

7 days itinerary

Day 1

After Breakfast we start at 7 am at Kotu area, at the famous Bridge where you can have your first boat trip, then continue on nature walk around the rice fields, Golf course and the surroundings species like Blue Breasted, Kingfisher, Piapiac, Starlings, Lizard Buzzards Hornbills and many more the list can go up to 60 to 80 species just around Kotu. Lunch break at noon then later continue in the afternoon till late evening return to Hotel for dinner later in the Evening.



Day 2

We will start early at 7 am in the morning after breakfast drive to Brufut woods 10 kilometres from you hotel for half day trip. It will take us under 25 minutes to the wood land a community forest where we will walk through the most interesting areas within the forest and its surroundings birding around the woods, later we will converge at a woodland bar area for cold drinks and coffees while attending some of the species coming to the drinking point created for the most exotic species, like Green and Violet Turacos, Grey Headed Bristle bills, Pygmy Kingfishers, yellow Throated Leafloves, Yellow White Eye. in the area the expected species are Long Tailed Nightjars, Klaas' Cuckoo Diederick Cuckoo, Shikra, Red Necked Falcon, Black Shouldered Kites, White Faced Scoops Owl and many more. At 12;30pm we will proceed further to Tanji Eco lodge at distance of 5 kilometres only 15 minutes' drive for lunch break by the drinking pool ideal for photographing birds like Sulphur Breasted Bushrike, African Silverbills, western Blue Bills, yellow crowned Gonolek and many more. After lunch we will then continue to lagoons by the sea via the exterior of the forest looking for Four Banded Sandgrouse, Swallow Tailed Bee Eater, Osprey, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Pied Hornbill and some waders mainly migrants at the Beach side too till late evening we will return back to the Hotel for dinner.



Day 3

We are going to have early departure from the Hotel at 7am for a long day heading up river all the way to Morgan Kunda Lodge for our overnight trips on the North. The journey will Take us the best part of the day till afternoon , we will drive 170 kilometres almost 7 hours with many stops on the way going through South Bank crossing to the Northern Bank. First stop at Mandinaba Woods for couple of hours then proceed to Farasutu forest, several other stops on my key birding areas, Kampanti rice fields, Bullock Woods, Kanlagi wetlands and woods, Kwinala Bateling Tracks, Nema Woods along the Soma stretch and Yelli Tenda Farafenyi Woods and wetlands. More stops will off course follow between Farafenyi and Illiassa to see more Northern species like Northern Ant Eater Chat, Seville's, White Bellied and Black Bellied Bustards, Speckle Fronted Weaver, Chesnutt Crowned Sparrow Weaver, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Rufus Scrub Robin, Sahel and exclamatory Paradise Whydah,

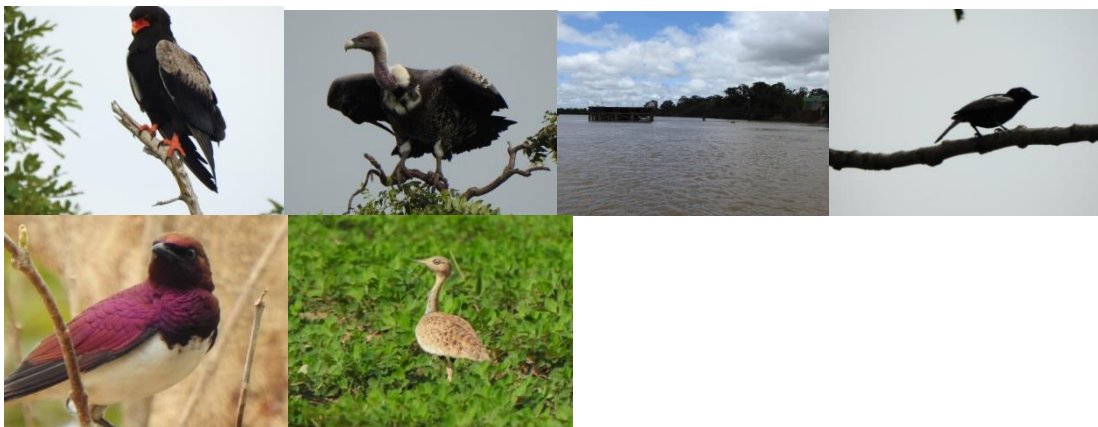
Green and Red Winged Pytilias Spotted Thicknee, Long Crested, Brown Snake, Martial and Banded Snake Eagles, Brown Rumped Bunting, Bateleur Eagle and many more. We will continue to the Lodge to check -in on arrival. Later out and about within the premises and off course just at the immediate surroundings will give us more resident species like White Rumped See Eaters, Black Rumped Waxbills Lavender Waxbills Scarlet Chested, Beautiful, Splendid and Pygmy Sun Birds and many more. The Habitats and sites will visit on the way comprises of different landscapes consist of Rice fields, Savannah woodland, Gallery forest with fall Trees, creeks and Wetlands giving a considerable amount of species to spot during the day.



