



White-throated Babbler (all photos here by Dave Farrow)

BURMA

15 – 28 NOVEMBER 2015

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This Birdquest tour to Burma was a hugely enjoyable affair, and we saw all *eight* of the Burmese endemics – White-browed Nuthatch - the ‘jewel in the crown’ of Burma’s birds, Hooded Treepie, Jerdon’s Minivet, White-throated Babbler, Burmese Bushlark, Burmese Bushtit, Davison’s Bulbul and Burmese Collared Dove - the latter two being the ‘newest’ of the set. We also found six taxa that could be described as near-endemics - Collared Myna, Striped and Brown-capped Laughingthrushes, Mount Victoria Babax, Chin Hills Wren-Babbler and the gorgeous little Buff-breasted Parrotbill. In addition to these sparkling headlines we found a great array of special birds such as Pale-capped Pigeon at Yangon, Laggar Falcon, White-eyed Buzzard, Rain Quail, White-tailed Stonechat and Striated Babbler at Bagan. In the rich forest habitats that lie between the Irrawaddy and the Chin Hills we found White-rumped Falcon, Blossom-headed and Grey-headed Parakeets, and Neglected (or Burmese) Nuthatch. On Mount Victoria we enjoyed a splendid female

Hodgson's Frogmouth, Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker, Grey-sided Thrush, White-bellied Redstart, Black-bibbed Tit, Crested Finchbill, Spot-breasted Parrotbill, Rusty-capped Fulvetta, Assam Laughingthrush, Crimson-faced Liocichla, Grey Sibia, Streak-throated and Rusty-fronted Barwings, Brown Bush-warbler and Fire-tailed Sunbirds. The last section of our tour was to the Shan State in the east of the country, where at Inle Lake we had numerous Jerdon's Bushchat and Collared Mynas, and in the mountain forests around Kalaw we found Pin-tailed Green-pigeon, Black-headed Greenfinch, White-browed Laughingthrush, Martens's Warbler, Spectacled Barwing and Dark-backed Sibia.



Shwedagon, Yangon



Sitana Gyi Paya, Bagan

We arrived in the sunshine of Yangon and began our tour with a calming pilgrimage to the stunning golden spires of the Shwedagon pagoda. We spent an hour just in the gardens by the temple, where we found a fruiting tree that was filled with Coppersmith Barbets, a pair of Asian Koel and a Verditer Flycatcher. Nearby we found a Black-browed Reed Warbler lurking in bamboo, Taiga Flycatchers, our first Jungle Mynas and the bizarre sight of a Grey Nightjar joining the local House Crows, floating around in a blue sky. We walked around the fantastic golden world of stupas and pagodas until sundown, hoping for some emerging bats at twilight however none appeared so we retired to a nearby restaurant for dinner.

At dawn the next day we were eating our breakfast al-fresco at Hlawga Park, where around the car park were Rosy Minivets and Black-naped Orioles. Nearby we found the first of our targets, the endemic Davison's Bulbul, with several of these pale-eyed birds showing during the morning. Also here were Racket-tailed Treepies, many Chestnut-headed and a few Green Bee-eaters, Two-barred Greenish Warblers, Black-winged Cuckooshrike, Scarlet-backed Flowerpeckers, Asian Brown Flycatcher and Banded Bay Cuckoo, and we had a great look at a Pale-capped Pigeon that came and landed in a fruiting tree close to where we were standing, giving some great views as it balanced awkwardly on the top, eyeing us nervously. We found a few more birds on our circuit of the park such as Crested Serpent Eagle, Shikra, Peregrine Falcon, Green Sandpiper, Indian Spot-billed and Lesser Whistling Ducks, before the heat and humidity squashed further activity from the birds and from our selves! We headed back into Yangon, and after lunch headed for the airport. A delayed flight took us to Nyaung U airport on the banks of the Irrawaddy, better known as Bagan, arriving in darkness so unable to yet see any of the innumerable old pagodas that cover the landscape here.

We began at dawn on the dry acacia-dotted plain, close to a large and impressive pagoda. We were surprised and elated when a quartet of Jerdon's Minivets popped up onto the tops of nearby bushes, flying back and forth before heading off into the scrub, never to be seen again. Also here we found the newly-split Burmese Collared Dove, endemic White-throated Babblers, many Vinous-breasted Starlings (the race here having a red bill), numerous Green Bee-eaters, Eurasian Hoopoe, and numerous Siberian Rubythroats called from the thickets, with one curious male jumping up onto a bush top for all to see. Further on we found endemic Burmese Bushlarks, Long-billed, Paddyfield, Richard's and Olive-backed Pipits, had a flight view of a Rain Quail plus several Barred Buttonquail, Thick-billed and Dusky Warblers, Brown Prinia, Tickell's Leaf Warbler, Burmese and Brown Shrikes. As the air warmed up, many raptors took to the air and we saw several Crested Honey Buzzards, Black-eared Kite, juvenile Changeable Hawk Eagles, White-eyed Buzzard and a soaring Laggar Falcon. On wet flashes we saw Grey-headed and Red-wattled Lapwings, then after an

exotic lunch we boarded a boat and went for a leisurely cruise down the Irrawaddy. Spying some suitable island habitat the boatman promptly ran the boat aground, requiring us to disembark and go tramping barefoot across the mud. On a sandy island we found Striated Babbler and some dapper White-tailed Stonechats, and along the shores several ghostly Sand Lark, Kentish and Little Ringed Plovers, Temminck's Stints and Ruddy Shelducks. The boat eventually got free of the mud, and we headed back as dusk fell over the great river. A rather enjoyable days' birding.



Burmese Bushlark



Burmese Collared Dove



Hooded Treepie



White-tailed Stonechat

We made an early start away from Bagan and by dawn we were across the Irrawaddy and heading west through the striking landscape of bush-dotted badlands. We stopped for some breakfast where the trees were taller, and headed into fields lined with palms in search of the endemic Hooded Treepie. Amazingly, given how unobtrusive the birds were, we found a pair of these elegant birds hiding in the tallest tree around, then we were able to enjoy some great looks as they fed among the palm leaves before they disappeared just as mysteriously as they had arrived. We saw a showy Chestnut-capped Babbler and several bright Plain-backed Sparrows before continuing our journey westwards. Our next stop was in stunted dry dipterocarp forest, where one of our drivers spotted a pair of White-rumped Falcons just sat in roadside trees. They posed at length, and seemed fairly unconcerned by people, perhaps habituated by nearby road workers coming and going. Hurrah! Both our main targets for the day under the belt by 0930! We walked through this curious woodland habitat for a while longer, finding Neglected Nuthatches, Grey-headed Parakeets, Yellow-footed Green Pigeon, Yellow-fronted Woodpecker, Rufous Treepie, Common Woodshrike, Gold-fronted Leafbirds, Indochinese and Large Cuckooshrikes. As we drew closer to the Chin Hills, we paused in forest with a more evergreen component, where we found Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Plain Flowerpecker, Ruby-cheeked Sunbirds, Blossom-headed and Red-breasted Parakeets. We then reached the foot of Mount Victoria and ascended up the winding road to our comfortable and decidedly cool lodgings

at 1800m. After a welcome hot dinner we walked a nearby section of road, unsuccessful in our hunt for Hodgson's Frogmouth.

