astrild
56	Red-collared widowbird	Euplectes ardens
57	Southern red bishop	Euplectes orix
58	Northern white-crowned shrike	Eurocephalus rueppelli
59	Greater kestrel	Falco rupicoloides
60	Red-knobbed coot	Fulica cristata
61	African barred owlet	Glaucidium capense
62	African white-backed vulture	Gyps africanus
63	Ruppell's vulture	Gyps rueppelli
64	African fish eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer
65	Red-billed fire-finch	Lagonosticta senegala
66	Ruppell's long-tailed starling	Lamprotornis purpuroptera
67	Superb starling	Lamprotornis superbus
68	Slat-coloured boubou	Laniarius funebris
69	Grey-backed fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
70	Northern fiscal	Lanius humeralis
71	Marabou stork	Leptoptilos crumenifer
72	Black-bellied korhaan	Lissotis melanogaste
73	Long-crested eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis
74	African grey hornbill	Lophoceros nasutus
75	Eastern chanting goshawk	Melierax poliopterus
76	Little bee-eater	Merops pusillus
77	Blue-throated bee-eater	Merops viridis
78	Reed cormorant	Microcarba africanus
79	Black kite	Milvus migrans
80	Flappet lark	Mirafra rufocinnamomea
81	African pied wagtail	Motacilla aguimp
82	Yellow-billed stork	Mycteria ibis

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83	Hooded vulture	Necrosyrtes monachus
84	Helmeted guineafowl	Numida meleagris
85	Namaqua dove	Oana capensis
86	Capped wheatear	Oenanthe pileata
87	House sparrow	Passer domesticus
88	Chestnut sparrow	Passer eminibey
89	Kenyan sparrow	Passer rufocinctus
90	Swahali sparrow	Passer suahelicus
91	Great white pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus
92	Greater flamingo	Phoenicopterus roseus
93	Green wood-hoopoe	Phoeniculus purpureus
94	White-browed sparrow-weaver	Plocepasser mahali
95	Village weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
96	Martial eagle	Polemaetus bellicosus
97	Grey-capped social-weaver	Pseudonigrita arnaudi
98	Yellow-necked spurfowl	Pternistis leucoscepus
99	Grey-breasted francolin	Pternistis rufopictus
100	Scaly francolin	Pternistis squamatus
101	Chestnut-bellied sandgrouse	Pterocles exustus
102	Common bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
103	African red-eyed bulbul	Pycnonotus nigricans
104	Green-winged pytilia	Pytilia melba
105	Secretary bird	Sagittarius serpentarius
106	African stonechat	Saxicola torquatus
107	Hammerkop	Scopus umbretta
108	African mourning dove	Streptopelia decipiens
109	Laughing dove	Streptopelia senegalensis
110	Ring-necked dove	Streptopelia tranquebarica)
111	Common ostrich	Struthio camelus
112	Brown-crowned tchagra	Tchagra australis
113	Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus
114	African sacred ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus
115	Tanzanian red hornbill	Tockus ruahae
116	Lappet-faced vulture	Torgos tracheliotos
117	d'Arnaud's barbet	Trachyphonus darnaudii
118	Arrow-marked babbler	Turdoides jardineii
119	Emerald-spotted wood-dove	Turtur chalcospilos
120	Red-cheeked cordon-bleu	Uraeginthus bengalus
121	Blacksmith lapwing	Vanellus armatus

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122	Crowned lapwing	Vanellus coronatus
123	Spurwinged lapwing	Vanellus spinosus

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Reptiles

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1	Blue-headed tree agama	Acanthocercus atricollis
2	Mwanza flat-headed rock agama	Agama mwanzae
3	Puff adder	Bitis arietans
4	Nile crocodile	Crocodylus niloctis
5	Brook's house gecko	Hemidactylus brooksi
6	African tropical house gecko	Hemidactylus mabouia
7	Baobab gecko	Hemidactylus platycephalus
8	Meditterrean house gecko	Hemidactylus turcicus
9	Cape wolf snake	Lycophidion capense
10	Spotted bush snake	Philothamnus semivariegatus
11	Leopard tortoise	Stigmochelys pardalis
12	African striped skink	Trachylepis striata

