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Laos and Cambodia

Oriental Bird Club fund-raising tour

24th February – 10th March 2013

Leader: Frank Lambert

**Participants: Jim and Vivienne Harvey,
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Cambodian Tailorbird, Phnom Penh

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Our sixth Oriental Bird Club fund-raising tour to Cambodia, as in 2011, also included a few days in the seldom-birded country of Laos. Despite the very brief visit to Laos, our one-and-a-half days in the dramatic forests on karst limestone resulted in many sightings of the recently described Bald-faced Bulbul, a few sightings of Sooty Babblers, and a single Limestone Leaf Warbler. Laos was however a hard place to bird, with relatively few birds to see due to intensive hunting and trapping pressure, but once we reached Cambodia we were seeing birds continuously. This year we also visited Bokor in the mountains of southwest Cambodia to search for the rarely seen Chestnut-headed Partridge, which we found surprisingly easily, along with Indochinese Green Magpie, Orange-headed Thrush, a magnificent male Blue Pitta and a host of other interesting species. A brief visit to the coast produced Nordmann's Greenshank and Dunlin, the latter the first record for Cambodia. Continuing on the

traditional Cambodia tour route, we were privileged to see the spectacular display of “jumping” male Bengal Floricans on the Tonle Sap floodplains, as well as the similarly Critically Endangered Giant and White-shouldered Ibises and Black-necked Stork in the dry dipterocarp forests and the near-endemic Mekong Wagtail below the rapids at Kampi. Another endemic seen very well, discovered only months before our tour, was the newly described Cambodian Tailorbird. We also managed to see a remarkable set of owls- all scoped- during the day, including both Brown and Spotted Wood Owls and Brown Fish Owl, as well as, eventually, a female White-rumped Falcon. Our tour finished at Angkor Wat, the wonderful complex of temples that is the highlight of most visits to Cambodia – and even here we found some interesting birds, such as Brown Boobook, Forest Wagtail and Black Baza.

Our group met up in Laos’s laid-back capital, Vientiane, at our comfortable hotel overlooking the broad expanse of sand flats that, during the rainy season, are inundated by the 600m-wide Mekong River. But despite the alluring nature of the habitat outside our windows, there were clearly very few birds here apart from the occasional Red Collared Dove or Oriental Reed Warbler – not even an egret was on show along the river. The following morning we headed eastwards towards Vietnam soon after breakfast, and our first birding site in a scenic area of limestone karst near the border of Nam Kading National Park. Most of the drive was devoid of birds, except for a few Black Drongo, Siberian Stonechats and shrikes, a pair of Shikra, a few Chinese Pond Herons and a scattering of Common Myna and Eurasian Tree Sparrow. However, after lunch at our pleasantly situated lodge, we returned to an area where the forested limestone karst came close to the road.

Amazingly our first bird was a pair of Bare-faced Bulbuls – the main reason we had visited this area - that miraculously appeared in a fruiting tree beside the road and fed at very close range, apparently unaffected by the huge heavy traffic. The birds were later regularly seen perched on the limestone karst in this area and we probably saw at least six individuals. This very conspicuous but highly localized endemic has so far only been found on the western side of the Annamite mountain range that borders Laos and Vietnam. The bulbul has a rather amusing (but embarrassing for some!) history; despite only being identified in 2008 and described the following year, it had been seen on separate occasions by at least four birders over a ten-year period before the penny-dropped! Having been described in the Oriental Bird Club scientific journal *Forktail*, it seems fitting that the OBC fund-raising tour should target this unusual bulbul.

We had 1½ days in which to explore the stunning limestone karst forests and found the birding enjoyable but very hot and unusually hard work. The intensity of the hunting here is so great that we saw no squirrels (one less than our previous tour!) and an almost complete lack of even lizards and skinks (though we did see some boys with fishing rods who had just captured about five lizards for the pot!). Feeding flocks were also very scarce, and mostly quite distant. Despite this, our persistence paid off and we eventually saw our three target species. On our full day it took us until the point of giving up – at about 1030am when it had already become very hot, to get a good view of another limestone specialist, the Annamite-endemic Sooty Babbler. The occasional feeding flock held Great Iora, Crimson Sunbird, Scarlet Minivet and wintering Yellow-browed and Two-barred Warblers. Other birds seen occasionally in this area included Purple-naped Sunbird and Little Spiderhunter, White-rumped Shama, Hainan Blue Flycatcher and a single Pale-legged Leaf Warbler feeding near the ground. Night birding, both before dawn and after dusk, and despite the full moon, only produced a single Asian Barred Owlet.

