



Bellbird

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Spectacular Tanzania

16 day birding & wildlife tour

April 2025

"Simply put, it's one of the best wildlife-watching destinations on the globe" (Lonely Planet)

Join Bellbird's spectacular *Tanzania* tour in 2025! The Serengeti; a vast unspoiled savannah, hosts the most spectacular concentration of animals on our planet: herds of wildebeest, gazelles and zebras; lions, leopards, cheetahs and smaller predators; and scavengers such as jackals and vultures are ever present. This tour allows plenty of opportunity to savor the big game and find many classic East African birds. Equally world-renowned is the Ngorongoro Crater with lush forests at the rim overlooking the grasslands and lakes of the Crater below. This is Africa in a microcosm. Breathtaking scenery, superb birding and great wildlife, including the endangered Black Rhinoceros, it offers excellent photographic opportunities. We also visit three other fine National Parks, all of

which offer additional birding and wildlife opportunities. Arusha National Park is a highland area of extinct volcanoes covered in thick forest, holding localized birds and mammals; Tarangire National Park is famous for its bizarre Baobab trees and offers the best elephant-watching opportunities of the tour as well as excellent birding; Lake Manyara National Park is a compact area nestled beneath the towering Rift Valley cliffs. It encompasses a soda lake, with a large variety of waterbirds. We stay in comfortable lodges with beautiful, bird-rich gardens and we also include "off the beaten track" areas that give us the best chance for more birds. We'll also visit the huge expanse of Lake Victoria adding many new bird species. Expect a bird list exceeding 400 species and 40-50 species of mammals!

Tour starts & finishes: Kilimanjaro Int'l airport, Arusha, Tanzania.

Scheduled departure & return dates:

- 19 April – 5 May 2025.

Leader: Peter Waanders or Helga Kieskamp, plus local guide and dedicated driver.

Trip reports and photos of previous tours:

<http://www.bellbirdtours.com/reports>

Questions? Contact BELLBIRD BIRDING TOURS :

- Freecall 1800-BIRDING
- email birds@bellbirdtours.com

READ ON FOR:

- Further tour details
- Daily itinerary
- Booking information



Tour details

Tour starts & finishes: Kilimanjaro Int'l Airport, Arusha (see itinerary for details of transfers)

Scheduled departure and return dates: Tour commences with dinner on 19 April 2025 and finishes with lunch on 5 May 2025. See daily itinerary (next pages) for further details.

Leader: Peter Waanders or Helga Kieskamp plus local guide plus dedicated driver.

Difficulty: Low/~~Medium~~/~~High~~/~~Excellent~~ level of fitness required. The tour has a relaxed pace and walks are on trails, tracks, roads and other surfaces, and may include some short climbs. We generally walk slowly, with lots of stops. You can opt out of any challenging walks. One day we will be birding at 2,800m / 9,200 ft altitude.

What to bring: Please travel light. Binoculars, camera, mobile phone, chargers, power adaptors (UK style), insect repellent, sunscreen, personal medications, travel umbrella, hat, water bottle, hand sanitizer. Sturdy footwear recommended. Scopes, super-telephoto lenses with tripods, and very heavy hard-cased suitcases are discouraged.

Accommodation: Private en-suite rooms in hotels or lodges. Standards of lodgings are (very) comfortable.

Clothing: Lightweight long pants, t-shirt and long-sleeved shirt, over the top of which you can wear layers that can be taken off as necessary, including a rain-proof jacket. Neutral colors please. Easily washable, quick-drying clothes are useful. Neat casual attire for dinners. Shorts and sandals or thongs (flip-flops) are acceptable for non-birding time.

Group size: Minimum 4, maximum 8 participants.

Cost: US\$9,599 per person including accommodation and all meals, based on double or twin-share occupancy. Single occupancy surcharge of US\$750. Not included: drinks, tips, personal expenses. Earlybird discount of US\$99 for bookings received up to 12 months before departure date. Return-client discount does not apply to this tour.

Bookings: Online at <http://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings> - see last page of this brochure.

ITINERARY

Day 0: (19 Apr). **Arrival in Arusha, Tanzania.** Arrive at Kilimanjaro Int'l airport, transfer to nearby hotel for introductions and dinner. **NOTE:** Any reduction in the amount of luggage we pack into the safari vehicles is a bonus, so if you have anything in your luggage that you don't wish to carry with you on safari you can leave it behind and it will be safely stored until the end of the tour as we return to Arusha. Please see the note entitled "Baggage" later in the itinerary. Overnight: **Hotel in Arusha** (en-suite hotel room; meals included: D).

Day 1: (20 Apr). **To Lake Victoria.** After breakfast we make the short transfer back to Arusha, Kilimanjaro Airport to fly to the far west: the shores of Lake Victoria at Mwanza. The flight (included) takes about 30 minutes. On arrival at Mwanza we will be met by our safari driver/guides who will take us directly to our lodge, situated right on the shores of the lake. We will arrive in time to do a full afternoon of birding in the extensive grounds on the edge of the immense Lake Victoria where a good number of special birds not found elsewhere on our tour await us. Over 200 species of birds have been recorded on the Lodge's 250 acres of grounds. Birds of freshwater habitats - herons, egrets, ducks, and pelicans will be prominent. Shorebirds could also be numerous and include local residents such as Long-toed and African Wattled Plovers. The water margins and emergent vegetation of papyrus, reed and sedge will be of interest for the chance of finding birds less likely or impossible elsewhere: African Open-billed Stork, Heuglin's Courser, Slender-tailed and Square-tailed Nightjars, Black and Blue-headed Coucals, Broad-billed Roller, Rufous Chatterer, Swamp Flycatcher, Great, African and Eurasian Reed-Warblers, Lesser Swamp and Sedge Warblers, Angola Swallow, Red-chested Sunbird, Black-headed Gonolek, Pied Kingfisher, Black Cuckoo-Shrike, Black-winged Bishop, Northern Brown-throated, Slender-billed, Golden-backed and Black-headed Weavers. Overnight **Speke's Bay Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 2: (21 Apr). **To the central Serengeti.** This morning we'll have plenty of time to make further forays through the grounds at Speke's Bay, catching up with anything missed yesterday. Everything we need to find occurs within the grounds of Speke's Bay lodge along the nearby shores of the largest expanse of water in Africa - Lake Victoria. After an early lunch we will set off the short distance to the entrance gate of the Serengeti National Park. We'll spend the afternoon heading eastwards through the Western Corridor on a game drive of about 50 miles or so to our lodge for the next two nights. We'll check out the riverine forest fringe of the Grumeti River (complete with huge Nile Crocodiles) to look for further special birds such as Grey-headed Bushshrike, Eastern Plantain-



