



P O Box 21520, Mayors Walk, Pietermaritzburg  
3208  
Tel: +27(0)33 3443816 / Cell: +27(0) 82 7777 202  
Fax: 086 500 3819 (SA) / +27 35 753 5644 (Intl)  
Email: [travel@birdlife.org.za](mailto:travel@birdlife.org.za)  
Website: [www.birdinaroutes.co.za](http://www.birdinaroutes.co.za)



**BIRDLIFE**  
**SOUTH AFRICA**  
travel

## **Exclusive - once in a life time birding opportunity hosted by Ian Sinclair**

### **Great Limpopo and Kruger to Canyons Birding Routes**

### **17 – 30 November 2008**

---

Join us for this once in a life time opportunity to experience a first class birding with top birding specialist, Ian Sinclair. This fantastic 14 day tour will be fully guided by Ian, and will incorporate some of the top birding spots along the Greater Limpopo and Kruger to Canyon's Birding Routes. Areas to be covered include Nylsvley, Polokwane (Pietersburg), Makhado (Louis Trichardt), and Magoebaskloof in the Greater Limpopo region, as well as Phalaborwa, Kruger National Park and Blyde River Canyon areas in the Kruger to Canyon Birding Route.

#### ***Ian Sinclair***

---

**Ian Sinclair** was born and educated in Northern Ireland. Ian's interest in birds started at an early age and it took him to many interesting parts of the world, including spending nine months on Marion Island studying seabirds for the Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology.

Ian is arguably Africa's most experienced birder, having seen well in excess of 2000 species on the continent. His guiding experience is unrivalled, having led trips throughout Southern Africa as well as Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, Gabon, Morocco, Cameroon, Uganda as well as many Indian Ocean Islands. He has officially retired from the bird tour business, but does occasionally guide on the ZEST for BIRDS Pelagics trips as well as offering valuable advice in preparing for our land based trips.

Ian is the top birder in South Africa with a staggering list of 900 species seen within the sub region. He has found more "firsts" for Southern African than anyone else and has a passion for birds that is difficult to match.

He has authored or co-authored many books on birds; most notably the SASOL Field Guide of Southern Africa and the Photographic guide to the Birds of Southern Africa and also serves on the SA Rarities Committee.

#### **OUR MISSION:**

To develop South Africa into the world's leading birding destination for the benefit of birds, their habitats and communities through responsible avitourism  
Vat Reg. No. 4610120638

Member of IUCN, the World Conservation Union Registration Number 001-298

## ***Cost***

---

- SAR19, 950 per person sharing. (All accommodation is in twin bed rooms / sharing)
- Six people will be required to confirm the tour with payment in full required by 16<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

## ***Booking and enquiries***

---

Contact Sue Anderson at BirdLife Travel.

Email: [travel@birdlife.org.za](mailto:travel@birdlife.org.za). Tel: 082 7777202.

Website: [www.birdingroutes.co.za](http://www.birdingroutes.co.za)

## ***Included in the tour***

---

- Guides (Ian Sinclair and local bird guides along the route)
- Transport from Johannesburg International Airport – throughout the tour, returning to the airport on the last day.
- Accommodation twin bed units (sharing). Birder Friendly accommodation has been used where possible.
- Dinner and breakfast or brunch on each day. Lunches where indicated.

## ***Excluded***

---

- Drinks, curios, gratuities, lunches (unless otherwise indicated)
  - Flights and transport to and from the meeting point at OT International Airport (Johannesburg)
-

## The Itinerary

### 17 November 2008 (Overnight Bundox Game Lodge / Nylsvley)

Your tour will start in Johannesburg (pick-up point at Johannesburg's OT International Airport – you'll make your way to Bundox Game Lodge in Nylsvley).

**11h00:** Meet Ian Sinclair who will be waiting for you at the Pick up Zone (outside Domestic Arrivals). Head straight for **Nylsvley** and check in at **Bundox Game Lodge**. (+/- 2.5 hours drive). Settle in to your accommodation.

