

# MALAWI

23/09/2023

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7/10/2023



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Cover photo: Mt. Mulanje

# INTRODUCTION

Malawi is a relatively small country with a high population density, a big lake and plenty of mountains. The majority of the country used to be covered by vast areas of subtropical, semi-deciduous woodland called Miombo, which is currently reduced to few protected areas only. The Miombo biome stretches from Angola to Tanzania, covers the majority of Zambia and Malawi and boasts a number of Miombo restricted species. The mountains on the other hand have pockets of evergreen forests that are home to afro-montane (near)endemics and range-restricted species with affinity to eastern Africa's highlands. The pressure on the natural resources is huge, and everywhere we went, we found evidence of ongoing deforestation – even in protected areas. The country is not doing too great economically either, with huge devaluation of the Malawi Kwacha and foreign exchange challenges which resulted in expensive import products (supermarkets) and during our stay, a nation-wide petrol shortage. See money section on the informal market exchange rate and how to make your trip cheaper.

That said, traveling in Malawi went smoothly, birding was fun and rewarding and the landscape very scenic. The people were very friendly and welcoming and accommodation was easy to come by.

Many thanks to the usual suspects Ross Gallardy and Hans Matheve for coordinate sharing and KML wizardry. Thanks to Daniel Branch for sharing coordinates and Max Baumgarters' draft trip report of their trip earlier in the year. Gabriel Jamie and Jo Pope provided in-dept info on the Nyika plateau. Finally, a big thanks to Ruben Foquet for his hospitality in Mulanje, for his excellent organizational skills, for butchering us on the mountain and for being an excellent compadre de route.

[Download kml file](#) with GPS coordinates and tracks mentioned in the report.

My recordings from this trip can (soon) be found on [Xeno-Canto](#).

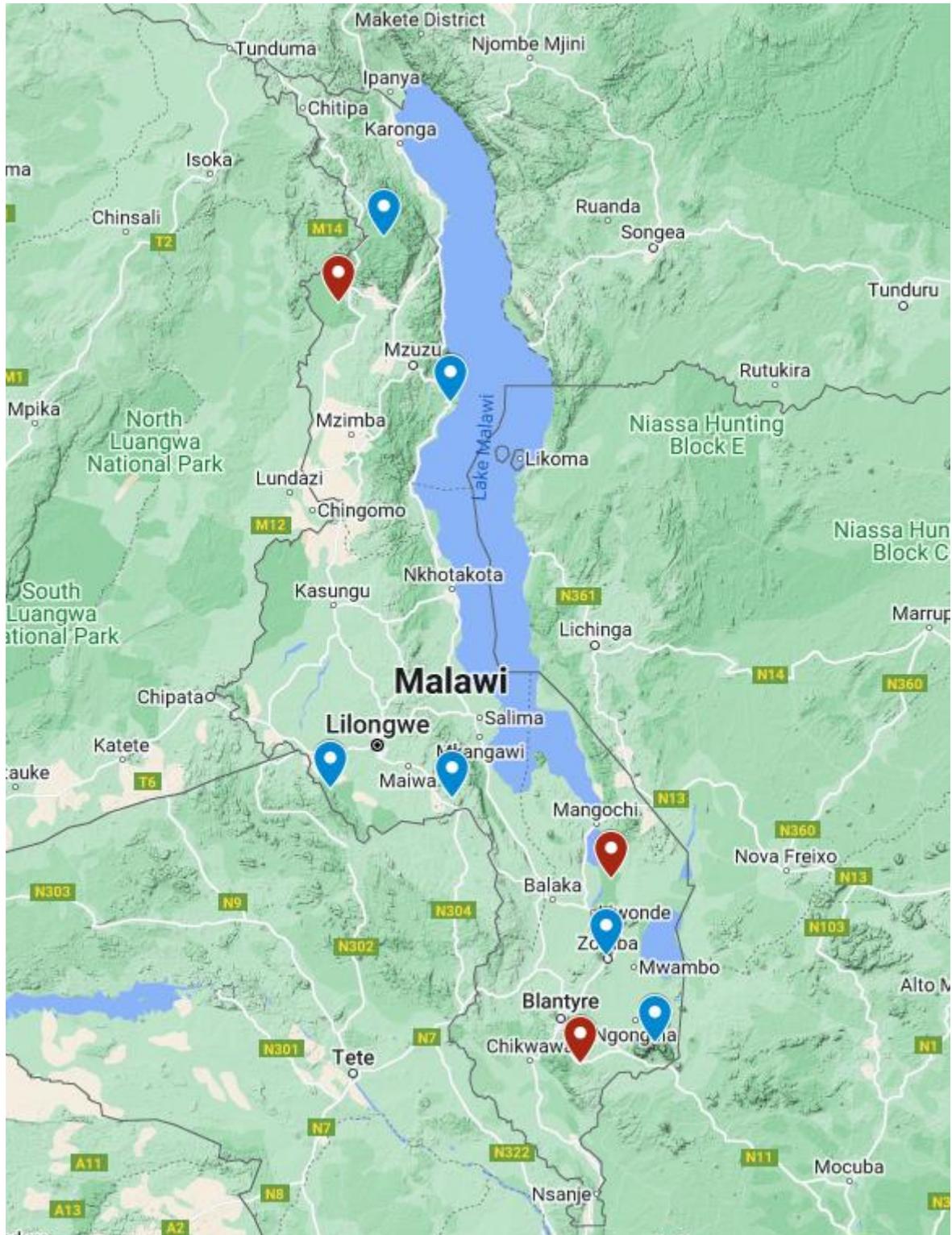
# ITINERARY

## Notes on our itinerary

Our itinerary focused on mountains (evergreen, plateau) with a little bit of Miombo and therefore deviates from the typical Malawi tour that birders would normally do. Because I birded extensively in Zambia, I excluded most of the typical and obvious Miombo destinations like Lilongwe NP. I also stayed longer in Mt Mulanje than other birders would, as I combined this trip with a work visit and a hike up the mountain (which was from a birding perspective actually very much worth it!). I also opted not to pass by Thyolo for the Green-headed oriole. Finally, because this was also a holiday for my partner and because I wanted to buffer for enough birding time, the pace was rather relaxed and we stayed sometimes a night longer than would strictly be necessary from a birding perspective.

	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Night</u></b>
<b>1</b>	23 Sep	Long drive from Lusaka (ZAM) to Dzalanyama Forest Reserve (MAL)	Dzalanyama Forest Lodge
<b>2</b>	24 Sep	<b>Morning birding Dzalanyama Forest Reserve</b> + afternoon hikes	Dzalanyama Forest Lodge
<b>3</b>	25 Sep	<b>Morning birding Dzalanyama</b> + afternoon visit to waterfalls	Dzalanyama Forest Lodge
<b>4</b>	26 Sep	<b>Early Morning birding Dzalanyama</b> + travel to Dedza (via Lilongwe)	Dedza Pottery & Lodge
<b>5</b>	27 Sep	<b>Morning birding Miombo and Inselbergs around Malawi Forestry College</b> + travel to Mulanje	Mulanje (Private)
<b>6</b>	28 Sep	Project visits (no birding)	Mulanje (Private)
<b>7</b>	29 Sep	<b>Morning birding Ruo Gorge (Mt. Mulanje)</b> + afternoon brutal hike up the mountain	Mt. Mulanje, Minunu Hut
<b>8</b>	30 Sep	<b>Morning birding around Minunu hut (Mt. Mulanje)</b> + afternoon hike to Madzeka hut	Mt. Mulanje, Madzeka hut
<b>9</b>	1 Oct	<b>Morning birding around Madzeka hut (Mt. Mulanje)</b> + descent down + Travel to Zomba	Zomba, Kefi Hotel & Cafe
<b>10</b>	2 Oct	Relaxed Birding & Hiking Zomba plateau	Zomba, Kefi Hotel & Cafe
<b>11</b>	3 Oct	<b>Early morning birding around Kefi Hotel</b> + long drive to lake Malawi	Makuzi Beach Lodge
<b>12</b>	4 Oct	<b>Early morning birding at Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (East Coast Akalat)</b> + long drive to Nyika Plateau	Chelinda Camp & Lodge
<b>13</b>	5 Oct	<b>Morning birding around Chelinda area (dams and plains) + Birding around Vipiri rocks + afternoon birding around Zambian Rest House (ZAM)</b>	Chelinda Camp & Lodge
<b>14</b>	6 Oct	<b>Morning birding Manyanjere forest (ZAM) + evergreen forest patches (MAL)</b>	Chelinda Camp & Lodge
<b>15</b>	7 Oct	<b>Early morning birding evergreen forest patches (MAL)</b> + long drive back to Zambia (Mpika)	Mpika (Zambia), Bayama's Lodge

# MAP



*Map showing visited sites (blue markers) and other key sites (red markers) described in this report.*

[<<<Link to online map.>>>](#)

# PRACTICALITIES

## GETTING THERE

We drove our own Landcruiser Prado (Zambia registered) throughout the trip which took us everywhere we wanted to go without any problem. We overlanded from Zambia into Malawi using the Chipata (ZAM) / Mchinji (MAL) border post and exited Malawi back into Zambia just south of Nyika, using the Katumbi town (Hewe Border) (MAL) / Muyombe town (Muyombe/Chire Border) (ZAM) rural border post.

