Introduction
This report is based on a 1 month trip to Senegal and Gambia on which I was joined by my friend Andreas Schoch in Senegal. Sites visited were Niokolo Koba, Wassadou and Djoudj in Senegal and Tendaba Camp, Sita Joyeh, Marakissa, Tanji, Tujering and Abuko in Gambia.

Climate
When visiting the country the weather was generally fine, hot and sunny during the day with temperatures up to 40 degrees in northern Senegal. It only rained once for a couple of hours (in Richard Toll). In many places I found it difficult to sleep without AC or fan.

Visa
For German citizens it was not necessary to obtain a visa for both countries. A stay for up to 90 days was granted without visa and entering both countries was extremely easy and without any problems. But better check with the embassies in your country.

How to get there
We flew with Brussels Airlines from Frankfurt via Brussels to Dakar. On my way back I flew from Banjul via Dakar and Brussels to Frankfurt.

Getting around
After our arrival at the new Blaise Diagne Airport in Dakar we got our prebooked rental car from Eurocars, where Andreas gave it back 16 days later. We paid 800 Euro for a Peugeot 301 plus, an additional 100 for expanding the mile limit. This Peugeot was OK for the good roads along the coast, from Podor to St. Louis and for driving around Djoudj. But especially the road from Tambacounda to Kidira and then onwards to Bakel and Podor was not really suitable for such a car. Those roads consisted mainly of huge potholes and as roadworks were going on we had to follow diversions for hundreds of kilometers. But we made it, it is possible (and it was fun!) with such a small saloon car, but we often did an average of 35 km/hour only.
In Gambia I used public transport and taxis, which was very easy!

Money
In Senegal 1 Euro was worth about 665 CFA (West African CFA Franc). In Gambia the local currency was called Dalasi. The exchange rate was 58 Dalasi for 1 Euro. In all cities it was possible to withdraw cash from ATM’s. In Gambia the only accepted credit cards were Visa and Mastercard.

Safety
We always felt totally safe in both countries.

People
We found the people to be friendly, helpful, relaxed and honest throughout and never had any problems with anybody.

Food
In both countries meals usually consisted of variations of either fish, chicken or beef with rice. Couscous is also a widespread dish. In Senegal try Yassa or Thieboudienne, in Gambia Belachin or Domoda (with ground peanut sauce). If you like fish, you will not be disappointed. Butterfish was my favorite, but Ladyfish, Barracuda, Red Snapper, Captain or Thiob were also tasty.

For breakfast we sometimes went to street stalls, where they served fresh and delicious sandwiches filled with beef and onions or with beans.

Beer is usually available. Good local juices were Wonjo, Baobab and Ginger.

**Accommodation**

In both countries we/I stayed in small hotels, wildlife camps or at beach hotels. We paid between 30 and 75 Euro in Senegal and between 12 and 25 Euro (65 at the beach) in Gambia. Sometimes this price included breakfast and/or aircon.

**Books/Reports**

As a Field Guide I had Birds of Senegal and Gambia (Helm – Nik Borrow and Ron Demey) with me. Reports I used were from Hendriks (Northern Senegal 2016), Moning (Gambia and Senegal 2014) and Sjöstedt/Jansson (Gambia 2015). For both Senegal and Gambia I bought a Bradt Travel Guide.

**Our Guides, Bookings**

From home we only booked our car and the first night at Somone. In Gambia I or Solomon sometimes called a day in advance to check availability.

Guides we had were:

**Wassadou:** Issa: He is working for the Campement and is a very nice and good bird guide. He tried very hard to find the birds I wanted to see.

**Niokolo Koba:** Isa: Not a true bird guide. But Issa arranged that he would accompany us inside the NP, as a guide is compulsory at Niokolo Koba. The daily rate for a guide at Niokolo Koba is 10.000 CFA

**Djoudj:** Idrissa: he is working for the Nature Reserve and is a very knowledgeable guide and a nice person. He knew where to find target species. Paid him 30.000 CFA for 2 days. Phone. +221 774054033. mail: idrissawestafricaspoonbills@yahoo.fr

**Tendaba Camp:** Omar: phone +220 3866952/7169606. very nice chap and good birder. Birded by boat, on motorbike and on foot.

**Baobab Island, Farasuto, Pirang Forest:** Solomon Jallow: phone +220 7958514. mail: habitatatafrica@hotmail.com. Maybe the best birder in Gambia. He has trained lots of young birdwatchers. He showed me around for free; in some places young guides like Kessuo accompanied us.

**Tujering/Abuko:** Went for a day to Tujering, Kotu Creek and Abuko with Abdullah. He charged me 75 Euro including transport with his car.

**Itinerary**
09/11/2018  Flight with Brussels Airlines from Frankfurt to Dakar (750 Euro). Night in Somone at good and friendly Hotel African Queen right on the beach (75 Euro).

10/11/2018  Lazy day.

11/11/2018  Drive via Kaolack to Campement de Wassadou (Hut 2 pax 40.000 CFA incl. breakfast and dinner). Wonderful setting at the River Gambia.

12/11/2018  2 boat excursions (morning and evening) on River Gambia with good guide Issa. Excellent birding with Finfoot and Egyptian Plover. Looking for nightjars with Issa`s motorbike and short visit of his village after dinner. Drumming and dancing at the Camp.

