



Wild Globe Travel Consultancy

Tailored Wildlife, Wilderness and Adventure Travel Across the Globe.

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ETHIOPIA

Date - September 2012

Duration - 25 Days

Destinations

Addis Ababa - Dinsho - Bale Mountains National Park - Senkele Wildlife Sanctuary - Lake Langano - Abijatta-Shalla National Park - Lake Ziway - Awash National Park - Debre Markos - Blue Nile Falls - Bahir Dar - Lake Tana - Gondar - Debarke - Simien Mountains National Park - Lalibela

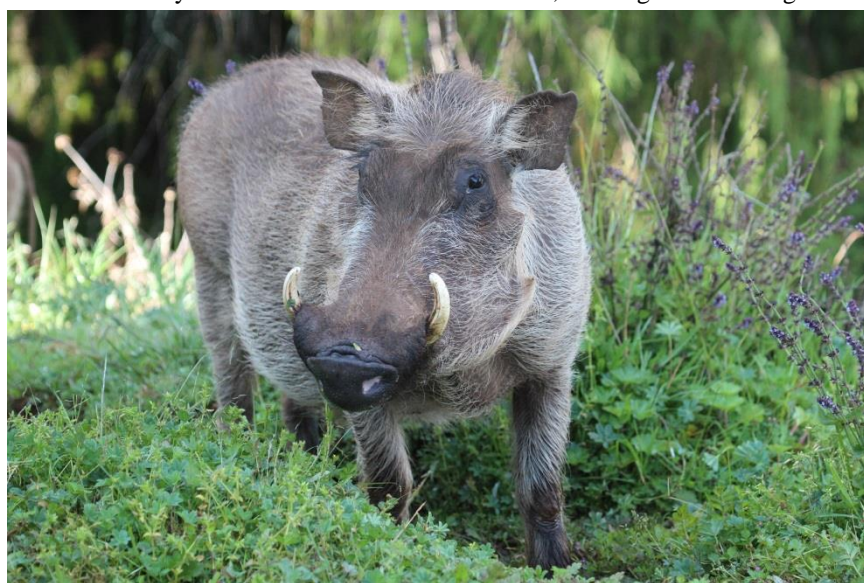
Trip Overview

This tour had been arranged primarily to assess a new local operator and to do so I had organised a comprehensive circuit of the south of the country, including all of the best wildlife destinations. Unfortunately, due to adverse weather conditions, which in Ethiopia means bridges being swept away and dirt roads rapidly turning into raging rivers, I decided to postpone visits to both Mago and Omo national parks and to concentrate on finding some of the rare endemic wildlife in more accessible areas. This was fine, as I will be returning to research other regions in the future and my main purpose was to evaluate the operator, who had agreed to accompany me as my guide for the entire duration of the trip. He is not a wildlife guide as such, although he does know a lot of the best places to visit for animals, but I quickly discovered that he has an almost encyclopaedic knowledge of his homeland. In fact, I would probably go as far as saying that he is the most knowledgeable tour operator I have ever travelled with and he evidently has a deep-rooted affection for Ethiopia, which he openly states, and clearly believes, is the best country on the planet. Whether that is the case or not, large parts



of Ethiopia are outstandingly beautiful and the country has a rich culture and fascinating history. Generally Ethiopians are a friendly and proud people and the latter has much to do with the fact that their country is the only one in the region never to have been colonised. My tour had not been set up perfectly to look for animals, but what we lacked in expertise, our driver had no real idea when we needed to be out in the field to find animals and thought that playing very loud music in a national park was fine, we made up for in enthusiasm and overall the trip was an enormous success. We had already encountered a great deal of wildlife as we explored the possibility of reaching Mago National Park, including three primates, olive baboon, grivet monkey and guereza colobus, several spotted hyenas, a black-backed jackal and a white-tailed mongoose, which lightened the mood slightly, as it was spotted a few