On our second afternoon we headed further up the road towards the border with Vietnam, searching for Limestone Leaf Warbler, and it was only on the following morning that we managed to find a singing bird, watched feeding through the ‘scope in fantastic light – surely one of the most beautiful leaf warblers. Other birds seen in this area included a small flock of Sooty Babblers, feeding silently on the vines and rocks very close to us, Puff-throated and Grey-eyed Bulbuls and Streaked Wren-Babbler, as well as a brief look at a skulking and silent Black-browed Fulvetta. On our final afternoon we headed back towards Vientiane, stopping on route along one of the tributaries of the Mekong, where we had nice scope views of River Lapwings and Small Pratincoles on the exposed mud.

After our short but productive visit to Laos we flew across the border into the capital of Cambodia, Phnom Penh. Unfortunately, a presumably serious technical problem delayed our flight and we had to wait seven hours for a new plane, meaning that we did not reach our destination of Kampot, at the base of the Cardamom Mountains, until near midnight. Nevertheless, we were all eager to leave pre-dawn for our visit to Bokor National Park, where we drove up to about 1000m in an area that had been closed to visitors for the past five years. The forest in this area had clearly already been logged in the past, but the remaining vegetation is still in very good condition and regenerating nicely. After a leisurely breakfast at the forest edge, which produced a brief perched view of Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon but little else, we headed along a narrow trail in search of our main target, Chestnut-headed Partridge. None were calling but during the day we all had wonderful views of this near endemic during two close encounters of foraging birds. We also had looks at a very shy Indochinese Green Magpie and very good views of an Orange-headed Thrush that Vivienne had spotted on the trail. Other birds we found along the trail included Streaked Wren Babbler and the local races of White-browed Scimitar Babbler and Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, here lacking the “fire” on its breast.

On our second morning at Bokor we started with a field breakfast at a roadside viewpoint somewhat below the plateau. Here we found an amazing abundance of Banded Cuckoo-doves, Asian Fairy Bluebirds and Ashy Drongo, as well as a few Black-throated and Purple-naped Sunbirds, and Velvet-fronted Nuthatches. An occasional fly-by Mountain Imperial or Thick-billed Green Pigeon kept us on our toes. Bulbuls were common, particularly Black-crested and Ochraceous and wintering passerines were well represented, including a single Swinhoe's Minivet, a couple of Black-winged Cuckooshrike, and quite a lot of Alstrom's Warblers. But perhaps the most memorable bird in this area was a wonderful Long-tailed Broadbill that gave us incredible views as it moved around in full view just below us. Later, along the forest trail, we had the most incredible views of another memorable bird - a Blue Pitta that repeatedly hopped along the trail in front of us, barely 15m away. What a wonderful bird!

On our last morning at Bokor, we spent a couple of hours looking for raptors and unexpectedly found a Jerdon's Baza, as well as a Crested Goshawk. We also had fantastic views of some tape-responsive Kloss's Leaf Warblers, a Blue Whistling Thrush and wintering Mugimaki Flycatchers. During an hour birding along the road as we descended back towards the lowlands, we obtained great views of at least ten Wreathed Hornbills and a single Great Hornbill. After an early lunch away from the heat, we took a boat out from Kampot in search of shorebirds. As the tide came it pushed the birds into smaller and smaller areas, and eventually we had close views of a number of species, including a couple of unexpected rarities: a single Nordmann's Greenshank, and two Dunlin (apparently the first record of this distinctive species for Cambodia). Small numbers of Caspian Terns were also present. Once the tide had pushed all the shorebirds to higher ground, we headed back to Kampot and onwards to Phnom Penh.



Bare-faced Bulbul, Ban Na Hin, Laos



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After a night in the Cambodian capital, we headed out of town to some nearby wetlands that were teeming with birds. On the more open water, Lesser Whistling Duck and Cotton Pygmy Duck mingled with jacanas, White-browed Crakes, Oriental Darters, Little Cormorants and a few Black-backed Swamphens. In the fringing reeds, grasses and scrub we found Pallas Grasshopper Warbler, Black-browed Reed Warblers, Dusky Warblers and Plain Prinia. But the bird we had come especially to this site to see was to be found only in the flooded scrubland, and we eventually found it, the just-described Cambodian Tailorbird – after taping it in from far out in the impenetrable scrub. This species, miraculously overlooked for so long, was finally discovered and recognized for what it was in 2012. On present evidence this tailorbird, a bit like an Ashy Tailorbird, and a bit like a Dark-necked Tailorbird, but very distinctly different, has only been found in a decidedly small range, bordered by the Tonle Sap and the Mekong River. We felt most privileged to be the first birding group to see this new species, and special thanks to those that gave us prior information on this species.