13/11/2018  Drive together with guide Isa to Niokolo Koba NP at Dar Salaam entrance (entrance fee 5.000 CFA p.p. /day plus 10.000 CFA for our car plus 10.000 CFA per day for necessary guide). 30 km drive through nice forest and savanna to rundown Hotel Simenti (29.000 CFA for 2 pax with breakfast) with birding stops. Game drive to Camp du Lion.

14/11/2018  At 8:00 am we drive back. We drop Isa in Badi and continue to Kidira via Tambacounda. Terrible road. We reach simple but friendly Hotel Boundou (15.000 CFA p.p./room) at 8 pm.

15/11/2018  Scenic 67 km drive to Bakel. Nice campement La Tour on a hill overlooking town and river Senegal (15.000 CFA 2 pax). Visit of small market and the riverside. Dinner at nice foodstall.

16/11/2018  Long drive to Podor on bad roads. At Ngioum we reach a brand new tarmac road. Check in after dark at historical and stylish Hotel Auberge du Tekrour (30.000 CFA p.p./room). Dinner at hotel.

17/11/2018  Stroll through the city. Wonderful and very interesting market and guided tour at the old Fort. Very nice city, friendly, people with colorful traditional dresses, peaceful atmosphere. At noon we continue to Richard Toll. Good Hotel Le Gite D`Etape (42.000 CFA 2 pax). We have to buy a new battery for our car. Birding 6 km east of the city. Few birds.

18/11/2018  Morning birding west of R. Toll. Disappointing! Drive to Djoudi NP via Ross Bethio. Nice Hotel du Djoudj with simple room (25.000 CFA for 2 pax. incl. breakfast). Bird watching in the NP with sympathetic and knowledgeable guide Idrissa (30.000 CFA for 2 days). Boat trip to the impressive Pelican Colony. Tasty fish in the hotel at night.

19/11/2018  All day birdwatching in the NP with Idrissa. Arabian Bustard, Painted Snipe, Long-tailed Nightjar and River Prinia. We meet birdwatcher Solomon Jallow from Gambia by chance at the hotel.

20/11/2018  Back to the N2 on another road via Diama. Short visit to the Trois Marigot Lakes without success. To St. Louis – Hydrobase, Hotel Marmoz (42.000 CFA 2 pax). Beach covered with plastics! Stroll through historical St. Louis. Not too much to see.
21/11/2018  St. Louis colonial center. Some nice cafes and restaurants, food stalls. Dinner at nice Restaurant Saigon.


23/11/2018  For one night to Dakar. Hotel Faidherbe (45.000 CFA 2 pax. incl. breakfast) right in the historical center. Walk through the city, sightseeing and dinner at the excellent Lebanese restaurant Farid.

24/11/2018  Farewell. Andreas gives back the car and flies back home and I take a taxi (3.500 CFA) to the gare routiere and then a 7 seat vehicle to Farafenni in Gambia (6.000 CFA ?, 8 hours incl. 2 hours waiting for the car to be full – easy and quick border crossing!) via Kaolack. Simple Hotel Eddy’s (800 D).

25/11/2018  Public transport to the ferry, then on to Soma and another car to Kvitalle where bird guide Omar already awaits me with his motorbike. Drive to Tendaba camp. Nights in simple bungalow (750 D incl. breakfast). First birding nearby. Nice buffet with fish for dinner in the camp.

26/11/2018  Frustrating 4 hours long boat trip on River Gambia with noisy and talkative photographers and bird guides. Afternoon birding Batiling Road with Omar until dark.

27/11/2018  After breakfast lift from 2 Belgian tourists to Mandinaba, where Solomon is already waiting for me. Short drive to Sita Joyeh (Baobab Island), a wonderful place to stay. Bungalow for 1.500 D incl. breakfast. Excellent restaurant serves fish or chicken. Afternoon birding with Solomon and a local guide nearby – at Farasuto. White-backed Night-Heron, Greyish Eagle Owl and Spotted Honeyguide.


29/11/2018  Solomon is leaving. Lazy day on the Island.

30/11/2018  Taxi (350 D) to Marakissa River Camp (800 D). Birding nearby.

01/12/2018  After bird watching and breakfast taxi (700 D) to lovely and friendly Tanji Eco Lodge. Nice and quiet bungalow (1.500 D). Western Bluebill.

02/12/2018  Very good birding in the morning. Solomon picks me up and drives me to the nice and comfortable Lemon Creek Resort, built in Spanish colonial style (65 Euro incl. breakfast) at Bijilo Beach.

03/12/2018  Lazy day at the beach

04/12/2018  Lazy day at the beach. Kololi Craft Market for gifts. Dinner at a restaurant at Senegambia/Seaview Boulevard.

05/12/2018  Lazy day at the beach.

06/12/2018  All day bird watching with guide Abdullah (75 Euro incl. car). In the morning at Tujering, in the afternoon/evening at Kotu Creek (for 20 minutes) and at Abuko NP.
07/12/2018  Lazy day at the beach.
08/12/2018  5pm taxi to the airport. 8:30 flight to Frankfurt via Brussels.
09/12/2018  8:30am arrival at Frankfurt. Train home.

Sites

Campement de Wassadou

Accessable by a good road via Kaolack, Campement du Wassadou; it is a pleasant place to stay.

Simple bungalows in a garden setting right at the River Gambia.

(Hut for 2 pax 40.000 CFA incl. breakfast and tasty dinner). Most birding is done on the river.

We did two boat trips, walked around the camp and drove around with a motorbike at night in search of nightjars. Our guide Issa was a nice and knowledgeable guy.

