

Wakkerstroom Area Bird List

Apalis, Bar-throated	Cisticola, Cloud
Avocet, Pied	Cisticola, Croaking
Barbet, Acacia Pied	Cisticola, Lazy
Barbet, Black-collared	Cisticola, Levillant's
Barbet, Crested	Cisticola, Pale-crowned
Batis, Cape	Cisticola, Wailing
Batis, Chinspot	Cisticola, Wing-snapping
Bee-eater, European	Cisticola, Zitting
Bee-eater, Little	Coot, Red-knobbed
Bee-eater, White-fronted	Cormorant, Reed
Bishop, Southern Red	Cormorant, White-breasted
Bishop, Yellow	Courser, Temminck's
Bishop, Yellow-crowned	Crake, African
Bittern, Little	Crake, Baillon's
Blackcap, Bush	Crake, Black
Bokmakierie	Crake, Corn
Boubou, Southern	Crake, Spotted
Brubru	Crane, Blue
Bulbul, Dark-capped	Crane, Wattled
Bunting, Cape	Crane, Grey Crowned
Bunting, Cinnamon-breasted	Crow, Cape
Bunting, Golden-breasted	Crow, Pied
Bush-Shrike, Olive	Cuckoo, Black
Bustard, Black-bellied	Cuckoo, Diderick
Bustard, Denham's	Cuckoo, Klaas's
Buttonquail, Black-rumped	Cuckoo, Red-chested
Buttonquail, Kurrichane	Cuckooshrike, Black
Buzzard, European Honey	Darter, African
Buzzard, Forest	Dove, Ring-necked
Buzzard, Jackal	Dove, Laughing
Buzzard, Common	Dove, Namaqua
Camaroptera, Green-backed	Dove, Red-eyed
Canary, Black-throated	Dove, Rock
Canary, Cape	Drongo, Fork-tailed
Canary, Forest	Duck, African Black
Canary, Yellow-fronted	Duck, Fulvous
Chat, Ant-eating	Duck, Maccoa
Chat, Buff-streaked	Duck, White-backed
Chat, Familiar	Duck, White-faced
Chat, Mocking Cliff	Duck, Yellow-billed

Eagle, African Crowned	Harrier, Montagu's
Eagle, African Fish	Harrier-hawk, African
Eagle, Booted	Helmet-shrike, White-crested
Eagle, Long-crested	Heron, Black-crowned Night
Eagle, Martial	Heron, Black-headed
Eagle, Verreaux's	Heron, Goliath
Eagle, Wahlberg's	Heron, Green-backed
Egret, Great	Heron, Grey
Egret, Little	Heron, Purple
Egret, Western Cattle	Heron, Squacco
Egret, Intermediate	Honeybird, Brown-backed
Falcon, Amur	Honeyguide, Greater
Falcon, Lanner	Honeyguide, Lesser
Falcon, Red-footed	Hoopoe, African
Finch, Cuckoo	Ibis, African Sacred
Finch, Red-headed	Ibis, Glossy
Firefinch, African	Ibis, Hadeda
Fiscal, Common	Ibis, Southern Bald
Flamingo, Greater	Indigobird, Dusky
Flamingo, Lesser	Jacana, African
Flufftail, Red-chested	Kestrel, Greater
Flufftail, White-winged	Kestrel, Lesser
Flycatcher, African Dusky	Kestrel, Rock
Flycatcher, African Paradise	Kingfisher, Brown-hooded
Flycatcher, Fiscal	Kingfisher, Giant
Flycatcher, Spotted	Kingfisher, Half-collared
Francolin, Coqui	Kingfisher, Malachite
Francolin, Grey-winged	Kingfisher, Pied
Francolin, Red-winged	Kite, Black
Goose, Egyptian	Kite, Black-winged
Goose, Spur-winged	Kite, Yellow-billed
Goshawk, African	Korhaan, Blue
Grassbird, Cape	Korhaan, Southern White-bellied
Grebe, Black-necked	Lapwing, African Wattled
Grebe, Great Crested	Lapwing, Blacksmith
Grebe, Little	Lapwing, Black-winged
Greenbul, Sombre	Lapwing, Crowned
Greenshank, Common	Lark, Botha's
Guineafowl, Helmeted	Lark, Eastern Clapper
Gull, Grey-headed	Lark, Eastern Long-billed
Hamerkop	Lark, Pink-billed
Harrier, African Marsh	Lark, Rudd's
Harrier, Black	Lark, Rufous-naped
Harrier, Western Marsh	Lark, Spike-heeled