	Key: Arusha (ARU) Central Serengeti (CSE) / Greater Serengeti Ecosystem (GSE) / Ngorogoro NP (NGO) / Jozani Forest (JOZ) / Mtende Forest (MTE)					
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Amphibians

	Common Name	Binominal Name
1		Hyperolius glandicolor
2	Common reed frog	Hyperolius viridiflavus
3	Guttural toad	Sclerophrys gutturalis
4	Muller's clawed frog	Xenopus muelleri

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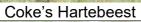
Masai Giraffe



Plains Zebra









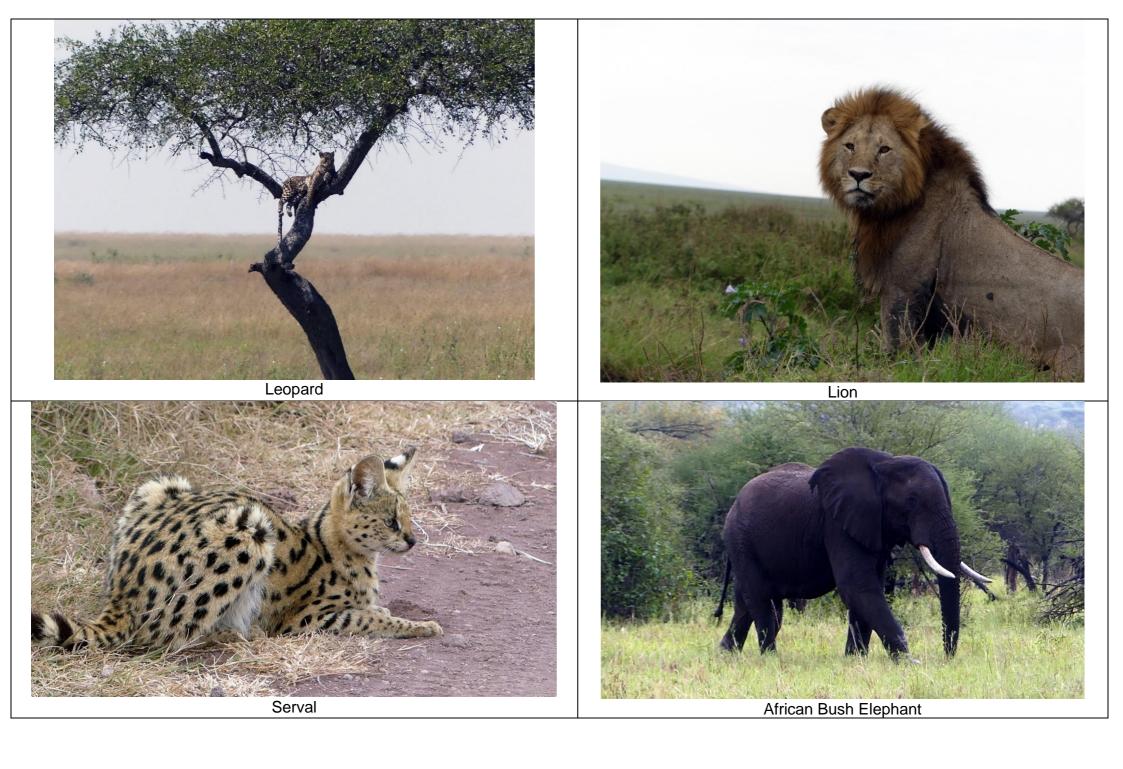
Common Dwarf Mongoose



Spotted Hyena



Bush Hyrax





African Palm Civet



Black-and-rufous Sengi



Zanzibar Red Colobus



Ader's Duiker – note the white blaze on the rear haunch which is diagnostic of this species



Ader's Duiker – note the eye shine on the left and the body on the right, with the very visible white blaze on the rear haunch



A Tiger in Africa!!