hours after we had discovered that it was not going to be possible to cross the final river between us and Mago. As soon as this became apparent, and that further areas were also going to be inaccessible, we decided to start the main tour in Bale Mountains National Park, which is home to a number of species endemic to Ethiopia and several to just that particular area. In fact, Bale has more examples of endemism than almost anywhere in the world and of twenty or so such species, I was hoping to see Ethiopian wolf, mountain nyala, Bale monkey, Ethiopian highland hare, giant mole rat and the menelik's bushbuck subspecies. The entire global population of giant mole rats reside in this one park and they spend most of their time attempting to evade another endangered animal, the Ethiopian wolf, one of the rarest canids on the planet. I was keen to observe the wolves at close quarters and for long periods if possible, as they are truly striking animals and Wild Globe supports the hugely important conservation initiatives undertaken at Bale, including the inoculation of the wolves against rabies, a disease that has ravaged the wolf population in recent years. The amended itinerary meant that I had five nights in all at Bale and I divided my time between the Sanetti Plateau, the largest remaining area of pristine alpine habitat in Africa, and the contrasting but equally attractive Dinsho and Harenna forests. As is the case in most Ethiopian reserves, we had to employ a local guide for the duration of our stay, which was actually an advantage on this occasion at least, as our guide had a deep knowledge of the park and knew all of the best areas to look for each species that I was hoping to find. The exquisite scenery aside, and some parts are truly spectacular, the real beauty of Bale is the dramatic change of elevation within a distance of less than 30km across the reserve, from well above 4000m on the plateau to around 1500m at the southern extreme of the park. This massive variation in altitude has resulted in a variety of different ecosystems in close proximity and consequently, a rare and diverse concentration of wildlife within a relatively small area. In addition to some extremely sociable



warthogs wandering around our forest lodge, on our first afternoon we were able to locate two of our main target species, menelik's bushbuck and mountain nyala. Both antelope species are striking, but the endangered nyala are particularly impressive and were observed in moderately high numbers within the Dinsho and Gaysay grasslands areas of the national park. Bohor reedbuck and common duiker were also encountered routinely, as well as a number of golden jackals, one of which was highly unusual and may have been a hybrid, possibly between a jackal and an Ethiopian wolf. On one early evening walk I was pleasantly surprised to disturb a small group of giant forest hogs in a clearing and our spotlighting at lower altitudes, both on foot and in our vehicle, produced a number of good sightings of spotted hyena, bushpig and northern lesser galago. On the days that we visited the plateau, we would also spotlight on the way back down and the second time that we tried this we were rewarded with our only felid of the entire trip, a wild cat, which was seen as we were approaching Goba on the edge of the reserve. I used different accommodation throughout my stay and camped for one night, largely to spend time in another part of the reserve which was apparently a good place to look for Bale monkey,



an acutely specialised primate that only occurs in bamboo forest. We spent most of one morning looking for this elusive monkey and eventually found a small group of around eight, which we were able to watch feeding and grooming for about half an hour. For all of these excellent and satisfying sightings, the main purpose of my visit to Bale was to see Ethiopian wolf and to do that we needed to spend time on the Sanetti Plateau, which happens to be one of the most visually impressive wildlife destinations I have been lucky enough to explore. Seeing wolves was never likely to be a problem, but I was hoping to see them well and to watch different pack members interact. As it was, I found 27 individual wolves and was able to savour long periods with several, including a pack of nine that I spent an entire afternoon with and a male that I watched hunting and eating rats for several hours. I had actually stopped to photograph an Ethiopian highland hare when the first wolf unexpectedly appeared from behind some rocks next to our vehicle and this was to be the first in a succession of wonderful encounters over the next few days. One of my other targets on the plateau was the giant mole rat, a large, endearing rodent that unfortunately, for the rat at least, also happens to be the wolf's primary food source. I had expected to find wolves hunting mole rats, as well as a number of the other abundant rodents on the plateau, and on one memorable occasion I was able to combine the two species for probably my highlight of the tour. I had been watching several fairly corpulent mole rats feeding at the edge of their burrows in customary fashion, which basically involves rushing out to grab some grass



and reversing back into their burrows at high speed whenever they sense danger, when I noticed a wolf in the extreme distance. The wolf was actively hunting and gradually approached to within maybe 80 metres of where I was sitting enjoying the antics of the rats,



before it changed direction and began heading across the open plain. Initially disappointed that it was not going to get any closer, I decided that I would see how close I could approach on foot and gambled that the wolf would continue in the same direction whilst I went the long way round and climbed a hill that it looked to be heading towards. It took longer to reach and ascend the hill than I expected and when I reached the top, there was no sign of the wolf. It appeared that I had missed my chance, but I decided to climb the next hill, just in case it had detoured slightly and may still cross my path. Again when I reached the next summit the wolf was nowhere to be seen, but instead of just retracing my steps, I thought that I would descend and cut round the hill back to where I had been watching the