Interesting birds we discovered were:

1  African Finfoot
1  African Hawk Eagle
5  Egyptian Plover
6  White-headed Lapwing
2  Adamawa Turtle Dove
1  Levaillant`s Cuckoo
1  Standard-winged Nightjar
1  Shining-blue Kingfisher
f  Grey-headed Kingfisher
Parc National Niokolo Koba
From Wassadou we drove to Dar-Salaam, the entrance to Niokolo Koba NP. On the way we picked up our guide Isa. You need to hire a guide to enter the National Park. We birded mainly on the way to Simenti Lodge which is about 30km from the entrance. We did a game drive to Camp du Lion and birded again on our way out. Niokolo Koba is home for a good selection of interesting species of which we only managed to see some - due to limited time. But I was pleased with what we saw in such a short period. We also observed some mammals. Simenti Lodge is very run down but still a good spot to stay. The restaurant serves meals on request. A simple bungalow at Simenti was 29.000 CFA incl. breakfast.

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<tr>
<td>Little Weaver</td>
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**driving through Niokolo Koba**
some birds:

2  Yellow-throated Francolin
fc Stone Partridge
f Spur-winged Goose
f African Fish Eagle
1  Bataleur
2  African Harrier Hawk
1  Dark Chanting Goshawk
1  Egyptian Plover
2  White-headed Lapwing
4  Four-banded Sandgrouse
f African Green Pigeon
2  Violet Turaco
5  Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill
1  Red-shouldered Cuckoo-shrike
fc Blackcap Babbler
1  Yellow Penduline-Tit
fc Black-headed Weaver
Richard Toll

As we had problems with our rented car (did not start several times; had to find a new battery, which turned out to be not that easy) we did not have much time to go birding around Richard Toll. I birded one afternoon at acacia forest and scrub about 6km east of the town. I tried some tracks on the left coming from R. Toll. Next morning I did a quick birding
some km west of the town. Unfortunately I did not have enough time to really search for the birds I wanted to see and missed most key species.

In Richard Toll we stayed at the pleasant Hotel Le Gite D’Etape (42.000 CFA 2 pax). They kindly helped us find a new battery.

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<td>Brown-rumped Bunting</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Gosling’s Bunting</td>
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wetland, Pelican colony and semi-desert at Djoudj

**Parc National des Oiseaux du Djoudj**

Coming from Richard Toll we turned west at Ross-Bethio and drove 18km on a good gravel road until PN Djoudj and checked in at Hotel Djoudj (25.000, simple room but nice setting,
pool and good restaurant). Afternoon birding with our guide Idrissa. Boat trip to the impressive Pelican colony with about 1000 breeding pairs. The following day we spent looking for birds by car. Idrissa showed us some Long-tailed Nightjars, Arabian Bustard, Black Crowned Cranes, Greater Painted Snipe and River Prinia etc. A truly beautiful wetland, situated in semi desert, with lots of special birds and thousands of Waders and Herons. After dinner we met Gambian bird guide Solomon Jallow, who invited me to bird with him in Gambia. He gave me advice where to go and later organized some places to stay for me in his country.

2000

Great White Pelican
2 Purple Swamphen
1 Allen’s Gallinule
1 Black Heron
f Black-crowned Night Heron
1 White Stork
f Glossy Ibis
f Sacred Ibis
f Eurasian Spoonbill
f Greater Flamingo
f Lesser Flamingo
1 Short-toed Eagle
f White-faced Whistling Duck
2 Spur-winged Goose
1 Greater Painted Snipe

Black Crowned Crane
1 Arabian Bustard
5 Long-tailed Nightjar
1 Grey-headed Kingfisher
fc Blue-cheeked Bee-eater
f Chestnut-backed Sparrow Lark
f Black-crowned Sparrow Lark

River Prinia
1 Southern Grey Shrike
2 Woodchat Shrike
f Brubru

**Tendaba Camp**

After an easy border crossing and a night in Farafenni I traveled by public transport to Kvitalle, where bird guide Omar was already waiting for me (organized by Solomon). From Kvitalle it was only a short drive with his motorbike to Tendaba Camp. Stayed in a simple bungalow (R750 D incl. breakfast) and enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and the tasty food at the Camp’s restaurant (buffet at night). Did a 4 hour boat trip, mainly in search for White-backed Night Heron. Was very
disappointing because we did not see many interesting species and because 2 other tourists and several guides who joined me on this excursion were extremely talkative! Birded around the Camp and at Batiling Road with Omar, but did not find my target species. White-rumped Seedeater and good looks at a Standard-winged Nightjar were probably the best birds.

- Great White Pelican
- Pink-backed Pelican
- Black-crowned Night Heron
- Hadada Ibis
- Sacred Ibis
- African Spoonbill
- Spur-winged Goose
- Montague’s Harrier
- Grasshopper Buzzard
- Dark-chanting Goshawk
- Peregrine Falcon
- Lanner Falcon
- Senegal Parrot
- Standard-winged Nightjar
- Temminck’s Courser
- Blue-breasted Kingfisher
- Grey-headed Kingfisher
- Swallow-tailed Bee-eater
- White-throated Bee-eater
- Eurasian Bee-eater
- Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird
- Bearded Barbet
- Fine-spotted Woodpecker
- African Reed Warbler
- **Senegal Eremomela**
- Yellow White-eye
- **Brown Sunbird**
- Pygmy Sunbird
- Scarlet-chested Sunbird
- Brown Babbler
- African Oriole
- **Bronze-tailed Starling**
- Yellow-fronted Canary
- **White-rumped Seedeater**
- Brown-rumped Bunting

