



African Pitta & Pel's Fishing Owl

Dates: 5 – 8 December (Sat-Tue; 4 days – 3 nights)

Number of people: minimum of 4, maximum of 8

Your guide: Leslie Reynolds and/or Frank Willems. Both are intimately familiar with the area.

Package type: Birds & Bush. The itinerary is tailored towards finding a maximum of target bird species while spending as much time as feasible enjoying the bush.

Accommodation type: exclusive bush camping, comfortable lodging (3-star).

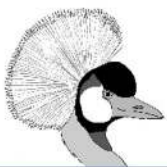
Package price: \$687 pp (self-drive), \$887 pp inclusive of transport

The rate includes private specialist guide from start to end; all accommodation; all meals; water, tea and coffee; all private activities (bird walks and boat ride). Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages can be sourced on request.

The rate applies to BirdWatch Zambia members only. Non-members pay an additional \$25 with which comes BWZ membership for 2020 and 2021.

For each booking, a donation will be made to BirdWatch Zambia.

In partnership with Lapwing Safaris



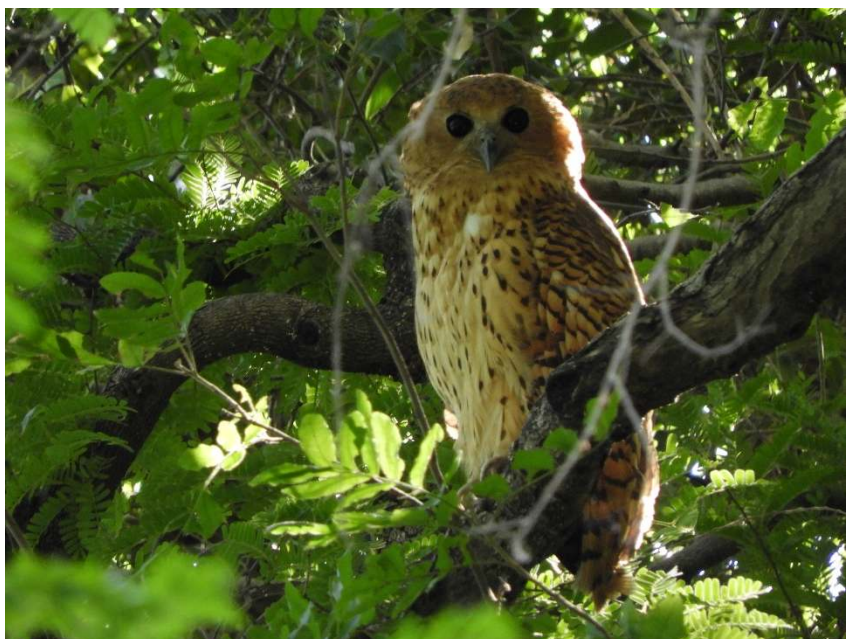
BIRDING ZAMBIA

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Introduction

African Pitta is among Africa’s most sought-after species and best seen in Zambia. The Mutulanganga area has proven Zambia’s most reliable site. This intra-African migrant arrives here with the first rains in November-December to breed. It is amazingly unobtrusive despite the phenomenal colours. This trip is timed during peak territorial (calling) activity to optimize observation chances.

The accompanying set of species includes specials like Livingstone’s Flycatcher, African Broadbill, Eastern Nicator and (in some years) Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo. The area is also known for migrants like European Nightjar, River Warbler and Thrush Nightingale.



The adjacent part of the Zambezi Valley is best known for the high density of well-visible Pel’s Fishing Owl in the lower parts of the Kariba Gorge, alongside the likes of Purple-crested Turaco. Downstream of the gorge, sandy islands may hold a rich assemblage of waterbirds like waders and Black Stork.

Itinerary summary

DATE	TIME	DETAIL	NOTE
5/12	0700 pm	Depart from Lusaka to Mutulanganga Lunch at Bushcamp Birding/ Pitta activity Mutulanganga IBA	180 km Road transfer
6/12	Full day	Early start. Full day birding Mutulanganga in search of Pitta and other specials. Brunch at Bushcamp.	
7/12	Full day	Early start. Full morning birding Mutulanganga in search of Pitta and other specials. Brunch at Bushcamp. Travel to Tamarind Camp – Boat Ride for Pel’s Fishing Owl	
8/12	Am 14:30	Early start. Birding around Tamarind Camp. Late brunch at Tamarind Camp. Return to Lusaka (4-hr drive)	200 km Road transfer

Site descriptions

Mutulanganga

Recognized as an Important Bird Area because of the breeding population of African Pitta and other thicket specials such as Livingstone’s Flycatcher. Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo can be reasonably common in some years though absent in other years. Provided there hasn’t yet been heavy rain, we will walk through the dry riverbeds to search for Pitta and the other specials in the thickets along these beds.



The private bushcamp, operated by Lapwing Safaris, is situated close to the prime Pitta area. Accommodation is in spacious 3x3m canvas bow tents with comfortable camp beds.

Zambezi Valley – Kariba Gorge

Tamarind Camp lies at the very downstream end of the Kariba Gorge. The gorge itself is known for resident Pel’s Fishing Owl among others, while the areas downstream can hold good assemblages of waterbirds. The Zimbabwean side is protected as the Charara Safari Area, making it likely to see some large fauna.

Tamarind Camp is a self-catering facility. All catering will be provided by Birding Zambia & Lapwing Safaris.



List of equipment

EQUIPMENT PROVIDED	BRING YOUR OWN
Tents	Torch
Tables	Toiletries and personal items
Camp chairs	Sunblock lotion
Towels	Insect repellent
Catering Equipment	2x Pairs walking shoes
All food, preparation kit and utensils	Binoculars
Sleeping Bag	Warm clothing for evenings and mornings
Camp beds	Suitable clothing for walking
	Swimming gear
	Sun hat
Water, tea & coffee	(Alcoholic) beverages, snacks/items of personal nature

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 50% deposit required to confirm a booking.
- All bank charges including intermediary charges are the responsibility of the client.
- Please advise us of any queries or special requirements, especially dietary or medical, at least 2 weeks before start of tour.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- 100% less than 31 days prior to start