mole rats, as that was the last area that I had seen the wolf in and it could have easily doubled back. As I reached the bottom of that second hill and turned towards home, the wolf rounded the same corner and we stood staring at each other from a distance of no more than five metres. As would be the case with most dogs, I expected the wolf to instantly run and quickly raised my camera to get a couple of quick shots before the inevitable flight. However, this gorgeous animal was not at all alarmed and just calmly jogged straight past me as if I had not been there, actually getting closer as it went by. It looked back just the once before continuing on its untroubled way and I was left to savour the thrilling experience of a close quarters encounter with one of the rarest dogs on the planet. Although I would not get this close again on foot, many of the wolf sightings were within a few metres of the vehicle and on another occasion I was able to crawl to the top of some flat rocks and watch a wolf killing and eating rats just below me. The wolves prey more or less exclusively on rodents and the variety on the plateau was astounding. I saw at least six different species, as well as numerous highland hares, klipspringers, and rock hyraxes. The views and scenery were spectacular, with giant lobelias scattered across a stark but enchanting landscape, broken by the intricately patterned lichen-covered rocks. I would have stayed longer had time permitted, as there were other areas to explore and the plateau was as captivating a destination as I have visited for some time. However, time was now against us and I moved on planning a few more days here when I next returned to research other reserves.



Our next destination would be lake Langano and the adjacent Abijatta-Shalla National Park, but on the way we made a slight detour to visit the Senkele Wildlife Sanctuary, home to one of only two remaining viable populations of Swayne's hartebeest in Ethiopia. There are believed to be less than 600 of this hartebeest subspecies remaining in the wild and around 250 of them are protected at Senkele or at least that is the idea, as there were once several thousand here, but poaching has accounted for the vast majority and the sight of local herdsman grazing their cattle in a dedicated reserve, does not inspire a great deal of confidence for the long-term survival of this particular subspecies. Human encroachment and the grazing of massive numbers of livestock in protected areas are huge issues within Ethiopia, as the reserves I have visited all appear to be suffering to some degree and unless the authorities address the situation, it is unlikely that they will all survive for future generations to enjoy. The perpetual conflict between farmers and wildlife has already devastated the large predator populations across the country, although lions, cheetahs and leopards can still be seen in some reserves, and elephants now survive in only a few isolated regions. It is a situation that cannot be allowed to continue, as many of the protected areas are national parks in name only and the animals they were designated to safeguard are being left to the mercy of the local tribespeople, which varies greatly from area to area. As it was, my short visit to Senkele was still an enjoyable one, with good views of the hartebeest, as well as oribi and a side-striped jackal, which meant that I had now encountered all three jackal species within the first few days of the tour. As a result of the time lost at the beginning of the trip, I had less than a full day to explore