Very satisfied with the excellent views we had had of the tailorbird the many other good birds we had seen, we continued our drive northwards towards Kratie, to spend the night in this sleepy town beside the Mekong. Up before dawn the following day, we headed out into the Mekong River, here perhaps 800m wide and just below the Kampi Rapids to look for the near-endemic Mekong Wagtail. It took longer than expected to find one, but eventually we found a nest site where we obtained superb close-up views. Irrawaddy Dolphins, a species that can live in salt and fresh water, with an isolated, declining population in this stretch of the Mekong also gave a

brief showing. We also searched in vain for Asian Golden Weavers, but saw a few other interesting species, including a couple of superb Racket-tailed Treepie, Red Avadavats and some nice breeding plumage Watercocks. Leaving the Mekong behind us, after crossing it with our vehicles on a pontoon, we headed westwards and eventually arrived at Tmatboey, on the plains of central Indochina. This area was once one of the most difficult areas to access in South-east Asia due to the lack of roads and abundance of un-mapped mine fields, but it is here where both the Critically Endangered Giant and White-shouldered Ibises were recently rediscovered. Within the last few years mine fields have been documented (indeed, there were apparently never any mine fields in the Tmatboey area) and the area has become easy and safe to visit.

After a comfortable night's sleep in our pleasant rural guesthouse – established with the help of the Wildlife Conservation Society and run by the local community – we headed out well before dawn to search for a roosting Giant Ibis. Arriving in the dark, we then spent 30 minutes 'scoping an obscure distant image. As it got lighter and lighter, however, and our view became clearer and clearer, we were suddenly looking at a roosting Woolly-necked Stork rather than an ibis! Our guides, perhaps somewhat embarrassed, spread out to look for the real ibises, but an hour later we were eating our field breakfast – one of many great field meals prepared by our local hosts – without so much as a peep at an ibis. As we finished breakfast, one of the guides returned to inform us that he and his companion had located some feeding White-shouldered Ibises, so we headed off in hot pursuit. Suddenly, as we crossed a narrow, dry watercourse we flushed some waterbirds and within seconds we were eyeballing three Giant Ibises at close range, and in superb early morning light. This is surely one of the most sought-after birds in Cambodia, and we were overly happy to have seen them so well. Then, only twenty minutes later we had our first of many sightings of White-shouldered Ibises, and in total we probably saw at least 20 of these threatened birds during our three days at Tmatboey. Another increasingly rare and equally impressive large waterbird, Black-necked Stork, also provided us with excellent views at one of the many water holes we visited during our time at Tmatboey – in Asia, this species is now only regularly seen in northeast India and Cambodia, though it remains relatively common in parts of Australia.

Tmatboey still has extensive areas of open, dry dipterocarp forest, though this forest is being degraded daily by local villagers and others, and it was somewhat depressing to see so many recently cut and burnt trees. This habitat, once the dominant vegetation across the plains of central Indochina is slowly but surely being converted to other land uses, but where there are intact patches with taller trees, as at Tmatboey, birds are surprisingly abundant. More common species of this habitat included Purple Sunbird, Common Woodshrike, Common Iora, Lineated Barbet, White-browed Fantail, Small Minivet, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Parakeet and a host of woodpeckers including Grey-capped Woodpecker, Common and Greater Flamebacks, Great Slaty and Black-headed Woodpeckers. Other birds are much rarer, however, or at least much harder to locate at this time of year, including for example Indochinese Bushlark, and in particular White-rumped Falcon – the latter proved unusually hard to find, probably since they had just finished breeding. As a result, we spent a great deal of time searching for this one bird at Tmatboey and never saw it there, but persistence eventually paid off, and on our way back towards Siem Reap, we found one easily beside the road, much to our relief!

Despite the near silence of the forest at Tmatboey during our evening and early morning 'owling' trips, we managed to see a number of owl species at daytime roosts thanks to the knowledge of our local guides. Within quick succession they found us Brown Wood Owl, which was amazing enough, but then a superb Spotted Wood Owl, surely one of South-east Asia's most beautiful owl species. Later the same day we were also shown Banded Owllet, and the next day, at least two Brown Fish Owls. Night birding was more difficult, and even Large-tailed Nightjars were silent. Our only success was in obtaining brief views of an Oriental Scops Owl just before dawn on our last morning.

