Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competency required to apply knowledge about local birds in tour guiding operations. It includes indigenous and endemic birds, bushveld birds, birds of prey, night birds and water birds spotted in tour guiding operations. This unit standard is intended for those who work as tour guides.

Special Notes

1. Entry information:

   Prerequisite:

   • Unit 170 Follow occupational health and safety in tour guiding operations or demonstrated equivalent knowledge and skills.

2. This unit standard is to be delivered and assessed in the context of tour guiding operations and should be assessed in conjunction with other relevant technical unit standards selected from this domain.

3. To demonstrate competence, at a minimum, evidence is required of identifying and describing indigenous and endemic birds, bushveld birds, birds of prey, night birds and water birds (coastal, inland and sea birds).

4. Identification of birds includes plumage, moult, bones, calls, beaks, feet, eyes, ears, flight, nests.

5. Description of birds includes development (precocial or altricial), classification, habitat, migration, colors, gender, song, value, social behaviour, breeding times and behaviour.

6. Assessment evidence may be collected from a real workplace, or simulated real workplace or an appropriate simulated realistic environment in which tour guiding operations are carried out.

7. Sources of information on birds include bird identification field guides for Namibian and Southern Africa.

8. Glossary:

   Biomes are areas with similar types of vegetation, animal life, soils, geological features and climatic conditions.

   Birding hotspots are areas of specialized birding concentrations in various well-known regions and terrains of Namibia, including but not limited to Daan Viljoen Nature Reserve, Hardap Recreation Resort, Naukluft Mountains, Walvis Bay lagoon, Epupa Falls, Etosha National Park, Popa Falls, Mahango Game
Reserve, Waterberg Plateau Park, Sandwich Harbour, Caprivi, linear oases of rivers.

9. The 4 biomes in Namibia are:
   • Nama Karoo
   • Succulent Karoo
   • Tree and shrub savannah
     – Acacia tree and shrub savannah
     – Broadleaved tree and shrub savannah
   • Namib Desert.

10. Tour guides must comply with the Namibia Tourism Board’s Code of Conduct for Tour Guides.

11. Regulations and legislation relevant to this unit standard include the following:
   • Labour Act No 6, 1992
   • Nature Conservation Ordinance 4 of 1975
   • Namibia Tourism Board Act 21 of 2000
   • Forestry Ordinance of 1952
   • Forestry Act No. 72 of 1968
   • CITES 1 and 2
   • Occupational Health and Safety Regulations No.18, 1997 and all subsequent amendments to any of the above.

Quality Assurance Requirements

This unit standard and others within this subfield may be awarded by institutions which meet the accreditation requirements set by the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority and which comply with the national assessment and moderation requirements. Details of specific accreditation requirements and the national assessment arrangements are available from the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority on www.nta.com.na

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element 1: Identify and describe indigenous and endemic birds spotted in tour guiding operations

Range

Endemic and near-endemic birds include but are not limited to Damara Tern, Barlow’s Lark, Dune Lark, Gray’s Lark, Rupell’s Parrot, Rupell’s Korhaan, Barecheecked Babbler, Carp’s Tit, Hartlaub’s Francolin, Herero Chat, Monteiro’s Hornbill, Rockrunner, Violet Woodhoopoe, Whitetailed Shrike, Benguela Long-billed Lark, Damara Hornbill.

For assessment purposes, evidence is required of identifying and describing 5 indigenous and/or endemic bird species.

Performance Criteria

1.1 Reference sources are used to aid identification and description of indigenous and endemic birds.

1.2 Birding hotspots for viewing indigenous and endemic birds are identified.
1.3 Guest inquiries regarding indigenous and endemic birds are answered accurately within scope of personal knowledge and authority, or inquiries are referred to alternative sources of information.