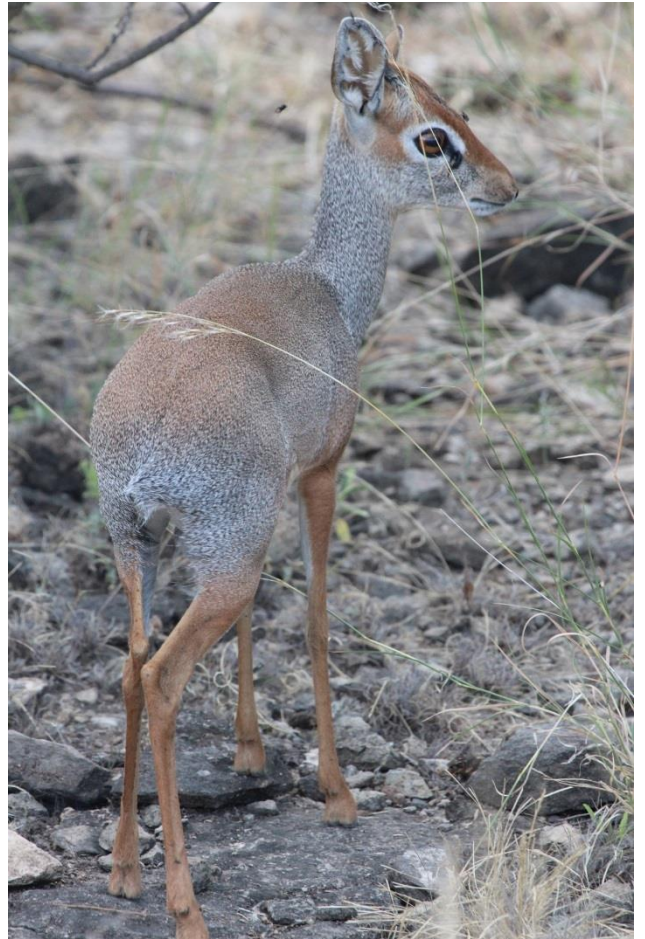


Lake Langano and Abijatta-Shalla, but I was still able to visit both the Abijatta and Shalla lakes within the national park and to spend a couple of hours photographing the healthy herds of grant's gazelle and many ostriches within the park. At night I went spotlighting on foot around the extensive grounds of my lovely lodge and was delighted to find several Abyssinian hares. My next major destination would be Awash National Park, where I was hoping to find both soemmerring's gazelle and salt's dik-dik, but I again broke the journey by visiting Lake Ziway on the way, where I had read you can easily observe yellow-spotted hyrax and a large variety of birds. The latter was certainly correct, but not the former, as the hyrax were not in their usual position around the café and I instead spent over an hour wading through marsh with a local fisherman before he pointed out three of them in a fairly tall tree. It was actually nice to see the hyrax in a more natural setting and after making our way back to the vehicle I decided to take a boat out to see some of the many waterbirds and a small pod of hippos. After a relaxing couple of hours or so on the lake and a great pizza in town, we finally made our way towards Awash, arriving in the late afternoon and immediately encountering several oryx and a family of bat-eared foxes. The plan was to spend two nights here and two or three nights camping in the northern hot springs section of the reserve, where we also hoped to see our first hamadryas baboons. The stay went more or less to plan, although the rain had not relented a great deal since our arrival and some of the journeys, particularly within the more rugged northern section, took far longer than anticipated. I spent much of my first morning savouring the splendid views of Awash Falls from various perspectives within the grounds of our rustic lodge, which had just about the best restaurant I found in the entire country, and was fortunate to see a slender mongoose disappear into some vegetation on one of my walks. After Bale, the acacia covered plains were far more familiar to me and resembled many other more traditional safari destinations within East Africa. Apart from the cattle, which were

again sadly very much in evidence, some of the wildlife was similar too and the most common animals in the northern part of the reserve were beisa oryx, which even outnumbered the warthogs and olive baboons. We saw large numbers of these exquisite antelopes on every game drive and it did not take us long to find our two main targets, soemmerring's gazelle and salt's dik-dik. Perhaps surprisingly, the dik-diks were more regularly observed than the gazelle, which were only found in small herds and were clearly uneasy around people. Other sightings included one lone guenther's dik-dik, grivet monkeys, a very brief view of an egyptian mongoose and several unstriped ground squirrels. Our night drives were mixed at best, as we did see black-backed jackal, bat-eared fox, Abyssinian hare and the only common genet of the tour, but not a great deal else and we ultimately decided to leave the park late one afternoon and to drive to a nearby town to look for a clan of spotted hyenas. The excursion involved a fairly long drive and a decent walk, including a number of jumps across several mini canyons, which were not wide, but appeared slightly wider when you peered down at the 30 metre drop to the canyon floor. Despite the obstacles and a fairly long wait for the hyenas to emerge from the



cave system they had made their home, the evening was a good one and I thoroughly enjoyed watching each hyena appear and shamble off into the night. I had spent more time than intended in the southern section of Awash and we were further delayed by the condition of the road to the Filwoha Hot Springs area, which was fine in the stretches under bedded by solid rock, but had been severely compromised elsewhere by the torrential rain. As it was, we ended up with just two nights at Filwoha, a picturesque oasis within a semi-arid environment, despite the unforgiving rain, that would almost certainly have been more productive had we longer to explore. We still encountered defassa waterbuck and both lesser and greater kudu species for the only time on the trip, as well as a great deal of birdlife and a number of large monitor lizards. However, the majority of our time was devoted to hamadryas baboons, not so much in terms of looking for them, as they were easy to find, but more in terms of savouring some epic encounters once we had located them. We had another local guide with us in this section of the park and he immediately took us to the top of some high cliffs, with wonderful views of the plains below and beyond. As we sat quietly enjoying the peace and impressive panorama, shaggy grey shapes began emerging from the long grass, just a few at first and then dozens flowing towards the base of the cliff. The cliff was the baboons home, where they would shelter during the dangerous night time hours and it was incredibly impressive to watch these distinctive creatures stream towards us and begin climbing to the safety of each nook and outcrop. They climbed the steep high walls as if scampering up an easy tree and the next evening we had an even better view, as we positioned ourselves at the base of the cliff and watched mesmerised as maybe 200 of these silver ghosts ran directly past us towards their home. Many continued feeding in the long grass until almost dark, completely unperturbed by our presence, before they too sauntered by and each headed towards their favourite perch, high among the rocks. We saw more of the baboons throughout our short stay, but these two encounters were by far the most memorable and we travelled back towards our first lodge in excellent spirits. Given the distance and road conditions from Filwoha, we had to spend a final night in the southern section of the park before moving on the next morning. I was glad we did, as I went to have one last look at the falls before I departed and saw a large crocodile on the riverbank, the first and only crocodile of the tour. It was a nice way to end a good stay and now we had a few days travelling north towards the Simien Mountains National Park for the last two main target species, walia ibex and gelada baboon. Most of the first