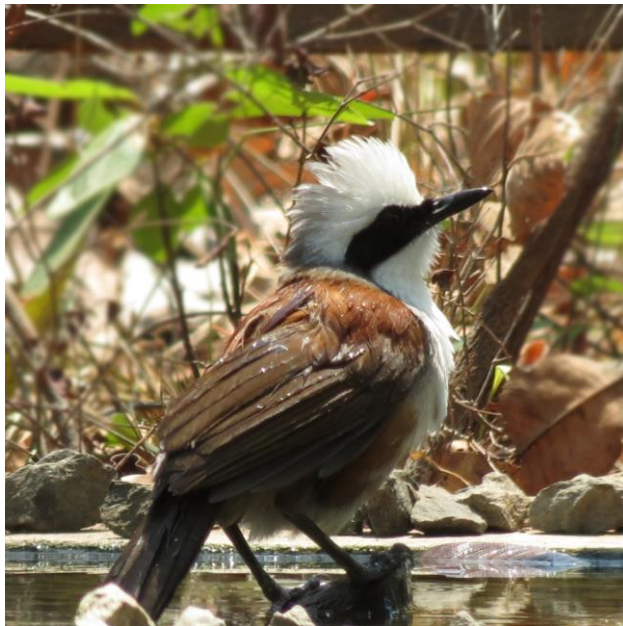
During the midday lull in bird activity we returned both days to the guesthouse for lunch, and even here, and despite the heat, we continued to see good birds as they came to drink at a small water source. White-crested Laughingthrushes seemed to be around most of the time, and Rufous Treepies regularly visited the water hole. It was also presumably the water that was the main attraction to a male White-throated Rock Thrush that was seen by Jim, and only seen later in the tour by other participants on our last afternoon around the ruins of Angkor.

On our last morning at Tmatboey, after our pre-dawn owling session that produced another brief Oriental Scops Owl, we found that one of our 4WD vehicles was suddenly inoperable as the key had become stuck in the ignition but could not turn... undaunted, we all squeezed into one vehicle and continued on our journey towards Siem Reap, meeting our replacement vehicle after only a couple of hours at a site where we had stopped to look, successfully, for White-rumped Falcon!

During the afternoon we stopped at the Prolay Florican Grasslands community reserve, outside of Siem Reap, primarily to search for another of Cambodia's special birds, the critically endangered Bengal Florican. After a brief interlude in an area where Plain-backed Sparrows were nesting, we headed out to one of the core areas of the reserve. Our three local guides left us on a high bund whilst they walked and walked through the taller grasses of the reserve, apparently unable to find a florican – however, we were not to be disappointed because

Sophoan, ever sharp-eyed, spotted one lurking in the grasses behind us, at the edge of a rice field and only 120m away from us. We spent the next 30 minutes or more scoping this beautiful male – at first it remained hidden, but suddenly, without any warning, it started its display, leaping 5m into the air with its wings held in an arc, and then dropping gracefully to the ground in a two-stage flutter. This fantastic performance was repeated in full view at least five times during the next half hour, and was undoubtedly one of the most memorable sightings of our tour.

The grasslands in this remarkable area not only support a healthy, population of floricans, but also many other grassland birds – indeed the area was teeming with species such as Richard’s, Paddyfield and Red-throated Pipits, Oriental Skylark, Australasian Bushlarks, Pied and Eastern Marsh Harriers, Siberian Stonechat, Pied Bushchat, Bluethroats, Zitting Cisticolas and buttonquails. Quails were particularly common, and whilst walking we flushed at least 15 Small Buttonquail, one Barred Buttonquail and a male Blue-breasted Quail without even trying. And, as we left the area to head back to our hotel in Siem Reap, we were fortunate enough to find a superb Small Buttonquail feeding in the open and hardly bothered by our two vehicles. The one bird that we had hoped to find here but had failed to find on the first afternoon was Manchurian Reed Warbler, a scarce, difficult to identify *Acrocephalus* warbler that winters only in the tall grasses of this region, where its habits make it particularly hard to see.