Wildebeests, Bare-faced Go-away bird, Greater Kudu, Red-billed Hornbill, Lion (c) Stewart Bentley

eater, White-headed Sawwing and the localised Karamoja Apalis. There will no doubt be sightings of the first game animals such as Wildebeest, Common Zebra and Impala on the tall grass plains where birds such as Secretarybird, bustards and ostrich are common. We may find our first Lions or other predators before reaching our Lodge early evening. Overnight **Serengeti Kati-Kati Tented Camp (or Seronera Lodge)** (meals: B, L, D).

Day 3: (22 Apr). **The central Serengeti.** The Serengeti is a vast reserve at 5,675 sq. miles and a further 3200 sq. miles protected in the surrounding Ngorongoro Conservation Area, the total is almost as large as Belgium! There are many habitats with different and special birds and wildlife to be found. Most importantly, this is the best area for finding Leopards! Having traveled through the "western corridor" and Grumeti River yesterday, we'll explore more of this vast National Park and will concentrate the next two days on areas in the centre of the Serengeti. Here we'll be able to head off in any promising direction based on local conditions. The first difference we'll notice in this area is the clusters of "kopjes": large isolated, weather-smoothed lumps of granite, some the size of large houses. These interrupt the vast flat plains and provide shelter and shade for all sorts of wildlife: idle lions; Klipspringer; hyraxes; nesting vultures; and gaudy pink, purple and copper-blue agamid lizards. The Seronera River area with its braided meandering streams has riverine gallery forest of Yellowbark Acacia trees. Here we'll find wallowing hippopotami, secretive Bohor Reedbuck, a Water Monitor and many more bird species. It is also prime leopard country, we'll be doing all we can to ensure finding this mythical animal. Large herds of Cape Buffalo and smaller numbers of Topi and Coke's Hartebeest are also found here. Birds in this area and around our lodge should be overwhelmingly plentiful. Bright little Purple Grenadiers and Cordon-bleus peck seeds on the lawns, while Scarlet-chested Sunbirds, Red and Yellow Barbets, and Red-fronted Tinkerbirds feed in flowering shrubs. Shrikes abound - Magpie Shrikes, various fiscal shrikes, bush-shrikes, Brown-crowned Tchagras, and migrant Red-backed and Brown shrikes. Brightly colored Superb Starlings are commonplace, as are Wattled Starlings, Red-billed and Yellow-billed Oxpeckers, Red-billed Buffalo-Weavers, and dull little Swaheli Sparrows, Gray, Ashy and Dusky Flycatchers. Raptors are a constant sight in the skies and this area is particularly fine, with excellent chances of encountering the huge Martial Eagle and wintering groups of Montagu's and Pallid Harriers, Lesser Kestrels and resident Greater Kestrels. Overnight **Serengeti Kati-Kati Tented Camp (or Seronera Lodge)** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 4: (23 Apr). **To the north-eastern Serengeti.** We'll head off south this morning, approximately 50 miles out across the Serengeti Plains to the Ndutu region. We'll allow most of the day for our journey, to have time to observe any wildlife spectacles on the way or special birds we come across, so we'll be



African Elephant, Arusha NP © Tanzania Tourism Board, Cheetahs w Zebras & Secretarybird, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater, Hadada Ibis © Stewart Bentley

as flexible as possible to cater for the unexpected. This is an excellent day for finding Lions, Cheetahs and Leopard. There is a great feeling of remoteness here and should be a true highlight of the tour. Near the Ndutu Lodge the majority of the Serengeti's wildebeest may be gathered out on the short grass plains during calving. Overnight at **Ndutu Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 5: (24 Apr). **The Ndutu area.** A full day in the Ndutu area of the southern Serengeti, which is where the wildebeest may be gathered out on the short grass plains during calving. We may see the spectacle of five species of vultures scavenging and cleaning up the leftovers of kills; the incredible abundance, variety, and action of the mammals alone will give us plenty to occupy our time here. The open thorn-scrub savanna here offers prime game viewing for all the predators will be out in force. The subtly different vegetation and mix of large kopjes - granite rock formations - offers great birding opportunities and is the only accessible area locally for species such as Verreaux's Eagle and Tabora Cisticola. Overnight at **Ndutu Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 6: (25 Apr). **The Ndutu area.** Another full day to explore the short-grass plains of Ndutu, a great area for Lions, Cheetahs, Leopards, Jackals, Bat-eared Foxes, Hyenas and the smaller cats. Birding opportunities are legion in this different suite of habitats. The open grassland and acacia scrub hold obvious species such as Ostriches, Secretary Birds, Lilac-breasted and European Rollers, and Little Bee-eaters, along with raptors such as Long-crested Eagle, Dark and Pale Chanting Goshawks, and noisy Crowned and Blacksmith Plovers. Often, groups of Fischer's Sparrow-Larks, Rufous-naped and Red-capped Larks, Red-billed Queleas, Black-faced, Chestnut-bellied and Yellow-throated Sandgrouse, and various cisticolas flush from the grass as we move along. The endemic Gray-breasted Spurfowl, Fischer's Lovebird, and Rufous-tailed Weaver are common here, along with D'Arnaud's Barbet, Green Wood Hoopoe, Cardinal & Nubian Woodpeckers, Black-lored Babbler, Beautiful and Mariqua Sunbirds, and Wire-tailed Swallow. Overnight at **Ndutu Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 7: (26 Apr). **To the Ngorongoro crater.** We'll leave the Ndutu area on our journey east to arrive at the famous Ngorongoro Crater by early evening. There is much to see and do on the way. We'll be out of the National Park, but still in the Conservation area and driving for miles across open short grassy plains still potentially full of herds of Wildebeest, Thomson's and Grant's Gazelles, Zebra, and all their predators. As we drive, we will be able to appreciate the huge scale of this ecosystem that we've been travelling through west to east for several days by now - remarkable for being preserved almost fully intact. After a short and exciting morning safari we should arrive at the archaeological site of Olduvai Gorge by lunchtime. Here we can visit our ancestors, with a brief orientation talk and visit to the museum overlooking the layered rocks of the gorge where we can learn about these early hominids. The bird-