**Sita Joyeh (Baobab Island) incl. Farasuto and Pirang Forest Park**

1: Farasuto  
2: Pirang Forest  
3: Boat trip Mangroves  
4: Baobab Island
My favorite place in Gambia! Bungalow (1500 D incl. breakfast) on a small peaceful island, covered with huge Baobab trees, good food and very friendly staff, combined with excellent birding opportunities! Together with Solomon and local guides I birded Farasuto (White-backed Night Heron, Greyish Eagle Owl, African Wood Owl, Spotted Honeyguide), Pirang Forest (White-spotted Flufftail, Brown-necked Parrot, Verreaux’s Eagle Owl, Northern White-faced Owl, Green Turaco, African Pied Hornbill, Buff-spotted Woodpecker, Leaflove, Green Hylia) and did a boat excursion through the mangroves starting from Sita Joyeh (Goliath Heron).

For bookings at Sita Joyeh/Baobab Island: phone +220 3323579 or mail: sitajoyeh1@gmail.com homepage: www.sitajoyeh.com
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Marakissa
From Sita Joyeh I took a taxi (350 D) to Marakissa River Camp (800 D, OK, good food). Birded one afternoon and one morning near the accommodation. Only few interesting birds, so I decided to stay just one night. Nice observation of a group of Yellow-throated Leaflove. Also Giant Kingfisher and some water birds. For bookings you can call Adama +220 9905852

| 1  | African Green Pigeon |
|    | Senegal Parrot       |
|    | Violet Turaco        |
| 1  | Giant Kingfisher     |
|    | Bearded Barbet       |
| 2  | African Pied Hornbill|
| f  | Yellow-throated Leaflove |
| f  | Brown Babbler        |
| f  | Blackcap Babbler     |

**Tanji Bird Reserve**

Taxi (700 D) to Tanji Eco Lodge (Nice and quiet bungalow for 1.500 D). Pleasant place to stay. Excellent fish is served at the Lodge’s restaurant. I birded on foot around the lodge, mainly in front of the lodge towards the ocean which was quite successful. Saw African Hobby, Vieillot’s Barbet, Senegal Batis and Grey-headed Bristlebill there. At a small waterhole it is possible to observe Western Bluebill. Bookings can be made by +220 9924160

| 1  | African Spoonbill   |
| f  | African Hobby       |
| f  | Violet Turaco       |
| 1  | Bearded Barbet      |
| 1  | Vieillot’s Barbet   |
| 1  | Yellow-throated Tinkerbird |
|    | Blackcap Babbler    |
|    | Brown Babbler       |
| 1  | Grey-headed Bristlebill |
| 1  | Northern Crombec    |
| 1  | White-crowned Robin Chat |
| f  | Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher |
| 1  | Senegal Batis       |
| 1  | Western Bluebill    |

**Tujering**

When I was staying at Lemon Creek Hotel I did a half day birdwatching trip to Tujering and an afternoon visit to Abuko Forest with guide Abdullah. I paid him 75 Euro which included transport with his car. At Tujering we easily encountered several Red-winged Warblers and some Whistling Cisticolas.
Kotu Creek
On our way to Abuko we made a short stopover at Koto Creek where we spotted our first Oriole Warbler.

2 **Oriole Warbler**
   Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher

Abuko Nature Reserve
In the afternoon we drove to Abuko Forest where we had excellent observations of Oriole Warbler and Grey-headed Bristlebill. We also glimpsed a Western Bluebill. Unfortunately we did not find Ahanta Francolin.

1 **Lesser Honeyguide**
1 **Little Greenbul**
4 **Grey-headed Bristlebill**
f **Snowy-crowned Robin Chat**
3 **Oriole Warbler**
   Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher
f **Collared Sunbird**
1 **Western Bluebill**
2 **Orange-cheeked Waxbill**

Birdlist
Great White Pelican
   a huge breeding colony (1000 pairs) seen at Djoudj; also found at Tendaba Camp
Pink-backed Pelican
   few were seen at Tendaba Camp during a boat trip
Long-tailed Cormorant
small numbers at Djoudj, Tendaba Camp

**Great Cormorant**
common

**African Darter**
fairly common; seen at Wassadou, Djoudj, Tendaba Camp and Sita Joyeh

**African Finfoot**

wonderful observation of a Finfoot walking on a sandy river island during a boat trip at Wassadou

**Black-crowned Night Heron**
found at Wassadou, Djoudj, Tendaba Camp

**White-backed Night Heron**
a single bird was finally found at Farasuto, after I missed seeing it on a boat trip at Tendaba Camp