Reaching to over 3000m, Mount Victoria is both an isolated extension of Himalayan avifauna and an exciting centre of endemism. We headed up the mountain in the pre-dawn, despite the rain that had moved in overnight. We were aiming for the top and for the star bird here, the White-browed Nuthatch that is restricted to this mountain and its adjoining ridges. A Grey Nightjar showed well at the roadside on the way up, but as we got higher, it became apparent that no birding was going to be possible with the rain becoming heavier and more insistent. A male Black-headed Shrike Babbler emerged from the mist, but the rain worsened so much that we eventually had to give up and return to our hotel! Birding from the terrace yielded a nice view of a Bar-tailed Treecreeper and Long-tailed Minivets, then we decided to brave the rain and go for a walk at lower elevations. Within a short space of time the rain had stopped and the sky turned blue, and we had a view of a pair of Assam Laughingthrush, numerous Crested Finchbills, Flavescent Bulbuls, Grey Sibias, Streaked Spiderhunter, Mrs Gould's Sunbirds, plus the ever vocal Hume's Leaf and Yellow-browed Warblers. We paused for lunch then headed back up the hill, only this time fog came rolling in and set the scene for the rest of the day. During some clearer breaks we saw Chestnut-flanked White-eyes and eight Thick-billed Flowerpeckers feeding in cherry blossom, Eyebrowed Thrushes, Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush and Black Bulbuls, and as dusk fell we glimpsed a vocal White-bellied Redstart, Rusty-fronted Barwings lurked in the gloom, and were taunted by Chin Hills Wren Babblers and Spotted Elachuras singing unseen from dense thickets.



White-browed Nuthatch



White-browed Nuthatch

The following day we headed up to the higher elevations of the mountain unencumbered by rain or fog, and after a short time we found a lovely pair of White-browed Nuthatches, although they didn't stay for too long, likewise a pair of Mt Victoria Babax appeared briefly and skipped across the track in to the forest. Along the forested road we saw Blyth's Shrike Babbler, White-browed and Rufous-winged Fulvetas, Grey-sided Thrush, Golden-throated Barbet, Barred Cuckoo Doves, Blue-fronted Redstart, Stripe-throated and Whiskered Yuhinas and a pair of Brown-capped Laughingthrushes. It was distressing to see the normally calm roadsides heavily scarred by some awful road widening by diggers and bulldozers, but we found some lively mixed flocks with Streak-throated Barwings. Darjeeling and Rufous-bellied Woodpeckers both showed well, as did a Scaly-breasted Cupwing, Streak-breasted Scimitar Babblers, more Brown-capped Laughingthrushes plus a couple of Assam Laughingthrushes, and a pair of Yellow-bellied Flowerpeckers. Moving to the east side of the high ridge, we walked through more open habitat and found Black-bibbed Tits, Yellow-breasted Greenfinch, some flyover Ashy Wood pigeons, White-throated Fantail, Yellow-browed Tit, Green-tailed Sunbirds and Fire-breasted Flowerpecker. After dark we continued with our hunt in the moonlit woods for Hodgson's Frogmouth, only hearing it, although a Collared Scops Owl showed briefly.

Our third day was spent around the mid-altitudes closer to our lodgings, with a walk along a narrow trail in secondary scrub that produced a couple of Chin Hills Wren-Babblers, one of which showed very close. Also we found a flock of Crimson-faced Liocichla, Spot-breasted Parrotbills in the grass, a young male White-bellied Redstart that perched up singing at us, a couple of furtive Rusty-capped Fulvetta along with equally

shy Nepal Fulvettas, a vocal Lesser Shortwing, and Rusty-fronted Barwings. The afternoon never really woke up until late on, when we finally found a handsome Striped Laughingthrush, plus Black-throated Prinia, Green-backed Tits, Buff-throated Warblers, and had a final flurry with a male White-browed Shortwing that actually showed himself for a short while. Another attempt to see Hodgson's Frogmouth failed again, the bird calling weakly and not coming closer.



Brown-capped Laughingthrush

Another day on the hill, we started in the upper zone where we found a flock of Burmese Bushtits, although the views weren't very intimate. Many birds here are shy due to the low-level subsistence hunting, often requiring a lot of effort to see well. Yellow-breasted Greenfinches and Common Rosefinches sat up in the morning sunshine, plus we saw Chestnut-vented Nuthatches, Bar-tailed Treecreeper and a Brown Bush Warbler popped out of the grass to inspect us. A fruiting tree was busy with Blue-throated and Golden-throated Barbets, Red-tailed Minlas, Maroon Oriole, and a splendid White-browed Nuthatch that came down to have a look at us, our best views of this delightful endemic so far. Grey-sided Thrushes were numerous, and we found a single Black-breasted Thrush feeding high up in a forest giant. We switched to the other side of the hill, where there was considerable activity and found some more agreeable Burmese Bushtits, Brown-capped and Assam Laughingthrushes, a trio of Streak-throated Barwings, Crimson-breasted and Rufous-bellied Woodpeckers, and White-tailed Nuthatch to make it a three Nuthatch day. We found a Bianchi's Warbler, a couple of Rufous-gorgeted Flycatchers, and hidden vocal Broad-billed Warblers teased us. On our way back down the mountain, we paused at a patch of bamboo that fizzed with a busy flock of gorgeous Buff-breasted Parrotbills, zipping back and forwards in the dense thicket until all thirty birds streamed across the road.

Early morning in some weedy and scrubby areas near our hotel produced some fine views of vocal Striped Laughingthrushes, Slender-billed Oriole, Long-tailed Shrike and Blue Whistling Thrush. A little higher in secondary patches we had a good look at Rusty-capped Fulvettas, Mountain Bulbuls, while a Blue-winged

Laughingthrush scolded us but remained invisible. We spent the rest of the morning in the tall evergreen forest where we saw Ashy Woodpigeon, Grey-chinned Minivet, White-tailed Nuthatch, Maroon Oriole, Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush, Whiskered Yuhina, and had excellent close views of Scaly-breasted Cupcake (sorry, Cupwing...) Then we headed for the true summit of the mountain at 3050m, up a very rough track that allowed the drivers to show off their off-roading skills. We had an al-fresco lunch on the top where we also added Oriental Skylark, while surrounded by superb views of all the surrounding hills in crystal clear visibility. As we descended a Himalayan Bluetail hopped along the track in front of us, a nice change to most of the birds here that seem very shy, then descended to 2000m to a narrow trail through scrub for the last hours of the day. We enjoyed a strongly singing Grey-bellied Tesia, Chin Hills Wren Babbler, Rusty-fronted Barwings and Striated Bulbuls. After dinner we returned to the trail for one last attempt to see Hodgson's Frogmouth, and after a bit of an anxious wait we were eventually were treated to a superb view of a rusty-coloured female, glaring at us and raising thin feather filaments over her head like a bizarre head-dress.



Bar-tailed Treecreeper



Eyebrowed Thrush



Grey-headed Parakeets



White-rumped Falcon

We departed Mt Victoria in the darkness and sped downhill to the forested plains that stretch down to the Irrawaddy. We birded along dusty roadsides in the early hours of the day which were busy with Lineated Barbet, Puff-throated Babbler, Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher, Black-hooded Oriole, Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike, Yellow-streaked Warbler and Radde's Warbler, Thick-billed Warbler, Pin-striped Tit Babbler, Grey headed and Alexandrine Parakeets, and a fine pair of Asian Barred Owlet. In drier forest we happened upon another male White-rumped Falcon, and after lunch in a Burmese roadhouse we revisited the Hooded Treepie site, finding a pair hiding in palm trees near the roadside, then popping out in to the shade to give us some great views. We arrived at Bagan with some daylight to spare and around a grand pagoda we renewed our acquaintance with White-throated Babblers, flushed a couple of Rain Quail, and saw Yellow-eyed Babbler, Blue Rock Thrush, Siberian Rubythroat, Burmese Collared Dove and Plain-backed Sparrows.