Red-chested Sunbird,, Secretarybirds, Impala, White-bellied Bustard, White-backed Vulture © Stewart Bentley

ing at Olduvai can be productive: a short stroll can produce Short-tailed Lark, Yellow-throated Petronia, Kenya Violet-backed Sunbird, Irania, Black Bishop and more. There is also the option to visit a Maasai village en route, to learn first-hand of their unchanged way of life as plain pastoralists. By late afternoon we'll be on the rim of the immense caldera of Ngorongoro where our home for the next two nights is situated. A special bonus will be to reach our lodge by driving down into the Crater and crossing the floor on our first game-drive here before ascending on the other side. As we descend we'll hopefully see the extremely localised Wailing Cisticola, Yellow Bishop, Mourning Wheatear and Northern Antear-Chat. Overnight at **Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 8: (27 Apr). **The Ngorongoro crater.** We will spend the whole day in the Crater, sometimes called "the 8th wonder of the world." A resident population of Wildebeest, chunky Cape Buffalo, Thomson's and Grant's Gazelles, Common Zebra, and Eland are on the menu for a high concentration of predators, especially Lions and Hyenas. Our main goal will be close views of some of the few Black Rhinoceros that survive here. Birding in the Crater is rewarding, with lakes, swamps and Yellow-bark Acacia forest. We may see African Darter, African Fish-Eagle, Kori and Black-bellied Bustards, White and Abdim's Storks, Gray Crowned-Cranes, Black Crakes, African Rail, White-headed Barbets, Red Bishops, Plain-backed Pipits, Pectoral-patch and Red-faced Cisticolas, Rosy-throated Longclaws and Capped Wheatears.

The grounds of the Lodge are 600m above the crater floor amidst a moss-draped acacia forest. Here we'll spend further time birding for special birds of the highlands. White-necked Ravens, White-eyed Slaty and African Dusky Flycatchers, African Hill Babbler, White-starred Robin, Cinnamon Bracken-Warbler, Streaky and Thick-billed Seed eaters, Eastern Double-collared and the flashy Golden-winged Sunbirds are all present and likely. If fig trees are fruiting we may find concentrations of feeding birds - Black-backed Puffback, Northern Olive Thrush, Red-collared Widowbird, Mountain Greenbul, Montane White-eye, Mountain Yellow Flycatcher, Schalow's Turaco, glossy starlings, woodpeckers, and hornbills. There are also reliable sites up here for Jackson's Widowbird and Moorland Chat that we'll find nowhere else on the tour. Overnight at **Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 9: (28 Apr). **To Tloma Lodge.** It is a short drive around the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater to Gibb's Farm for lunch. We'll go birding along the way and arrive by mid-morning to wander the flower gardens full of sunbirds and more. After one of the best lunches in Tanzania there are two options for the afternoon. Here in the cool Ngorongoro highlands, amidst idyllic and beautifully laid out gardens and coffee plantations is the opportunity to take a well-earned break. For the keener birders the fringing forest beckons! We can

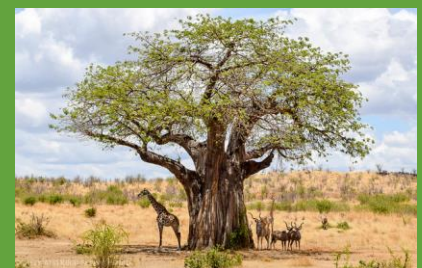


Zebras & Flamingos, Ngorongoro crater © Tanzania Tourism Board, African Fish-eagle, Golden-backed Weaver, Three-banded Courser © Stewart Bentley