Border crossings went smoothly and without issue. For the entry, I arranged a facilitator/fixer: Bakali (not sure if his real name) [+260 777 82 10 55]. Another recommended fixer was Promise [+265 986 65 65 55]. He particularly helped out with getting the vehicle across the border, which involved getting a Temporary Export/Import Permit and paying a series of taxes. See lower for details. The whole border crossing took us around 1hr 30min. Although the fixer might strictly not have been necessary, it surely helped and made all effortless. We paid him USD10. There is one building with both ZAM and MAL authorities and all is clearly sign posted.

As the exit happened on a Saturday and at a rural border post, I contacted all the border officials at both sides in advance. This worked out well and also here, all went smoothly. The authorities were all in different buildings and quite a distance before/after the actual border (which is here: -10.788667, 33.499428).

### **Katumbi Border post (south of Nyika NP)**

#### Malawi side

- The main immigration office is in Rumphu or Mzuzu (2-3 hrs away) but an immigration officer should be on duty in Katumbi. We met with him at the trading centre (-10.814748,33.521608) as there did not appear to be an official immigration office.
- The main Malawi Revenue Authority office (necessary for the vehicle) is in Rumphu/Mzuzu (?). An officer is based at the (old and closed) MRA office just outside Katumbi (-10.793564, 33.529723)

#### Zambia side

- The immigration officer is based at the Muyombe post office (-10.578854, 33.450422; 1hr away from the actual border). The district immigration office is found another 30min further in Thendere (-10.244067,33.365037)
- We did not see the Zambia Revenue Authority as we just brought the vehicle back home. An office/officer should be based in Muyombe and/or Thendere.

*Note - phone numbers of these officials can be shared upon request.*

## **Border crossing with a foreign registered vehicle**

From my understanding, you can cross borders with a foreign registered vehicle using either a 'carnet de passage' (need for a deposit in the country of issuance) or with a temporary import obtained once-off at the border. We used the temporary import approach. See overlanding websites/fora/Facebook groups for information on these approaches.

### Following documents are necessary

- Whitebook (ownership paper) of the vehicle and letter of the owner if different from the driver
- Interpol/police clearance – we picked up ours in Ndola (ZAM), but every large town should be able to produce this
- International insurance – we sorted this in advance with our insurance agency in Zambia. It is called a 'Comesa Yellow Card'.

### Following documents need to be prepared and taxes paid (was officially displayed)

- Temporary export permit (Zambia)
- Temporary import permit (Malawi) – valid for a limited number of days!
- Processing fee (MWK10,000)
- Carbon tax (depending on engine size between MWK4,000 and 15,000)
- Toll fees (USD20)

## **GETTING AROUND**

Moving around in Malawi went surprisingly easy. Major roads were generally tarred and in good condition. The condition of minor roads and dirt roads varied but was never disastrous. There was a high presence of police along the roads, either in the form of official, fixed police checkpoints/roadblocks but also as small groups of police present at various random sites along the road. They only stopped us infrequently, never harassed us and always let us go as soon as we produced all the correct documentation. Only in Lilongwe we had an incident where we turned off from a parking lot (City Mall) in a direction that was not allowed, but luckily had an understanding policy officer. We always remain friendly, forgiving and humble and that seems to work well.

Speedtraps were encountered on the road connecting Lilongwe and Blantyre, but not elsewhere.

In general, we did not encounter a lot of traffic (unless around Blantyre and Lilongwe) and few trucks so could generally drive without delay or hold-ups. Even traffic through Lilongwe and Blantyre was surprisingly smooth, considering other African cities we had experienced. The country's high population density was however very obvious along the road, where there is a never ending flow of pedestrians, cyclists, motorcycles, chickens, goats and the occasional cow which required prudence and focus!

Fuel stations were evenly spread and we never had any issues finding fuel (Diesel). The country however experienced a nation-wide petrol shortage during our stay and with a petrol engine it would have been no joke – coming either to a standstill or paying exuberant amounts for black-market petrol.

We took two extra 20l jerrycans with us for the Nyika area (and subsequent border crossing into Zambia) as the last filling station is in Rumphu and getting up and around the plateau is fuel thirsty. With our 80l tank we normally can travel around 600km. In the end, we got to Isoka (Zambia) before even needing the jerrycans.

Except for Nyika, all sites should be accessible using a regular saloon car, even during the rainy season. A high-clearance, 4x4 is for Nyika strongly advisable, and in the rainy season a requirement.

## **WEATHER & TIMING**

Malawi has three distinct seasons: a hot and dry season (mid-August to mid-November), a warm and rainy season (mid-November to April) and a cool dry season (May to mid-August). This varies locally a bit, particularly around the South-Eastern side of the mountains (Mt. Mulanje and others in that area) where it is generally a lot more humid due to moist winds from the ocean that get blocked by the mountains. During the hot season, temperatures can easily and rapidly go above 30-35°C+. During the cool season nights on the mountains and plateaus be very cold (down to and below freezing), so come prepared for such temperatures! Days were generally windy, with wind often picking up mid-morning. Not sure whether this is particularly prevalent during this season but it definitely made forest birding more challenging (and recording crystal clear tracks impossible).

Breeding season for most Miombo and evergreen species coincides with the end of the dry season / start of the rainy season, with breeding possible to continue throughout the rainy season. During our trip, most birds were (very) vocal, responsive and unobtrusive, which suggests this was indeed a good season for a visit.

## **ACCOMMODATION & FOOD**

We varied between camping and staying at lodges/hotels. Except in Nyika and in Dzalanyama, there were plenty of different overnight options. And even though there was only one place at Nyika and Dzalanyama, they did offer different types of accommodation. Because we had a fixed schedule (work visit) and did not per se want the flexibility, we booked everything in advance. As we were usually alone, or with few other guests, I don't expect last-minute booking to be a problem. Only Chelinda camp was also paid in advance (transfer).

We generally ate at the lodges. Except for Dzalanyama, where we fully self-catered using our own cooking utensils (eating at lodge possible as well if pre-booked). For Nyika, we brought all the food with us, but had a chef to prepare meals for us in a fully equipped kitchen.

We found all needed ingredients and fresh produce in supermarkets and local markets. We found supermarkets generally expensive due to the perilous economic condition of the country and most items being imported. Food at lodges was compared to our experience elsewhere, also relatively expensive.

Below is a list of places we spent night:

### **Dzalanyama Forest Lodge (Dzalanyama Forest Reserve)**

Only option to stay in the forest reserve. Run by Land & Lake safaris. Different types of accommodation available from self-contained rooms to pre-set-up tents with shared bathrooms. We camped using our own tent and prepared our own food. Eating at lodge possible if pre-arranged. Convenient place and right within (and walking distance from) good birding areas. Campsite infrastructure very well maintained but relatively small so can be a bit awkward if other groups would be present at same time. Situated along road that ventures further into forest which is used by community members for firewood collection.

### **Dedza Pottery and Lodge (Dedza)**

Clean and nice rooms with a view although a bit old. Nice food. Around 30min drive using back road to Forestry college (some bridges might be a challenge during rainy season, enquire in advance about route).

### **Madzeka & Minunu huts (Mt. Mulanje)**

Mt. Mulanje is dotted with several cabins. Stays to be organized with Mountain Club of Malawi (based at Mt. Mulanje Conservation Trust in Mulanje). Check there websites. Need to bring own food, but pending (reasonably priced) membership, utensils can be used as well as mattresses and blankets upon request and receipt for key for the hut stores. Huts are basic but offer stunning views, and amazing Afromontane birding ops right from the porch.

### **Kefi Hotel & Café (Zomba)**

Extremely well run lodge situated high up on the foothills of the plateau. Great, Greek-influenced food. Sublime porch with great views. Rapid and convenient access from lodge to the road up the plateau. With interesting evergreen forest patch behind the lodge (directly accessible from the property).

Other valuable options would be Casa Rosa (close to Kefi) and Zomba Forest Lodge (a bit further outside town, on the western side of the hillslope).

### **Makuzi Beach Lodge (Chintheche; just south of Nkhata bay, East-Coast Akalat)**

At a nice small bay along lake Malawi. Different options offered: rooms, cottages, etc. We camped on the very nice and shaded, beach fronted campsite but ate at the lodge. Good food. Only about 10min off the tar, and 30min drive from akalat spot.

Plenty of other accommodation available in area as well. For instance around Nkhata bay.

### **Chelinda Camp & Lodge (Nyika NP)**

Only option to stay on the plateau. Run by Central African Wilderness (CAWS). Different options possible, which are spatially separated (1km) from each other 1) campsite 2) camp rooms 3) cottages and 4) high-end lodge. Campsite has shelters and a sublime view on the rolling plains. Camp rooms overlook a dam and some Chelinda settlements and are self-contained. You can prepare food (or have it prepared) and eat in the communal kitchen and dining (cozy with open fire). Cottages have bedrooms, kitchen and lounge. The lodge is more upmarket and full-board only. We stayed in the camp room and ate at the dining. The organization provided a chef who prepared very nice food!

Important: you need to bring your own food!

Even during this season, evenings cooled down rapidly and nights were chilly. The fire in the dining room was very welcome and enjoyable.

There used to be a Zambian Rest House on the Zambian side, but this is defunct and there is no prospect of it being revamped.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

Malawi is a safe and pleasant country to travel around. People are very friendly and we never encountered any problems. We felt safe and confident to leave our car in car parks or along the road while birding/eating/shopping but always took important documents (and optics) with us in those cases.