Birding on Inle Lake

We rose early to catch a flight, a little reluctant to be leaving such an attractive and peaceful place. It was a short flight to Heho, situated on a plateau in the east of the country, and from here we drove the fairly short distance to the shores of Inle Lake and our well-appointed hotel. We boarded two long-tail boats and set off across the lake to find some lunch at the southern end, en route seeing many Brown-headed Gulls, White-vented Mynas plus a couple of Collared Myna, perched up on stakes among the floating gardens. Lunch was in a waterside restaurant so noisy with the engines of passing boats we couldn't hear ourselves eat, so we quickly headed for more tranquil parts. We paused at a small colony of Openbill Storks and Little Cormorants at the back of one of the lakeside hotels, then headed down to the northern end of the lake where hordes of Eurasian Coot were feeding, with a few Garganey, Gadwall and Ferruginous Pochard. We escaped the hot afternoon sun at the 'Birds Watching Centre' where a few Grey-headed Swampheens potted about, before getting back into the boats. We headed down a reedy channel, where despite the constant traffic of noisy boats we found several male Jerdon's Bushchat, before heading home to our lakeside hotel.

We returned to the reed swamps the next morning, and found a quiet channel where we found Baikal Bush Warblers, one of which showed very well, a number of fine Jerdon's Bushchat, had a glimpse of a Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler, some flyover Yellow-breasted Buntings, Common Snipe, Spotted Redshank, Striated Grassbird, a Blunt-winged Warbler in some tall grass, and a few unseen Spotted Bush Warblers and Lanceolated Warbler that called from the dense vegetation. It was then time to leave this fascinating place, and off we headed to the hill town of Kalaw. After checking into yet another delightful hotel, we took a walk in a nearby scrubby valley. Some Dusky Crag Martins feeding over the hillsides were a write-in, and we had some good looks at White-browed Laughingthrushes, an instructive Hume's Leaf Warbler that called strongly and showed us every angle of his plumage, several Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrikes, a quartet of Spectacled Barwings, some Scarlet Minivets and a Common Rosefinch. As dusk approached, we suddenly noticed that there was a large hatching of termites that attracted first several Slender-billed Orioles and Red-billed Blue

Magpies, and then six Amur Falcons came cruising into view over the ridge, circling overhead as they snatched the bugs out of the sky, rising against an intense pink sunset. A wonderful sight.

Our final birding was a full days walk out to the Yayayekan Reservoir and its adjoining forests, on the outskirts of Kalaw. We walked through pine and scrub where we found Oriental Turtle Dove and Red-billed Blue Magpies, Yellow-streaked Warbler, Yellow-eyed Babbler and White-rumped Munia, and once we had reached the forest itself we found Crested Serpent Eagle, plus Pin-tailed, Wedge-tailed and Thick-billed Green Pigeons sitting up in bare trees. In mixed flocks we found cute White-browed and Speckled Piculets, Grey-crowned and Martens's Warblers, Davison's Leaf Warbler, Oriental White-eye, Hill Blue Flycatcher and Black-throated Sunbird. In the undergrowth lurked furtive Silver-eared Laughingthrushes and White-browed Scimitar Babblers, Silver-eared Mesia, and we had a surprise view of the normally skulking White-gorgeted Flycatcher. In the tall trees we saw Mountain and Ashy Bulbuls, Dark-backed Sibia and Spectacled Barwing. A Black-tailed Crake called strongly and came unseen to within feet of us, and a Black-headed Greenfinch only offered us a poor flyover view. It was a good flurry of new birds with which to round off our tour, and we drank a toast to our success back at our hotel.

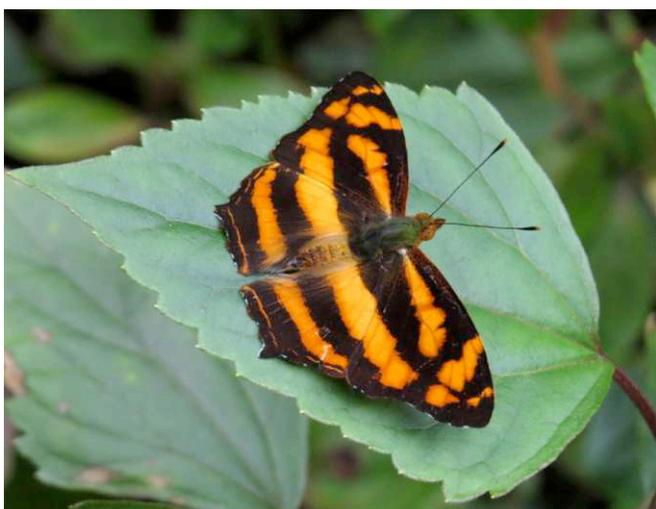
The following day was one of travel, with an early flight back from Heho where we said goodbye to our amiable guide Gideon, and flew to Yangon. After a tasty lunch we bade each other farewell and headed in separate directions, having enjoyed a wonderful trip to this enchanting part of Asia.



Pale-capped Pigeon



Yellow-footed Green Pigeons



Common Jester



Cruiser



Mt Victoria summit, 3050m



Birding the Irrawaddy



Hodgson's Frogmouth female

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). **IOC World Bird Names**. This list is updated several times annually and is available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>.

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).

Species which were only recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (LO).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (NL).

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' birds for some other reason (e.g. it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

Rain Quail ◊ *Coturnix coromandelica* Singing strongly at Bagan, we had flight views on both visits there.

Hill Partridge *Arborophila torqueola* (H) One heard on Mt Victoria.

Mountain Bamboo Partridge ◊ *Bambusicola fythii* Two birds flushed from bushes on Mt Victoria.

Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus* Three at Hlawga Park.

Green Peafowl (introduced) *Pavo muticus* Two males seen at Hlawga Park.

Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica* A good number seen at Hlawga Park and at Bagan,

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea* Good numbers along the Irrawaddy at Bagan.

Gadwall *Anas strepera* Six or more on Inle Lake.

Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha* Seen in various wetlands areas.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* Some seen on Inle Lake.

Garganey *Anas querquedula* A few dozen seen on Inle Lake.

Ferruginous Pochard *Aythya nyroca* A score of these seen on Inle Lake.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* Four birds seen on Inle Lake, initially proposed as Baer's Pochard!

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* A couple of sightings.

Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans* Good numbers at Hlawga, a small colony at Inle Lake.

Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis* One seen at Inle Lake.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* One seen at Yangon.

Indian/ Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola grayii/ bacchus* A few around Yangon and at Inle.

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus* Not uncommon in open country.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* Seen at Hlawga Park.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* One at Inle Lake.

Eastern Great Egret *Ardea modesta* A handful of sightings, mostly at Inle Lake.

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia* A few noted at Inle Lake.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* Regular sightings along the way.

Little Cormorant *Microcarbo niger* Very numerous at Inle Lake.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* A flock seen along the Irrawaddy at Bagan.

Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster* Two at Hlawga Park.

Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* Singles at Hlawga Park and Bagan.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* Scattered sightings, more numerous at Inle Lake.



Crested Honey Buzzard



White-eyed Buzzard



White-rumped Falcon male



White-rumped Falcon female

Crested Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus* Fairly numerous around Bagan and on the Irrawaddy plain.

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* Singles seen at Hlawga Park and Kalaw.

