

Contents

About this book	11
The habitats	14
Plains	15
Marsh and water	16
Woodland, scrub & garden	18
Acacia scrub	19
Village	20
Forest	21
Up in the air	22
Nightbirds	23
Map of the Masai Mara	24

BIRDS OF THE PLAINS

Ostrich	26
Secretarybird	28
Grey Crowned Crane	29
Kori Bustard	30
Black-bellied Bustard	31
White-bellied Bustard	31
Temminck's Courser	32
Crowned Plover	33
Black-winged Plover	33
White Stork	34
Abdim's Stork	35
Southern Ground Hornbill	35
Marabou Stork	36
Rüppell's Vulture	37
White-backed Vulture	37
Hooded Vulture	38
White-headed Vulture	38
Lappet-faced Vulture	39
Vultures in flight	40
Martial Eagle	42
Bateleur	43
Black-chested Snake Eagle	43
Black Kite	44
Augur Buzzard	44
Tawny Eagle	45
Flying raptors	46

African Harrier Hawk	48
Montagu's Harrier	49
African Black-shouldered Kite	49
Grey Kestrel	50
Lanner Falcon	50
Common Kestrel	51
Yellow-throated Sandgrouse	52
Lilac-breasted Roller	53
Eurasian Roller	53
Red-billed Oxpecker	54
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	54
Wattled Starling	55
Rufous-naped Lark	56
Pectoral-patch Cisticola	56
Red-capped Lark	56
Buffy Pipit	58
Rosy-breasted Longclaw	58
Yellow-throated Longclaw	59
Capped Wheatear	60
Northern Anteater Chat	60
Sooty Chat	61
Yellow Bishop	62
Jackson's Widowbird	62
Yellow-mantled Widowbird	63

BIRDS OF MARSH AND WATER

African Open-billed Stork	64
Woolly-necked Stork	64
Yellow-billed Stork	65
Saddle-billed Stork	66
Sacred Ibis	67
Hadada Ibis	67
Squacco Heron	68
Striated Heron	68
Rufous-bellied Heron	69
Great White Egret	70
Cattle Egret	71
Little Egret	71
Grey Heron	72
Goliath Heron	72
Black-headed Heron	73
Grey Heron	73
African Fish Eagle	74
Hamerkop	76

Water Thick-knee	77
Spur-winged Goose	78
Egyptian Goose	78
White-faced Whistling Duck	79
African Jacana	80
Black-winged Stilt	80
Black Crake	81
Long-toed Plover	82
Spur-winged Plover	82
Blacksmith Plover	83
Three-banded Plover	84
Common Greenshank	85
African Wattled Plover	85
Green Sandpiper	87
Wood Sandpiper	87
Common Sandpiper	87
Giant Kingfisher	88
Malachite Kingfisher	89
Pied Kingfisher	89
African Pied Wagtail	90
Moustached Grass Warbler	90
Common Waxbill	91

BIRDS OF WOODLAND, SCRUB & GARDEN

Long-crested Eagle	92
Brown Snake Eagle	92
African Hawk Eagle	93
Scaly Francolin	94
Red-necked Spurfowl	94
Hildebrandt's Francolin	95
Coqui Francolin	96
Helmeted Guineafowl	96
Crested Francolin	97
Laughing Dove	98
Red-eyed Dove	98
Ring-necked Dove	99
Speckled Pigeon	100
African Green Pigeon	101
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	101
Speckled Mousebird	102
African Grey Hornbill	102
Meyer's Parrot	103
White-browed Coucal	104

Bare-faced Go-away-bird	104
Red-chested Cuckoo	105
Diederik Cuckoo	107
Klaas's Cuckoo	107
Little Bee-eater	107
Striped Kingfisher	108
Woodland Kingfisher	108
Grey-headed Kingfisher	109
Common Scimitarbill	110
Green Wood-hoopoe	111
Hoopoe	111
Greater Honeyguide	112
D'Arnaud's Barbet	113
Lesser Honeyguide	113
Nubian Woodpecker	114
Cardinal Woodpecker	114
Green-backed Woodpecker	115
Black-headed Oriole	116
Tropical Boubou	116
Grey-headed Bushshrike	117
Brown-throated Wattle-eye	118
Chin-spot Batis	118
Black-backed Puffback	119
Grey-backed Fiscal	120
Northern White-crowned Shrike	121
Common Fiscal	121
Common Drongo	122
Northern Black Flycatcher	123
Slate-coloured Boubou	123
Common Bulbul	124
Arrow-marked Babbler	125
Brown-crowned Tchagra	125
African Paradise Flycatcher	126
White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher	127
African Blue Flycatcher	127
Rattling Cisticola	128
Red-faced Crombec	129
Tawny-flanked Prinia	129
Grey-capped Warbler	130
Grey-backed Camaroptera	131
Yellow-breasted Apalis	131
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	132

Collared Sunbird	133
Variable Sunbird	133
White-browed Robin Chat	134
Rüppell's Starling	134
Greater Blue-eared Starling	135
Hildebrandt's Starling	136
Violet-backed Starling	137
Superb Starling	137
Baglafaecht Weaver	138
Village Weaver	138
Spectacled Weaver	138
Purple Grenadier	140
Bronze Mannikin	141
Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu	141
Golden-breasted Bunting	142
Yellow-fronted Canary	142
Pin-tailed Whydah	143

BIRDS OF ACACIA SCRUB

Blue-naped Mousebird	144
Abyssinian Scimitarbill	144
Von der Decken's Hornbill	145
African Grey Flycatcher	146
Silverbird	147
White-bellied Canary	147
Grey-capped Social Weaver	148
Speckle-fronted Weaver	148
Vitelline Masked Weaver	149

VILLAGE BIRDS

Grey-headed Sparrow	150
Kenya Rufous Sparrow	150
House Sparrow	151
Red-billed Firefinch	152
Village Indigobird	152
Pied Crow	153

FOREST BIRDS

Schalow's Turaco	154
Narina Trogon	155
Ross's Turaco	155
Grey-throated Barbet	156
Double-toothed Barbet	156
Black-and-white Casqued Hornbill	157

BIRDS OF THE AIR

White-headed Saw-wing	158
Black Saw-wing	158
Eurasian Bee-eater	159
Barn Swallow	160
Wire-tailed Swallow	160
Plain Martin	161
Lesser Striped Swallow	161
Little Swift	162
White-rumped Swift	162
Nyanza Swift	163
Common Swift	163
African Palm Swift	163

NIGHT BIRDS

Pearl-spotted Owlet	164
Slender-tailed Nightjar	164
Verreaux's Eagle Owl	165

References and useful resources	166
Acknowledgements and photographic credits	167
List of scientific names	168
Index	171
Short Index	inside back cover

The mighty Mara River,
with the Mara Triangle
and the Oloololo
Escarpment beyond.