## VISA

Malawi uses e-visa which needs to be obtained and fully paid for in advance on (<https://evisa.gov.mw/>; USD50). It is not clear whether visa on arrival will still be issued, and heard about people being denied access on arrival, even when the website mentioned it should be possible with their nationality. Ironically, it is expected that you present a printed, hard-copy of the e-visa to the immigration officer.

As a requirement for the e-visa application, you need an invitation/letter from the host, as well as a booking confirmation. Land & Lake safaris (Dzalanyama Forest Lodge) shared a template which we could use for the invitation letter and we used an email tread print for the lodge booking. This worked fine and approval time was less than a week for us, but we heard about longer times as well.

## MONEY

The local currency is the Malawi Kwacha (MWK). The official Bank of Malawi rate was at the time of writing around 1,100MWK for 1 USD. Because of the economical state and lack of state held foreign exchange reserves, the informal rate was 1,750 MWK for 1 USD (similar discrepancy and exchange rates for EUR). Informal rates applied when exchanging cash on the street or at bureau's de change. We used Victoria Forex Bureau (<https://victoriaforex.mw/>), which has branches across the country and offered good rates. Interestingly, lodges and restaurants that quote in USD still exchanged into MWK using the official rate which could work in your favor. Make sure to keep track of the exchange rates!

We brought some cash, but still had to withdraw money from ATM's and occasionally used credit cards for paying. ATMs were fairly easy to find in the cities and our VISA card was accepted (we did not try any other card type). The ATM maxed out at 200,000 MWK in 5000 MWK notes. In a good part of the hotels, shopping malls, restaurants in the cities and filling stations 'swiping' (using cards) was possible. Our VISA card always worked, we did not try other card types (debit, Mastercard, etc). In any case, always make sure to have sufficient cash with you as the connection might be down at any time.

## RESOURCES

As usual, **Cloudbirders** was consulted for trip reports. At the time of writing, there were hardly any (or very old > 10 yrs) independent tripreports available. The most recent tour company report available was from 2019. Nonetheless, the Birdquest and Rockjumper tripreports provided helpful information on sightings etc.

Although not (yet) very exhaustive and underused in Malawi, **eBird** has valuable info that helped with preparations.

Sounds were obtained from Xeno-Canto, the Claude Chappuis collection (African Bird Sounds) and Southern African Bird Sounds by Guy Gibbon. JBL Clip 3 was used for playing and a Sennheiser ME66 + Roland R05 for recording and playback.

**Organic maps** (non-commercial version of maps.me) was used for navigation.

The only book currently fully covering Malawi is **Sinclair's Birds of Africa South of the Sahara** (Sasol). This should soon change with the forthcoming **Birds of Greater Southern Africa** by Terry Stevenson, John Fanshawe, Keith Barnes (expected February 2024). I used the **Roberts Birds of Southern Africa app** and the **Merlin app (Cornell Lab of Ornithology)** with Malawi package to complete sounds, ID information and distribution.

## TRAVEL TIMES

All travel times consider direct, non-stop drive with a personal vehicle. In general, Google provided good time and route estimates, except for Zomba – Lake Malawi (Chintheche) where we were advised against using the google suggested route along the lake.

<b>Lusaka (ZAM) – Chipata (ZAM)/Mchinji (MAL), border town</b>	<b>7-8h</b>	Some bad sections leaving Lusaka up to Zambezi/Luangwa confluence bridge, then new good and smooth tar
<b>Mchinji – Dzalanyama Forest</b>	<b>2 to 2h30</b>	First 1hr-1.30 on tar, then on relatively good dirt. See site section for direction as they were not straightforward.
<b>Dzalanyama – Lilongwe</b>	<b>2h</b>	Same dirt back to tar road, then good tar to Lilongwe
<b>Lilongwe - Dedza</b>	<b>2h30 to 3h</b>	Good tar. Depends on how smoothly you get out of Lilongwe, which was OK for us.
<b>Dedza – Mulanje</b>	<b>4 to 5h</b>	Good tar. Depends on how smoothly you pass through/along Blantyre, which was OK for us.
<b>Mulanje – Zomba</b>	<b>2h</b>	Good tar, with few potholes. Route which circles around Mulanje until Phalombe, then north to Zomba. No need to go back to Blantyre.
<b>Zomba – Lake Malawi (Chintheche)</b>	<b>10 to 11h</b>	M3 to Liwonde, M8 and M1 to Dedza, to Lilongwe, M1 to Mponela, then T350 to Ntchisi, M7 to Mbobo, M18 to Nkhotakota (free passage through the wildlife reserve), M5 north along the lake until destination. Bad tar between Zomba and

Liwonde, good tar up to Lilongwe. Good tar (T350 is new (!)) up to Ntchisi, then mix between bad tar and dirt to Mbobo (appear to be working on the road). Dirt through wildlife reserve. Good tar from Nkhotakota northwards. Google suggested M5 all the way along lake Malawi, but stretch between Salima and Nkhotakota is very bad, lots of potholes and eroded road edges and dodgy bridges.

<b>Chintheche – Rumph</b>	<b>3 to 4h</b>	Generally good tar.
<b>Rumph – Nyika (Thazima gate)</b>	<b>1h30 to 2h</b>	Short stretches of bad tar but mostly good dirt, with some bad stretches.
<b>Nyika (Thazima gate) – Chelinda Camp (Plateau)</b>	<b>1h45</b>	Good dirt with some bad stretches.

# SITE INFO

## DZALANYAMA FOREST RESERVE

Dzalanyama Forest reserve is a nearly 100,000ha, hilly Miombo woodland bordering Mozambique. It is (one of) the last remaining pockets of large, contiguous Miombo woodland in the wider area.

It is home to a large set of typical miombo species including Böhm's Flycatcher, Miombo Rock Thrush, Souza's Shrike, Eastern Miombo Sunbird, Miombo Barbet, Miombo & Rufous-bellied Tit, African Spotted Creeper, Black-eared and Reichard's Seed-eater and many more.

The forest is however particularly known as one of the (only?) reliable spots for Stierling's Woodpecker, a range restricted and not very well known woodpecker. Other special targets include Olive-headed Weaver, Lesser Seedcracker, Boulder Chat and Shelley's Sunbird which can all be seen elsewhere as well but are uncommon throughout.

Plenty of miombo species join mixed species flocks, and taking some time to follow and gradually work through those encountered can be very rewarding and necessary to connect with targets.

As is the case for all forests across Malawi, Dzalanyama is also under extreme pressure, particularly to supply the Lilongwe firewood and charcoal demand. As I understand, the community is allowed to take dead wood from the forest. The lodge is located close to the Forestry Department and even though 'dead wood' is sometimes interpreted creatively, the forest appears to be holding on in that area. Unfortunately, axe and other chopping sounds are never far away. Other areas however appear to suffer a lot more. The area around the waterfalls (around 15km from the lodge) was particularly hammered with recent evidence of large areas clearcut for charcoal making.



*Dzalanyama forest Reserve (hills in the distance) is surrounded by intensively used agricultural fields dotted with Mango trees*

## Strategy and highlights

All targets can be seen within walking distance from the lodge. I focused my birding on 4 areas: 1) the dambo/wetland about 1.5km from the lodge (-14.264348, 33.457300), 2) the woodlands along the dambo (north -14.259892, 33.453533 and south -14.265098, 33.453994), 3) the road between the dambo and the lodge and 4) the woodlands downstream from the lodge, on both sides of the stream (northern side between entrance road and the stream, the southern side accessible using a footpath).

On the first morning, I started at the dambo for **Lesser Seedcracker** which I quickly found (-14.264348, 33.457300). I subsequently birded my way back to the camp and found **Stierling's Woodpecker** in one of the mixed-species flocks (-14.256834, 33.448008 ; also on day two -14.254568, 33.450742). As that were 2 out of my 3 targets, I focused the remaining days and birding time on trying to locate the Olive-headed Weaver in those areas mentioned earlier as they had some trees with old-man's beard – a type of hanging moss the weaver's build their nest from. According to the lodge there was a nest a couple of weeks earlier along the dambo (in this area -14.265098, 33.453994) and the Gallardy's saw one along both sides of the stream, downstream from the camp. Other than those and one at the edge of the forest, eBird did not have any other observations. I failed to find it.

Other highlights: **Miombo Barbet** (two in mixed species flock -14.255455, 33.451830), **Souza Shrike** (one randomly alone -14.263743, 33.454389), **Eastern Miombo Sunbird** (several encountered across the reserve), **Anchieta's Sunbird** (along the road in mixed species flock), **Thick-billed Cuckoo** (calling and seen around the camp), **Böhm's Flycatcher** (mixed species flock -14.254568, 33.450742), **Miombo Rock Thrush** (several daily across the forest, some of the highest densities I have ever encountered in a miombo woodland), **African Striped Creeper** (couple seen in mixed species flocks)

Note: as I had seen Boulder Chat and Shelley's Sunbird in Zambia, I did not specifically look for those.

## Logistics

In between the tar and the entrance to the forest reserve (-14.221608, 33.468404) lies a network a dirt roads and it was not always clear which road to take. There are instructions on the website (<https://www.dzalanyama.net/how-to-find-us>), but even with those we encountered turn-offs that were confusing. We recorded the track driving back (part of KML with coordinates (see higher) – but note: coming from the tar, at the trading center with the filling station, turn right after the filling station (not before as the tracklog shows). There was no entrance fee charged and you can freely and independently explore.