Changeable Hawk Eagle *Nisaetus limnaeetus* A single at Hlawga Park and two or more juveniles at Bagan.

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis* Good sightings on Mt Victoria, several seen there.

Shikra *Accipiter badius* A handful seen in the lowlands.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* Odd birds encountered on Mt Victoria and around. See note.

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* A female seen at Inle Lake.

Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus* A few seen at Inle Lake.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* One seen over Yangon.

Black-eared Kite *Milvus lineatus* A few identified at Bagan, more along the Irrawaddy not identified to taxon.

White-eyed Buzzard ◊ *Butastur teesa* Two at Bagan were the only ones seen.

Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo burmanicus* Frequently seen around Mt Victoria, singles at Bagan and Inle.

White-rumped Falcon ◊ *Polihierax insignis* Good views of a pair en route to Mt Victoria, another male later.

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* Several seen along the way.

Amur Falcon *Falco amurensis* A splendid encounter with six at Kalaw. See note.

Laggar Falcon ◊ *Falco jugger* A single bird seen circling at Bagan.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* A single seen at Hlawga.

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus* (H) One calling at Hlawga.

Black-tailed Crake ◊ *Porzana bicolor* (H) One calling at Kalaw came very close but remained hidden.

Ruddy-breasted Crake *Porzana fusca* (H) Heard on two days at Inle Lake.

Grey-headed Swamphen *Porphyrio poliocephalus* A few seen at Inle Lake.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* A few seen at Inle Lake.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra* A good number of these on Inle Lake.

Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator* A total of seven birds seen at Bagan, a single on our return visit there

Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus* A single bird seen on a wetland at Bagan.

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus* Four seen with the above species at Bagan.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* A fair number seen along the banks of the Irrawaddy at Bagan.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* In good numbers along the Irrawaddy with the above species

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* A small number seen at the northern end of Inle Lake.

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* A few birds seen in flight at Inle Lake.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus* A single bird in flight at Inle Lake.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* Three singles seen along our route.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii* At least eight seen on the muddy shores of the Irrawaddy at Bagan.

Brown-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus* Plentiful on Inle Lake.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* At least ten seen on Inle Lake.



Asian Koel male



Banded Bay Cuckoo

Rock Dove *Columba livia* Available.

Ashy Wood Pigeon *Columba pulchricollis* Some flight views then one perched nicely on Mt Victoria.

Pale-capped Pigeon ◊ *Columba punicea* Great views of one feeding in a bush at Hlawga Park.

Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis* Three at Kalaw were the only ones of the trip.

Burmese Collared Dove ◊ *Streptopelia xanthocyclus* Good numbers at Bagan. See note.

Red Turtle Dove (R Collared-dove) *Streptopelia tranquebarica* A few seen around Bagan.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis* Common in dry open country.

Barred Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia unchall* A few seen on one morning on Mt Victoria.

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica* Singles seen at Kalaw, and on Mt Victoria at 2500m!

Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra* A single seen at Kalaw.

Yellow-footed Green Pigeon *Treron phoenicopterus* A colourful flock seen perched near Kazunma.

Pin-tailed Green Pigeon ◊ *Treron apicauda* A dozen showed well at Kalaw.

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenura* Singles seen on Mt Victoria and at Kalaw.

Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria* A few seen in lowland forest en route to and from Mt Victoria

Grey-headed Parakeet ◊ *Psittacula finschii* Still in good number in the lowland forests of Western Burma.

Blossom-headed Parakeet ◊ *Psittacula roseata* A dozen seen en route to Mt Victoria, a few on the return.

Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri* A few noted en route to Mt Victoria.

Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis* Odd singles noted, particularly around Inle Lake.

Green-billed Malkoha *Rhopodytes tristis* Two seen well en route from Mt Victoria.

Asian Koel *Eudynamis scolopaceus* A pair watched closely at the Shwedagon pagoda.

Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii* A good look at one in Hlawga Park.

Large Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococyx sparverioides* One seen well on Mt Victoria.

Himalayan Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus* The single hepatic bird at Hlawga appears to be this species.

Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia* A calling bird seen briefly while 'Frogmouthing' at Mt Victoria.

Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei* (H) Heard on a couple of occasions on Mt Victoria.

Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides* A pair en route from Mt Victoria was our only sighting.



Hodgson's Frogmouth female



Asian Barred Owlet

Hodgson's Frogmouth ◊ *Batrachostomus hodgsoni* A stunning view of a female Mt Victoria. See note.

Grey Nightjar *Caprimulgus jotaka* A good view of one on the road on our first morning on Mt Victoria. See note.

Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus brevirostris* A few singles seen on Mt Victoria and at Kalaw.

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis* A few seen at Yangon and Bagan.

Cook's Swift ◊ *Apus cooki* Two birds seen at dusk at Kalaw.

House Swift *Apus nipalensis* Good numbers around the Shwedagon and Yangon, also at Bagan.

Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis* Seen regularly in open country. The race here is *affinis*.

Oriental Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis* A couple seen flying over lowland forest en route to the west.

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis* A few seen along our route, most at Inle Lake.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* A few seen at Inle Lake.

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* A single on the Irrawaddy at Bagan.

Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis* Common in dry open country.

Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaulti* Quite common at Hlawga Park.

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops* A few seen around Bagan.

Great Barbet *Megalaima virens* A fair number on Mt Victoria, some at Kalaw.

Lineated Barbet *Megalaima lineata* A handful seen at the foot of Mt Victoria.

Golden-throated Barbet *Megalaima franklinii* A small number in mountain forest on Mt Victoria.

Blue-throated Barbet *Megalaima asiatica* A few singles on Mt Victoria. and Kalaw.

Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala* Numerous in a fruiting tree at the Shwedagon pagoda.
Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* Singles at Inle Lake and near Kazunma.
Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus* A splendid fellow at Kalaw.
White-browed Piculet *Sasia ochracea* One at Kalaw to make it a 'two Piculet day'.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker *Dendrocopos hyperythrus* Several splendid examples on Mt Victoria.
Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus* Two seen en route to Mt Victoria.
Stripe-breasted Woodpecker ◊ *Dendrocopos atratus* (NL) One seen at Kalaw.
Yellow-crowned Woodpecker *Dendrocopos mahrattensis* A brief look at a female in dry forest near Kazunma.
Crimson-breasted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos cathpharius* Great views of three on Mt Victoria.