morning back on the road was spent driving towards Addis Ababa, where we had lunch, before moving on to Debre Markos to overnight. On the way we stopped to photograph the imposing Blue Nile Gorge, as well as a troop of vervet monkeys that I spotted along the side of the road. We continued the next morning towards Bahir Dar, again stopping on the way, this time to visit the mighty



Blue Nile Falls. Although a local dam has sadly restricted the flow of water over one of the most impressive waterfalls in Africa, for once the weather was with us, as the torrential rain had swollen every river that had not already burst and the volume of water was as intense as it now ever gets. We spent the night on the shores of Lake Tana and visited two monasteries on islands within the lake



the next morning, before driving to Gondar, the former capital of the Ethiopian Empire. Part of the afternoon was spent exploring the Fasil Ghebbi fortress, a series of commanding strongholds constructed by a succession of emperors from the early 17th century. The various keeps greatly resemble European medieval castles and, as impressive as they undoubtedly are, the entire fortress complex would have looked even more formidable if the British had not bombed it while fighting the occupying Italian army during the Second World War. While in Gondar, I also took time out to visit Fasiladas' Bath, a former royal swimming pool which comes alive once a year for the Timket festival, when local priests and worshippers celebrate the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan. The pool is filled for that one day and hundreds of men jump into the water as soon as the priests have completed their prayers. The celebration usually takes place on the 19th of January, but it felt like it was being held a few months early when I visited, as the rain was so intense, I was soaked through within twenty seconds of leaving the vehicle and the baths were almost half full, purely as a result of the incessant rainfall. From Gondar we moved on to Debark, gateway to the Simien Mountains National Park and our campsite at Chennek. Apart from the slightly rarefied atmosphere, Chennek sits at just over 3600m and some of the immediate viewpoints were considerably higher, which fortunately has never really inconvenienced me greatly, the first thing I noticed was just how cold it was as evening approached and how suddenly the temperature dropped as night fell. I never recorded the actual temperature at night, mainly because I was huddled fully dressed in a highly inadequate sleeping bag attempting to stay warm, but it was certainly freezing and the behaviour of the gelada baboons the next morning quickly began to make sense. I got up very early on that first morning, partly because it was the only way to get warm, and made my way up one of the nearby hills to watch the sun rise over the resplendent valley below. As the first rays of sunshine moved around the cliff face to

my side, I detected movement and trained my binoculars on the areas of cliff that were now illuminated in the weak early morning sun. Sure enough, as the rays hit each crevice and ridge, groups of gelada baboons were stirring and beginning to slowly climb up the

sheer cliff for another busy day of socialising and grazing. I smiled at the fact that, unlike me, they were far too sensible to get up until the sun began to gently warm them, although they were certainly better adapted to the cold harsh nights than I would ever be. After savouring the stupendous views for a few more minutes, during which time literally hundreds of baboons were making their way to the top of the cliff, I went to join them and was able to spend several magical hours watching the baboons interact at extremely close quarters. Often known as the bleeding heart baboon, on account of their magnificent red chest markings, gelada baboons mainly eat grass and grass seeds and I was able to sit quietly as they grazed contentedly within a couple of metres of me. The odd raucous squabble between males over females aside, the baboons were incredibly calm and spent long periods grooming each other and eating side by side. Even the mating was reasonably gentle, certainly in comparison to many other animals, and my main feelings as I savoured a rare opportunity to observe such natural behaviour, were of peace and tranquillity. The Simien Mountains also protect a small population of Ethiopian wolves and whilst they are much harder to spot here than at Bale, and I did not really expect to see one, when I returned to the camp after photographing the baboons, my guide informed me that a lone wolf had strolled straight past our camp at first light, no more than 40 metres from my tent. That