## DEDZA (MALAWI FORESTRY COLLEGE)

Dedza is the highest town in Malawi (1500m asl) and its nearby Malawi College of Forestry is surrounded by small pockets of remnant pristine Miombo woodland and interesting inselbergs (isolated rocks). The main target here is a distinctive, range restricted subspecies of Cape Bunting, where it is logistically easy to see here. The species is split by some lists (currently not by IOC) as Vincent's bunting. The miombo woodlands also hold a good set of miombo species, including the Olive-headed Weaver.



*The isolated rocks around Dedza offer, besides Cape (Vincent's) bunting, also a stunning view*

### Strategy and highlights

There are two isolated rocks around the college, one just behind the college (-14.315143, 34.263206) and one a little bit further in NW direction (-14.311569, 34.248642). The bunting is found on both rocks, but I choose the furthest one as it appeared more straightforward to get up it. I parked the car (-14.312066, 34.252537) and hiked up following the track starting at the west side of the rock (-14.315018, 34.251462). I quickly connected with **Cape (Vincent's) bunting** (-14.311569, 34.248642) foraging on the moss/algae on one of the rocks. I rapidly lost it and after moving a bit around further up the mountain, I descended back down again.

The rest of the morning I birded the slopes at the western/southern side of the rock behind the College (-14.312920, 34.257930 & -14.317999, 34.261890), which had some nice stands of miombo, loaded with old-man's beard. Although I connected with some good miombo birds, I failed to find the Olive-headed Weaver again, which was the last chance of the trip to see it.

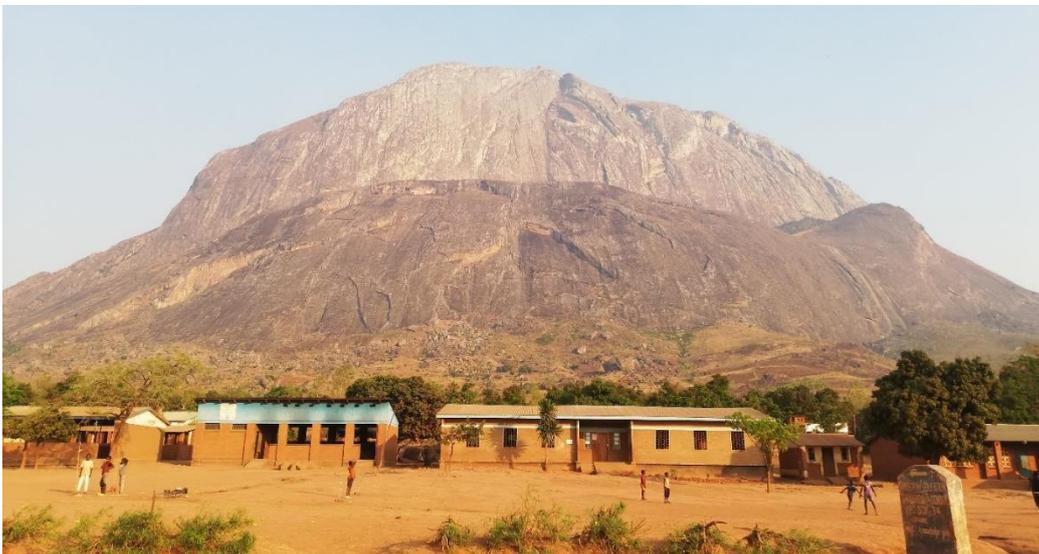
Other highlights (all seen in the forest at the slopes): **Miombo tit, Souza's shrike, African Spotted Creeper**

## Logistics

The rocks and forest patches are freely accessible and I was not questioned. As I did not enter through the forestry college (for instance to bird the patch east of the rock: -14.313023, 34.267388), I also did not ask permission. I wanted to loop around the north of the rock, but the road suggested by Google did not really appear drivable, so I came back down the same way.

## Mt. MULANJE

Mt. Mulanje is a massively impressive mountain isolate in the south-eastern corner of Malawi, close to the Mozambican border. The steep slopes reach an undulating plateau at around 2000m asl and from there, several peaks climb even higher up, including peak Sapitwa which is the highest point in Malawi at 3002 masl. The south-east to southern facing slopes of the mountain experience a higher humidity than the northern slopes (due to moist wind from the Indian ocean), thereby supporting Afro-montane evergreen vegetation. As this climate is also favorable for tea growing, plenty of it has been cleared and replaced by vast tea plantations for over a century. This and the additional pressure from the local community for fuel wood and timber has severely reduced the cloud forest coverage. Currently, only several pockets remain, of which the one in the Ruo Gorge is among the largest and most easily accessible ones.



*El Capitano? Mt. Mulanje's western slope is in the rain-shadow and a lot drier. Compare with cover photo!*

Above/mixed within the Afro-montane forest, the mountain used to have a vegetation zone that was dominated by an endemic cedar species (1800m asl and higher). As this wood is extremely valuable for a number of reasons, all mature trees have been felled within a couple of decades time (predominantly since the 80s), leaving nothing behind but (massive) stumps and a zone of ferns where the cedar forest used to be. Even further up, there are undulating grassy plains that

alternate with valleys and small pockets of cloud-forest. There are no roads up the mountain, but there are tracks ascending the mountain from every direction, as well as tracks on the mountain that connect the different routes and the huts.

Because there are no roads up the mountain (compared to Zomba for instance), it is a bit of an operation and physical exercise to get up the mountain. From a birding perspective, this is usually not done as most higher-elevation targets can be connected with elsewhere. That said, I enjoyed the hike up the mountain and found the birding very rewarding and connected with several targets, including some unique subspecies.

### **Strategy and highlights**

I birded the Ruo Gorge one morning. From the old power station (-15.971435, 35.654672; see logistics) there is a track going up which I hiked for several km's up to -15.956423, 35.654568. I quickly found **Thyolo Alethe** (next to powerhouse -15.970701, 35.654572 and also further up -15.961607, 35.653203) and **White-winged Apalis** (-15.970701, 35.654572), but did not find any of the other targets: Stripe-cheeked Greenbul (sometimes lumped together with Stripe-faced and Olive-headed, but this race has a very limited distribution and in Malawi can only be found on Mt. Mulanje), Yellow-throated Apalis (Malawi endemic) and Black-browed Greenbul (range restricted, but widespread within Malawi). The birding itself was also disturbed by the sounds of axes, people and falling trees, as there were several scattered loggers working their way through this remnant as well.

In the afternoon, we hiked up the mountain through the Ruo Gorge. I connected with a single **Stripe-faced greenbul** (-15.948666, 35.651012; responded to tape) at a much higher altitude than where I ended in the morning. Although there are observations from lower in the valley, perhaps they move higher up the mountain during the dry season.

The following morning, we birded around Minunu hut (-15.924321, 35.638866). **Blue Swallows** were seen over the meadows on the other side of the valley and **Yellow-throated Apalis, Forest Double-collared Sunbird, Malawi Batis** and **Black-browed Greenbul** were all very conspicuous and readily seen in the shrubs/forest patch in front of the hut. There were also several signing **Olive-flanked Ground Robins** (*ssp. anomalus*, only on Mulanje and looks and sings differently from the other *ssp.*). As with the Stripe-faced Greenbul, it appears that most of these species prefer higher altitudes, perhaps seasonally only as there are also observations lower in the Ruo Gorge.

We hiked to Madzeka hut (-15.955451, 35.688026) and birded in the cloud forest just below the hut the following morning. Species composition was comparable and no new targets were seen. On the hike between both huts, we had **Scarce Swifts** (-15.945024, 35.664875) and a distant **Cape (Vincent) bunting** (-15.947981, 35.669003). In the afternoon, we descended back down through a different (even steeper!) gorge a bit further east.

Other highlights: **Orange Ground Thrush** (signing in cloud forest below Madzeka hut; -15.956596, 35.686236), **Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler** (several), **Striped Flufftail** (heard in the distance when we reached the plateau below Minunu hut, was not possible to engage)



*Evergreen Afro-montane forest in the Ruo Gorge on Mt. Mulanje.*

## **Logistics**

The Ruo Gorge can just be birded freely without any prior arrangement. Although you need to drive through the Lujeri tea estate to get to the bottom of the gorge, this should not be a problem and the guard at the gate should just let you pass after signing the book. From the tar, take the dirt up the gorge at -16.071973, 35.627700. Then follow that road until the boom gate at -16.036109, 35.652282. After the boom gate, go left, cross the bridge (-16.022470, 35.656599), take a sharp left at -16.022628, 35.662883, go around the hill along the right route (-15.986239, 35.655397) and continue up to the old power station where you can park your vehicle (-15.971435, 35.654672). There is a guard.

A hike up the mountain however needs to be organized and, ideally, should be done with a guide. Paths are steep, not always clear and, as with any mountain, the weather can change abruptly. Hikes can be organized through the Mount Mulanje Conservation Trust (MMCT; <https://mountmulanje.org.mw/>) on behalf of the Mountain Club of Malawi (<https://mcm.org.mw/contact/>) in Mulanje. There is

an entrance fee (the mountain is a forest reserve) and an overnight fee for the huts. These were all very modest. We left our car at the old power station at the bottom of the Ruo Gorge and organized a motorbike to pick us up from where we descended to take us back to the car, which worked perfectly.