Darjeeling Woodpecker female



Rufous-bellied Woodpecker female

Darjeeling Woodpecker *Dendrocopos darjellensis* Two seen just on one day on Mt Victoria.
Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus* A brief look at one in dry forest near Kazunma, heard at Kalaw.
Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* (H) Heard only on Mt Victoria.
Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus* In good number around Kalaw.
Common Woodshrike *Tephrodornis pondicerianus* A single in dry forest near Kazunma.
Ashy Woodswallow *Artamus fuscus* Several seen at Bagan.
Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia* A few seen at Bagan and in the lowlands.
Large Cuckooshrike *Coracina macei* A few seen well on Mt Victoria.
Indochinese Cuckooshrike *Coracina polioptera* Two seen in dry forest near Kazunma en route to Mt Victoria.
Black-winged Cuckooshrike *Coracina melaschistos* Seen at Hlawga and on Mt Victoria.
Rosy Minivet ◊ *Pericrocotus roseus* A nice group of ten at Hlawga Park.
Small Minivet *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus* Two seen in dry woodland en route to Mt Victoria.
Jerdon's Minivet ◊ *Pericrocotus albifrons* Four birds seen at dawn at Bagan. See note.
Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris* Just two seen on Mt Victoria.
Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus* Seen commonly on Mt Victoria.
Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus speciosus* Not uncommon at Kalaw.
Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* A few seen at Bagan, Inle, and other lowland localities.
Burmese Shrike *Lanius colluriooides* Scattered sightings in the dry lowlands, also at Kalaw.
Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach* Plenty at Inle and few around Kalaw.
Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus* Two examples seen on Mt Victoria.
White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis zantholeuca* (LO) One or more seen at Kalaw.
Black-headed Shrike-babbler ◊ *Pteruthius rufiventer* A male seen on a wet morning on Mt Victoria.
Blyth's Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius aeralatus* A couple seen on Mt Victoria, another at Kalaw.
Green Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius xanthochlorus* (NL) One on Mt Victoria.
Slender-billed Oriole *Oriolus tenuirostris* A few singles on Mt Victoria, eight or more hawking termites at Kalaw.
Black-naped Oriole *Oriolus chinensis* Quite numerous at Hlawga Park, also seen at the Shwedagon pagoda.
Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus* A few seen in lowland forest en route from Mt Victoria.
Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii* A few seen well on Mt Victoria.
Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus* Frequent in lowland areas with large roost flights seen at Bagan and Inle.

Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus* Commonly encountered in forest habitats.

Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus* A few sightings in lower to mid altitude forests.

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer* Several sightings in mixed bird flocks, sometimes without rackets.

Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus* Regularly seen on Mt Victoria, a good number at Hlawga.

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus* A few singles in lowland forest en route to and from Mt Victoria.

White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis* A few seen in hill forest on Mt Victoria, more at Kalaw.

White-browed Fantail *Rhipidura aureola* A single in dry forest near Kazunma.

Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea* A few noted in lowland forests.

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius* Great looks at several of the striking *leucotis* race at Kalaw.

Yellow-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa flavirostris* A couple of shy groups seen poorly on Mt Victoria.

Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythrorhyncha* A couple of small flocks seen around Kalaw.

Common Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis* (H) Heard on Mt Victoria and also at Kalaw.

Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda* Seen on a couple of occasions in lowland forest.

Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae* Regular sightings on Mt Victoria, also seen at Kalaw.

Racket-tailed Treepie *Crypsirina temia* Two seen at Hlawga Park were the only ones of the trip.

Hooded Treepie ◊ *Crypsirina cucullata* A wonderful endemic, two seen twice in the same place near Kazunma.

House Crow *Corvus splendens* Very numerous around Yangon and Bagan, all dark race *insolens*.

Eastern Jungle Crow *Corvus levaillantii* Few seen, in scattered locations.

Yellow-bellied Fairy-flycatcher (Y-b Fantail) *Chelidorhynch hypoxantha* A few noted on Mt Victoria.

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis* A spread of sightings along our route.

Black-bibbed Tit ◊ *Poecile hypermelaena* Several birds seen well in the higher elevations pines on Mt Victoria.

Japanese Tit *Parus minor* Not uncommon around Kalaw.

Cinereous Tit *Parus cinereus* A single seen en route from Mt Victoria.

Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus* A few seen on Mt Victoria though never common.

Yellow-cheeked Tit *Parus spilonotus* Two birds seen at Kalaw.

Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus* A couple of singles in mixed flocks on Mt Victoria.

Burmese Bush Lark ◊ *Mirafra microptera* Not uncommon at Bagan on our first visit.



Streak-eared Bulbul



Ashy Woodswallow

Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula* A small flock frequenting the summit of Mt Victoria.

Sand Lark ◊ *Calandrella raytal* Several seen well on the Irrawaddy sandbanks.

Crested Finchbill ◊ *Spizixos canifrons* In good numbers around our Mt Victoria accommodation.

Striated Bulbul *Pycnonotus striatus* Fairly numerous and obvious on Mt Victoria, not bad looking for a Bulbul!

Black-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus atriceps* A couple seen at Hlawga Park.

Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus flaviventris* Regularly encountered in lowland forests.

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus* A small number were seen around Inle Lake.

Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer* The commoner Bulbul in more open habitat. See note.

Davison's Bulbul *Pycnonotus [finlaysoni] davisoni* At least five eventually showing well at Hlawga Park.

Flavescent Bulbul *Pycnonotus flavescens* Numerous in one or two places in the hills.

Streak-eared Bulbul *Pycnonotus blanfordi* Common around Bagan and the dry zone.

Ashy Bulbul *Hemixos flavala* A couple of sightings at Kalaw.

Mountain Bulbul *Ixos mcclellandii* A couple seen on Mt Victoria, more commonly at Kalaw.

Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus* Frequent sightings on Mt Victoria and at Kalaw.

Grey-throated Martin *Riparia chinensis* A few seen along the Irrawaddy at Bagan.

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia* Quite a few seen at Inle Lake, also a couple at Bagan.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* Not uncommon in the lowlands and at Inle.

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii* Two or more seen at Bagan.

Dusky Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne concolor* At least 8 at Kalaw, a write-in.

Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus* Regularly seen in the air over Mt Victoria.

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* A small number over Mt Victoria presumed to be this species.

[**Striated Swallow** *Cecropis striolata* Quite a few around Kalaw presumed to be this species, but never confirmed]

Scaly-breasted Cupwing (S-b Wren-babbler) *Pnoepyga albiventer* Some good close views of some on Mt Victoria.

Pygmy Cupwing (P Wren-babbler) *Pnoepyga pusilla* (H) Heard once on Mt Victoria.

Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus supercilii* (H) Heard en route from Mt Victoria.

Mountain Tailorbird *Phyllergates cucullatus* (H) Heard a couple of times on Mt Victoria.

Broad-billed Warbler ◇ *Tickellia hodgsoni* (H) A bird singing on Mt Victoria could not be lured into view.

Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler *Horornis fortipes* (H) A vocal bird on Mt Victoria stayed hidden in the weeds.

Aberrant Bush Warbler *Horornis flavolivaceus* (H) Another skulker on Mt Victoria that remained unseen.

Grey-bellied Tesia *Tesia cyaniventer* A vocal male appeared on a slope close to us on Mt Victoria.

Slaty-bellied Tesia *Tesia olivea* (H) A couple of songsters at Kalaw remained hidden.

Chestnut-headed Tesia *Cettia castaneocoronata* Several nice sightings on Mt Victoria where common by voice.

Black-throated Bushtit *Aegithalos concinnus* A couple of fair sized flocks on Mt Victoria, also at Kalaw.

Burmese Bushtit ◇ *Aegithalos sharpei* A bit elusive at first, but eventually good looks at this endemic on Mt Victoria

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* Common at Bagan, also at Inle Lake

Tickell's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus affinis* A single showed well at Bagan.

Buff-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus subaffinis* Quite a few seen in weedy habitats on Mt Victoria.

Yellow-streaked Warbler *Phylloscopus armandii* One or two near Mt Victoria, others found at Kalaw.

Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi* Singles at Bagan and en route from Mt Victoria.

Buff-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus pulcher* Probably the most abundant bird on Mt Victoria!

Ashy-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus maculipennis* A few seen on Mt Victoria on a couple of days.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus* Not uncommon throughout, heard mostly though.

Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei* Regularly encountered on Mt Victoria, an instructive bird at Kalaw.

Two-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus* A few noted at Hlawga and in lowlands en route from Mt Victoria.

Davison's Leaf Warbler ◇ *Phylloscopus davisoni* A few of these bright Warblers seen well at Kalaw.