take an easy afternoon hike of about 4 hours covering about 3-4 km to seek out more of the excellent birds here: from Crowned Eagles and Upland Buzzards to Arrow-marked Babbler, Yellow-bellied Waxbills, Stripe-cheeked Greenbul, Black-throated Wattle-eye, Brown and Gray-capped Woodland Warblers, Yellow-breasted & Brown-headed Apalis, Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove; Klaas, Dideric, and African Emerald Cuckoos, Crested Guineafowl, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher and more. After our walk we transfer a short distance to Tloma Lodge, a lovely site full of flower gardens. We'll try for Montane Nightjar at dusk. Overnight at **Tloma Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 10: (29 Apr). **Lake Manyara National Park.** The loud duetting of Tropical Boubous and the frenzied, fluty songs of White-browed Robin-Chats will start the dawn chorus at our lodge. Wander through the gardens to see African Paradise Flycatcher, Red-billed Firefinch, Bronze and Tacazze Sunbirds on the gorgeous flowering shrubs and Holub's Golden Weavers on the feeders. After breakfast we take a short drive west, down the steep escarpment of the great Rift Valley to Lake Manyara National Park where we'll spend the rest of the day. This small park, centered round a salt lake directly below some impressive Rift Valley cliffs, is a magnet for waterbirds and migrants, as well as having other distinctive habitats and an excellent variety of large mammals. On entering the park we pass through cool, shady forests fed by streams offering great birding opportunities for localised species such as Collared Palm-Thrush, Purple-crested Turaco and Mountain Wagtail. We'll be treated to close encounters with large groups of Olive Baboons. Out on the open, dry acacia scrub fringes of the lake all the big game animals of East Africa are found, including comical Warthogs busily trotting through the bush, plus some large and very dark Giraffes. We should encounter our first African Elephants here too. Depending on water levels, we may find huge concentrations of waterbirds, including nesting Lesser and Greater flamingos, Marabou and Yellow-billed Storks, Great White and Pink-backed Pelicans, Great and Long-tailed Cormorants, Sacred Ibis, African Spoonbills, Black-headed Herons, and egrets. Waterfowl may include Spur-winged Goose; Comb Duck; Cape and Hottentot Teals; and Red-billed, White-backed, and Maccua Ducks. The grounds of Lake Manyara Lodge can also be very productive and after we arrive we can take a stroll around the grounds to add to our bird list. Mocking Cliff Chat is regularly seen here. Overnight at **Lake Manyara Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Days 11 & 12: (30 Apr – 1 May). **Tarangire National Park.** After optional early morning birding in the grounds we head east again after breakfast along excellent paved roads to Tarangire for a two-night stay. This should allow a good chunk of the first afternoon plus a full next day on safari. We'll have lunch at a lodge inside Tarangire en-route where there are often roosting owls staked-out for us. The habitats here reflect a drier region subject to seasonal rains and droughts. Thornbush is studded with giant Baobab trees,



Red Colobus Monkey, Collared Pratincole & Lapwings, Southern Ground Hornbill, Nile Crocodile, Giraffe & Kudu, © Stewart Bentley

used by large Elephant herds in drier times. The Baobab's gargantuan trunks are scarred through generations of gouging by Elephant tusks and a possible location for Mottled Spinetails. Running through its centre is the Tarangire River with wide grassy palm-dotted floodplains. Our main interest here will be viewing the large Elephant herds. Our game drives will take us past Impala, Giraffe, Zebra, Waterbuck, and other typical plains game. The area often produces sightings of Leopard, resting on tree limbs in the heat of the day. Tarangire is also exciting birding territory. Our accommodation is a pleasant Lodge situated in the heart of the National Park. There are opportunities to relax (there is a pleasantly cooling swimming pool) but many find the environment too exciting to stop! The endemic Ashy Starling and Yellow-collared Lovebird are common garden birds here, along with Crested Francolin, Pearl-spotted Owlet, African Scops-Owl, Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, Freckled and Slender-tailed Nightjars, White-rumped Shrike, Spotted Morning-Thrush, Brubru, Bearded Woodpecker, Red-headed Weaver, Slate-colored Boubou, Tawny-flanked Prinia, and Lesser Striped-Swallow. Out in the bush we'll find many more superb birds: from Bateleur Eagles to Pygmy Falcons, Saddle-billed Storks and Hamerkops, Helmeted Guineafowl and Yellow-necked Spurfowl, to Double-banded Coursers, Black-faced Sandgrouse, exotic White-headed Buffalo-Weavers, Blue-cheeked Bee-Eaters and Paradise Whydahs, to the more obscure cisticolas, camaropteras, pytilias, eremomelas, larks and pipits. Overnight at **Tarangire Sopa Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 13: (2 May). **Return to Arusha.** As we exit Tarangire by mid/late morning, there is always a last minute chance for that final Leopard or new bird for our extensive list before making the short journey back to Arusha. We arrive in time for lunch at a huge Art and Cultural Centre offering great opportunities for optional last minute shopping - everything from inexpensive souvenirs to fine works of art. We then transfer to our lodge by mid-afternoon where further birding treats are hoped for, such as Silvery-cheeked Hornbills, African Black Duck, Giant Kingfisher, Eastern Olive Sunbird and the very local Taveta Golden Weaver. Overnight at **Ngare Sero Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 14: (3 May). **Arusha NP.** Our safari continues with a day in beautiful Arusha National Park. Dominated by rugged Mt. Meru (4,500 m), this small jewel of a park is close to Arusha, but remarkably quiet, diverse and peaceful. Although many of the better-known big game animals are present, we'll concentrate on the outstanding birdlife and seek out mammal species we are less likely to have seen elsewhere: for example, Black and White Colobus Monkey, Blue or Sykes Monkey, duikers, and Bushbuck. There are open grasslands with small lakes holding a variety of waterbirds and specialties such as Pangani Longclaw, Singing & Trilling cisticolas. Other tracks will take us into thicker forests of Mahogany, Fig, Cedar, and Wild Mango. Here we'll search for raptors such as Crowned Eagle and African Goshawk, colorful



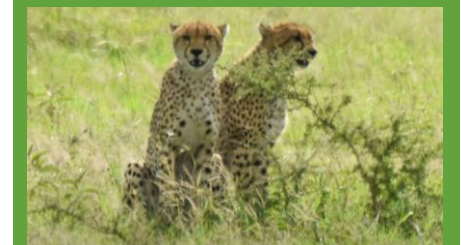
Wildebeest, Zebras, Hippos, Demoiselle Crane & Impala © Tanzania Tourism Board, Saddle-billed Stork, Variable Sunbird © Stewart Bentley