**Green-backed (Striated) Heron**
seen at Wassadou, Tendaba Camp

**Squacco Heron**
seen at Wassadou, Djoudj, Tendaba Camp

**Cattle Egret**

**Black Heron**
1 seen at Djoudj

**Western Reef Egret**
fairly common at Tendaba Camp and near Sita Joyeh (Boat trip)

**Little Egret**

**Intermediate Egret**

**Great Egret**

**Grey Heron**

**Black-headed Heron**
seen during a boat trip at Wassadou and at Tujering

**Purple Heron**
several found during boat trip from Sita Joyeh

**Goliath Heron**
one sighting in the mangroves near Sita Joyeh

**Hamerkop**
found at Wassadou, Tendaba Camp, Marakissa

**White Stork**
1 individual at Djoudj NP

**Woolly-necked Stork**
2 seen flying at Wassadou during a boat trip

**Yellow-billed Stork**
few spotted at Djoudj
Glossy Ibis
  found at Djoudj
Hadada Ibis
  few seen at Wassadou, at Tendaba Camp
Sacred Ibis
  seen at Djoudj, Tendaba Camp
African Spoonbill
  few specimen seen during a boat trip on river Gambia at Tendaba Camp and at Tanji
Eurasian Spoonbill at Djoudj
  few seen
Greater Flamingo
  found at Djoudj
Lesser Flamingo
  few seen at Djoudj
Egyptian Goose
  4 seen at Djoudj NP
Spur-winged Goose
  3 were found at Niokolo Koba NP, 2 at Djoudj, few at Tendaba Camp
Fulvous Whistling Duck
  a flock was seen flying over at Marakissa
White-faced Whistling Duck
  seen at Djoudj NP and at Marakissa.
Northern Shoveller
  common at Djoudj
Garganey
  common at Djoudj
Osprey
  1 seen at Wassadou, 1 at Djoudj, 1 at Tujering
African Fish Eagle
  one at Wassadou, few at Niokolo Koba NP,
Palm-nut Vulture
  small numbers at Wassadou, Farasuto
Hooded Vulture
  frequently seen at different sites
Black-shouldered Kite
  1 bird was seen near Richard Toll
Black Kite
  common
Yellow-billed Kite
  common

Montagu`s Harrier
  1 sighting at Tendaba Camp

Western Marsh Harrier
  few were spotted at Djoudj

Short-toed Eagle
  one sighting at Djoudj NP

Bataleur
  1 was discovered at Niokolo Koba NP

African Harrier Hawk
  1 at Wassadou, 2 at Niokolo Koba NP

Grasshopper Buzzard
  2 spotted at Tendaba Camp

Lizard Buzzard
  1 found at Tujering

Dark Chanting Goshawk
  1 was seen at Niokolo Koba NP, few at Tendaba

Ovambo Sparrowhawk
  one observation at Farasuto

Shikra
  a fairly common appearance throughout, especially frequent at Niokola Koba NP.

African Goshawk
  1 sighting

African Hawk Eagle
  1 sighting at Wassadou

Tawny Eagle
  1 sighting at Tujering

Common Kestrel
  few were seen around Richard Toll, at Djoudj

Grey Kestrel
  one Falcon briefly seen at Niokolo Koba NP was probably this species. 2 observed around our Hotel in Bakel.

African Hobby
  seen flying over at Tanji

Peregrine Falcon
  1 seen at Tendaba Camp

Lanner Falcon
  1 was seen flying during a boat trip at Tendaba Camp, 1 around Sita Joyeh.
**White-throated Francolin**
2 birds were seen on the track when we drove back from Hotel Simenti at Niokolo Koba NP

Ahanta Francolin
heard at Pirang Forest

**Double-spurred Francolin**
fairly common at Niokolo Koba NP, Tendaba Camp, Marakissa and Tujering

**Helmeted Guineafowl**
found at Wassadou, Niokolo Koba NP, Tendaba Camp

**Stone Partridge**
fairly common at Niokolo Koba NP, heard at Tujering

**White-spotted Flufftail**
outstanding observation at Pirang Forest!!

**Black Crake**
a single Black Crake was spotted near Richard Toll

**Common Moorhen**
found at Djoudj

**Allen’s Gallinule**
1 spotted at Djoudj

**Purple Swamphen**
2 at Djoudj NP

**Black-crowned Crane**
7 were observed from a distance at Djoudj NP

**African Jacana**
seen at Niokolo Koba NP, at Djoudj NP, at Marakissa

**Arabian Bustard**
one of those impressive Bustards was found at Djoudj NP

**Black-winged Stilt**
several spotted at Djoudj

**Pied Avocet**
some were found at Djoudj

**Senegal Thick-knee**
a common bird at various sites, especially at Sita Joyeh.

**Spotted Thick-knee**
1 individual seen near Richard Toll

**Egyptian Plover**
5 birds observed during two excursions by boat at Wassadou, 1 seen at Niokolo Koba

**Temminck’s Courser**
1 sighting on a harvested groundnut field near Batiling Trek at Tendaba Camp
Collared Pratincole
   2 individuals were seen on the way to Kidira

Common Ringed Plover
   few seen at Djoudj

Kittlitz’s Plover
   few seen at Djoudj NP

African Wattled Lapwing
   few at Farasutung, 2 at Tujering

White-headed Lapwing
   6 individuals found at the river bank at Wassadou, 2 at Niokolo Koba NP

Black-headed Lapwing
   singles seen at Wassadou and at Niokolo Koba NP

Spur-winged Lapwing
   a fairly common bird; seen at Wassadou, Djoudj, Tendaba Camp and several times along roadside

Black-tailed Godwit
   several seen at Djoudj

Whimbrel
   some during a boat trip at Tendaba Camp, 1 at Kotu Creek

Ruff
   several spotted at Djoudj NP

Common Greenshank
   1 was seen at Tendaba Camp

Green Sandpiper
   seen at Djoudj

Wood Sandpiper
   several seen at Djoudj

Common Sandpiper
   small numbers seen at different sites

Curlew Sandpiper
   found at Djoudj NP

Little Stint
   seen at Djoudj

Greater Painted Snipe
   good looks at one male at Djoudj NP

Kelp Gull
   seen at Tanji

Caspian Tern
   found at Djoudj and on the river Gambia (boat trip from Sita Joyeh).
Gull-billed Tern
  some were found at Tendaba Camp