**14h00:** Light lunch at Bundox Lodge (included).

**16h00:** Spend a few hours birding around the lodge, followed by an evening meal around the camp fire in the lapa.

**Bundox Game Ranch** lies at the foot of the Swaershoek Mountain Range in Mookgopong (Naboomspruit) and is well placed for a stopover for birders visiting Nylsvley, Doorndraai Dam and Moordrift. The habitat is mainly broadleaved woodland and patches of Acacia thornveld.

**Specials** include all three species of *bittern* which breed in the area, as well as all the southern African *herons*. Nylsvley boasts the largest recorded breeding concentrations of *Great Egret*, *Black Heron*, *Squacco Heron* and *Black-crowned Night Heron*. Other species include *Streaky breasted Flufftail*, *Striped Crake* and *Lesser Moorhen*, *Allan's Gallinule*, *Pygmy Goose*, *White-backed Duck* and *Comb Duck*. Some 15 duck and goose species occur in Nylsvley in the wet years. In dryer years, the area is still a prime birding destination for bushveld birding. Common species include *Whitethroat*, *Garden*, *Olivetree Warbler*, *Tinkling Cisticola* and *Pearl-spotted Owlet*.

### 18 November 2008 (Overnight Bundox Lodge / Nylsvley)

Today you'll spend time birding at Nylsvley:

**05h30:** Early morning tea/coffee and rusks will be provided at the lapa before heading to Nylsvley for a full day of birding in the area. A packed brunch and cold drinks will be provided (included). The day will include bushveld and wetland birding in the Nylsvley reserve

In the late afternoon, head back to Bundox for an evening meal around the campfire, followed by a walk in the lodge surrounds, armed with spotlights in search of nocturnal species.

### 19 November 2008 (Overnight the Ranch Protea Hotel / Polokwane)

Today you'll head north to Polokwane:

**05h30:** Early morning tea/coffee and rusks, and then off to Nylsvley for another couple of hours birding. Head Back to Bundox for breakfast at about 08h00 and then it's time to head northwards to Polokwane (+/- 1.5 hours drive), stopping off at **Moordrift Farm** on route.

#### Moordrift Farm

Moordrift Farm is 40km's from Nylsvley on the banks of the Nyl River near Mokopane. The farm has a large dam that provides permanent water along the Nyl river floodplain. Other than the thornveld woodland around the dam, there is reeded river and marshland habitat. Even in a dry season, the pan is bursting with *Red-billed Teal*, *Yellow-billed Duck*, *Knob-billed Duck*, *Spur-wing Goose*, *Sacred Ibis*, *White-faced Duck*, *Fish Eagle*, *resident Maccoa Duck* as well as a host of *sandpipers*, *plover*, *coots*, *herons*, *warblers*, *Cisticolas* and *spoonbill*. The woodland around the dam is good for *Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler*, *Barred Wren-Warbler* and *Crimson-breasted Shrike*.

(Contact number 082 920 1741 / 015 4919400).

**13h30:** Arrive at the Ranch Protea Hotel in time for lunch (included).

**The Ranch Protea Hotel** is a four star Protea Hotel situated about twenty km south of Polokwane. It has large, well tended gardens that attract a host of birds in the dry season. Residents at the hotel have access to over 1000 hectares of Polokwane Plateau Bushveld and many farm dams on the hotel property and wildlife conservancy. Over 240 birds have been recorded on the conservancy including **White-backed Duck, Greater Kestrel, Northern-black Korhaan** and **Red-throated Wryneck**.