White-crested Laughingthrush and Cambodian Tailorbird

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The next morning, the last of the tour, we were back in the grasslands just after dawn to search for this elusive species. One of the first birds we saw – in the hand – was a superbly-plumaged male Red-spotted Bluethroat that Frank rescued from a small piece of fishing net that had caught around its legs, a nice but only brief distraction from our main target – Manchurian Reed Warbler. Perhaps luckily for us, most of the area we visited had been recently burnt, so there were only a few patches of tall dense grass in which to look for this species. As we finished breakfast adjacent to such a patch, an *Acrocephalus* warbler gave a couple of calls from somewhere inside the dense grass, and during the next 40 minutes we managed to get excellent views of this tricky bird – which turned out to be a Manchurian Reed Warbler. What was noticeable was its aversion to bushes, because virtually every time our local guides pushed it towards a couple of small bushes where we hoped it might perch in full view, it back-tracked at the last moment into the dense grass instead of hopping into the bushes – indeed, the bushes in this area of grassland only support the more abundant, but confusingly similar Black-browed Reed Warblers.

This morning in the grasslands also produced a few good water-birds as well as more floricans and the usual array of grassland passerines. One highlight was a flock of 15 Sarus Crane, another was the appearance of large flocks of Painted Storks, and last but not least, a single Spot-billed Pelican. Blue-breasted Quail and Small Buttonquails were also flushed on several occasions, and a few Comb Duck put in a surprise appearance. Very satisfied with our morning, we headed back to Siem Reap for lunch before our excursion to the ruins of Ancient Angkor, one of Asia’s most famous archeological sites – indeed, a UNESCO World Heritage Site – and a must-see tourist attraction.

During the afternoon we spent most of our time around two temples, that of Ta Prohm (late 12th and 13th Century) and Angkor Wat itself (1,113-1,150AD), and briefly visited Ankor Thom (late 12th Century). Ta Prohm

is a temple that has been deliberately left in almost the condition in which it was 'discovered', with many large trees rooted on the walls and ruins, whilst Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious monument, is the most famous of the temples in the area, with many of its fine carvings, asparas and 600m of narrative bas-relief still in amazingly good condition. We discovered that, not only are the temples in relatively good shape, but much of Ancient Angkor is still forested, with trees larger than almost any we had seen on our tour. Not surprisingly these trees support some interesting birds, and the huge trees above Ta Prohm Temple are now an afternoon napping spot for two noisy parakeet species, Alexandrine and Red-breasted, as well as Lineated Barbets, whilst an examination of some quieter areas of trees slightly more removed from tourists found us Black Bazas, White-throated Rock Thrushes, a Forest Wagtail, and even Brown Boobook, the sixth owl we had seen in the daytime. Despite the birds drawing us away from the temples, we did not miss the late evening at Angkor Wat and to finish off we visited a nearby plush hotel to cool off and to drink a few cold beers during a really excellent Happy Hour. This, we decided, was the perfect way to end what had been a most memorable and enjoyable tour.

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Systematic List

PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae

Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis*

PELECANIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae

Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*

PELECANIFORMES: Anhingidae

Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

CICONIIFORMES: Ardeidae

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

'Eastern' Great Egret *Casmerodius [alba] modestus*

Intermediate Egret *Mesophoyx intermedia*

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus [ibis] coromandus*

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*

Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae

Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala*

Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*

Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus*

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*

CICONIIFORMES: Threskiornithidae

White-shouldered Ibis *Pseudibis davisoni*

Giant Ibis *Pseudibis gigantea*

ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae

Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica*

Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos*

Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus*

Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha*

FALCONIFORMES: Pandionidae

Osprey

*Pandion haliaetus***FALCONIFORMES: Accipitridae**

Black Baza

Aviceda leuphotes

Jerdon's Baza

Aviceda jerdoni

Oriental Honey Buzzard

Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis

Black-shouldered Kite

Elanus caeruleus

Crested Serpent Eagle

Spilornis cheela

Eastern Marsh Harrier

Circus spilonotus

Pied Harrier

Circus melanoleucos

Crested Goshawk

Tachyspiza trivirgatus

Shikra

Tachyspiza badius

Grey-faced Buzzard

Butastur indicus

Rufous-winged Buzzard

Butastur liventer

Rufous-bellied Eagle

Aquila kienerii

Changeable Hawk Eagle

*Nisaetus limnaetus***FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae**

White-rumped Falcon

Polihierax insignis

Eurasian Kestrel

Falco tinnunculus

Peregrine Falcon

*Falco peregrinus***GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae**

Chinese Francolin

Francolinus pintadeanus

Blue-breasted Quail

Coturnix chinensis

Red Junglefowl

Gallus gallus

heard only

GRUIFORMES: Turnicidae

Small Buttonquail

Turnix sylvatica

Barred Buttonquail

*Turnix suscitator***GRUIFORMES: Gruidae**

Sarus Crane

*Grus antigone sharpii***GRUIFORMES: Rallidae**

White-breasted Waterhen

Amaurornis phoenicurus

White-browed Crake

Porzana cinerea

Watercock

Gallixrex cinerea

Black-backed Swamphen

Porphyrio indicus

Common Moorhen

*Gallinula chloropus***GRUIFORMES: Otidae**

Bengal Florican

*Houbaropsis bengalensis***CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae**