was as close as I was to get to encountering one here, but it was still lovely to know that they were around. Having spent much of the first morning with the baboons, I started what was intended to be a fairly long hike with both my guide and the mandatory local guide, principally to look for walia ibex, hugely impressive animals with the most extraordinary curved horns. We had not been walking long when I spotted two sets of these wonderful horns silhouetted against the skyline and knew that I had found my final target for the trip. Even in the binoculars the ibex looked a long way off and I knew that we would see many more of these regal creatures during the course of my stay, but the temptation was too much to resist and I set off up the steep hill in pursuit. When I reached what I thought was the top, I saw that I actually had another 200 metres or so to climb, but the ibex had not moved and did not appear to have noticed me, so I continued the lung-bursting ascent, although not as rapidly by this stage. In order to be able to approach the ibex without disturbing them, I had to cut round and behind the final peak that they were perched on and attempt to reach them from the



side. While this worked perfectly, I should have taken a few minutes to compose myself and catch my breath, as I was struggling slightly having run much of the distance in the thin air and my hand was shaking as I attempted to stalk the pair with my camera raised. As it was, I was able to take two photographs just as I scaled the final rise, at which point the ibex both looked at me in complete surprise and merrily skipped down the same slope that had half killed me. I lay on my back grinning for several minutes, partly recovering for the descent, but also savouring the fact that I had managed to get within a few metres of these supremely fleet-footed creatures in such a superb natural environment. I must admit that my smile slipped slightly when I returned and found my guide standing right in the middle of a herd of about 40

ibex, spoilt for choice in terms of photographs and cheerily snapping away at anything that moved. My suicidal run aside, this was oft repeated over the next few days, as we encountered large groups of relatively relaxed ibex, as well as several mixed groups of both ibex and gelada baboons, which coexist in complete harmony and were an absolute pleasure to spend long periods with. On a couple of full day hikes to explore other areas, magnificent lammergeyer vultures graced the equally spectacular landscapes and, although they were less evident than at Bale, I did still find at least two different species of rodent. As at Bale, it was with great reluctance that I left the Simien Mountains, but the wildlife section of the tour had come to an end and it was time to make the long drive back to Addis Ababa. We broke the journey at Gondar again and also visited the famous stone churches at Lalibela, which are hewn directly from the volcanic local hills and reminded me much of Petra in Jordan. The Church of Saint George is said to be the best example of the masterful craftsmanship demonstrated by the local artisans in the 12th century, but most of the churches were impressive, particularly when viewed from the base and also when you consider the colossal amount of work that must have been involved in their creation. We flew back to Addis from Lalibela via Gondar, principally to save time, as much of Ethiopia's countryside is ravishingly beautiful and I had enjoyed many of the long road journeys, as well as the opportunity to meet the local people and to explore a



number of pretty rural villages. Some of the larger towns were less impressive, but that is generally the case in most countries and in all I had thoroughly enjoyed my stay. Despite the various problems and last minute changes, the amended trip had been a superb success and whilst there are major conservation issues in the country that urgently need to be addressed, with a little careful planning, it will be possible to organise an incredible mammal tour here, including many of the species that you would expect to see on the more traditional East Africa safari circuit, as well as the numerous rare animals that can only be encountered in Ethiopia. I am planning to return in the near future and will include Gambela, Omo, Mago, Maze, Chebera Churchura and Yangudi Rassa national parks, as well as Bale once again, to spend more time with those beautiful wolves.