Grey-hooded Warbler *Phylloscopus xanthoschistus* Some singles seen on Mt Victoria.

Grey-crowned Warbler *Seicercus tephrocephalus* A couple seen on Mt Victoria, though quite skulking.

Bianchi's Warbler *Seicercus valentini* A good show by a vocal bird on Mt Victoria.

Martens's Warbler ◇ *Seicercus omeiensis* Several seen at Kalaw.

Black-browed Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps* One showed well at the Shwedagon in a bush!

Blunt-winged Warbler ◇ *Acrocephalus concinens* A single bird showed reasonably well at Inle Lake.

Thick-billed Warbler *Iduna aedon* A good encounter with a singing bird at Bagan, a couple noted elsewhere.

Spotted Bush Warbler ◇ *Locustella thoracica* (H) Sev. birds singing unseen at Inle Lake, as were the following sp.

Baikal Bush Warbler ◇ *Locustella davidi* A very good look at one of three seen at Inle Lake.

Brown Bush Warbler ◇ *Locustella luteoventris* A single scolding bird was teased into the sunshine on Mt Victoria.

Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata* (H) Heard at Inle Lake and Kalaw.

Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella certhiola* A glimpse of one flying back and forth across a creek at Inle.

Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris* Three seen sitting up at Inle Lake.

Brown Prinia ◇ *Prinia polychroa* Only seen at Bagan where they were vocal and showy.

Black-throated Prinia *Prinia atrogularis* At least three seen in the weeds on Mt Victoria.

Hill Prinia *Prinia supercilii* A single at Kalaw where others heard.

Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens* Two seen in lowlands en route from Mt Victoria.

Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii* Vocal pairs seen at Kalaw and in lowlands en route from Mt Victoria.

Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris* Several seen well in the reeds at Inle Lake.

Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata* A single seen at Inle Lake.

Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius* Seen around Yangon and at Bagan.
Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis* A couple seen at Hlawga Park.
Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus erythrogeus* (H) Heard distantly at Kalaw.
Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Pomatorhinus maclellandi* (H) Heard distantly at Mt Victoria.
White-browed Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus schisticeps* Several seen in the undergrowth at Kalaw.
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis* Regular sightings in mixed flocks on Mt Victoria.
Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Pomatorhinus superciliaris* (H) Heard in the bamboo on Mt Victoria: noteworthy.
Spotted Wren-Babbler ◊ *Elachura formosa* (H) Multiple attempts to see singing birds Mt Victoria, remained hidden.
Chin Hills Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaeornis oatesi* Of many songsters we saw three, one of them extremely well.
Golden Babbler *Stachyridopsis chrysaea* A few singles in mixed flocks on Mt Victoria and at Kalaw.
Pin-striped Tit-Babbler *Macronus gularis* A single see in lowland forest en route from Mt Victoria.
Chestnut-capped Babbler *Timalia pileata* A single near Kazunma and a couple in the grass on Inle Lake.
Rufous-winged Fulvetta *Pseudominla castaneiceps* Several encounters with small tame flocks on Mt Victoria.
Rusty-capped Fulvetta ◊ *Schoeniparus dubius* Prolonged close views of three eventually on Mt Victoria.
Brown-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe poiocephala* A vocal bird circled us in lowland forest en route from Mt Victoria.
Yunnan Fulvetta ◊ *Alcippe yunnanensis* (NL) One seen at Kalaw.
Nepal Fulvetta ◊ *Alcippe nipalensis* Some glimpses of one or two on Mt Victoria.
Abbott's Babbler *Trichastoma abbotti* (H) Heard at Hlawga Park.



Puff-throated Babbler



Brown-capped Laughingthrush

Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps* A good view of one in lowland forest en route from Mt Victoria.
Striated Babbler ◊ *Turdoides earlei* Four in grass on an Irrawaddy island.
White-throated Babbler ◊ *Turdoides gularis* A friendly endemic, not uncommon around Bagan.
Mount Victoria Babax ◊ *Babax woodi* Two pairs on Mt Victoria, showed eventually in the weeds.
White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus* (H) One heard at Hlawga Park.
Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax pectoralis* (H) Heard only in lowland forest.
White-browed Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus sannio* Five showed rather well at Kalaw.
Striped Laughingthrush ◊ *Strophocincla virgata* A lot of searching before the first, another two showed well.
Brown-capped Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron austeni* Good looks at these handsome fellows on Mt Victoria.
Blue-winged Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron squamatum* (H) Heard on two days on Mt Victoria.
Assam Laughingthrush ◊ *Trochalopteron chrysopterum* Several views of these on Mt Victoria
Silver-eared Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron melanostigma* Furtive in the forest undergrowth at Kalaw.
Blue-winged Siva *Siva cyanouroptera* Regularly seen on Mt Victoria.
Bar-throated Minla *Chrysominla strigula* Quite numerous in places higher up on Mt Victoria.
Red-tailed Minla *Minla ignotincta* Some splendid examples in mixed flocks on Mt Victoria.
Crimson-faced Liocichla ◊ *Liocichla phoenicea* Some surprisingly good views of four on Mt Victoria.
Rusty-fronted Barwing ◊ *Actinodura egertoni* Seen on all five days on Mt Victoria.
Spectacled Barwing ◊ *Actinodura ramsayi* Seen well posing in yellow flowering herbage at Kalaw.
Streak-throated Barwing ◊ *Actinodura waldeni* The second of two encounters on Mt Victoria provided good looks.
Silver-eared Mesia *Mesia argentauris* A trio seen on Mt Victoria, then longer views at Kalaw.

Grey Sibia ◊ *Malacias gracilis* The most numerous Babbler on Mt Victoria, many vocal birds in the montane forests.
Dark-backed Sibia ◊ *Malacias melanoleucus* Several at Kalaw, good views of them in fruiting bushes.
White-browed Fulvetta *Fulvetta vinipectus* Only at the highest levels on Mt Victoria. Race *ripponi*.
Yellow-eyed Babbler *Chrysomma sinense* A couple of singles hiding in the weeds, at Bagan and Kalaw.
Buff-breasted Parrotbill ◊ *Suthora ripponi* Our 'Bird of the trip'; a buzzing encounter with 30 on Mt Victoria.
Spot-breasted Parrotbill ◊ *Paradoxornis guttaticollis* As many as five perching up for us on Mt Victoria.
Whiskered Yuhina *Yuhina flavicollis* A handful seen on Mt Victoria.