Pheasant-tailed Jacana

Hydrophasianus chirurgus

Bronze-winged Jacana

*Metopidius indicus***CHARADRIIFORMES: Rostratulidae**

Greater Painted Snipe

*Rostratula benghalensis***CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae**

Oriental Pratincole

Glareola maldivarum

Small Pratincole

*Glareola lactea***CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae**

Red-wattled Lapwing

Vanellus indicus

River Lapwing

Vanellus duvaucelii

Grey-headed Lapwing

Vanellus cinereus

Little Ringed Plover

Charadrius dubius jerdoni

Kentish Plover

Charadrius alexandrinus dealbatus

Lesser Sand Plover

Charadrius mongolus schaeferi

Greater Sand Plover

Charadrius leschenaultii

CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae

Pintail Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata orientalis</i>
Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Nordmann's Greenshank	<i>Tringa guttifer</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>

CHARADRIIFORMES: Sternidae

Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Geochelidon nilotica</i>
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>

COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae

Pale-capped Pigeon	<i>Columba punicea</i>
Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
Barred Cuckoo Dove	<i>Macropygia unchall minor</i>
Peaceful Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>
Orange-breasted Green Pigeon	<i>Treron bicincta</i>
Thick-billed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>
Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>
Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron sphenura</i>
Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>
Mountain Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula badia</i>

PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae

Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>
Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>
Vernal Hanging Parrot	<i>Loriculus vernalis</i>

CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae

Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	
Banded Bay Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>	
Plaintive Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinu</i>	heard only
Violet Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>	
Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	
Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>	
Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	
Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>	

STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae

Collared Scops Owl	<i>Otus lettia</i>	heard only
Oriental Scops Owl	<i>Otus sunia distans</i>	
Brown Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>	
Spotted Wood Owl	<i>Strix seloputo</i>	
Brown Wood Owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	
Collared Owlet	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>	heard only
Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides deinani</i>	
Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	
Brown Boobook	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	

CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae

Large-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i> heard only
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APODIFORMES: Apodidae

Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>
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Germain's Swiftlet
Brown-backed Needletail
Asian Palm Swift
House Swift

Aerodramus germani
Hirundapus giganteus
Cypsiurus balasiensis
Apus [affinis] nipalensis

APODIFORMES: Hemiprocnidae

Crested Treeswift

Hemiproctne coronata

TROGONIFORMES: Trogonidae

Red-headed Trogon
Orange-breasted Trogon

Harpactes erythrocephalus
Harpactes oreskios heard only

CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae

Common Kingfisher

Alcedo atthis

CORACIIFORMES: Halcyonidae

Stork-billed Kingfisher
White-throated Kingfisher
Black-capped Kingfisher
Pied Kingfisher

Pelargopsis capensis
Halcyon smyrnensis
Halcyon pileata
Ceryle rudis

CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae

Blue-bearded Bee-eater
Green Bee-eater
Blue-tailed Bee-eater
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater

Nyctyornis athertoni heard only
Merops orientalis
Merops philippinus
Merops leschenaulti

CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae

Black-billed Roller

Coracias [benghalensis] affinis

CORACIIFORMES: Upupidae

Eurasian Hoopoe

Upupa epops

CORACIIFORMES: Bucerotidae

Oriental Pied Hornbill
Great Hornbill
Wreathed Hornbill

Anthracoceros albirostris
Buceros bicornis
Aceros undulatus

PICIFORMES: Capitonidae

Lineated Barbet
Green-eared Barbet
Moustached Barbet
Blue-eared Barbet
Coppersmith Barbet

Megalaima lineata hodgsoni
Megalaima faiostricta heard only
Megalaima incognita
Megalaima australis cyanotis
Megalaima haemacephala indica

PICIFORMES: Picidae

White-browed Piculet
Grey-capped Woodpecker
Spot-breasted Woodpecker
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker
Rufous Woodpecker
Greater Yellownape
Black-headed Woodpecker
Common Flameback
Greater Flameback
Great Slaty Woodpecker