**15h00:** Head for Polokwane Nature Reserve for a few hours birding on an open game drive vehicle. Although this reserve is best known as the most reliable site for the isolated eastern population of the **Short-clawed Lark**, it also provides excellent bushveld, thornveld and Grassveld birding. The extensive road network, walking trails and bird hides expose the visitor to a variety of habitats, which hold over 300 bird species. Localized species found here include: **Short-clawed Lark Northern Black Korhaan, Shelley's Francolin, Double-banded Courser, Burchell's Sandgrouse, Bushveld Pipit, Great Sparrow, Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler, African Wren-Warbler** and **Tinkling Cisticola**. Raptors are also well represented here with **African Hawk-Eagle, Black-chested Snake-Eagle, Secretary Bird, Wahlberg's Eagle, Greater Kestrel** and **Gabar Goshawk** all of which breed in the reserve.

**19h00:** Dinner at The Ranch Protea Hotel

### **20 November 2008 (Overnight Shiluvuri Lakeside Lodge / Louis Trichardt)**

Today you'll head for Louis Trichardt:

**Shiluvuri Lakeside Lodge** is set against a backdrop of mountains and forests, ancient ruins and sacred lakes. It's situated on the banks of the Albisini Dam overlooking the Luonde Mountains. **Albisini Dam** is owned by the Department of Water Affairs. It hosts the normal array of waterbirds such as **White-breasted Cormorant, Green-backed Heron** and **African Darter**.

**Roodewal Dam** is the most reliable site for **African Broadbill**. The best time to hear the Broadbill is just before dawn and just after dusk. The Broadbills can be heard for longer periods during the day in the summer months. Other species often seen here are **Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Eastern Nicator, Narina Trogon, Gorgeous Bush-Shrike, Green Twinspot** and **Red-faced Cisticola**

**Muirheads Dam** is the only reliable place in South Africa to find **Blue-spotted Wood-Dove**, one of our region's top 10 birds. Other species found on and around the dam are **African Pygmy Goose, Horus Swift, Dark-capped Yellow Warbler, Red-backed Manikins** and **Lesser Moorhen**. This private farm dam is magical. A bird hide has been built on the dam and trails have been laid out around the dam.

**05h30:** Early morning tea/coffee and rusks at The Protea Hotel before heading back into the Polokwane Game Reserve for some early morning birding. A packed brunch and cold drinks will be provided by The Ranch Protea Hotel so you can stop off at an appropriate spot in the reserve to enjoy it.

**14h00:** Head for Louis Trichardt (+/- 2 hour's drive) and settle in at Shiluvuri.

**Late afternoon:** Enjoy a sunset cruise on Albisini Dam (drinks not included).

**Specials** to look out for include **Osprey** and the normal array of water birds, such as **White-breasted Cormorant, Green-backed Heron** and **African Darter**.

**19h00:** Dinner at Shiluvuri

### **21 November 2008 (Overnight Harnham House/ Louis Trichardt)**

Today you'll spend birding around Louis Trichardt:

**05h30:** Tea/coffee/rusks at the pool, followed by birding at Roodewal and Muirheads Dams, together with Samson Muladudzi who is a well known community birding site guide. Samson is based at Shiluvuri Lakeside Lodge and knows the area intimately. A packed brunch and cool drinks will be provided by Shiluvuri.

**14h00:** Head for Harnham House for some birding around the swallow roost.

**19h00:** Dinner at Harnham House

### ***22 November 2008 (Overnight Kurisa Moya / Magoebaskloof)***

Today you'll move on to Magoebaskloof area:

**05h30:** Tea/coffee and rusks, and an early morning birding walk

**08h30:** Breakfast at Harnham House and then it's time to head for Magoebaskloof (+/- 2.5 hours).

**13h00:** Lunch at Kurisa Moya (included), followed by an afternoon walk at Kurisa Moya together with David Letsoalo who is a community bird guide based there.