## ZOMBA PLATEAU

Zomba Plateau is a high-altitude plateau (1800m asl) rising above Zomba town, which is an old settlement and once the capital of Malawi. The plateau has avifaunal affinities and lots of overlap with Mt. Mulanje, but is more easily accessible as a good tar road climbs along the edge to the plateau itself. The slopes are mostly degraded with planted exotics and fields, but with some pockets of evergreen remaining. The plateau is a heterogenous mix of degraded shrub, vast pine and Eucalyptus plantations and with some pockets of evergreen mostly confined to valleys and along rivers.

Higher elevation target species (such as Yellow-throated Apalis) can be more easy than in Mulanje and although no targets are exclusive to the Plateau, Bertram's Weaver and Olive-headed Greenbul (Split from Stripe-cheeked greenbul) are noteworthy species. Although the latter two occur elsewhere (but not on Mt. Mulanje) as well, I don't think they are anywhere numerous so all opportunities worthwhile.



*Zomba plateau is a mix of shrub, degraded woodlands, plantations and some evergreen pockets in valleys*

## Strategy and highlights

The shrub/evergreen edge along the stretch of road north (to the Williams Falls; -15.344338, 35.300077) and south (to the hotel Sunbird Ku Chawa) of the Trout Farm was productive with **Yellow-throated Apalis** (-15.350162, 35.300520), a pair of **Bertram's Weaver** (same site as YT Apalis), **Olive-headed Greenbul** (-15.359181, 35.302629) and **Malawi Batis**. The area further north was dominated by (extracted) plantation and I did not venture much further in there. The track that circles the dam goes through some evergreen forest (northern side), but during my mid-morning visit there was not a lot of activity.

As I had seen all my hard regional targets (Cholo Alethe, Yellow-throated and White-winged Apalis), I approached Zomba more leisurely.

## Logistics

There are only two possibilities to stay on top of the plateau: a more upmarket lodge/resort called Sunbird Kwa Chawe (-15.364544, 35.304328) and the run-down campsite/cottages at the trout farm. There is plenty more accommodation at the bottom of the plateau and given the ease of access, there is no real need to stay on the plateau itself. Some of the lodges (including Kefi and Zomba Forest Lodge) have adjacent pockets of evergreen forest, where several targets can also be found.

We drove up and parked our vehicle at the Trout farm (-15.354566, 35.301927) and at the lodge (free parking, but we had a drink) and explored the area from there. You can freely bird the plateau and no entrance fee is asked. A small amount was charged by the trout farm for parking our vehicle, and another small amount was charged for crossing the dam (-15.363425, 35.313864).

## NKWADZI HILL FOREST RESERVE (Lake Malawi)

The Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve lies roughly halfway up lake Malawi and features lowland evergreen rainforest. It is birded predominantly for the isolated East Coast Akalat population (ssp. *bensoni*), which is a potential future split (becoming Benson's Akalat).

The main road along the lake runs through the forest and adjacent rubber plantation. You can access it freely from along the road, and I don't think there are any established/maintained tracks in the forest. I birded the area for an hour one morning. I parked my vehicle along the road (-11.689156, 34.255429) at a small opening in the edge and entered the forest there. I quickly found a responsive **East Coast Akalat** pair (-11.688598, 34.254597) and left thereafter, continuing the journey to Nyika.

## NYIKA PLATEAU

The Nyika plateau is a scenically stunning highland plateau (c 2000m asl). The lower slopes of the plateau contain miombo woodland, which turn into pockets of evergreen Afromontane forest higher up and ultimately become a grassy undulating plain. On the plateau, the grassy plains alternate with moist depressions and some rocky outcrops. The plateau avifauna has affinities with the Eastern Arc and other East-African highlands and hence shares some species with southern Tanzanian Highlands. Although there are no endemic species on the plateau, there are a couple of endemic subspecies and several range restricted species present. About 90% of the plateau lies in Malawi, with the remaining 10% in Zambia. The plateau is by road only accessible from Malawi using the M9 which climbs the plateau in the south-west and descends back at the western edge of the plateau, predominantly following the Malawi/Zambia border.



*The rolling plains of the Nyika plateau, on the Western side dotted with small pockets of evergreen forest*

Exploitation of the area started in colonial times. A settlement called Chelinda was established alongside a large pine plantation, and the surrounding rivers were dammed for fishing. The settlement is still there and home to satellite offices of government departments and national park workers. The pine plantation is slowly being extracted to give the area back to its natural grassy habitat. The lodge is situated at the edge of the settlement, and still has a bit of that colonial aura. Currently it is only possible to stay at Chelinda, although there appear to be plans to set-up campsites elsewhere in the park.

The highland plains are home to large herds of Eland, Zebra, Road and Reedbuck. Leopard and Serval are the dominant cats, although wandering Lions pass through from time to time (one was around when we were there). Elephants roam the slope miombo woodlands, as well as the evergreen forests in the west and south-west of the plateau (including Manyanjere, see further). Peace Parks Foundation

supports the National Park, and has for instance translocated a couple dozen Elephants from Liwonde NP to Nyika in 2017.

The plateau is a bit off the main routes and it hence takes some time to get there. A visit to the plateau can be combined with a visit to the Vwazya marshes just south of the plateau.

## **Strategy and highlights**

I mainly birded 5 areas which are described in detail below. I also made some brief stops at Lake Kaulime (no noteworthy species that were not seen elsewhere) and at the *Acacia (Vachellia) abyssinica* patch on the way down for **Brown Parisoma** (one individual seen at -10.710563, 33.638221).

I did not visit the Juniper forest and the forest at the eastern escarpment as I had no targets in those areas.

### 1. The area and dam around the reception/rooms/dining and the 2 dams further downstream

The dam just in front, and the area around the reception (-10.587572, 33.811428) was very productive: both **Black-lored and Churring Cisticola's** were singing (although these were relatively common throughout in moist vegetation types), **Malawi batis, Yellow-crowned Canaries** (singing from the top of the pine trees behind the reception) and one **Yellow-browed Seedeater**. On one evening, **Montane Nightjars** (ssp. *guttifer*; 'Rwenzori Nightjar') were singing and seen around the cottages.

The dam's further downstream (dam 2; -10.595877, 33.806943) and dam 3; -10.608621, 33.804277), and the moist depressions in between (e.g. -10.593958, 33.807492 & -10.605243, 33.802344) had several **Montane Widowbirds, Blue Swallows, Malachite Sunbirds** and **Angolan Swallows**, among other highland species. I tried taping Striped Flufftail at several of these seepage areas but did not get a response.

### 2. Vipiry Hills

The Vipiry Hills (-10.668841, 33.807405) lie c. 15km south from the reception and are a rocky area rich in Protea's and indeed, the perfect habitat for **Scarlet-tufted Sunbird** (one male seen at -10.668458, 33.806631). A pair of **Denham's bustard** (ssp. *jacksoni*; 'Jackson's bustard'; widespread in east and central Africa) was seen closeby. Along the way, in the drier grasslands there were singing **Wing-snapping Cisticola's, Rufous-naped Larks** (ssp. *nyikae*, considered a separate species: Plateau Lark; -10.593893, 33.808777) and a family of **Red-winged Francolin's** (-10.620301, 33.802439).

The sunbird is not readily seen in the park and appears to be restricted to the high-elevations, rocky outcrops and protea rich areas. Other sites good for this species

are further away in South to South-East direction, such as the Chelinda hills but the Vipiry hills might be one of the closest.



*Vipiry Hills. Protea-rich rocks good for Scarlet-tufted Sunbird*

### 3. Area around **Zambian Resthouse (Zambia)**

The (now defunct) **Zambian Resthouse** (-10.572140, 33.702894) is surrounded by a heterogenous mix of (degraded) shrub, some old growth pines and evergreen forest. I only went there to look for a ranger to accompany me to the Manyanjere Forest (see logistic section), but ended up staying for longer as it was extremely birdy. Besides some interesting birds for my **Zambian lists** (**White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher**, **Singing Cisticola**, etc), the main highlight was a male **Whyte's Double-collared Sunbird** (only at Nyika (ssp. whytei) and east central Tanzania (ssp. skye); Whyte's DC sunbird often lumped with Ludwig's DC sunbird (only in Angola) as Montane DC sunbird). First seen at the evergreen forest edge (-10.572892, 33.702350) and subsequently feeding in the pines.

Other highlights: **Fülleborns Boubou**, **Malawi Batis**, **Yellow-browed Seedeater**

Note that at the time of writing, the eBird hotspot location for the **Zambian Resthouse** was a couple of hundred meters off from where the actual resthouse is.

### 4. Evergreen forest pockets between the **Zambian Rest House** and the camp (Malawi)

Evergreen forest is restricted to the western side of the plateau. The largest patch is Manyanjere forest on the **Zambian side** (see next section), but there are several

smaller (and also interesting) pockets along the main road from the Zambian border to Chelinda. The set of species is probably relatively similar between these different pockets. I focused my attention on one that was easily accessible (-10.583938, 33.734694), where I got **African Hill Babbler** (ssp. *stierlingi*, with spotted throat, very range restricted; -10.583603, 33.734069), **Fülleborn's boubou**, **Chapin's Apalis** (-10.584166, 33.734312; both appear relatively widespread on the plateau) and **Sharpe's Greenbul** (-10.584044, 33.734333) split from Yellow-streaked greenbul (formerly ssp. *alfredi*) and very range restricted). I found **White-Chested Alethe** in another pocket a bit further (-10.587393, 33.730612).



