

BIRDING IN THE TSWAPONG HILLS

The Tswapong Hills are one of Botswana's 12 internationally recognised 'Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas' or IBAs. About 350 bird species have been found here, or roughly 68% of the local avifauna.

The number of bird species reflects the diversity of habitats in the hills. There are numerous freshwater springs surrounded by lush evergreen forest; home to Meyer's Parrot. Deep gorges which provide nesting ledges for rarities like the Cape Vulture. Open water

bodies and marshes which provide habitat for birds like the Yellow-billed Stork pictured above. And more

The Tswapong Hills are tribal land, and you can wander safely through the whole area. Crime against visitors is unknown, and there are no lions or elephants to watch for.

The best months of the year to come for birding are typically November to April, when the intra-African migrants are all here. But there are at least 150 species of birds here even in the depths of the winter months.

On Segaigai Farm we are the local members of Birdlife Botswana. The bird list on our own property runs to just over 100 species. Our campsite or self catering cottage makes a convenient base to explore the hills, and we will happily direct our guests to all of our favourite places.