**Kurisa Moya** is situated on a 422 hectare farm which straddles the Woodbush Forest and the bushveld habitats on the Northern Drakensburg escarpment. **Specials** to look out for at Kurisa Moya which offers excellent birding on site, includes 7 species of Robin, including **White-starred** and **Chorister Robin**. Most notable are 5 Bush-Shrikes, with **Black-fronted Bush Shrike** heading up the list. In this spectacular indigenous forest, other specials include the **Narina Trogon**, **Green Twinspot**, **Grey Cuckooshrike**, **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher** and **Yellow-streaked Greenbul**. . Raptors include **Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk** and **Black Sparrowhawk**.

**19h00:** Dinner at Kurisa Moya where you will be joined for the evening by Lisa Martus (Kurisa Moya) and Ben de Boer, (Manager / Greater Limpopo Birding Route).

### ***23 November 2008 (Overnight Kurisa Moya / Magoebaskloof)***

Today will be spent birding around Magoebaskloof:

**05h30:** Tea/coffee and rusks and then it's off to **Woodbush Forest** and the **Bat Hawk** nesting site, together with David Letsoalo. Woodbush Forest is a pristine afro-montane forest.

**Specials** to look out for include **Cape Parrot**, **Black-fronted Bush-Shrike**, **Orange Ground Thrush**, **Grey Cuckooshrike**, **Yellow-streaked Greenbul**, **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**, **Forest Canary**, **Square-tailed Drongo**, **African Cuckoo Hawk**, **Crowned Eagle**, **African Goshawk** and **Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon** (rare).

**Breakfast** – a packed breakfast will be provided by Kurisa Moya.

**13h00:** Lunch at the Magoebaskloof Hotel (own account), followed by an afternoon trip to the **Gurney's Sugarbird** site.

**19h00:** Dinner at Kurisa Moya

### ***24 November 2008 (Overnight Sefapane Lodge & Safaris / Phalaborwa)***

Today you'll move eastwards to Phalaborwa.

**05h30:** Enjoy some tea/coffee and rusks at Kurisa Moya and then head on to Phalaborwa (+/- 2 hours), stopping at Silonque Road en-route where you can enjoy a backed brunch. **Silonque Road** takes one just outside of Phalaborwa and provides a good opportunity for raptor viewing and general birding. The nearby rubbish dump is a fantastic spot to look out for **Marabou Storks** and **White-backed Vulture**. The road out to Silonque is ideal for raptors including Brown and **Black-chested Snake-Eagle**, **Steppe Eagle**, **Lesser Spotted** and **Tawny Eagles**. A number of the more common bushveld species can be seen by travelling slowly along the road, including **Woodland Kingfisher**, **Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove**, **Burchell's Coucal**, **Magpie Shrike** as well as various waxbill, starlings, bee eaters and hornbill species.

**12h00:** Arrive at **Sefapane Lodge**, settle in and enjoy a light lunch (included).

#### Selati River Bridge

**13h30:** Visit **Selati River Bridge** which is also situated just outside Phalaborwa consists of bushveld type vegetation which lines the riparian vegetation of the Salati River. Target species include **Giant and Pied Kingfishers, Little and White-fronted bee-eaters, Black Crane, African Snipe, Greenshank and Marsh Sandpiper, Lilac-breasted Roller, Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Sabota Lark, Cinnamon and Gold-breasted Bunting** and the different **waxbill** species, **Pearl-spotted Owlets, Bateleur and Yellow-billed Kite**

#### Olifants River Barrage

**14h30:** Visit the **Olifants River Barrage** which is a fantastic spot for water birds but also for general game viewing including hippo and crocodile. One must take care in this area because it's within a Big Five Game area and elephant sightings etc. are common!

Target species include **White-fronted Lapwing, Saddle-billed storks, Grey and Green backed Heron, Common and Wood Sandpiper, Common Greenshank, Hamerkop, Black-backed Puffback, Collared Sunbird, Yellow-breasted Apalis**, different **starlings** and **rollers, Carmine and Little bee-eaters**

#### Olifants River Cruise

**15h00:** Enjoy a 3 hour river cruise on the Olifants River before heading to Sefapane Lodge for the evening. Species to expect around the lodge include **African Green Pigeon, African Harrier-hawk, Brown-headed parrot, Collared Sunbird and Purple Heron.**

**19h00:** Dinner at Sefapane Lodge

### ***25 November 2008 (Overnight Mopani Rest Camp / Kruger National Park)***

Today you head for Mopani Rest Camp in the Kruger National Park.