Stripe-throated Yuhina



Buff-breasted Parrotbill

Stripe-throated Yuhina *Yuhina gularis* Several good looks higher up on Mt Victoria.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye *Zosterops erythropleurus* Not uncommon on Mt Victoria, enjoying cherry blossom.
Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus* A few seen in the forest at Kalaw.
Chestnut-vented Nuthatch *Sitta nagaensis* Seen on three days of five on Mt Victoria.
Burmese Nuthatch ◊ (Neglected N) *Sitta neglecta* Several seen in mixed flocks in dry forest near Kazunma.
White-tailed Nuthatch *Sitta himalayensis* A couple seen well in the evergreen forest on Mt Victoria.
White-browed Nuthatch ◊ *Sitta victoriae* On Mt Victoria, great views of several. See Note.
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis* Three parties encountered, to make it a Five Nuthatch Trip.
Bar-tailed Treecreeper *Certhia himalayana* Three examples in all on Mt Victoria. An isolated population.
Hume's Treecreeper *Certhia manipurensis* A small number seen on Mt Victoria
Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa* Large groups seen near our lodge on Mt Victoria.
Great Myna (White-vented M) *Acridotheres grandis* Only seen near Inle Lake where quite common.
Jungle Myna *Acridotheres fuscus* Seen in numbers around Yangon and Bagan.
Collared Myna ◊ *Acridotheres albocinctus* A few seen on both days at Inle, seen from our boats only.
Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* Present in some village and urban situations.
Vinous-breasted Myna ◊ *Acridotheres burmannicus* Good numbers at Bagan, also seen at Inle Lake.
Black-collared Starling *Gracupia nigricollis* A vocal and showy pair at Kalaw.
Black-breasted Thrush ◊ *Turdus dissimilis* A male seen high in fruiting trees on Mt Victoria.
Grey-sided Thrush ◊ *Turdus feae* Good numbers in fruiting trees on Mt Victoria, with multiple good views.
Eyebrowed Thrush *Turdus obscurus* Quite a few seen with the flocks of the previous species.
Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis* Several seen in gardens or similar.
White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus* (H) Heard at Hlawga Park.
Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica* A single seen at Hlawga Park.
White-gorgeted Flycatcher *Anthipes monileger* A remarkably easy look at one at Kalaw.
Pale Blue Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis concolor* (H) A songster at Kalaw remained unseen.
Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis banyumas* Three or so found in the forest at Kalaw.
Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis rubeculoides* Seen at Hlawga and in lowland forest near Mt Victoria.
Large Niltava *Niltava grandis* (H) Heard singing from hidden perches on Mt Victoria.
Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigoriae* A male showed briefly at Kalaw.
Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassinus* Frequent sightings in the Chin Hills and elsewhere.
Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophris* A songster in a thicket on Mt Victoria, heard only at Kalaw.

White-browed Shortwing *Brachypteryx montana* A male showed unexpectedly near our Mt Victoria lodgings.

White-bellied Redstart ◊ *Luscinia phoenicuroides* A showy first winter male in song on Mt Victoria, plus one other.



Siberian Rubythroat



Verditer Flycatcher

Siberian Rubythroat *Calliope calliope* Heard in many locations, good views at Bagan and Inle Lake.

Himalayan Bluetail *Tarsiger rufilatus* Several singles on Mt Victoria, at least one showed well.

White-crowned Forktail *Enicurus leschenaulti* (H) Heard calling loudly in the forest near Kalaw.

Blue Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus* A single in twilight on Mt Victoria.

Slaty-backed Flycatcher *Ficedula hodgsonii* A female seen on Mt Victoria.

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher *Ficedula strophilata* A few seen in the higher forest on Mt Victoria.

Taiga Flycatcher *Ficedula albicilla* Not uncommon in lowland habitats, many along roadsides.

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni* A male seen in lowland forest en route from Mt Victoria.

Slaty-blue Flycatcher *Ficedula tricolor* A couple heard, glimpsed by some.

Daurian Redstart *Phoenicurus aureus* A female on Mt Victoria, a smart male at Kalaw.

Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis* Several seen at higher levels on Mt Victoria.

White-capped Redstart *Phoenicurus leucocephalus* A single bird by the dam at Kalaw.

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius* A few seen, some on pagodas at Bagan.

Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush *Monticola rufiventris* A few of each sex seen on Mt Victoria.

Stejneger's Stonechat *Saxicola maurus* Numerous at Inle Lake and a few more around Kalaw.

White-tailed Stonechat ◊ *Saxicola leucurus* At least six seen on islands in the Irrawaddy. Smart.

Pied Bush Chat *Saxicola caprata* Often seen in open country.

Jerdon's Bush Chat ◊ *Saxicola jerdoni* Almost double figures of these handsome chats at Inle.

Grey Bush Chat *Saxicola ferreus* Common in more open patches on Mt Victoria.

Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis aurifrons* Several seen well in dry forest en route to Mt Victoria.

Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum minullum* A couple of singles showed well in lowland forest.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus* Several sightings on Mt Victoria and at Kalaw.

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum* Seen at Hlawga Park and near Kazunma.

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis* Two seen in lowland forest en route to Mt Victoria.

Purple Sunbird *Cinnyris asiaticus* Three singles in dry country.

Olive-backed Sunbird *Cinnyris jugularis* A few singles in lowland habitats.

Mrs Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae* Good numbers on Mt Victoria but not daily.

Green-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga nipalensis* A small number identified on Mt Victoria, most in dull plumage.

Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga saturata* A few seen in the forest near Kalaw.

Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja* (NL) One at Hlawga.

Thick-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum agile* Eight birds in a flowering cherry on Mt Victoria.

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum* (LO) One briefly in dry forest near Kazunma.

Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker ◊ *Dicaeum melanoxanthum* Three in total seen on Mt Victoria.

Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga ignicauda* In reasonable number on Mt Victoria, often in cherry blossom.

Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna* Singles seen on Mt Victoria and at Kalaw.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* Often seen in lowland and dry country.
Plain-backed Sparrow *Passer flaveolus* Quite a few of this handsome fellow at Bagan and near Kazunma.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* Seen in Yangon and at Inle Lake.
Red Avadavat *Amandava amandava* A couple seen at Bagan.
White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata* Some flocks seen near Kalaw.
Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata* Not uncommon around Bagan.
Grey-headed Wagtail *Motacilla [flava] thunbergi* A good example at the Shwedagon pagoda.
Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* Singles seen at Bagan and Inle Lake.
Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* Regular sightings on Mt Victoria.
Baikal Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] baicalensis* Singles at Yangon and Bagan.
Amur Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis* Commonly encountered in the lowlands, also at Kalaw in number.
Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi* A single perched on a wire at Bagan.
Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus* A few seen in the fields at Bagan.



White-tailed Stonechat female



Jerdon's Bush Chat male



Long-billed Pipit



Plain Flowerpecker

Long-billed Pipit *Anthus similis* Four in the fields at Bagan, another near Kazunma.
Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* Very numerous in more open forest on Mt Victoria, also seen at Bagan.
Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* Single flyovers at Bagan and Inle Lake.
Brown Bullfinch ◊ *Pyrrhula nipalensis* (H) Heard distantly on Mt Victoria.
Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus* Small flocks on Mt Victoria and at Kalaw.
Black-headed Greenfinch ◊ *Chloris ambigua* A single bird flew over calling at Kalaw.
Yellow-breasted Greenfinch *Chloris spinoides* A couple of colourful flocks on Mt Victoria.
Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla* Three birds high on Mt Victoria one morning.
Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola* Three birds in flight at Inle Lake.

MAMMALS

Pallas's Squirrel *Callosciurus erythraeus* A few examples on Mt Victoria.

Finlayson's Squirrel (Variable S) *Callosciurus finlaysoni* Attractive rufous *ferrugineus* race at Kalaw.

Irrawaddy Squirrel *Callosciurus pygerythrus* A few seen in lowland areas.

Himalayan Striped Squirrel *Tamiops maclellandii* Noted on three days on Mt Victoria.

Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula* A single glimpsed in the twilight on Mt Victoria.

Rhesus Macaque *Macaca mulatta* Plenty in Hlawga Park.