Whiskered Tern
  seen at Djoudj NP

White-winged Tern
  few at Djoudj

**Four-banded Sandgrouse**
  4 birds seen on the road to Simenti Hotel at Niokolo Koba NP, 1 at Tujering

Blue-spotted Wood Dove

Black-billed Wood Dove

Namaqua Dove
  seen at various sites like at Tendaba Camp

Laughing Dove
  seen at Niokola Koba NP, Tendaba Camp

African Green Pigeon
  few seen at Niokolo Koba NP, 1 at Marakissa, 2 at Tujering

Bruce`s Green Pigeon
  1 sighting at Wassadou, several at Pirang Forest

Speckled Pigeon
  a rather common bird. Seen at Wassadou

Red-eyed Dove
  seen at Niokolo Koba NP

African Mourning Dove
  Tujering

Vinaceous Dove
  seen at Niokolo Koba NP

European Turtle Dove

**Adamawa Turtle Dove**
  2 individuals seen in flight during a boat trip at Wassadou

Rose-ringed Parakeet
  seen at Niokolo Koba NP, Tendaba, Farasuto, Marakissa

Senegal Parrot
  2 seen at Wassadou, fairly common at Tendaba Camp, several at Marakissa

**Brown-necked Parrot**
  first seen flying, then 2 individuals were sitting up in a tree at Pirang Forest

**Green Turaco**
  several of those beautiful Turacos were spotted at Pirang Forest

**Violet Turaco**
first seen at Niokolo Koba NP. Wonderful observations at Farasuto and Pirang Forest. Also found at Marakissa and at Tanji.

Western Grey Plantain-eater
a fairly common and widespread Turaco, seen at Wassadou, Tendaba, Farasuto, Marakissa and Tujering.

Levaillant’s Cuckoo
1 seen at Wassadou, 2 near Richard Toll

Klaas’s Cuckoo
1 observed on Baobab Island.

Didric Cuckoo
1 found near Richard Toll, 1 on Sita Joyeh (Baobab Island)

Senegal Coucal
3 spotted near Richard Toll, few at Tendaba, 2 at Pirang Forest, 2 at Marakissa, 2 at Tujering

African Wood Owl
one was found during the day at Farasuto

Greyish Eagle Owl
2 roosting birds were spotted at Farasuto

Verreaux’s Eagle Owl
1 found during the day at Pirang Forest

Northern White-faced Owl
2 individuals were roosting at Pirang Forest

Long-tailed Nightjar
5 individuals were observed at their day time roost at Djoudj NP

Standard-winged Nightjar
first one seen swiftly at Wassadou during a night drive with a motorbike. Then excellent looks on Batiling Trek near Tendaba Camp

Mottled Spinetail
2 seen at Tujering

Little Swift

African Palm Swift

African Pygmy Kingfisher
1 at Farasuto

Malachite Kingfisher
3 of these beautiful Kingfishers were observed at Wassadou, 2 at Djoudj, 2 at Tendaba, 1 at Marakissa

Shining-blue Kingfisher
one observation of this rather shy Kingfisher during a boat trip at Wassadou

Grey-headed Kingfisher
few at Wassadou, 1 at Djoudj, 1 at Tendaba Camp

Blue-breasted Kingfisher
  2 found at Wassadou, several at Tendaba Camp

Pied Kingfisher
  a rather common appearance throughout

Giant Kingfisher
  2 individuals seen at Wassadou, 1 at Marakissa

Little Bee-eater
  seen at Djoudj, Wassadou, Tanji, Tujering

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater
  only one sighting at Tendaba Camp

Red-throated Bee-eater
  this lovely bird was common at Wassadou. Few were also found at Niokolo Koba

White-throated Bee-eater
  few found at Tendaba Camp, 1 at Farasuto.

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater
  fairly common at Djoudj

European Bee-eater
  some seen at Tendaba Camp

Blue-naped Mousebird
  few Niokolo Koba NP

Abyssinian Roller
  a fairly common appearance in Senegal and Gambia. Seen for example at Niokolo Koba NP, Tendaba Camp,

Broad-billed Roller
  common at Wassadou, few at Tendaba Camp and at Tujering

Green Wood-hoopoe
  seen at Niokolo Koba NP, near Richard Toll, at Tendaba Camp, at Pirang Forest, at Marakissa

African Hoopoe
  1 seen near Richard Toll

Western Red-billed Hornbill
  fairly common at Wassadou, at Niokolo Koba NP, on the road from Tamba to Podor, near Richard Toll, at Tendaba Camp, at Marakissa, at Tanji and at Abuko

African Grey Hornbill
  rather common at Wassadou, at Niokolo Koba NP, Tendaba, Farasuto

African Pied Hornbill
  3 were spotted at Pirang Forest together with some Violet and Green Turacos!
  Another 2 were found at Marakissa.
Abyssinian Ground Hornbill
5 individuals observed at Niokolo Koba NP

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird
1 at Tendaba Camp, some at Marakissa, 1 at Tanji

