

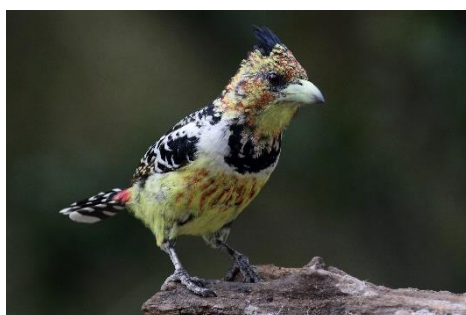


DAN THE BIRD MAN

Bird list generated for:
Festina Lente Guesthouse
Sandton, Gauteng

Here at Festina Lente – we LOVE birds! We invite you to take a wander through our gardens, where we have arranged a collection of various bird feeders and nesting structures for our feathered friends. Here we also provide a list of birds for our property, as well as some extra information on 10 of our ‘favourites.’

Common name	Alternate common name	Genus name	Species name
1 Apalis, Bar-throated		<i>Apalis</i>	<i>thoracica</i>
2 Babbler, Arrow-marked		<i>Turdoides</i>	<i>jardineii</i>
3 Barbet, Acacia Pied		<i>Tricholaema</i>	<i>leucomelas</i>
4 Barbet, Black-collared		<i>Lybius</i>	<i>torquatus</i>
5 Barbet, Crested		<i>Trachyphonus</i>	<i>vallantii</i>



The Crested Barbet is one of the most familiar garden birds in Gauteng, and a few pairs of these gorgeous birds move through the Festina Lente gardens. They are regular at our fruit feeders though their long and unmusical trill calls, often likened to an old-fashioned alarm clock with its bell removed, can be used to locate them away from mealtimes. It nests in a tree cavity, sometimes even in one of our many nesting logs, where they lay between two and five eggs at a time usually between the months of September and December.

6 Bee-eater, European		<i>Merops</i>	<i>apiaster</i>
7 Bishop, Southern Red		<i>Euplectes</i>	<i>orix</i>
8 Bishop, Yellow-crowned		<i>Euplectes</i>	<i>afer</i>
9 Bokmakierie		<i>Telophorus</i>	<i>zeylonus</i>
10 Boubou, Southern		<i>Laniarius</i>	<i>ferrugineus</i>
11 Bulbul, African Red-eyed		<i>Pycnonotus</i>	<i>nigricans</i>
12 Bulbul, Dark-capped		<i>Pycnonotus</i>	<i>tricolor</i>



The Dark-capped Bulbul is a firm favourite of ours at Festina Lente; perhaps one of the most common birds in the garden and almost always on our fruit feeders! Their chipper songs are a feature of our dawn chorus and, often, these are the very last birds to stop calling come bedtime! We have nicknamed them “bottergat” – otherwise “butterbums” – to describe their little yellow bums! Males and females are identical but youngsters can be told by the fleshy yellow bases to their bills – a feature known as a gape.

- 13 Bush-shrike, Grey-headed
- 14 Buzzard, Lizard
- 15 Buzzard, Steppe
- 16 Canary, Black-throated
- 17 Canary, Yellow-fronted
- 18 Cisticola, Levallant's
- 19 Cisticola, Zitting
- 20 Coot, Red-knobbed
- 21 Cormorant, Reed
- 22 Cormorant, White-breasted
- 23 Coucal, Burchell's
- 24 Crow, Pied
- 25 Cuckoo, Diderick
- 26 Cuckoo, Klaas's
- 27 Cuckoo, Red-chested
- 28 Cuckoo-shrike, Black
- 29 Darter, African
- 30 Dove, Laughing



- 31 Dove, Red-eyed
- 32 Dove, Rock
- 33 Drongo, Fork-tailed
- 34 Duck, African Black
- 35 Duck, Yellow-billed
- 36 Eagle, Booted
- 37 Eagle, Long-crested
- 38 Eagle-owl, Spotted



- 39 Egret, Cattle

Buzzard, Common

<i>Malaconotus</i>	<i>blanchoti</i>
<i>Kaupifalco</i>	<i>monogrammicus</i>
<i>Buteo</i>	<i>vulpinus</i>
<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>atrogularis</i>
<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>mozambicus</i>
<i>Cisticola</i>	<i>tinniens</i>
<i>Cisticola</i>	<i>juncidis</i>
<i>Fulica</i>	<i>cristata</i>
<i>Phalacrocorax</i>	<i>africanus</i>
<i>Phalacrocorax</i>	<i>carbo</i>
<i>Centropus</i>	<i>burchellii</i>
<i>Corvus</i>	<i>albus</i>
<i>Chrysococcyx</i>	<i>caprius</i>
<i>Chrysococcyx</i>	<i>klaas</i>
<i>Cuculus</i>	<i>solitarius</i>
<i>Campephaga</i>	<i>flava</i>
<i>Anhinga</i>	<i>rufa</i>
<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>senegalensis</i>

Pigeon, Feral

<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>semitorquata</i>
<i>Columba</i>	<i>livia</i>
<i>Dicrurus</i>	<i>adsimilis</i>
<i>Anas</i>	<i>sparsa</i>
<i>Anas</i>	<i>undulata</i>
<i>Aquila</i>	<i>pennatus</i>
<i>Lophaetus</i>	<i>occipitalis</i>
<i>Bubo</i>	<i>africanus</i>

Check the large oak tree near the entrance to Festina Lente and you may just catch a view of our resident Spotted Eagle-owls and – between August and October – they may even have babies in our featured owl box! As with many other birds-of-prey, the female is larger than the male though both sexes are visually similar. In the evenings, our owls hunt from exposed perches and can sometimes be heard calling from the crest of our roof – a long drawn out “Hu Whoooooo.”