Turaco, Bronze-naped Pigeon, Silvery-cheeked Hornbills, Brown-hooded Kingfisher, White-headed Barbet, Mountain Wagtail, Golden Weaver and Black-fronted Bush-Shrike. We'll glimpse the snow-clad peak of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest mountain at 5,900m. Salt lakes offer views of Lesser and Greater Flamingos; small freshwater lakes often produce White-backed Duck, Spur-winged Goose, African Fish Eagle and if lucky rarities such as Lesser Jacana and Maccoa Duck. Overnight at **Ngare Sero Lodge** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 15: (4 May). **To the "Lark Plains" and on to Ndarakwai.** We will leave Arusha for a fairly short drive by paved road north to the so-called "Lark Plains" made famous by the discovery of an endemic and extremely rare species – Beesley's Lark, possibly the rarest bird in East Africa. The local Maasai are aware of this bird's importance and will often have one located for us on arrival! There is a wide range of birds possible in this dry region of scrubby plains - larks, pipits and wheatears, with Somali Short-toed and Short-tailed Larks and Rosy-patched Bush-Shrike specialities. After finding the lark we will explore eastwards across fairly remote and wild Maasai steppe: acacia scrub and thorn-bush interspersed with euphorbia and Sansevera (sisal) along with large patches of barren ground. There will be further opportunities along the way to encounter localised birds of this under-watched region. Other possibilities include Lanner and maybe Amur Falcons, Upcher's Warbler, Grey Wren-Warbler, Red-faced Warbler, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Long-billed and Plain-backed Pipits, Ashy and Tiny Cisticolas, Cinnamon-breasted Bunting, Southern Grosbeak Canary, perhaps Caspian Plover, Buff-crested Bustard, Parrot-billed Sparrow, Grey-rumped Swallow, Fischer's Starling, Lammergeier, White-headed Barbet and Horus & Scarce Swifts. By late afternoon we will arrive at the secluded Ndarakwai Lodge – a private land area bordering close to Amboseli National Park in Kenya. We will be able to take a night drive for chances of bushbabies, Ratel, genets, civets, mongooses, Spring Hare, Aardvark, Striped Hyena and birds such as Sombre, Slender-tailed, Plain, Square-tailed and Fiery-necked Nightjars and owls. Overnight at **Ndarakwai Tented Camp** (meals included: B, L, D).

Day 16: (5 May). **Ndarakwai and Homeward.** We will have time this morning for a full game drive in this area that offers the possibility of several last minute additional mammal and bird species. The dry country here supports Gerenuk and Lesser Kudu and the bird list is extensive and includes species such as Red-throated Tit, Brown-breasted Barbet, Eastern Chanting-Goshawk, Black Goshawk, Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Stripe-cheeked Greenbul, Desert Cisticola, Rufous Chatterer, Straw-tailed Whydah and Black-throated Canary.

After lunch here we will be able to re-pack, clean-up and change before making our way by mid-afternoon directly to Kilimanjaro International Airport for your homeward flights. meals included: B, L. **TOUR ENDS**



Ngorongoro Crater, Kori Bustard, Serengeti NP, Spotted Hyenas, Paradise Wydah, Cheetahs © Stewart Bentley

Trip report of our previous tours:

<http://www.bellbirdtours.com/reports>

Photo gallery of our Tanzania tours:

<http://www.bellbirdtours.com/gallery/tanzania-birding-tour-gallery/>

Pre- and post tour options:

If you wish to arrive earlier in Tanzania, please make your own way to your accommodation for Day 0, in time for dinner and introductions. We can book you into our hotel for any number of nights leading up to, or after, the tour, please enquire. Please tick the relevant boxes on the booking form and we'll contact you to discuss.

Price inclusions and exclusions:

Currency: Please remember that the tour price is set in US\$.

Included: All meals commencing with Dinner on Day 0 and finishing with Lunch on Day 16, some snacks, some fruit, some drinks, unlimited drinking water refills. Accommodation in private en-suite rooms, transport using comfortable and reliable vehicle, expert Australian guiding accompanied by a local guide, airport transfers, any entry fees during the tour, taxes.

Excluded: Travel to the meeting point if you're already in Tanzania; onward travel arrangements, pre- & post trip accommodation, meals before the first dinner, and after the last dinner, drinks except where provided, personal expenses, tips, insurance, visa / passport fees, anything else not specifically included.

Bookings: Please book at: <https://bellbirdtours.com/bookings> or complete the booking form on the last page.



Important information for your tour:

- **Recommended reading:** Birds: *Fanshawe, J. and T. Stevenson. A Field Guide to the Birds of East Africa: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. 2001.* This new book is the one to buy if you do not already have the Zimmerman fieldguide. Well illustrated, up to date, and recommended; *Zimmerman, Dale A., Donald A. Turner and David J. Pearson. Birds of Kenya and Northern Tanzania.* Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996. This is a detailed, comprehensive and well-illustrated field guide — very adequate for birding this area. It is now published in a smaller/lighter paperback format. Although dealing primarily with Kenya, it covers all the species we see on this Northern Tanzania tour, with plenty of detailed information on identification and distribution. Mammals: *Kingdon, Jonathan. The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals.* London: Academic Press, Harcourt Brace and company, 1997. The most recent, complete and informative guide to African mammals; full of information and good illustrations.; *Kingdon, Jonathan. The Kingdon Pocket Guide to African Mammals.* London: Christopher Helm, 2004. A much smaller, lighter pocket version of the excellent field guide above, but still with excellent information and the same illustrations.
- **Travel insurance** is compulsory for this tour and you will be required to provide evidence of such.
- **Arranging flights** to and from Arusha are your own responsibility. Please let us know your flight details and arrival and departure times.
- Please ensure you have a **passport** valid for at least six months beyond your planned departure from Tanzania. A **visa** is required for entry by citizens from most countries. Please make your own enquiries regarding visas and passport issues. A starting point is:
- <https://www.tanzaniaconsul.com/visa.html>
- Some information about **health issues** for travelers can be found online, for example at: <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/tanzania/health> Please bring any prescription medicine in its original packaging. In any case, be sure to make your own inquiries regarding inoculations and travel health issues.
- **Transport:** We will be traveling in two specially built 4-wheel drive Landcruisers with a pop-up roof driven by local driver/guides.
- The standard of **accommodations** is very good: clean, comfortable rooms, with private bathrooms, and all in lovely locations. For logistical reasons or otherwise we may change the itinerary and/or accommodations at short notice.
- You should limit your **baggage** to one medium, soft-sided suitcase, and one carry-on, as space in the vehicles is limited. The internal flight from Arusha to Mwanza (included) technically has a limit of 15 kg luggage per person, though often this is not strictly enforced.
- **Climate:** The rainy and dry seasons have become less well-defined and predictable in recent years. However, we are expecting mainly dry, warm to hot weather with temperatures ranging from 25 to 30C. We will experience some rainstorms, but this rarely affects our activities.
- We will send out **further practical info** including detailed trip notes after receipt of your booking.