**Vieillot’s Barbet**
excellent looks at an individual at Tanji

Bearded Barbet
rather common at Tendaba Camp. Also seen at Marakissa, Tanji

Lesser Honeyguide
1 sighting at Abuko NP

Greater Honeyguide
one seen at Farasuto

**Spotted Honeyguide**
a single bird was watched at Farasuto

Cardinal Woodpecker
seen at Wassadou

Fine-spotted Woodpecker
1 at Wassadou, 1 at Tendaba Camp

African Grey Woodpecker
1 found at Niokolo Koba NP, 1 at Tendaba Camp, 2 at Marakissa, 2 at Tanji

**Buff-spotted Woodpecker**
3 birds watched at Pirang Forest

Crested Lark
common near Richard Toll and at Djoudj

Singing Bush Lark
few at Djoudj

Chestnut-backed Sparrow Lark
2 at Wassadou, some roadside between Bakel and Podor, several at Djoudj

Black-crowned Sparrow Lark
few sightings on the road from Bakel to Podor and at Djoudj NP

**Fanti Saw-wing**
only seen at Pirang Forest

Red-rumped Swallow
Common Sand Martin
Pied-winged Swallow
one at Farasuto
Wire-tailed Swallow
some at Farasuto
African Pied Wagtail
few seen at Wassadou

White Wagtail
seen at Djoudj

Yellow Wagtail
common, esp. at Djoudj

Tree Pipit
few on Batiling Trek at Tendaba Camp

Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike
only one sighting at Niokolo Koba NP on the road towards Simenti Hotel

Little Greenbul
2 seen at Farasuto, 1 at Abuko

Common Bulbul

Grey-headed Bristlebill
1 sighting at Tanji, 4 seen at Abuko NP

Yellow-throated Leaflove
some were observed on two occasions at Marakissa

Leaflove
2 watched briefly at Pirang Forest. They were seen flying several times but could not been found sitting.

Snowy-crowned Robin Chat
few sightings at Tujering and Abuko NP

White-crowned Robin Chat
one was found at Wassadou, 2 at Farasuto, 1 at Tanji

African Thrush
2 at Pirang Forest, fairly common at Tanji

Common Redstart
one was observed on Batiling Trek near Tendaba

African Stonechat
few seen at Djoudj NP

Northern Wheatear
small numbers seen at Djoudj and near Richard Toll

Black Scrub Robin
1 individual was spotted near Richard Toll

African Reed Warbler
1 spotted at Tendaba Camp

Greater Swamp Warbler
heard at Djoudj

Western Olivaceous Warbler
1 seen at Tujering
Melodious Warbler
this migrant was seen at Wassadou and at Pirang Forest

Yellow-bellied Eremomela
this bird was fairly common around Richard Toll.

**Senegal Eremomela**
seen at Tendaba Camp and 2 at Tujering.

Willow Warbler
seen at Tendaba Camp

Common Chiffchaff
found at Tujering

Subalpine Warbler
few were spotted near Richard Toll

Common Whitethroat
few near Richard Toll

Northern Crombec
1 individual at Tanji

Grey-backed Camaroptera
1 was watched at Tujering

Singing Cisticola
one individual was found at Pirang Forest

**Whistling Cisticola**
3 individuals were found at Tujering

Winding Cisticola
1 sighting

Zitting Cisticola

Desert Cisticola
few Cisticolas spotted near Richard Toll were probably this species. Also one sighting at Tendaba Camp

Tawny-flanked Prinia
found at Tendaba, Marakissa and Tujering

**River Prinia**
2 were spotted at Djoudj

**Red-winged Warbler**
good looks at several Red-winged Warblers/Prinias at Tujering where this species was rather common.

Yellow-breasted Apalis
some at Pirang Forest

**Green Hylia**
1 observation of a Green Hylia joining a mixed flock at Pirang Forest
Oriole Warbler
   excellent observations at Kotu Creek and at Abuko NP. In total 5 birds were seen.
Northern Black Flycatcher
   2 seen at Farasuto
Swamp Flycatcher
   few were seen during a boat trip at Wassadou
Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher
   fairly common in Gambia. Seen at Farasuto, Tanji, Kotu Creek and Abuko.
African Blue Flycatcher
   1 glimpsed at Tendaba during a boat trip
Common Wattle-eye
   2 watched at Pirang Forest. Heard at other sites too.
Senegal Batis
   a male was briefly seen at Tanji
Brown Babbler
   seen at Tendaba Camp, Pirang Forest, Marakissa, Tanji
Blackcap Babbler
   first seen at Wassadou. Later at Marakisa, Tujering and at Tanji
Yellow Penduline Tit
   1 observation at Niokolo Koba NP
Yellow White-eye
   2 seen at Tendaba Camp
Brown Sunbird
   this Sunbird was commonly spotted during a boat trip at Tendaba Camp
Green-headed Sunbird
   2 at Farasutung
Collared Sunbird
   some watched at Pirang Forest and at Abuko NP.
Pygmy Sunbird
   a specimen was observed at Wassadou, few at Tendaba Camp
Scarlet-chested Sunbird
   2 at Tendaba Camp
Beautiful Sunbird
   a fairly common Sunbird. Found at Wassadou, Tendaba, Farasuto and Tujering.
Variable Sunbird
   one seen at Wassadou, 2 at Pirang Forest and several at Tujering.
Splendid Sunbird
   few seen at Pirang Forest
Copper Sunbird
2 wonderful observations at Pirang Forest. Seen in best light!