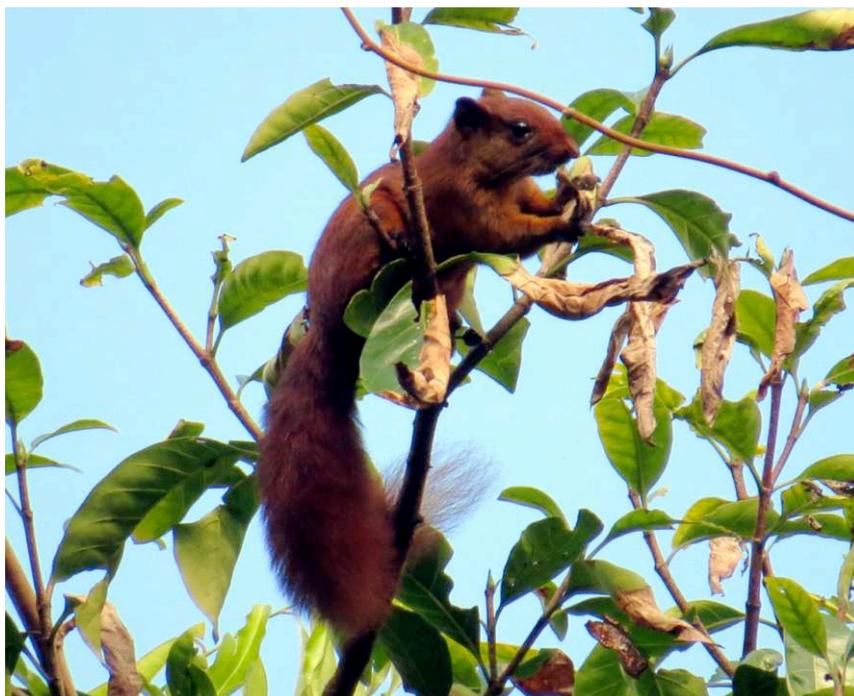
Hoolock Gibbon *Hylobates hoolock* (H) Not extirpated at all, singing loud and clear on Mt Victoria

Northern Tree-Shrew *Tupaia belangeri* One ran across the trail near Kalaw.

Indian Muntjac (Barking Deer) *Muntiacus muntjak* One seen at Hlawga Park.

Sambar (introduced) *Cervus unicolor* Plenty in Hlawga Park.

Hog Deer (introduced) *Axis porcinus* Plenty in Hlawga Park.



Finlayson's Squirrel

NOTES TO THE SYSTEMATIC LIST

The most up to date referenced taxonomic list referred to in the Tour Report is that of the IOC World Bird Names. Gill, F and Donsker, D (Eds). 2015. IOC World Bird Names (v2.11). Available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

I haven't included the bird I called as Northern Goshawk as I didn't want to add a write-in for a bird that I wasn't 100% sure about. It was rather brief view, after all.

Amur Falcon *Falco amurensis*

A memorable evening with a termite hatch coinciding with a bright full moon, and six of these flying around fly-catching against a deeply coloured sky. At least one appeared to be an adult male, the others all females or young birds.

Burmese Collared Dove ◊ *Streptopelia xanthocyclus*

This is now split by HBW and Clements.

Hodgson's Frogmouth ◊ *Batrachostomus hodgsoni*

Eventually a stunning view of a female on Mt Victoria, on the fourth attempt and on our final night on Mt Victoria. I'm still unsure how Gideon spotted it!

Grey Nightjar *Caprimulgus jotaka*

A male on the road on our first morning on Mt Victoria, the rain may have helped it behave as it did. We also saw a Nightjar hawking in daytime together with House Crows over the Shwedagon Pagoda. In shape it resembles Grey, the plumage indicates a female Grey, and its behaviour like this would fit a migrant, which could also fit Grey. So I'm having that.

Jerdon's Minivet ◊ *Pericrocotus albifrons*

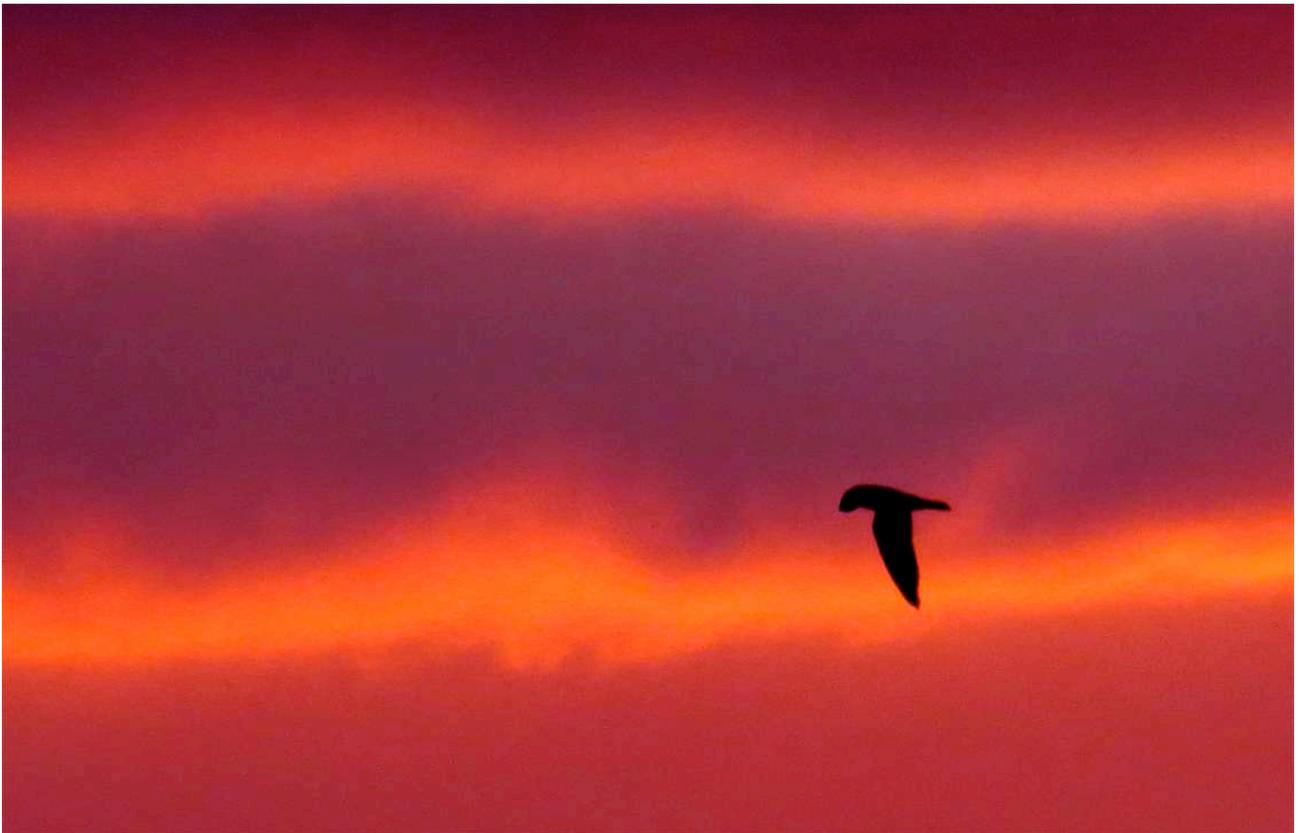
Four birds seen at dawn at Bagan, gave a good little show, but we never saw any more! A potentially difficult bird to find as always, I think we were lucky not to miss this.

Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer*

I have a nasty feeling that all our Sooty-headed Bulbuls at Kalaw were hybrids with this species, as none looking very pukka.

White-browed Nuthatch ◊ *Sitta victoriae*

Hurrah for this jewel of Mt Victoria. Nuthatches have always been special to me, and I have a special fondness for this one, ever since my first visit here on the 1995 Chin Hills expedition when we 're-found' it.



Amur Falcon at Kalaw