Tanzania birding & wildlife tour

Possible species list (expect around 400 species)

TBA

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|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Common Ostrich | Sacred Ibis | Spur-winged Plover | White-bellied Go-away-bird |
| Fulvous Whistling-Duck | Hadada Ibis | Senegal Lapwing | Eastern Plantain eater |
| White-faced Whistling-Duck | African Spoonbill | Black-winged Lapwing | Pied Cuckoo |
| White-backed Duck | Secretary-bird | Crowned Lapwing | Great Spotted Cuckoo |
| Egyptian Goose | Black-shouldered Kite | Wattled Lapwing | Red-chested Cuckoo |
| Comb Duck | African Harrier-Hawk | Common Ringed Plover | Black Cuckoo |
| Spur-winged Goose | White-headed Vulture | Kittlitz's Plover | Common Cuckoo |
| African Black Duck | Lappet-faced Vulture | Three-banded Plover | African Cuckoo |
| Cape Teal | Hooded Vulture | White-fronted Plover | Klaas' Cuckoo |
| Red-billed Duck | White-backed Vulture | Chestnut-banded Plover | African Emerald Cuckoo |
| Hottentot Teal | Rueppell's Griffon | Black-winged Stilt | Dideric Cuckoo |
| Northern Shoveler | Bateleur | Pied Avocet | Black Coucal |
| Southern Pochard | Black-breasted Snake-Eagle | African Jacana | White-browed Coucal |
| Helmeted Guineafowl | Brown Snake-Eagle | Common Sandpiper | African Scops-Owl |
| Coqui Francolin | Crowned Hawk-Eagle | Green Sandpiper | Verreaux's Eagle-Owl |
| Crested Francolin | Martial Eagle | Common Greenshank | Spotted Eagle-Owl |
| Hildebrandt's Francolin | Long-crested Eagle | Marsh Sandpiper | African Wood-Owl |
| Yellow-necked Francolin | Wahlberg's Eagle | Wood Sandpiper | Pearl-spotted Owllet |
| Gray-breasted Francolin | Ayres' Hawk-Eagle | Little Stint | Montane Nightjar |
| Red-necked Francolin | Booted Eagle | Ruff | Freckled Nightjar |
| Little Grebe | Tawny Eagle | Common Snipe | Slender-tailed Nightjar |
| Greater Flamingo | Steppe Eagle | Temminck's Courser | Square-tailed Nightjar |
| Lesser Flamingo | Verreaux's Eagle | Double-banded Courser | Mottled Spinetail |
| African Openbill | African Hawk-Eagle | Three-banded Courser | Common Swift |
| Black Stork | Dark Chanting-Goshawk | Collared Pratincole | Nyanza Swift |
| Abdim's Stork | Eastern Chanting-Goshawk | Greater Painted-snipe | African Swift |
| Woolly-necked Stork | Gabar Goshawk | Gull-billed Tern | Little Swift |
| White Stork | Eurasian Marsh-Harrier | Whiskered Tern | Horus Swift |
| Saddle-billed Stork | African Marsh-Harrier | White-winged Tern | White-rumped Swift |
| Marabou Stork | Pallid Harrier | Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse | Mottled Swift |
| Yellow-billed Stork | Montagu's Harrier | Yellow-throated Sandgrouse | African Palm-Swift |
| Great Cormorant | African Goshawk | Black-faced Sandgrouse | Speckled Mousebird |
| Long-tailed Cormorant | Black Kite | Rock Pigeon | Blue-naped Mousebird |
| Great White Pelican | African Fish-Eagle | Speckled Pigeon | Narina Trogon |
| Pink-backed Pelican | Eurasian Buzzard | Rameron Pigeon | Bar-tailed Trogon |
| Hamerkop | Mountain Buzzard | Dusky Turtle-Dove | Malachite Kingfisher |
| Gray Heron | Augur Buzzard | Mourning Collared Dove | African Pygmy-Kingfisher |
| Black-headed Heron | Kori Bustard | Red-eyed Dove | Gray-headed Kingfisher |
| Purple Heron | White-bellied Bustard | Ring-necked Dove | Woodland Kingfisher |
| Great Egret | Black-bellied Bustard | Laughing Dove | Brown-hooded Kingfisher |
| Black Heron | Black Crake | Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove | Striped Kingfisher |
| Intermediate Egret | Eurasian Moorhen | Tambourine Dove | Giant Kingfisher |
| Little Egret | Red-knobbed Coot | Namaqua Dove | Pied Kingfisher |
| Cattle Egret | Gray Crowned-Crane | African Green-Pigeon | White-fronted Bee-eater |
| Squacco Heron | Water Thick-knee | Schalow's Turaco | Little Bee-eater |
| Striated Heron | Spotted Thick-knee | Hartlaub's Turaco | Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron | Long-toed Lapwing | Purple-crested Turaco | White-throated Bee-eater |
| Glossy Ibis | Blacksmith Plover | Bare-faced Go-away-bird | Blue-cheeked Bee-eater |