**06h00:** Tea/coffee and rusks at Sefapane before heading for a morning walk on the Olifants River. A packed breakfast will be provided which can be eaten at a suitable spot along the way.

**07h00:** Ian Owtram (BLSA) will meet you at the entrance gate to Grietjie Nature Reserve which is about a 30 minutes drive from Sefapane. Ian will join you for a few hours birding in the area. Target species on the walk include **Pel's Fishing Owl, Purple Crested Turaco, Hooded vulture, African Finfoot.**

**Mid-day** – Have a light lunch at Sefapane before heading to **Mopani Rest Camp** in the **Kruger National Park**, entering via the Phalaborwa Gate.

The **Kruger National Park** covers 19,685 kilometres and is the 10<sup>th</sup> largest game reserve in the world. It has 3000 km of roads, 23 rest camps and a host of excellent picnic sites, walking trails and dams. Every year, over a million visitors tally up in the region of 520 bird species. Birding is best in the summer months (November – March).

**Mopani Rest Camp** is a relatively new rest camp situated in the central/northern portion of the park in the less active Mopani woodland area. The camp itself is attractively situated on a hillside overlooking the Pioneer Dam. On the dam, the larger water birds are common including **White breasted cormorant, Reed cormorant, Grey Heron, Goliath Heron and African darter.** A trail around the camp offers very productive birding.

Target species include **Laughing and Green Spotted Dove, Yellow and Red-billed Hornbill, Red-billed Oxpecker and Buffalo Weaver, Bully Canary, Fork-tailed Dronga and Glossy Starling, Grey Heron, Wood Sandpiper, Blacksmith and Crowned Plover, Three-banded Plover and African Fish Eagle.**

**19h00:** Evening game drive and then dinner in the restaurant (included)

## 26 November 2008 (Overnight Letaba Rest Camp / Kruger National Park)

Today you'll make your way south to Letaba Rest Camp.

Take an early morning birding from Mopani camp and make your way to **Olifants Rest Camp** for Breakfast (included) before making your way southwards towards Letaba Rest Camp which is your next overnight stop.

**Mid-day** - stop off to check in at Letaba where you can also have lunch (own account) before heading back out in the afternoon for another game/bird drive.

**Letaba Rest Camp** is situated on the banks of the Letaba River within Mopani dominated savanna. Its well spread out with the highlight being a paved footpath which runs along the northern perimeter through broad leaved riparian vegetation and then back along roads skirting the southern perimeter of the camp, offering the chance to see a number of species within the confines of the camp as well as out on the Letaba River floodplain.

Target species in this part of the Park include **Gabar Goshawk, Red Headed Weaver, Palm Swifts, Bearded Robins, Grey Hooded Bush Shrikes, Grey rumped** and **Pearl breasted swallow, Green capped Eromomela, Bennett's** and **Bearded Woodpecker, Orange Breasted** and **Grey Headed Bush Shrike, Pearl Spotted Owllet, Carmine Bee Eater**

**19h00:** Dinner in the restaurant.

## 27 November 2008 (Overnight Satara Rest Camp / Kruger National Park)

Today you'll head further south to Satara Rest Camp.

**09h00:** Depart Letaba and head southwards to **Olifants Camp** for breakfast and a couple of hours birding around the camp before continuing down to **Satara Camp** which is your next overnight stop.

**Olifants Rest Camp** is situated on a rocky outcrop overlooking the Olifants River and surrounding Mopani dominated woodland. There are a number of lookout points which are ideal for watching raptors as they catch updrafts.