No.	Species	Scientific Name	Notes
1	Wild Cat	<i>Felis silvestris</i>	One at night towards Goba, just beyond Bale.
2	Ethiopian Wolf	<i>Canis simensis</i>	27 different wolves encountered at Bale and one seen by my guide in the Simien Mountains.
3	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>	Several at Awash and on the original journey to Mago.
4	Side-striped Jackal	<i>Canis adustus</i>	One at the Senkele Wildlife Sanctuary.
5	Golden Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>	Several within the Dinsho area of Bale.
6	Bat-eared Fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>	Several sightings at Awash National Park.
7	Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	Observed on several drives and at Bale and Awash.
8	Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	Small group running across the road on the original drive to Mago.
9	Egyptian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>	Brief sighting at Awash National Park.
10	White-tailed Mongoose	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>	One individual on the drive back from Mago.
11	Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>	One near the lodge at Awash Falls.
12	Common Genet	<i>Genetta genetta</i>	One at night at Awash National Park.
13	Grant's Gazelle	<i>Gazella granti</i>	Healthy population within Abijatta-Shalla National Park.
14	Soemmerring's Gazelle	<i>Nanger soemmerringii</i>	Small herds and individuals at Awash National Park.
15	Mountain Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus buxtoni</i>	Large numbers at the Dinsho and Gaysay areas of Bale.
16	Defassa Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa ssp</i>	Low numbers in the Filwoha section of Awash.
17	Oribi	<i>Ourebia ourebi</i>	Around ten at Senkele Wildlife Sanctuary.
18	Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	A few individuals in the Dinsho area of Bale.
19	Lesser Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus imberbis</i>	Small numbers in the Filwoha section of Awash.
20	Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	Two in the Filwoha section of Awash.
21	Beisa Oryx	<i>Oryx beisa</i>	Large numbers in the northern section of Awash.

22	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	Pairs and individuals on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale.
23	Bohor Reedbuck	<i>Redunca redunca</i>	Common in the Dinsho and Gaysay areas of Bale.
24	Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>	Well over 100 at Senkele Wildlife Sanctuary.
25	Guenther's Dik-dik	<i>Madoqua guentheri</i>	One solitary animal at Awash National Park.
26	Salt's Dik-dik	<i>Madoqua saltiana</i>	Common at Awash National Park.
27	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	Several within the Dinsho area of Bale.
28	Walia Ibex	<i>Capra walie</i>	Up to 200 in the Simien Mountains.
29	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	Small pod of around ten at Lake Ziway.
30	Hamadryas Baboon	<i>Papio hamadryas</i>	Several hundred in the Filwoha section of Awash.
31	Gelada Baboon	<i>Theropithecus gelada</i>	Hundreds in the Simien Mountains.
32	Olive Baboon	<i>Papio Anubis</i>	Several on car journeys, numerous at Bale and Awash.
33	Guereza Colobus	<i>Colobus guereza</i>	Mainly seen in the forest areas of Bale.
34	Grivet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>	Several on the original drive to Mago and small groups at Bale and Awash.
35	Bale Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus djamdjamensis</i>	Around eight in the bamboo forest at Bale.
36	Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	One small group on the drive to Debre Markos and another overlooking Lake Tana.
37	Northern Lesser Galago	<i>Galago senegalensis</i>	One whilst spotlighting at Bale.
38	Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	Seen at every location excluding the higher elevations of Bale and the Simien Mountains.
39	Bushpig	<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>	Low numbers spotlighting at Bale.
40	Giant Forest Hog	<i>Hylochoerus meinertzhageni</i>	Small group in a clearing at Bale National Park.
41	Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	Low numbers on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale.
42	Yellow-spotted Hyrax	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>	Three in a tree on the edge of Lake Ziway.
43	Abyssinian Hare	<i>Lepus habessinicus</i>	Several around Lake Langano and at Awash.
44	Ethiopian Highland Hare	<i>Lepus starcki</i>	Regularly observed on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale.
45	Gambian Sun Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus gambianus</i>	Several individuals around Lake Langano and Abijatta.
46	Striped Ground Squirrel	<i>Xerus erythropus</i>	One on the initial drive towards Mago National Park.
47	Unstriped Ground Squirrel	<i>Xerus rutilus</i>	A few individuals at Awash National Park.
48	Giant Mole Rat	<i>Tachyoryctes macrocephalus</i>	Abundant on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale.
49	Blick's Grass Rat	<i>Arvicanthis blicki</i>	Numerous on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale.
50	Abyssinian Grass Rat	<i>Arvicanthis abyssinicus</i>	Large numbers in the Simien Mountains.
51	Ethiopian Narrow-headed Rat	<i>Stenocephalemys albocaudata</i>	Several on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale.
52	Black-clawed Brush-furred Rat	<i>Lophuromys melanonyx</i>	Two on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale.
53	Typical Vlei Rat	<i>Otomys typus</i>	A few sightings on the Sanetti Plateau at Bale and in the Simien Mountains.









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