Egret, Western Cattle

Bubulcus *ibis*

- 40 Egret, Little
 41 Falcon, Amur
 42 Falcon, Peregrine
 43 Finch, Red-headed

Egretta garzetta
Falco amurensis
Falco peregrinus
Amadina erythrocephala



These tiny and extremely attractive finches are common in our garden and are best seen at one of our small bird seed feeders, particularly near the dining area. They travel around in small flocks of up to 10 birds and can easily be detected by their chipping calls. The males are easily distinguishable from the females by their bright red heads – the females having mouse-grey head colouration – but both sexes share the attractive scalloping across the belly.

- 44 Fiscal, Common
 45 Fish-eagle, African
 46 Flycatcher, Fiscal
 47 Go-away-bird, Grey
 48 Goose, Egyptian
 49 Goshawk, African
 50 Goshawk, Gabar
 51 Guineafowl, Helmeted
 52 Harrier-Hawk, African
 53 Heron, Black-headed
 54 Heron, Grey
 55 Honeyguide, Greater
 56 Honeyguide, Lesser
 57 Hoopoe, African

Fiscal, Southern

Lanius collaris
Haliaeetus vocifer
Sigelus silens
Corythaixoides concolor
Alopochen aegyptiacus
Accipiter tachiro
Melierax gabar
Numida meleagris

Gymnogene

Polyboroides typus
Ardea melanocephala
Ardea cinerea
Indicator indicator
Indicator minor
Upupa africana

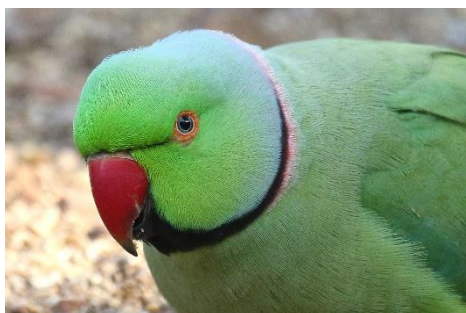


A very special bird to us here at Festina Lente – the African Hoopoe. They are most often seen walking across our lawn, probing for insect, but these quirky birds will regularly fly into a tree when disturbed. They can raise their long crest but this is usually only done when the birds land, when alarmed, or in display as the male attempts to woo a lady. They nest in holes and are sometimes seen at our nesting logs, though these birds rarely visit feeders. Keep an eye out for them and do let us know if you spot one!

- 58 Hornbill, African Grey
 59 House-martin, Common
 60 Ibis, African Sacred
 61 Ibis, Glossy
 62 Ibis, Hadeda
 63 Kingfisher, Brown-hooded
 64 Kingfisher, Woodland
 65 Kite, Black-shouldered
 66 Lapwing, African Wattled
 67 Lapwing, Blacksmith
 68 Lapwing, Crowned

Tockus nasutus
Delichon urbicum
Threskiornis aethiopicus
Plegadis falcinellus
Bostrychia hagedash
Halcyon albiventris
Halcyon senegalensis
Elanus caeruleus
Vanellus senegallus
Vanellus armatus
Vanellus coronatus

69	Lovebird, Rosy-faced		<i>Agapornis</i>	<i>roseicollis</i>
70	Mannikin, Bronze		<i>Spermestes</i>	<i>cucullatus</i>
71	Martin, Brown-throated		<i>Riparia</i>	<i>paludicola</i>
72	Martin, Rock		<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>fuligula</i>
73	Masked-weaver, Southern		<i>Ploceus</i>	<i>velatus</i>
74	Mousebird, Red-faced		<i>Urocolius</i>	<i>indicus</i>
75	Mousebird, Speckled		<i>Colius</i>	<i>striatus</i>
76	Myna, Common		<i>Acridotheres</i>	<i>tristis</i>
77	Olive-pigeon, African	Pigeon, Rameron	<i>Columba</i>	<i>arquatrix</i>
78	Oriole, Black-headed		<i>Oriolus</i>	<i>larvatus</i>
79	Owl, Barn	Owl, Western Barn	<i>Tyto</i>	<i>alba</i>
80	Palm-swift, African		<i>Cypsiurus</i>	<i>parvus</i>
81	Paradise-flycatcher, African		<i>Terpsiphone</i>	<i>viridis</i>
82	Parakeet, Rose-ringed		<i>Psittacula</i>	<i>krameri</i>



The beautiful Rose-ringed Parakeet was introduced into South Africa from India in the late 1970s. The birds have since established themselves in both Johannesburg and Durban and they are now common in each of these areas. They are daily visitors to our garden, always announcing their presence with their loud screeching calls, and although their occurrence here is controversial – we absolutely love the splash of colour that they offer. The male has a more pronounced rose collar on the neck, though both sexes are equally attractive to our eyes!