**Element 2: Identify and describe bushveld birds spotted in tour guiding operations**

**Range**

Bushveld birds include but are not limited to insect eaters, seed feeders, aerial feeders, oxpeckers and nectar feeders, and include the South African Shelduck, Cape Shoveller, Orange River Francolin, Redbilled Francolin, Hartlaub’s Francolin, Swainson’s Francolin, Ludwig’s Bustard, Redcrested Korhaan, Northern Black Korhaan, Burchell’s Courser, Burchell’s Sandgrouse, Doublebanded Sandgrouse, Ruppell’s Parrot, Rosyfaced Lovebird, Bradfield’s Swift, Whitebacked Mousebird, Southern Yellowbilled Hornbill, Monteiro’s Hornbill, Pied Barbet, Monotonous Lark, Clapper lark, Sabota Lark, Longbilled lark, Spikeheeled lark, Stark’s Lark, Greybacked Finchlark, Greater Striped Swallow, South African Clift Swallow, Ashy Tit, Carp’s Tit, Cape Penduline Tit, Pied Babbler, Barecheeked Babbler, Redeyed Bulbul, Short-toed Rockthrush, Mountain Chat, Anteating Chat, Kalahari Robin, Chestnutvented Titbabbler, Barred Warbler, Rockrunner, Greybacked Cisticola, Blackcheeked Prinia, Marico Flycatcher, Chat Flycatcher, Prit Batis, Crimsonbreasted Shrike, Whitetailed Shrike, Whetcrowned Shrike, Burchell’s Starling, Glossy Starling, Palewinged Starling, Dusky Sunbird, Cape White-eye, Sociable Weaver, Southern Great Sparrow, Scalyfeathered Finch, Violeteared waxbill, Readheaded Finch, Shafttailed Whydah, Yellow Canary, Whitethroated Canary, Larklike Bunting.

For assessment purposes, evidence is required of identifying and describing 10 bushveld birds, including examples from several different biomes as listed in Special Note 10.

**Performance Criteria**

2.1 Reference sources are used to aid identification and description of bushveld birds.

2.2 Birding hotspots for viewing bushveld birds are identified and described.

2.2 Guest inquiries regarding bushveld birds are answered accurately within scope of personal knowledge and authority, or inquiries are referred to alternative sources of information.

**Element 3: Identify and describe birds of prey spotted in tour guiding operations**

**Range**

Birds of prey include but are not limited to Secretary Bird, Falcons and Kestrels, Vultures, Eagles, Snake-eagles, Hawk-eagles, Buzzards, Harriers, Hawks (including Sparrow-hawks and Goshawks) Kites, Osprey and Owls.

For assessment purposes, evidence is required of identifying and describing 5 birds of prey, including examples from several different biomes as listed in Special Note 10.
**Performance Criteria**

3.1 Reference sources are used to aid identification and description of birds of prey.

3.2 Birding hotspots for viewing birds of prey are identified and described.

3.3 Guest inquiries regarding birds of prey are answered accurately within scope of personal knowledge and authority, or inquiries are referred to alternative sources of information.

**Element 4: Identify and describe night birds spotted in tour guiding operations**

**Range**

Night birds include but are not limited to owls, Nightjars.

**Performance Criteria**

4.1 Reference sources are used to aid identification and description of night birds.

4.2 Birding hotspots for viewing night birds are identified and described.

4.3 Guest inquiries regarding night birds are answered accurately within scope of personal knowledge and authority, or inquiries are referred to alternative sources of information.

**Element 5: Identify and describe water birds spotted in tour guiding operations**

**Range**

Coastline birds are associated primarily with coasts and marine environments, and include but are not limited to Grebes, Albatrosses, Petrels, Prions, Shearwaters, Skuas, Gulls, Terns, Skimmers, Pelicans, Gannets, Cormorants, Darter, Herons, Oystercatchers, Night-herons.

Wetland birds are associated primarily with rivers, wetlands, lakes, pans, and include but are not limited to Egrets, Bitterns, Hamerkop, Stork, Ibis, Spoonbill, Flamingoes, Ducks, Geese, Crakes, Moorhen, Gallinules, Flufftails, Coot, Finfoot, Wagtails, Jacanas, Snipes, Plovers, Lapwings, waders (including Sandpiper, Godwit, Curlew, Phalarope, Avocet, Stilt).

Water birds include coastal, inland and sea birds.

For assessment purposes, evidence is required of identifying and describing 10 coastline water birds and 10 wetland water birds in Namibia.

**Performance Criteria**

4.1 Reference sources are used to aid identification and description of coastline birds.

4.2 Reference sources are used to aid identification and description of wetland birds.
4.3 Birding hotspots for viewing coastline birds are identified and described.

4.4 Birding hotspots for viewing wetland birds are identified and described.

4.5 Guest inquiries regarding water birds are answered accurately within scope of personal knowledge and authority, or inquiries are referred to alternative sources of information.

**Registration Data**

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