Target species to look out for at Olifants Camp include **Yellow-bellied Greenbul, Mocking Cliff-Chat**, and numerous **sunbirds, Gabar Goshawk, Eurasian Hobby, Crowned Eagle, Bat Hawk** (occasionally seen), **White-crowned Lapwing, Black-winged Stilt** and **Red-billed Quelea**.

**After lunch**, head further south to **Satara Camp** for the night.

**Satara** is situated in a Knob thorn and Marula dominated open savanna. It offers a wide range of bushveld and grassland bird species and is arguably the best part of the reserve for Big Five Game viewing.

Target species include **Kori Bustard, Southern Ground Hornbill, Harlequin Quail, Kurrichane Buttonquail, Secretary Bird, Bennett's Woodpecker, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver, Woodland Kingfisher, Burchell's Starling, Groundscraper Thrush, African Scops Owllet, Pearl spotted owls, Brown Headed Parrots, Wood Owl, Spotted Eagle Owl** and **Verreaux's Eagle Owl, nightjar, Saddle-billed Stork, Crowned** and **Blacksmith Lapwing** and **White-faced Duck, Brown** and **Black-chested Snake Eagle, Lizard Buzzard, Martial Eagle, Steppe Eagle**.

**19h00:** Evening game drive and Dinner in the restaurant at Satara Rest Camp (included)

## 28 November 2008 (Overnight Panzi Bush Camp/ Near Hoedspruit)

Today you'll leave the Kruger National Park and head towards Hoedspruit and Panzi Bush Camp.

**05h30:** Some early morning birding from **Satara Rest Camp**, returning for breakfast by 08h00. Spend the rest of the day birding in the area before leaving in the mid-afternoon and making your way to Panzi Bush Camp for the evening.

**19h00:** Dinner at Panzi Bush Camp.

## 29 November 2008 (Overnight Old Joe's Kia / Schoemanskloof (Dullstroom))

Today you'll head for Schoemanskloof area which is en-route (near) Dullstroom.

**05h30:** Tea/coffee and rusks at Panzi Bush Camp and then head for Schoemanskloof Valley via a few sites on the way. A packed brunch will be provided by Panzi Bush Camp for along the way.

### Mariepskop Nature Reserve

**08h30:** Meet Thabelo Sekome, a community bird guide at Mariepskop and spend a couple of hours with him.

**Mariepskop Nature Reserve** is located against the slopes and on top of the Drakensberg escarpment. The relatively small area on top of the escarpment (+/- 2000m above sea level) is unique due to patches of fynbos, a biome normally only found in the cape regions. This small and isolated pocket of fynbos harbors an extraordinary diversity of plant species that attract birds that are hard to see elsewhere on the Birding Route, such as **Gurney's sugarbird**.

Target species here include **Gurney's sugarbird, Greater double-collared sunbird** and **Cape canary, African hawk-eagle, Red-collared widowbird, Pin-tailed whydah, Southern red bishop, Cape white-eye, Steppe buzzard, African olive-pigeon, Knysna Turaco, Grey-headed bush-shrike, Olive woodpecker, Sombre Greenbul, Bar-throated apalis, Southern boubou, Buff-spotted Flufftail**

### Manoutsa Vulture Colony

First stop for the morning is **Manoutsa Vulture Colony** which is situated on the cliffs of the Drakensberg Escarpment. The area is home to up to 660 pairs of the vulnerable Cape Vulture, making it the fourth largest colony in the world. Whilst the vultures are the main attraction, the site is also a good site to view other raptors such as **Verreaux's Eagle, Cape Eagle-Owl** and various falcons.

Target species at Manoutsa include **Taita Falcon, Verreaux's Eagle, Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, Cape Eagle-Owl, Cape Vulture, African Harrier-Hawk, European Honey Buzzard, Wahlberg's Eagle, Lanner and Peregrine Falcon, Egyptian Vulture, Rock Martin, Cinnamon-breasted Bunting, Cape Rock-Thrush, Mocking Cliff-Chat** and **Striped Pipit**.

