

Koppies Birds List

Observed 2006 to 2026 on Melville Koppies West, Central and East

Common name	Scientific Name	Status
White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>	Occasional; flying over
Reed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>	Occasional; flying over
African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	Occasional; flying over
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Frequent; flying over
Hadedda Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	Abundant
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Occasional; flying over
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Occasional; flying over
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	Frequent; flying over
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea Purpurea</i>	Rare; flying over
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Rare; flying over
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Rare; flying over
Yellow-billed Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	Rare; flying over
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Frequent; flying over
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	Rare; flying over
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Rare; flying over
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	Occasional; flying over; Summer
Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>	Occasional; flying over; Summer
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	Rare
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	Rare; flying over
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	Common; flying over
Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>	Occasional; flying over
African Black Duck	<i>Anus sparsa</i>	Occasional
Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>	Occasional; flying over
African Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophagia vocifer</i>	Rare; flying over
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	Occasional
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegypticus</i>	Occasional; flying over; Summer
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	Rare
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Occasional; flying over; Summer
Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>	Very rare
Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melaneoleucus</i>	Common
Ovambo Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter ovampensis</i>	Occasional
Little Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter minullus</i>	Occasional
African Harrier Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	Occasional
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Occasional
Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	Rare
Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>	Rare
Helmeted Guinea fowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	Abundant
Natal Spur fowl	<i>Pternistis natalensis</i>	Rare
Swainson's Spur fowl	<i>Francolinus swainsonii</i>	Frequent
Orange River Francolin	<i>Scleroptila gutturalis</i>	Rare

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Common Buttonquail	<i>Turnix sylvaticus</i>	Rare
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Vagrant
Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	Vagrant
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>	Common
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	Abundant
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	Occasional; flying over
African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	Common
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Vagrant
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>	Occasional; flying over
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	Common
African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>	Common
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	Common
Ring-necked (Cape Turtle) Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	Common
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	Abundant
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	Rare
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Common
Grey Go-away-Bird	<i>Crinifer concolor</i>	Abundant
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Rare; Summer
African Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus gularis</i>	Vagrant; Summer
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	Common; Summer
Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	Occasional; Summer
Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	Abundant; Summer
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	Occasional; Summer
Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>	Occasional
Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Occasional
Spotted Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	Frequent
Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	Rare
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	Rare; Summer
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Rare flying over; Summer
African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	Rare flying over; Summer
White Rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	Common flying over; Summer
Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>	Rare flying over; Summer
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Common flying over; Summer
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	Abundant flying over
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius stratus</i>	Abundant
White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>	Vagrant
Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>	Abundant
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	Rare
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	Occasional
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>	Occasional
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	Common; Summer
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>	Rare
European Roller	<i>Coriacias garrulus</i>	Vagrant; Summer
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coriacias caudatus</i>	Vagrant
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>	Rare

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Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus rufirostris</i>	Rare
Green Woodhoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	Common
Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>	Vagrant
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	Common
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>	Common
Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>	Common
Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>	Rare
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	Vagrant
Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	Occasional
Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	Frequent
Brown-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>	Frequent
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>	Occasional
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicus fuscescens</i>	Frequent
Red-throated Wryneck	<i>Jynx ruficollis</i>	Occasional
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	Rare
Nicholson's Pipit	<i>Anthus nicholsoni</i>	Occasional
Plain backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>	Rare
Buffy Pipit	<i>Anthus vaalensis</i>	Vagrant
Striped Pipit	<i>Anthus lineiventris</i>	Occasional
Cape Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>	Occasional
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	Frequent
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Occasional; Summer
White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	Common; Summer
Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>	Common; Summer
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	Occasional; Summer
South African Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon spilodera</i>	Vagrant
Large Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	Abundant
Western House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Occasional; Summer
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Rare
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	Vagrant
Black Cuckooshrike	<i>Campephaga flava</i>	Occasional
Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	Occasional
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	Common
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>	Abundant
Karoo Thrush	<i>Turdus smithi</i>	Abundant
Cape Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>	Rare
Mocking Cliff Chat	<i>Thamnoleae cinnamomeiventris</i>	Vagrant
Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>	Rare
Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>	Rare
African Stone Chat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Occasional
Cape Robin Chat	<i>Dessonornis caffer</i>	Abundant
Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>	Rare
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	Rare; Summer
Chestnut-vented Warbler	<i>Curruca subcoerulea</i>	Occasional; Winter
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilis</i>	Frequent; Summer

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Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	Occasional; Summer
Marsh Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	Rare; Summer
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	Frequent
Desert Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aridulus</i>	Frequent
Neddicky	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>	Common
Wailing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lais</i>	Occasional
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>	Vagrant
Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	Occasional
Black-chested Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>	Frequent
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	Abundant
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>	Occasional
Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>	Frequent
Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>	Abundant
Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Sigelus silens</i>	Common
Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenormis pammeliana</i>	Vagrant
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Occasional; Summer
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Tersiphone viridis</i>	Common; Summer
Fairy Flycatcher	<i>Stenostria scita</i>	Frequent; Winter
Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>	Rare
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>	Rare
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>	Rare
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubia</i>	Frequent
Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	Vagrant; Summer
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	Abundant
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Rare; Summer
Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>	Rare
Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>	Common
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>	Vagrant
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>	Rare
Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>	Occasional
Orange-breasted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus sulphureopectus</i>	Occasional
Grey-headed Bushshrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	Rare
Cape Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	Abundant
Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>	Occasional
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	Rare; Summer
Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	Occasional
Common Myna	<i>Acrodothores tristis</i>	Common
Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarina famosa</i>	Vagrant
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>	Common
Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>	Common
Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	Abundant
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Frequent
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>	Frequent
Thick-billed Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>	Common
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	Rare
Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>	Rare

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Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	Abundant
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	Occasional
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	Frequent
Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>	Rare
Long-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes progne</i>	Vagrant
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	Occasional
Purple Indigobird	<i>Vidua purpurascens</i>	Vagrant
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Spermestes cucullata</i>	Common
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>	Rare
Violet-eared Waxbill	<i>Granatina granatinus</i>	Vagrant
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	Occasional
Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>	Occasional
Jameson's Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rhodopareia</i>	Vagrant
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>	Vagrant
Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>	Common
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>	Common
Black-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>	Common
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>	Common

Total: 194

Bird Abundance Categories

Category	Description	Reporting Rate
Abundant	A species that is very numerous and almost always seen.	Over 50%
Common	A species that is easily found and seen regularly.	20-50%
Frequent (or Fairly Common)	A species seen often but not every visit.	10-20%
Occasional (or Uncommon)	A species seen only sometimes, often requiring specific searching, or flying over.	2-10%
Rare	A species that is rarely seen.	Under 2%
Vagrant	A species that has wandered far outside its normal range. It is unusual and unexpected.	Under 0.5%

List compiled by Anthony Paton and Tony Lelliott