83	Pigeon, Speckled		<i>Columba</i>	<i>guinea</i>
84	Prinia, Tawny-flanked		<i>Prinia</i>	<i>subflava</i>
85	Puffback, Black-backed		<i>Dryoscopus</i>	<i>cubla</i>
86	Quelea, Red-billed		<i>Quelea</i>	<i>quelea</i>
87	Reed-warbler, African		<i>Acrocephalus</i>	<i>baeticatus</i>
88	Robin-chat, Cape		<i>Cossypha</i>	<i>caffra</i>
89	Scops-owl, Southern White-faced		<i>Ptilopsis</i>	<i>granti</i>
90	Seed-eater, Streaky-headed		<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>gularis</i>
91	Sparrow, Cape		<i>Passer</i>	<i>melanurus</i>



The delightful Cape Sparrow is another one of those oh-so-familiar garden birds and is a permanent feature at our small bird seed feeders. It is an incredibly special bird in that it can only be seen in South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia and Botswana and, although a sparrow is just a sparrow to some, we simply adore them. The male is separable from the female by his striking black-and-white head pattern while the female's colour always seems to have run in the wash. They often associate with flocks of weavers and bishops, dominating our buffet!

92	Sparrow, House		<i>Passer</i>	<i>domesticus</i>
93	Sparrow, Southern Grey-headed		<i>Passer</i>	<i>diffusus</i>
94	Sparrowhawk, Black		<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>melanoleucus</i>
95	Sparrowhawk, Little		<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>minullus</i>

96 Sparrowhawk, Ovambo	<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>ovampensis</i>
97 Spurfowl, Swainson's	<i>Pternistis</i>	<i>swainsonii</i>
98 Starling, Cape Glossy	<i>Lamprotornis</i>	<i>nitens</i>



Starling, Cape

Did someone mention glamour? Well, few birds are as brilliant as the Cape Glossy Starling and (luckily for us!) these gorgeous birds are common at Festina Lente. If you wish to spy one for yourself, look on our fruit feeders as these birds go crazy for our fresh offerings! Be sure to watch them for some time as their colour changes in relation to the light and their true brilliance is only fully appreciated when they are seen in direct sunlight.

99 Starling, Pied	<i>Spreo</i>	<i>bicolor</i>
100 Starling, Red-winged	<i>Onychognathus</i>	<i>morio</i>
101 Stonechat, African	<i>Saxicola</i>	<i>torquatus</i>
102 Sunbird, Amethyst	<i>Chalcomitra</i>	<i>amethystina</i>
103 Sunbird, White-bellied	<i>Cinnyris</i>	<i>talatala</i>
104 Swallow, Barn	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>rustica</i>
105 Swallow, Greater Striped	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>cucullata</i>
106 Swallow, Lesser Striped	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>abyssinica</i>
107 Swallow, White-throated	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>albigularis</i>
108 Swift, Little	<i>Apus</i>	<i>affinis</i>
109 Swift, White-rumped	<i>Apus</i>	<i>caffer</i>
110 Thick-knee, Spotted	<i>Burhinus</i>	<i>capensis</i>
111 Thrush, Groundscraper	<i>Psophocichla</i>	<i>litsipsirupa</i>
112 Thrush, Karoo	<i>Turdus</i>	<i>smithi</i>

Sunbird, Black

Dikkop, Spotted



Listen closely at dawn and dusk and you may just hear the sweet song of the Karoo Thrush sounding from within a dense part of the garden. This soprano singer frequents our fruit feeders but can otherwise be seen scurrying around on the lawn, retreating to a thicket the moment it gets disturbed. Their song carries on for minutes on end, consisting of very rich and fluty notes with each individual having its own repertoire of song. Some believe that the more varied the song, the better bird and we couldn't agree more.

113 Turtle-dove, Cape	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>capicola</i>
114 Wagtail, Cape	<i>Motacilla</i>	<i>capensis</i>
115 Warbler, Willow	<i>Phylloscopus</i>	<i>trochilus</i>
116 Waxbill, Common	<i>Estrilda</i>	<i>astrild</i>
117 Weaver, Thick-billed	<i>Amblyospiza</i>	<i>albifrons</i>
118 White-eye, Cape	<i>Zosterops</i>	<i>virens</i>
119 Whydah, Pin-tailed	<i>Vidua</i>	<i>macroura</i>
120 Wood-hoopoe, Green	<i>Phoeniculus</i>	<i>purpureus</i>
121 Woodpecker, Cardinal	<i>Dendropicos</i>	<i>fuscescens</i>

Dove, Ring-necked