### Strydom Tunnel

**11h00:** Meet Michael (community bird guide) at Strydom Tunnel – he's great at spotting the rare **Taita Falcon** in record time!

Strydom Tunnel – The R527 road which meanders through the Abel Erasmus Pass and the Strydom Tunnel offers some of the best raptor birding on the route. Sheer cliffs hem the road in and provide roosting sites for a number of different species whilst thickly wooded valleys offer a different habitat type supporting a wide range of species. A number of lay byes near the pass offer an opportunity to scan the cliffs and forests.

### California Tribal Area

From Strydom Tunnel, move on to California Tribal Area – this is not really a bird site but is one of the most reliable places at which to encounter **Southern Bald Ibis** on the route. As you drive through the Abel Erasmus Pass, you'll come up to a large flat area just before descending down towards Tswenyane and the Strydom Tunnel. The overgrazed grasslands on either side of the road often see flocks of them – it's also good for raptors such as Cape Vulture.

### Three Rondawels Lookout Point

From California Tribal Area, make your way around to Three Rondawels Lookout Point – this area is dominated by montane grassland which hosts a number of high altitude species not found elsewhere on the route. These include **Wing-snapping Cisticola, Wailing Cisticola, Zitting Cisticola, Yellow-throated Longclaw, Cape** and **African Wagtail, Buff-streaked** and **Familiar Chat, Stonechat, Drakensberg Prinia, Southern Red** and **Yellow Bishop**.

### Bourkes Luck Potholes

From Three Rondawels, you will head for Bourkes Luck Potholes which is situated on afro-montane grasslands similar to the area at the Three Rondawels lookout point. Typical birds to be seen include **Wing-snapping Cisticola, Wailing Cisticola, Zitting Cisticola, Yellow-throated Longclaw, Cape** and, **Buff-streaked** and **Familiar Chat, Stonechat, Drakensberg Prinia, Southern Red** and **Yellow bishops**

### God's Window

From Bourkes Luck Potholes – move southwards to God's Window which is known for its amazing views from the top of the Drakensberg escarpment over the Lowveld. On a clear day it's possible to see over the Kruger National Park in the west on to the Lebombo mountains on the border with Mozambique. Besides the wonderful views, there is a small patch of Afro-montane mist belt forest which receives very high precipitation. The forest has a high diversity of flowering plants that in turn attract a variety of different bird species such as **Gurney's Sugarbird, Greater double-collared, Southern double-collared, Collared** and **Malachite sunbirds**.

### Kaapsehoop

Time permitting; your last stop for the day is Kaapsehoop which is situated 25km southwest of Nelspruit on a buttress of the Mpumalanga escarpment. The area offers protection to the globally threatened **Blue Swallow** and is designated as an Important Bird Area. Wild horses roam with herds ranging in size from bachelor herds of around 3 to larger more structured herds of 15 to 20 horses.

After a full day, it's time to head for Old Joe's Kia in Schoemanskloof where you'll enjoy a relaxing evening meal and a good night's sleep.

## 30 November 2008

Today the tour comes to an end.

**06h00:** Tea/coffee and rusks at Old Joe's.

Spend a few hours birding around **Schoemanskloof / Dullstroom** before heading back to Johannesburg and OT International Airport (+/- 4 hours from Dullstroom). A packed brunch will be provided by Old Joe's (included).

Target species in the area include **Black-winged Lapwing, Southern Bald Ibis, Wattled Crane, Gurney's Sugarbird, Cape Grassbird, Denham's Bustard, Ground Woodpecker, Yellow-breasted Pipit** and **Barrow's Korhaan**.

**15h00** – Ian will drop you off at OT International from where you can make your way home. This will necessitate leaving the Dullstroom area by around 11h30 to ensure an airport arrival of 15h00.