Sasia ochracea
Dendrocopos canicapillus delacouri
Dendrocopos [macei] analis
Dendrocopos hyperythrus
Celeus brachyurus
Picus flavinucha archon
Picus erythroptygus
Dinopium javanense intermedium
Chrysocolaptes lucidus guttacristatus
Mulleripicus pulverulentus

PASSERIFORMES: Eurylaimidae

Long-tailed Broadbill

Psarisomus dalhousiae

PASSERIFORMES: Pittidae

Blue Pitta

Pitta cyanea

PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae

Australasian Bushlark

Mirafra javanica

Indochinese Bushlark
Oriental Skylark

Mirafra erythrocephala
Alauda gulgula

PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae

Sand Martin
Barn Swallow
Red-rumped Swallow

Riparia riparia ijimae
Hirundo rustica gutturalis
Cecropis daurica japonica

PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae

Forest Wagtail
White Wagtail
Mekong Wagtail
Eastern Yellow Wagtail
Grey Wagtail
Paddyfield Pipit
Richard's Pipit
Olive-backed Pipit
Red-throated Pipit

Dendronanthus indicus
Motacilla alba leucopsis
Motacilla samveasnae
Motacilla [flava] macronyx macronyx
Motacilla cinerea
Anthus rufulus
Anthus richardi
Anthus hodgsoni
Anthus cervinus

PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae

Large Cuckooshrike
Indochinese Cuckooshrike
Black-winged Cuckooshrike
Swinhoe's Minivet
Ashy Minivet
Small Minivet
Scarlet Minivet
Grey-chinned Minivet
Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike

Coracina macei
Coracina polioptera
Coracina melaschistos
Pericrocotus cantonensis
Pericrocotus divaricatus
Pericrocotus cinnamomeus
Pericrocotus speciosus
Pericrocotus solaris deignani
Hemipus picatus

PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae

Black-headed Bulbul
Black-crested Bulbul

Red-whiskered Bulbul
Sooty-headed Bulbul
Stripe-throated Bulbul
Yellow-vented Bulbul
Streak-eared Bulbul
Puff-throated Bulbul
Grey-eyed Bulbul
Bare-faced Bulbul

Pycnonotus atriceps
Pycnonotus melanicterus johnsoni
Pycnonotus melanicterus vantynei
Pycnonotus jocosus
Pycnonotus aurigaster germani
Pycnonotus finlaysoni eous
Pycnonotus goiavier jambu
Pycnonotus blanfordi conradi
Alophoixus pallidus khmerensis
Iole propinqua simulator
Pycnonotus hualon

PASSERIFORMES: Chloropseidae

Blue-winged Leafbird
Golden-fronted Leafbird

Chloropsis c. cochinchinensis
Chloropsis aurifrons inornata

PASSERIFORMES: Aegithinidae

Common Iora
Great Iora

Aegithina tiphia
Aegithina lafresnayeii

PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae

White-throated Rock Thrush
Blue Rock Thrush
Blue Whistling Thrush
Orange-headed Thrush
Eye-browed Thrush

Monticola gularis
Monticola solitarius pandoo
Myophonus caeruleus
Zoothera citrina
Turdus obscurus

PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae

Zitting Cisticola
Bright-capped Cisticola
Brown Prinia
Rufescent Prinia
Grey-breasted Prinia
Yellow-bellied Prinia
Plain Prinia

Cisticola juncidis
Cisticola exilis
Prinia polychroa cooki
Prinia rufescens beavani
Prinia hodgsonii erro
Prinia flaviventris delacouri
Prinia inornata herberti

PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae

Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella certhiola</i>
Black-browed Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>
Manchurian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus tangorum</i>
Oriental Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>
Cambodian Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus chaktomuk</i>
Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>
Radde's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>
Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>
Two-barred Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus</i>
Pale-legged Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus tenellipes</i>
Limestone Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus calciatilis</i>
Kloss's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ogilviegranti intensor</i>
Alstrom's Warbler	<i>Seicercus soror</i>
Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>

PASSERIFORMES: Muscipidae

Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	
Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	
Mugimaki Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula mugimaki</i>	
Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>	
Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>	
Hainan Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis hainanus</i>	
Pale Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>	
Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	heard only
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	
Siberian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>	
Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	
White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	
Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura stejnegeri</i>	
Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	

PASSERIFORMES: Rhipiduridae

White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>
White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>
Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>

PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae

Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>
Asian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>

PASSERIFORMES: Timaliidae

White-crested Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>	
Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	
Large Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus hypoleucos</i>	heard only
White-browed Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps annamensis</i>	
Streaked Wren Babbler	<i>Napothera brevicaudata</i>	
Sooty Babbler	<i>Stachyris herberti</i>	
Grey-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>	
Pin-striped Tit Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis lutescens</i>	
Chestnut-capped Babbler	<i>Timalia pileata</i>	
Black-browed Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe grotei</i>	

PASSERIFORMES: Acanthizidae

Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>	heard only
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PASSERIFORMES: Paridae

Cinereous Tit	<i>Parus cinereus templorum</i>	heard only
Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	heard only

PASSERIFORMES: Sittidae

Neglected Nuthatch	<i>Sitta neglecta</i>
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>

PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae

Purple Sunbird
Olive-backed Sunbird
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird
Purple-naped Sunbird
Black-throated Sunbird
Crimson Sunbird
Little Spiderhunter

Cinnyris asiaticus
Cinnyris jugularis
Aethopyga singalensis koratensis
Hypogramma hypogrammicum
Aethopyga saturata ochra
Aethopyga siparaja mangini
Arachnothera longirostra

PASSERIFORMES: Dicaeidae

Thick-billed Flowerpecker
Plain Flowerpecker
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker

Dicaeum agile
Dicaeum concolor
Dicaeum ignipectus cambodianum
Dicaeum cruentatum

PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae

Oriental White-eye

Zosterops palpebrosus siamensis

PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae

Black-naped Oriole
Black-hooded Oriole

Oriolus chinensis diffusus
Oriolus xanthornus

PASSERIFORMES: Irenidae

Asian Fairy Bluebird

Irena puella

PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae

Brown Shrike
Burmese Shrike
Grey-backed Shrike

Lanius cristatus
Lanius colluriooides nigricapillus
Lanius tephronotus

PASSERIFORMES: Prionopidae

Large Woodshrike
Common Woodshrike

Tephrodornis gularis
Tephrodornis pondicerianus

PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae

Black Drongo
Ashy Drongo
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo
Hair-crested Drongo
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo

Dicrurus macrocercus thai
Dicrurus leucophaeus bondi
Dicrurus remifer
Dicrurus hottentottus hottentottus
Dicrurus paradiseus

PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae

Red-billed Blue Magpie
Indochinese Green Magpie
Rufous Treepie
Racket-tailed Treepie
Eastern Jungle Crow

Urocissa erythrorhyncha magnirostris
Cissa hypoleuca
Dendrocitta vagabunda sakeratensis
Crypsirina temia
Corvus leuallantii macrorhynchos

PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae

Common Hill Myna
White-vented Myna
Common Myna
Vinous-breasted Myna
Black-collared Starling
Asian Pied Starling
White-shouldered Starling
Chestnut-tailed Starling

Gracula religiosa
Acridotheres grandis
Acridotheres tristis
Acridotheres [burmannicus] leucocephalus
Gracupica nigricollis
Gracupica contra
Sturnia sinensis
Sturnia malabarica nemoricola

PASSERIFORMES: Ploceidae

Baya Weaver

Ploceus philippinus philippinus

PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae

Red Avadavat
White-rumped Munia
Scaly-breasted Munia

Amandava amandava
Lonchura striata
Lonchura punctulata

PASSERIFORMES: Vireonidae

Blyth's Shrike Babler
Erpornis

Pteruthius aeralatus ricketi
Erpornis zantholeuca

MAMMALS

Lyle's Flying Fox
Long-tailed Macaque
Pileated Gibbon
Irrawaddy Dolphin
Pallas' Squirrel
Variable Squirrel
Cambodian Striped Squirrel
Eastern Striped Squirrel

Pteropus lylei
Macaca fascicularis
Hylobates pileatu
Orcaella brevirostris
Callosciurus erythraeus flavimanus
Callosciurus finlaysonii
Tamiops rodolphei
Tamiops maritimus

heard only

300 species recorded including 10 heard only

Bird-of-the-tour

- 1 Chestnut-headed Partridge
- 2 Blue Pitta
- 3 Limestone Leaf Warbler
- 3= Bengal Florican
- 5 Giant Ibis
- 5= Bare-faced Bulbul

For information regarding our tours to Cambodia and Laos please click [here](#). Alternatively please contact us via [email](#) or telephone us + 441332 516254 regarding organising a custom tour.