**Southern Grey Shrike**
1 sighting at Djoudj NP

**Woodchat Shrike**
3 seen at Djoudj NP

**Yellow-billed Shrike**
few seen at Niokolo Koba NP and at Marakissa

**Yellow-crowned Gonolek**
seen at Wassadou, at Niokolo Koba NP, Tendaba Camp, Tanji and Tujering.

**Northern Puffbird**
one watched at Pirang Forest

**Black-crowned Tchagra**
1 sighting at Tujering

**Brubru**
few seen at Djoudj NP

**African Golden Oriole**
one seen at Wassadou, 3 at Tendaba Camp

**Fork-tailed Drongo**
found at Djoudj

**Pied Crow**
common

**Piapiac**
several seen at Niokolo Koba NP, at Farasuto

**Purple Glossy Starling**
several were seen at Wassadou, common at Niokola Koba NP. Also found at Marakissa

**Bronze-tailed Starling**
common at Tendaba Camp

**Greater Blue-eared Starling**
few seen at Niokolo Koba NP and

**Lesser Blue-eared Starling**
seen near Richard Toll, at Tendaba Camp and at Tanji

**Long-tailed Glossy Starling**
a common appearance

**Chestnut-bellied Starling**
common around Richard Toll

**Yellow-billed Oxpecker**
2 at Niokolo Koba

**Northern Grey-headed Sparrow**
common
**Sudan Golden Sparrow**  
common around Richard Toll

**Bush Petronia**  
the only observation of this species was at Wassadou

**Chestnut-crowned Sparrow Weaver**  
1 individual was watched at Tujering

**Speckle-fronted Weaver**  
few found near Richard Toll

**Vitelline Masked Weaver**

**Black-necked Weaver**  
seen at Pirang Forest, Tanji and Tujering

**Village Weaver**  
seen at Wassadou, Tanji and Farasuto

**Little Weaver**  
few were found at Wassadou

**Black-headed Weaver**  
this species was fairly common at Niokolo Koba NP and at Djoudj NP

**Red-billed Quelea**  
common near Richard Toll, at Djoudj

**Northern Red Bishop**  
seen at Farasuto and other sites

**Red-winged Red Bishop**

**Yellow-crowned Bishop**  
one male was found near Richard Toll

**Western Bluebill**  
one very beautiful observation at Tanji when a bird came to drink in a pool at Tanji Eco Lodge. Another one was briefly seen at Abuko NP.

**Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu**  
seen at various sites

**Lavender Waxbill**  
some were found at Tendaba Camp, Farasuto and Tanji

**Orange-cheeked Waxbill**  
few were spotted at Abuko NP.

**Black-rumped Waxbill**  
common at Tendaba Camp, Farasuto, Tanji a.o.

**Red-billed Firefinch**  
fairly common at most sites

**Zebra Waxbill**  
few birds were seen near Richard Toll
Bronze Mannikin
seen at several sites

African Silverbill

Village Indigobird
1 seen at Niokolo Koba NP, some near Richard Toll and at Tendaba Camp

**White-rumped Seedeater**
few sightings on/near Batiling Trek at Tendaba

Yellow-fronted Canary
few seen at Tendaba Camp

**Brown-rumped Bunting**
1 individual near Richard Toll, 1 on/near Batiling Trek at Tendaba

**Gosling`s /Grey-throated Bunting**
1 sighting near Richard Toll. Split from Cinnamon-breasted Bunting.

48 lifer

**other animals:**

**Western Red Colobus Monkey/Piliocolobus badius**
some were observed at Abuko NP

**Patas Monkey/Erythrocebus patas**
3 seen at Niokolo Koba, several at Djoudj and some on the road from Tamba to Kidira.
Also seen in Gambia.

**Guinea Baboon/Papio papio**
groups of those Baboons were observed at Wassadou and at Niokolo Koba

**Green Vervet Monkey/Chlorocebus pygerythrus**
fairly common at different sites

**African Golden Jackal/Wolf/Canis anthus)**
4 were observed at Djoudj

**Marsh Mongoose/Herpestes paludinosus**
1 observation during a boat trip at Tendaba Camp

**Whytes Hare/Lepus whytei**
few sightings

**Red-flanked Duiker/Cephalophus rufilatus**
3 were observed at Niokolo Koba NP

**Oribi/Ourebia ourebi**
1 sighting at Niokolo Koba NP

**Cape Bushbuck/Tragelaphus sylvaticus**
6 individuals found at Niokolo Koba NP on the way to Camp de Lion
Roan Antelope/Hippotragus equines/Pferdeantilope
4 were crossing the track at Niokolo Koba NP

Warthog/Phacochoerus africanus
5 seen at Niokolo Koba NP

Striped Ground Squirrel/Xerus erythropus
seen at various sites, for example at Niokolo Koba NP and Tendaba

Gambian Sun Squirrel/Heliosciurus gambianus
seen at various sites, for instance at Niokolo Koba NP and Pirang Forest

Hippopotamus/Hippopotamus amphibius
only seen during a boat trip at Campement du Wassadou

Fruit Bat spec.
a group of Fruit Bats found day roosting at Hotel Djoudj next to the swimming pool

**West African Crocodile/Crocodylus suchus**
a baby Croc was found at Wassadou. A larger individual was spotted at Marakissa.
Split from Nile Crocodile (Crocodylus niloticus)

Nile Monitor Lizard/Varanus niloticus
common at Wassadou and at Niokolo Koba. Also seen at Djoudj

ralf.jahraus@gmx.de