*Nyika NP. The eastern area of the plateau has no trees but plenty of moist depressions*

##### 5. Manyanjere forest (Zambia)

This is (one of) the largest block of Afromontane forest on the plateau. Besides the typical evergreen species also found in most of the other pockets, the forest is mainly visited for Sharpe's Akalat and Olive-flanked Ground Robin, both of which appear less straightforward (or absent?) in other forests. There are no tracks in the forest and you can just enter the forest wherever it appears suitable. The forest is relatively steep and birding therefore not so straightforward. The biggest challenge to birding the forest however is the presence of Elephants. Elephants wander around this area, as well as venture inside the forest. This requires serious caution and the presence of an armed ranger.

I birded the area for a few hours one morning and annoyingly, without a ranger (see logistics section). I was very wary as Elephant presence was obvious (tracks, dung), albeit not recent. I entered and went straight to past sightings of the targets

(less than 100m from the forest edge). There was a lot of activity and I quickly connected with **Olive-flanked Ground Robin** (-10.588784, 33.653508; ssp. *macclounii*, on Nyika and few other sites only; several other ssp. are found across the Eastern Arc Range). I also heard a distant **Sharpe's Akalat** when I suddenly stiffened by some very close rumbling and cracking noises. The type of noises that only large mammals make. I quickly found, and hid behind the biggest tree and from my 'shelter' tried to see the noisemakers. I was relieved to find four big bushpigs, which I scared off with a few claps in my hand. I refocused on the very responsive Sharpe's Akalat and after a flock of **Sharpe's Greenbuls** (both at the same site of the Robin -10.588784, 33.653508 – I evidently had not moved an inch), immediately left the crime scene. I stayed around the more exposed forest edge a bit longer where **Forest Double-collared Sunbirds** were foraging, before I headed back into Malawi.

Another known and frequently birded forest is Chowo forest (-10.588851, 33.689595). Although this is in Zambia, it lies along the frontier road and is easily accessible. There are no tracks and you have to make your own way. I did not stop at this forest.

## **Logistics**

### Getting there and going around on the plateau

The plateau is reached along a relatively well maintained dirt road either from the south-west (through Thazima gate, -10.834818, 33.590586), or from the west (Kaperekezi gate, -10.531791, 33.662910). We paid entrance fees at the gate (USD 10 pppd + something small for the vehicle) but booked and paid accommodation beforehand (see that section).

You can self-drive freely along the tracks on the plateau. Some tracks had very deep ruts and parallel tracks were in use to avoid these sections. So check at crossroads with bad tracks, if there are alternative tracks made a bit further. Roads appear to be in worse condition further away from the main roads.

The resident bird guide (associated with CAWS – White Mahoney) was very knowledgeable. Official guiding prices were USD20 per person per hour.

### Visiting Manyanjere forest

Manyanjere forest is around 4km away from the main road (junction -10.564847, 33.678989) and is accessible using a straightforward, but infrequently used track. There are a few sections along a steep drop and the track can be overgrown during the rainy season. During the time I visited, the track was straightforward and easy. I parked the vehicle at the edge of the forest (-10.587077, 33.653482).

You need to organize a visit to the Manyanjere forest with the Zambian Department of National Parks and Wildlife and go with their ranger. They have their camp at

the Kaperekezi gate, but also stay at the Zambian Rest House. Unfortunately, when I tried to organize my visit, I did not find any rangers at the Rest House. The lodge could also not get hold of the Zambian side and neither Malawi Park rangers, nor anyone of the lodge personal were willing (and legally allowed) to accompany. Ultimately, I decided (to my disliking) to go alone.

Taken together, I was a bit surprised that there was no clear agreement or arrangement between Zambia and Malawi in case guests want to quickly hop over to the Zambian side. I suggest to inform the lodge in advance of your plans, so they can timely connect with the Zambian side and organize a ranger to accompany you.

## KEY SITES NOT VISITED

This section lists some key sites that were not visited but were considered during the preparations of the trip. Note that I have not visited these sites myself. Information was mostly absorbed from the internet.

### LIWONDE NP

**Targets:** Spot-throated Woodpecker, Brown-breasted Barbet, Livingstone's Flycatcher, White-backed Night-Heron, Pel's Fishing-owl, Miombo species

Liwonde is a national park dominated by Miombo woodland. The park does not have any hard targets, but has plenty of good Miombo-affiliated and other more widespread, but generally rare species on offer. The park is easily accessible and can be birded as a destination along the southern loop together with Zomba, Mt. Mulanje, Thyolo. As it is a national park, there is plenty of game and it is not possible to walk around freely. It is typically included in a Malawi birding itinerary but I skipped it as it would not produce much extra from what I already saw in Zambia.

See for instance [Daniel Branch's blog for info on Liwonde NP.](#)

### VWAZA MARSH

**Targets:** Babbling starling, Chestnut-backed Sparrow-weaver

Vwaza marsh wildlife reserve is often considered as part of the same larger ecosystem as Nyika Plateau. It is located just south of the plateau, but at a lower altitude. The dominant vegetation is Miombo woodland. I did not visit the area, as I already saw the main targets in Zambia. There also does not appear to be much infrastructure, neither do the roads appear in a good condition so I'm not sure how easy it is to bird the area.

See for instance [Ross Gallardy's blog for info](#) on the Vwaza Marsh and [Daniel's account.](#)

### THYOLO

**Targets:** Green-headed Oriole, Cholo Alethe, Afromontane species

With affinities to the other southern Malawi highlands (Mt. Mulanje, Zomba), Thyolo is often included in birding itineraries as a stop-over for the rare green-headed oriole. The forest around Thyolo even appears in a worse state than the other highlands, and it is not clear how productive birding in the area still is. The

Oriole has a relatively wide distribution along the Tanzanian highlands up to southern coastal Kenya and I therefore did not do the extra loop to look for it.

# TRIP LIST

Taxonomy strictly follows IOC 13.2. The list only contains species *positively* identified by at least one of our group. Birds identified by guides or other people only are *not* included, presumed species neither.

**Note** - generic coordinates for locations are included (between brackets) in the annotations when not a eBird hotspot. S123456789 refers to the initial eBird checklist. HO = heard only. Coordinates at the end of the annotation always reflect the exact location of the sighting. subspecies information (ssp.) added where relevant. IUCN red-list status follows version 2016-3.

**Total number of birds: 241**

**African Black Duck** *Anas sparsa*

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Yellow-billed Duck** *Anas undulata*

04/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda Lodge - S151634212

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Red-winged Francolin** *Scleroptila levaillantii*

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410

**Common Quail** *Coturnix coturnix*

04/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda Lodge - HO - S151634212

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410 - Flushed close to camp

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078 - Flushed on way to forest

**Hildebrandt's Spurfowl** *Pternistis hildebrandti*

30/09/2023 - Hike Minunu - Madzeka, Mt. Mulanje (-15,941, 35,662) - HO - S151184128

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410 - At rocky sunbird spot

**Montane Nightjar** *Caprimulgus poliocephalus*

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - ssp *guttifer* - S151635434 - Calling around Lodge at dusk

**Scarce Swift** *Schoutedenapus myoptilus*

30/09/2023 - Hike Minunu - Madzeka, Mt. Mulanje (-15,941, 35,662) - S151184128 - At least several in big mixed species swift flock, typical call heard

**African Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus*

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**African Black Swift** *Apus barbatus*

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147 - Breeding (?) colony at the Madzeka falls

**Little Swift** *Apus affinis*

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**White-rumped Swift** *Apus caffer*

26/09/2023 - Unnamed Road, Central Region, MW (-14,118, 33,501) - S150806678

**Purple-crested Turaco** *Gallirex porphyreolophus*

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Livingstone's Turaco** *Tauraco livingstonii*

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S151185713

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**Schalow's Turaco** *Tauraco schalowi*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Denham's Bustard** *Neotis denhami* **Near-threatened (NT)**

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - ssp *jacksoni* - S151634410

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078 - On way in to forest

**Thick-billed Cuckoo** *Pachycoccyx audeberti*

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640 - Seen and heard

**Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - HO - S150986148  
03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - HO - S151382506

**Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius***

25/09/2023 - Waterfall Area, Dzalanyama Forest (-14,299, 33,49) - HO - S150806434

**African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078

**Lemon Dove *Columba larvata***

30/09/2023 - Hike Minunu - Madzeka, Mt. Mulanje (-15,941, 35,662) - HO - S151184128  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372

**Dusky Turtle Dove *Streptopelia lugens***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata***

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria***

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742  
03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506

**African Green Pigeon *Treron calvus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874 - Seen and heard  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640 - Seen and heard

**Red-chested Flufftail *Sarothrura rufa***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - HO - S150805874

**Striped Flufftail *Sarothrura affinis***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - HO - S151185713 - in a distance at the plateau

**Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata***

04/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda Lodge - S151634212  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Black Crake *Zapornia flavirostra***

25/09/2023 - Waterfall Area, Dzalanyama Forest (-14,299, 33,49) - HO - S150806434

**Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Reed Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala***

04/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda Lodge - S151634212

**Little Egret *Egretta garzetta***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta***

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742  
04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus***

04/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda Lodge - S151634212

**European Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*  
04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**White-backed Vulture** *Gyps africanus* **Critically Endangered (CR)**  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Western Banded Snake Eagle** *Circaetus cinerascens*  
24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Martial Eagle** *Polemaetus bellicosus* **Vulnerable (VU)**  
24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Long-crested Eagle** *Lophaetus occipitalis*  
02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**African Hawk-Eagle** *Aquila spilogaster*  
24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805989

**Lizard Buzzard** *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806263

**African Goshawk** *Accipiter tachiro*  
04/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda Lodge - HO - S151634212

**Black Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter melanoleucus*  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308  
05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Augur Buzzard** *Buteo augur*  
24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151635434

**African Barred Owlet** *Glaucidium capense*  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**African Wood Owl** *Strix woodfordii*  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151635434

**Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus*  
24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093  
05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757 - Seen well

**Bar-tailed Trogon** *Apaloderma vittatum*  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - HO - S151183147  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920 - Heard and seen

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*  
27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Green Wood Hoopoe** *Phoeniculus purpureus*  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Southern Ground Hornbill** *Bucorvus leadbeateri* **Vulnerable (VU)**  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - HO - S150806108  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - HO - S150806640

**Crowned Hornbill** *Lophoceros alboterminatus*  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920

**Pale-billed Hornbill** *Lophoceros pallidirostris*  
24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Trumpeter Hornbill** *Bycanistes bucinator*  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108  
29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148  
02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**Silvery-cheeked Hornbill** *Bycanistes brevis*  
29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

**Brown-hooded Kingfisher** *Halcyon albiventris*  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Half-collared Kingfisher *Alcedo semitorquata***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806333 - Fishing in front of camp

**Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima***

04/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda Lodge - S151634212

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus***

07/10/2023 - S10, Northern Region, MW (-10,711, 33,638) - S151635212

**Olive Bee-eater *Merops superciliosus***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806263

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078 - Groups coming through on way to forest

**European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**White-eared Barbet *Stactolaema leucotis***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**Moustached Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus leucomystax***

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - HO - S151635078 - Ho

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - HO - S151641920

**Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus bilineatus***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - HO - S151381880

**Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus chrysoconus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Miombo Pied Barbet *Tricholaema frontata***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108 - Mating, -14.25568, 33.451661

**Black-collared Barbet *Lybius torquatus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Scaly-throated Honeyguide *Indicator variegatus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - HO - S150806108

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - HO - S150986148

**Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Golden-tailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni***

25/09/2023 - Waterfall Area, Dzalanyama Forest (-14,299, 33,49) - HO - S150806434

**Little Green Woodpecker *Campethera maculosa***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Bearded Woodpecker *Chloropicus namaquus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Cardinal Woodpecker *Dendropicos fuscescens***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Stierling's Woodpecker *Dendropicos stierlingi* Near-threatened (NT)**

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874 - in mixed species flock -14.256834, 33.448008, recorded

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108 - -14.254568, 33.450742

**Rock Kestrel *Falco rupicolus***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus***

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

**African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - HO - S150986148

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - HO - S151381880

**Malawi Batis *Batis dimorpha***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - ssp dimorpha - S151184705

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - ssp dimorpha - S151272742 - -15.3528678, 35.301917, male with broad breastband but also some rufous in wing

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - ssp sola - S151634308 - in front of dining hall

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - ssp sola - S151634757

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - ssp sola - S151635078

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - ssp sola - S151641920

**Chinspot Batis *Batis molitor***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Black-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira peltata***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Olive Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus olivaceus***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - ssp bertrandi - S151184705

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - ssp bertrandi - S151183147

**Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Black-backed Puffback *Dryoscopus cubla***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**Fülleborn's Boubou *Laniarius fülleborni***

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - HO - S151634757 - Ho, duet

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151635003

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - HO - S151635072

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920

**Tropical Boubou *Laniarius major***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506

**Brubru *Nilaus afer***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Retz's Helmetshrike *Prionops retzii***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Ceblepyris pectoralis***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**African Golden Oriole *Oriolus auratus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Square-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus ludwigii***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

**Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher *Trochocercus cyanomelas***

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - S151381880

**African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Northern Fiscal *Lanius humeralis***

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Souza's Shrike *Lanius souzae***

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640 - -14.263743, 33.454389

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575 - -14.316517, 34.25898

**Pied Crow *Corvus albus***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**White-necked Raven *Corvus albicollis***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**White-tailed Blue Flycatcher *Elminia albicauda***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

07/10/2023 - S10, Northern Region, MW (-10,711, 33,638) - S151635212

**White-tailed Crested Flycatcher *Elminia albonotata***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S151185713

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920

**White-winged Black Tit *Melaniparus leucomelas***

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Rufous-bellied Tit *Melaniparus rufiventris***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874 - Relatively common

**Miombo Tit *Melaniparus griseiventris***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Eastern Nicator *Nicator gularis***

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - HO - S151381880

**Rufous-naped Lark *Mirafraga africana***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - ssp nyikae - S151634308 - ssp. nyikae; Plateau lark, recorded, - 10.593893, 33.808777

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - ssp nyikae - S151634410 - ssp. nyikae, 'Plateau lark'; Several seen

**Black-browed Greenbul *Arizelocichla fusciceps***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705 - Common

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372 - Common

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151635003

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920

07/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151680226

**Olive-headed Greenbul** *Arizelocichla olivaceiceps*

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742 - -15.359181, 35.302629

**Stripe-cheeked Greenbul** *Arizelocichla milanjensis*

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S151185713 - -15.948728, 35.651279 one finally attracted by playback

**Little Greenbul** *Eurillas virens*

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - S151381880

**Grey-olive Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus cerviniventris*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - HO - S150805989 - Ho

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - S151381880

**Cabanis's Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus cabanisi*

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506

**Yellow-streaked Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus flavostriatus*

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - ssp *vincenti* - S150986148

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - ssp *vincenti* - S151183147

**Sharpe's Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus alfredi*

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078 - Noisy group at -10.588784, 33.653508

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920 - Noisy group at -10.584044, 33.734333

**Dark-capped Bulbul** *Pycnonotus tricolor*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Black Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne pristoptera*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - ssp *orientalis* - S150805874

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - ssp *orientalis* - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - ssp *orientalis* - S150848575

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - ssp *orientalis* - S150986148

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - ssp *orientalis* - S151183372

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - ssp *orientalis* - S151272742

**Banded Martin** *Neophedina cincta*

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410

**Grey-rumped Swallow** *Pseudhirundo griseopyga*

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Rock Martin** *Ptyonoprogne fuligula*

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

**Blue Swallow** *Hirundo atrocaerulea* **Vulnerable (VU)**

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705 - At least one with long streamers

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308 - Widespread

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757 - At least one with clearly long streamers, but most appeared to be angolan

**Angola Swallow** *Hirundo angolensis*

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308 - Several

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757 - Appeared more common than barn swallow. Recorded

**Lesser Striped Swallow** *Cecropis abyssinica*

26/09/2023 - Unnamed Road, Central Region, MW (-14,118, 33,501) - S150806678

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Red-capped Crombec *Sylvietta ruficapilla***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108 - At least one heard

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - HO - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler *Phylloscopus ruficapilla***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - ssp johnstoni - S150986148 - ssp.johnstoni

**African Yellow Warbler *Iduna natalensis***

30/09/2023 - Hike Minunu - Madzeka, Mt. Mulanje (-15,941, 35,662) - S151184128

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Mountain Yellow Warbler *Iduna similis***

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Lake Kaulime (-10,578, 33,76) - S151635352

**Fan-tailed Grassbird *Catriscus brevirostris***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108 - In dambo

**Evergreen Forest Warbler *Bradypterus lopezi***

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - HO - S151183147

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**Cinnamon Bracken Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - HO - S151634308

**Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus baboecala***

25/09/2023 - Waterfall Area, Dzalanyama Forest (-14,299, 33,49) - HO - S150806434

**Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans***

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Black-lored Cisticola *Cisticola nigriloris***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308 - Common in bracken along dam's

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Lake Kaulime (-10,578, 33,76) - S151635352

**Lazy Cisticola *Cisticola aberrans***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Churring Cisticola *Cisticola njombe***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - ssp mariae - S151634308 - Common in bracken along dam's

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Lake Kaulime (-10,578, 33,76) - ssp mariae - S151635352

**Wailing Cisticola *Cisticola lais***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - ssp semifasciatus - S151184705

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - ssp semifasciatus - S151183147

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - ssp semifasciatus - S151183372

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - ssp semifasciatus - S151634410

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - ssp semifasciatus - S151635078

**Neddicky Cisticola *Cisticola fulvicapilla***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Wing-snapping Cisticola *Cisticola ayresii***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - ssp ayresii - S151634308

**Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Red-winged Prinia *Prinia erythroptera***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Bar-throated Apalis *Apalis thoracica***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - HO - ssp youngi - S151635003  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - HO - ssp youngi - S151635078 - Duet

**Yellow-throated Apalis** *Apalis flavigularis* **Endangered (EN)** **Country endemic**

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147 - Common at higher altitudes  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372 - Common  
02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**Yellow-breasted Apalis** *Apalis flava*

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705 - Common  
03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506  
04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**White-winged Apalis** *Apalis chariessa* **Vulnerable (VU)**