Lark, Red-capped	Rail, African
Longclaw, Cape	Robin, White-starred
Martin, Banded	Robin-chat, Cape
Martin, Brown-throated	Robin-chat, Chorister
Martin, Common House	Roller, European
Martin, Rock	Ruff
Martin, Sand	Sandpiper, Common
Moorhen, Common	Sandpiper, Curlew
Moorhen, Lesser	Sandpiper, Marsh
Mousebird, Red-faced	Sandpiper, Wood
Mousebird, Speckled	Saw-wing, Black
Myna, Common	Secretarybird
Neddicky	Seedeater, Streaky-headed
Nightjar, Fiery-necked	Shelduck, South African
Nightjar, Freckled	Shoveler, Cape
Oriole, Black-headed	Shrike, Lesser Grey
Osprey, Western	Shrike, Red-backed
Ostrich, Common	Snipe, African
Owl, African Grass	Snipe, Greater Painted
Owl, Barn	Sparrow, Cape
Owl, Marsh	Sparrow, House
Owl, Spotted Eagle	Sparrowhawk, Black
Petronia, Yellow-throated	Sparrowhawk, Rufous-chested
Pigeon, African Olive	Sparrow-weaver, White-browed
Pigeon, Speckled	Sparrow, Southern Grey-headed
Pipit, African	Spoonbill, African
Pipit, African Rock	Spurfowl, Swainson's
Pipit, Buffy	Starling, Cape Glossy
Pipit, Long-billed	Starling, Common
Pipit, Plain-backed	Starling, Pied
Pipit, Yellow-breasted	Starling, Red-winged
Plover, Common Ringed	Starling, Violet-backed
Plover, Kittlitz's	Starling, Wattled
Plover, Three-banded	Stilt, Black-winged
Pochard, Southern	Stint, Little
Pratincole, Black-winged	Stonechat, African
Prinia, Black-chested	Stork, Black
Prinia, Drakensberg	Stork, White
Prinia, Tawny-flanked	Sugarbird, Gurney's
Puffback, Black-backed	Sunbird, Amethyst
Quail, Common	Sunbird, Greater Double-collared
Quail, Harlequin	Sunbird, Malachite
Quailfinch, African	Swallow, Barn
Quelea, Red-billed	Swallow, Greater Striped

Swallow, Lesser Striped	White-eye, Cape
Swallow, Pearl-breasted	Whydah, Long-tailed Paradise
Swallow, South African Cliff	Whydah, Pin-tailed
Swallow, White-throated	Widowbird, Fan-tailed
Swamphen, African	Widowbird, Long-tailed
Swift, African Black	Widowbird, Red-collared
Swift, Alpine	Widowbird, White-winged
Swift, Common	Wood-hoopoe, Green
Swift, Horus	Woodpecker, Cardinal
Swift, Little	Woodpecker, Golden-tailed
Swift, White-rumped	Woodpecker, Ground
Tchagra, Black-crowned	Woodpecker, Olive
Teal, Cape	Wryneck, Red-throated
Teal, Hottentot	
Teal, Red-billed	
Tern, Caspian	
Tern, Whiskered	
Tern, White-winged	
Thick-knee, Spotted	
Thrush, Cape Rock	
Thrush, Groundscraper	
Thrush, Karoo	
Thrush, Kurrichane	
Thrush, Olive	
Thrush, Sentinel Rock	
Tit, Southern Black	
Wagtail, African Pied	
Wagtail, Cape	
Warbler, African Reed	
Warbler, Barratt's	
Warbler, Dark-capped Yellow	
Warbler, Great Reed	
Warbler, Lesser Swamp	
Warbler, Little Rush	
Warbler, Sedge	
Warbler, Willow	
Warbler, Yellow-throated Woodland	
Waxbill, Blue	
Waxbill, Orange-breasted	
Weaver, Cape	
Weaver, Southern Masked	
Weaver, Thick-billed	
Weaver, Village	
Wheatear, Mountain	

Bird Guides

There are several trained bird guides in Wakkerstroom, all of whom have completed their training at the BirdLife South Africa Centre. It makes for a memorable days birding to make use of the guides. They will almost guarantee you sightings of the area's specials and they take great pride in their profession. Guests are asked to book in advance to avoid disappointment. The guides accompany you in your vehicle for the duration of the tour.

Contact details:

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Tips for birding in and around Wakkerstroom

- Most of the roads in the surrounds are gravel and their condition is generally good enough for any vehicle to use. However, the condition will vary from month to month depending on when they were last graded. There are sections of the road that become quite rocky or severely corrugated at times. Also, after heavy rains some sections can be slippery and even impassible for a short period, without a 4x4 wheel drive vehicle.
- Pull well off the road whenever you stop. These are public roads, and some can carry quite a bit of traffic. Other road users may not be as interested in the rich fauna and flora as you are.
- Do not climb over fences or enter farms without prior permission. Most landowners are obliging if permission is asked for before their property is entered.
- Take along warm clothing, a raincoat or anorak – no matter what the weather is like when you leave. It is bound to change before you get back.
- Do not head due east in the early morning and due west in the evening. This way, you will not be looking directly into the sun.
- Early mornings are best for birding so make the effort to get out by sunrise.

Hides in the area

Iain Drummond Hide can be reached from the Oude Stasie Road. There is parking next to the road 500m south of the Oude Stasie itself. From here you walk a few hundred metres down towards the wetland to the hide – a good spot to see Red-chested Flufftail. At sunset, at certain times of the year this part of the wetland also provides the interesting spectacle of thousands of birds flying into the wetland to roost – Pied Starling, Long-tailed and other widowbird, Cattle Egret, swallow and more.

Crane Hide is reached by turning into the BirdLife South Africa Centre's driveway. Please park at reception. The hide is approximately an 800m walk through the grassland. As its name suggests, this hide has some great views of Grey Crowned Cranes. Marsh and Grass Owls are also a possibility, especially at dusk in winter. The grassland surrounding this hide is perhaps the best place in the district to get the elusive, but common Pale-crowned Cisticola and in some summer months Corn Crake is a possibility.

The best viewing opportunities of the wetland are from the raised road that heads north out of the village towards Amersfoort. You can pull off to the side of the road or park below in the Wetland Reserve itself. From here you will also be able to access both the WOW and Clive Beck Hides. Here the spectacle of hundreds of South African Cliff Swallows and White-rumped and Little Swifts wheeling in the air above the road bridge over the Utaga River provide a summer treat. There is also a good chance, especially early in the morning of spotting the Cape Clawless Otter in the river below the road. The much rarer Spotted-necked Otter has also been seen in some of the open pools close by.





**Wakkerstroom
Bird Club**



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Affiliated to BirdLife South Africa
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