Tanzania birding & wildlife tour

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| European Bee-eater | Brubru | Red-rumped Swallow | Blackcap |
| European Roller | Black-backed Puffback | House Martin | Brown Parisoma |
| Lilac-breasted Roller | Brown-crowned Tchagra | Gray-rumped Swallow | Banded Parisoma |
| Rufous-crowned Roller | Tropical Boubou | White-tailed Blue-Flycatcher | African Yellow White-eye |
| Broad-billed Roller | Black-headed Gonolek | Red-throated Tit | Broad-ringed White-eye |
| Eurasian Hoopoe | Slate-colored Boubou | Eastern Mountain-Greenbul | White-breasted White-eye |
| Green Woodhoopoe | Rosy-patched Bushshrike | Stripe-cheeked Bulbul | Rufous Chatterer |
| Common Scimitar-bill | Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike | Yellow-bellied Greenbul | Black-lored Babbler |
| Abyssinian Scimitar-bill | Black-fronted Bushshrike | Cabanis' Greenbul | Northern Pied-Babbler |
| Northern Red-billed Hornbill | Gray-headed Bushshrike | Common Bulbul | Arrow-marked Babbler |
| Von der Decken's Hornbill | Gray Cuckoo-shrike | Red-faced Crombec | Silverbird |
| Crowned Hornbill | Black Cuckoo-shrike | Moustached Grass-Warbler | Pale Flycatcher |
| African Gray Hornbill | Purple-throated Cuckoo-shrike | Brown Woodland Warbler | Grayish (African Gray) Flycatcher |
| Silvery-cheeked Hornbill | Red-backed Shrike | Willow Warbler | White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher |
| Southern Ground-Hornbill | Isabelline (Rufous-tailed) Shrike | Eastern Olivaceous Warbler | Spotted Flycatcher |
| Red-and-yellow Barbet | Gray-backed Fiscal | Mountain Yellow Warbler | Dusky-brown Flycatcher |
| D'Arnaud's Barbet | Long-tailed Fiscal | African Yellow Warbler | Swamp Flycatcher |
| White-eared Barbet | Taita Fiscal | Icterine Warbler | Ashy Flycatcher |
| Moustached Tinkerbird | Northern Fiscal | Sedge Warbler | Red-backed Scrub-Robin |
| Red-fronted Tinkerbird | Magpie Shrike | African Reed-Warbler | Cape Robin-Chat |
| Red-fronted Barbet | White-rumped Shrike | Eurasian Reed-Warbler | Rueppell's Robin-Chat |
| Spot-flanked Barbet | Eurasian Golden Oriole | Great Reed-Warbler | White-browed Robin-Chat |
| White-headed Barbet | African Black-headed Oriole | Lesser Swamp-Warbler | Collared Palm-Thrush |
| Brown-breasted Barbet | Fork-tailed Drongo | Cinnamon Bracken-Warbler | Spotted Morning-Thrush |
| Green-backed Honeyguide | African Paradise-Flycatcher | Bar-throated Apalis | White-starred Robin |
| Wahlberg's Honeyguide | Cape Crow | Yellow-breasted Apalis | White-throated Robin |
| Greater Honeyguide | Pied Crow | Brown-headed Apalis | Common Nightingale |
| Lesser Honeyguide | White-necked Raven | Karamoja Apalis | Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush |
| Nubian Woodpecker | Rufous-naped Lark | Green-backed Camaroptera | Whinchat |
| Cardinal Woodpecker | Flappet Lark | Gray Wren-Warbler | African Stonechat |
| Bearded Woodpecker | Foxy Lark | Red-faced Cisticola | Northern Anteater-Chat |
| Mountain Gray Woodpecker | Beesley's Lark | Singing Cisticola | Sooty Chat |
| Brown-backed Woodpecker | Fischer's Sparrow-Lark | Trilling Cisticola | Mocking Cliff-Chat |
| Pygmy Falcon | Red-capped Lark | Hunter's Cisticola | Moorland Chat |
| Lesser Kestrel | Somali Short-toed Lark | Rattling Cisticola | Northern Wheatear |
| Eurasian Kestrel | Short-tailed Lark | Wailing Cisticola | Abyssinian Wheatear |
| Greater Kestrel | Bank Swallow | Winding Cisticola | Pied Wheatear |
| Gray Kestrel | Plain Martin | Stout Cisticola | Capped Wheatear |
| Eurasian Hobby | Banded Martin | Croaking Cisticola | Isabelline Wheatear |
| Lanner Falcon | Rock Martin | Zitting Cisticola | Abyssinian Thrush |
| Peregrine Falcon | Barn Swallow | Desert Cisticola | Wattled Starling |
| Fischer's Lovebird | Angola Swallow | Pectoral-patch Cisticola | Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling |
| Yellow-collared Lovebird | Wire-tailed Swallow | Gray-capped Warbler | Rueppell's Glossy-Starling |
| Meyer's Parrot | Black Sawwing | Buff-bellied Warbler | Superb Starling |
| Red-bellied Parrot | White-headed Sawwing | Tawny-flanked Prinia | Hildebrandt's Starling |
| Black-throated Wattle-eye | Lesser Striped-Swallow | Yellow-bellied Eremomela | Violet-backed Starling |
| Chinspot Batis | Mosque Swallow | African Hill Babbler | Ashy Starling |