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148 - -15.970701, 35.654572 just above the old power station  
03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506 - -15.371029, 35.322241

**Black-headed Apalis** *Apalis melanocephala*

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - ssp fuliginosa - S150986148

**Chapin's Apalis** *Apalis chapini*

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920 - -10.584166, 33.734312

**Green-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brachyura*

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148  
04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - S151381880

**Stierling's Wren-Warbler** *Calamonastes stierlingi*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874 - Heard and seen  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108 - Seen and heard  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640 - Heard

**Green-capped Eremomela** *Eremomela scotops*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108 - Common flock species  
27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**African Hill Babbler** *Sylvia abyssinica*

07/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - ssp stierlingi - S151680226 - Ssp stierlingi; with spotted throat

**Brown Parisoma** *Curruca lugens*

07/10/2023 - S10, Northern Region, MW (-10,711, 33,638) - ssp jacksoni - S151635212 - At know locality - 10.710563, 33.638221

**Southern Yellow White-eye** *Zosterops anderssoni*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640  
29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147  
02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308  
05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Arrow-marked Babbler** *Turdoides jardineii*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Yellow-bellied Hyliota** *Hyliota flavigaster*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**African Spotted Creeper** *Salpornis salvadori*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - HO - S150805874  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640  
27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Violet-backed Starling** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
07/10/2023 - S10, Northern Region, MW (-10,711, 33,638) - S151635212

**Red-winged Starling** *Onychognathus morio*

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Waller's Starling** *Onychognathus walleri*

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078 - Overhead, red-winged, short tailed starling

**Yellow-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus africanus*

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151635434 - On Roan

**Orange Ground Thrush *Geokichla gurneyi***

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - ssp *disruptans* - S151183372

**Olive Thrush *Turdus olivaceus***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705

**Kurrichane Thrush *Turdus libonyana***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Miombo Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas barbata***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**White-browed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

**Pale Flycatcher *Agricola pallidus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Grey Tit-Flycatcher *Fraseria plumbea***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

**Ashy Flycatcher *Fraseria caerulescens***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher *Melaenornis fischeri***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - ssp *nyikensis* - S151634308

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - ssp *nyikensis* - S151634757

**Southern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis pammelaina***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Böhm's Flycatcher *Bradornis boehmi***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108 - In mixed species flock with sterling's wp

**African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**White-starred Robin *Pogonocichla stellata***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S151185713

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - ssp *orientalis* - S151635003

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - ssp *orientalis* - S151641920

07/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - ssp *orientalis* - S151680226

**White-chested Alethe *Chamaetylas fuelleborni***

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Evergreen Forest Patches (-10,584, 33,734) - S151641920 - One responded to tape at -10.587392, 33.730612

**Thyolo Alethe *Chamaetylas choloensis* Endangered (EN)**

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148 - 2 seen -15.971387, 35.654528 and -15.961607, 35.653203; more heard

**White-browed Robin-Chat *Cossypha heuglini***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Red-capped Robin-Chat *Cossypha natalensis***

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372 - Heard only, extremely skulking softly singing

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - S151381880

**Cape Robin-Chat *Dessonornis caffer***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308  
05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757 - Seen well

**Olive-flanked Ground Robin *Dessonornis anomalus* Near-threatened (NT)**

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - ssp *anomalus* - S151184705 - ssp. restricted to Mt Mulanje & Mt. Namuli  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - ssp *anomalus* - S151183147 - ssp. restricted to Mt Mulanje & Mt. Namuli; Very vocal, several heard  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - ssp *anomalus* - S151183372 - ssp. restricted to Mt Mulanje & Mt. Namuli; Several seen + nest with eggs  
06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - ssp *macclounii* - S151635078 - Seen well at -10.588784, 33.653508

**East Coast Akalat *Sheppardia gunningi* Near-threatened (NT)**

04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - ssp *bensoni* - S151381880 - possible split; - 11.688598, 34.254597

**Sharpe's Akalat *Sheppardia sharpei***

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - ssp *sharpei* - S151635078 - Seen well at -10.588784, 33.653508

**Miombo Rock Thrush *Monticola angolensis***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874 - -14.265663, 33.45733  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640 - Two seen, several heard  
27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575 - Common

**African Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575  
30/09/2023 - Hike Minunu - Madzeka, Mt. Mulanje (-15,941, 35,662) - S151184128  
30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705  
02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742  
05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308

**Mocking Cliff Chat *Thamnota cinnamomeiventris***

25/09/2023 - Waterfall Area, Dzalanyama Forest (-14,299, 33,49) - S150806434  
27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Familiar Chat *Oenanthe familiaris***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805989  
26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Anchieta's Sunbird *Anthreptes anchietae***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Western Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes longuemarei***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148  
04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148 - Abundant  
30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - S151184705  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147  
01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372  
04/10/2023 - Nkwadzi Hill Forest Reserve (-11,689, 34,256) - S151381880

**Amethyst Sunbird *Chalcomitra amethystina***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Bronzy Sunbird *Nectarinia kilimensis***

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757 - Male

**Malachite Sunbird *Nectarinia famosa***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308 - Two males and 1 female at two different sites in moist habitat

**Scarlet-tufted Sunbird *Nectarinia johnstoni***

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410 - Male -10.668458, 33.806631, in Rocky, protea rich area

**Eastern Miombo Sunbird *Cinnyris manoensis***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874  
25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108  
27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Whyte's Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris whytei***

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - ssp whytei - S151634757 - First seen at - 10.572892, 33.70235, then seen foraging on pine trees behind rest house

**Forest Double-collared Sunbird *Cinnyris fuelleborni***

30/09/2023 - Minunu Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,925, 35,639) - ssp bensoni - S151184705

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - ssp bensoni - S151183372

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - ssp fuelleborni - S151635078 - at forest edge

**Purple-banded Sunbird *Cinnyris bifasciatus***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Gorge, Mt. Mulanje (-15,964, 35,677) - S151183147

01/10/2023 - Madzeka Hut, Mt. Mulanje (-15,956, 35,688) - S151183372

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

03/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--lower road - S151382506

**Copper Sunbird *Cinnyris cupreus***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Yellow-throated Bush Sparrow *Gymnoris superciliaris***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

**Baglafaecht Weaver *Ploceus baglafaecht***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - ssp nyikae - S151634308

**Bertram's Weaver *Ploceus bertrandi***

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742 - -15.350162, 35.30052

**Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Eastern Golden Weaver *Ploceus subaureus***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093 - Mixed colony in front of beach

**Holub's Golden Weaver *Ploceus xanthops***

25/09/2023 - Waterfall Area, Dzalanyama Forest (-14,299, 33,49) - S150806434

**Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093 - Mixed colony in front of beach

**Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - ssp nigriceps - S150806263

**Dark-backed Weaver *Ploceus bicolor***

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640 - Male, seen well

**Montane Widowbird *Euplectes psammacromius***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308 - Several spread across moist areas

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078 - Female, on way to forest

**Black-and-white Mannikin *Spermestes bicolor***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Yellow-bellied Waxbill *Coccygia quartinia***

30/09/2023 - Hike Minunu - Madzeka, Mt. Mulanje (-15,941, 35,662) - S151184128

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Manyanjere Forest - S151635078 - Forest edge

**Lesser Seedcracker *Pyrenestes minor***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874 - -14.264348, 33.4573

**Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**African Firefinch *Lagonosticta rubricata***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

**Mountain Wagtail *Motacilla clara***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

29/09/2023 - Ruo Gorge, Mt Mulanje (-15,971, 35,655) - S150986148  
02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

**African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp***

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus***

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410 - Several

**Striped Pipit *Anthus lineiventris***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805989

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Southern Citril *Crithagra hyposticta***

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

**Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

04/10/2023 - Makuzi Beach Lodge (-11,919, 34,178) - S151634093

**Brimstone Canary *Crithagra sulphurata***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

02/10/2023 - Zomba Plateau--campsite (Trout farm) - S151272742

05/10/2023 - Nyika National Park - S151634410

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Lake Kaulime (-10,578, 33,76) - S151635352

**Reichard's Seedeater *Crithagra reichardi***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575

**Black-eared Seedeater *Crithagra mennelli***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

**Yellow-browed Seedeater *Crithagra whytii***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308 - In edges of dam 1

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Lake Kaulime (-10,578, 33,76) - S151635352

**Yellow-crowned Canary *Serinus flavivertex***

05/10/2023 - Nyika NP--Chelinda area - S151634308 - Singing in top of top, and several others later

05/10/2023 - Nyika Zambian Rest house (-10,573, 33,704) - S151634757

06/10/2023 - Nyika NP - Lake Kaulime (-10,578, 33,76) - S151635352

**Cape Bunting *Emberiza capensis***

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - ssp *vincenti* - S150848575 - split Vincent's Bunting; - 14.311569, 34.248642

30/09/2023 - Hike Minunu - Madzeka, Mt. Mulanje (-15,941, 35,662) - ssp *vincenti* - S151184128 - split Vincent's Bunting; One distant at -15.947981, 35.669003

**Golden-breasted Bunting *Emberiza flaviventris***

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

**Cabanis's Bunting *Emberiza cabanisi***

24/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150805874

25/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806108

26/09/2023 - Dzalanyama Forest Lodge area - S150806640

27/09/2023 - Malawi College of Forestry and Wildlife - S150848575