Day 4

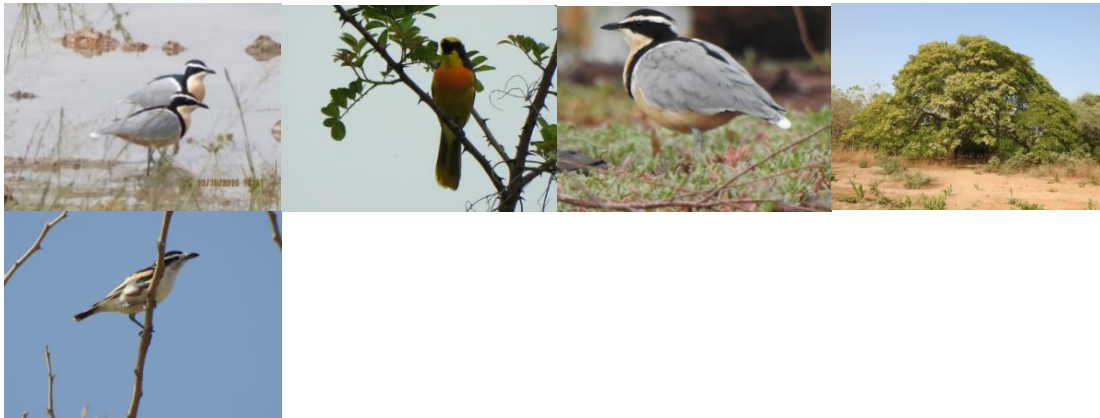
Still on the Northern part of The Gambia at Morgan Kunda Lodge at 7:30 am after breakfast heading to Jimmansar, Jirong and Katchang Woodland for another spectacular birding along the way stretching about 25 kilometres journey driving less than an hours with birding stops on the way quiet frequently allowing us to have various stops at very important birding sites and few more waterholes expecting species like Red Throated Bee Eaters at their breeding holes, Marabou Stork, Black Crowned Crane, Pin-tailed Whydah, Sahel and Exclamatory Whydah, Cut Throat Finch, Speckle Fronted weavers, Spotted Thicknee White Fronted Black Chat, Four Bande and Chesnutt Sand Grouses and many more. Virtually Gambia is known for its similar habitats descriptions, we will experience more hilly sites with rocky areas along the way, savannah woodland and more wetland with fresh water ponds and rice fields along The Gambia River.

We will have lunch break at the Lodge then late return back to other sites in the area till late in the evening back to the Lodge.



Day 5

We will depart from the Lodge at 7 am heading to Georgetown and we will spend the night at Sitokoto Lodge outside the Town. The distance is 170 kilometres taking us another whole about 6hours journey but off course birding on the way at different hot spots. The landscape consist of vast woodlands at both side of the Road with big Trees, Farmlands water hole and valleys, hills and Wetlands plus rice fields along the way giving us the opportunity to see verities of species in their respective habitats. We will mak3e a stop at Kaur Wetland, N'Jaw Water hole, Wassu sand Pitch, Kuntaur Rice Fields and many other stops, lunch break will be done under the big Tree at a convenient time during the day. Species expect on the way includes Black Crown crane, Spur Wing Goose, Martial Eagle, White Headed Vulture European Griffon Vulture, African Hawk Eagle, Yellow Crown Bishops, African Pygmy Goose, Red and Green Winged Pytilias, African Cuckoo, Brubru Shrike, Bearded Barbet, and many more. We will cross in to the Island late evening for an overnight stay at Sitokoto Lodge.



Day 6

The journey will begin still on the South of The Gambia from our Breakfast table we will head on to check out at the Bansang Quarry to the breeding holes of the Red Throated bee Eater's breeding colony briefly then head on towards the coast. The distance is 315 kilometres taking us another whole about 7hours journey. This stretch of landscape consist of vast woodlands at both side of the Road with big Trees, Farmlands water hole and valleys, hills and Wetlands plus rice fields along the way giving us the opportunity to see verities of species in their respective habitats. We will make a stop at Jahally Rice Fields in Sapu, Sambang Wetland, Dalaba Waterhole, Tonyataba Woods, Wurrokang/Bateling Tracks, and many other stops on the way all the way to the hotel at the coast, lunch break will be done under the big Tree at a convenient time during the day. Species expect on the way includes Black Crown crane, Spur Wing Goose, Martial Eagle, White Headed Vulture European Griffon Vulture, African Hawk Eagle, Yellow Crown Bishops, African Pygmy Goose, Red and Green Winged Pytilias, African Cuckoo, Brubru

Shrike, Bearded Barbet, and many more. We will get back the Hotel late evening for an overnight stay.



Day 7

After breakfast we will be heading to Farasutu Forest for a day trip lunch at Sitajoyeh Lodge in the Island, We will visit the community Forest this is about 30 kilometres drive, this area consist of wood land with Gallery forest and farm lands, also there are riverine stretches along the forest edges making it a favourite site for some migratory birds. Expected species to be African Wood Owl, Greyish Eagle Owl, Grey Headed Bristle Bill, Vieillot's Barbet, yellow - Bellied - Hyliota, Black Wood Hoopoe, Stripe Kingfisher, Bruce's Green Pigeon, Yellow Penduline Tit, Cardinal Wood Pecker, Brown Backed Wood Pecker, Fine-spotted Wood Pecker, Buff- Spotted Wood Pecker and many more. We will rap our day by sitting in a hide at one of the local photo hide in the area to close photos of wonderful species like Green headed Sun Bird, Purple Glossy Starling, Splendid Glossy Starling, Klaas' Cuckoo, Black Faced Fire Finch, Brown Naked Parrot and many more. We will go back to the Hotel for the last and final night