Tanzania birding & wildlife tour

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| Red-winged Starling | House Sparrow | Red-cheeked Cordonbleu | Serval |
| Waller's Starling | Rufous Sparrow | Blue-capped Cordonbleu | Common (Small-spotted) Genet |
| Kenrick's Starling | Gray-headed Sparrow | Purple Grenadier | Spotted Hyena |
| Sharpe's Starling | Swaheli Sparrow | Green-winged Pytilia | Golden Jackal |
| Red-billed Oxpecker | Chestnut Sparrow | Red-billed Firefinch | Black-backed Jackal |
| Yellow-billed Oxpecker | Yellow-spotted Petronia | African Firefinch | Bat-eared Fox |
| Kenya Violet-backed Sunbird | Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver | Cut-throat | Slender Mongoose |
| Collared Sunbird | White-headed Buffalo-Weaver | African Quailfinch | Dwarf Mongoose |
| Eastern Olive Sunbird | Speckle-fronted Weaver | Gray-headed Silverbill | Banded Mongoose |
| Green-headed Sunbird | Rufous-tailed Weaver | Bronze Mannikin | Olive (Savanna) Baboon |
| Amethyst Sunbird | Gray-headed Social-Weaver | Village Indigobird | Vervet Monkey |
| Scarlet-chested Sunbird | Red-headed Weaver | Steel-blue Whydah | Blue (Syke's) Monkey |
| Tacazze Sunbird | Baglafaecht Weaver | Straw-tailed Whydah | Eastern Black & White Colobus |
| Bronze Sunbird | Lesser Masked-Weaver | Pin-tailed Whydah | Scrub / Cape Hare |
| Golden-winged Sunbird | Spectacled Weaver | Eastern Paradise-Whydah | Black-necked Rock Hyrax |
| Eastern Double-collared Sunbird | Black-necked Weaver | MAMMALS, REPTILES etc | Tree Hyrax |
| Beautiful Sunbird | Holub's Golden-Weaver | African Elephant | Bush (Yellow-spotted) Hyrax |
| Mariqua Sunbird | Taveta Golden-Weaver | Black Rhinoceros | Unstriped Ground Squirrel |
| Red-chested Sunbird | Slender-billed Weaver | Hippopotamus | Tree Squirrel sp. |
| Variable Sunbird | Vitelline Masked-Weaver | Common (Plains) Zebra | Grass Rat sp* |
| African Pied Wagtail | Village Weaver | Giraffe | Mouse sp* |
| Western Yellow Wagtail | Speke's Weaver | Cape Buffalo | Yellow-winged Bat |
| Gray Wagtail | Golden-backed Weaver | Common Eland | Bat sp* |
| Mountain Wagtail | Black-headed Weaver | Common Waterbuck | Nile Crocodile |
| Plain-backed Pipit | Northern Brown-throated Weaver | Bushbuck | Nile Monitor |
| African (Grassland) Pipit | Red-billed Quelea | Bohor Reedbuck | Leopard Tortoise |
| Long-billed Pipit | Black Bishop | Brindled Gnu (Blue Wildebeest) | Terrapin sp* |
| Tree Pipit | Black-winged Bishop | Red (Coke's) Hartebeest | Helmeted Terrapin |
| Yellow-throated Longclaw | Red Bishop | Topi | Flap-necked Chameleon |
| Rosy-throated Longclaw | Yellow Bishop | Impala | Agamid Lizard sp* |
| Cinnamon-breasted Bunting | Fan-tailed Widowbird | Thomson's Gazelle | Red-headed (Common) Agama |
| Golden-breasted Bunting | Red-collared Widowbird | Grant's Gazelle | Mwanza Flat-headed Agama |
| Southern Citril | Jackson's Widowbird | Steenbok | Blue-headed Tree Agama |
| Reichenow's Seedeater | Grosbeak Weaver | Harveys (Red) Duiker | Skink sp* |
| Yellow-fronted Canary | Gray-headed Nigrita | Kirk's Dik-dik | Gecko sp* |
| Southern Grosbeak-Canary | Yellow-bellied Waxbill | Common Warthog | Frog/Toad sp* |
| White-bellied Canary | Crimson-rumped Waxbill | Lion | |
| Streaky Seedeater | Common Waxbill | Leopard | |
| Thick-billed Seedeater | Black-cheeked Waxbill | Cheetah | |

How to book this tour:

Step 1: Essential reading

- Download, save and read the itinerary (this document)
- Read our [terms and conditions](https://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions) and the [release of liability waiver](https://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions) (both can be found on <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions>).
- Read our [health & safety information](https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/) page (<https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/>)

Step 2: Online booking

Head over to our secure online booking page: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings>.

Step 3: Pay the deposit

To secure your seat, a deposit of 20% of the tour price is required at the time of booking. Full payment is due 60 days prior to the departure date. Until full payment has been received, Bellbird Tours reserves the right to change the tour price (eg due to changing fuel prices). Payment options:

1) From **inside the US**: Use the details below to transfer US\$ from bank accounts **inside the US**. Please send funds in US Dollars (+ US\$4.50 fee + any bank charges at your end) to the following bank account:

- Account name: Peter Ivar Waanders
- ACH and Wire Routing number: 026073150
- Account number: 8310209261
- Account type: checking
- Bank name: Community Federal Savings Bank
- Bank address: 30 W 26th Street, 6th Floor, New York 10010, USA
- Reference: If possible, please use your *surname* as the reference.
- Please note that you, the sender, will need to cover any fees your bank may charge you (which we aren't aware of or can't control).
- Many of our clients use an online service like TransferWise or CurrencyFair to send funds: it's cheaper and faster than traditional banks.

2) From **outside the US**: Use the details below to transfer US\$ from bank accounts **outside the US**. Please send funds in US Dollars (+ US\$4.50 fee + any bank charges at your end) to the following bank account:

- Account name: Peter Ivar Waanders
- Routing number: 026073150
- Account number: 8310209261
- SWIFT/BIC code: CMFGUS33XXX
- Bank name: Community Federal Savings Bank
- Bank address: 30 W 26th Street, 6th Floor, New York 10010, USA
- Reference: If possible, please use your *surname* as the reference.
- Recipient's address (if required): 101 Chilton Rd, Berri SA 5343
- Please note that you, the sender, will need to cover any fees your bank may charge you (which we aren't aware of or can't control).
- Many of our clients use an online service like TransferWise or CurrencyFair to send funds: it's cheaper and faster than traditional banks.

We can only receive USD from these countries outside the US: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, British Virgin Islands, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Guernsey, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, Japan, Jersey, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK, and United Arab Emirates.

Any discrepancy between the amount payable and amount received will be added to the final balance, or payable in cash at the start of the tour. Prices and fees are not negotiable.

Step 4: You're done!

Sit back and wait for your booking confirmation to arrive (24-48 hrs). Meanwhile, should you have any questions, please contact us via: <https://www.bellbirdtours.com/about-us/>.