



*Ferruginous Partridge at Kaeng Krachan. (all photos by Dave Farrow)*

# THAILAND

**11 – 27 FEBRUARY / 4 MARCH 2019**

**LEADER: DAVE FARROW**

Once again this years Birdquest tour to Thailand was a great success, a visual feast of wonderful birds. This year we recorded 511 species, the most ever on this tour and the biggest total of any tour I have ever led! We began on the coast where we saw Spoon-billed Sandpiper, White-faced and Malaysian Plovers, Asian Dowitchers, 155 Nordmann's Greenshanks, Great Knot by the thousand, Chinese Egrets and Greater Spotted Eagle. Heading inland to a partly closed Kaeng Krachan National Park we saw Black-thighed Falconet, Tickell's Brown Hornbills, Ferruginous, Bar-backed and Green-legged Partridges, Silver-breasted and Black-and-Yellow Broadbills, Large Scimitar Babbler, Spot-winged Starlings and Golden-crested Myna. At Khao Yai we saw Siamese Firebacks, Great and Wreathed Hornbills and Heart-spotted Woodpecker, Red-headed and Orange-breasted Trogons, Orange-headed Thrush, Banded and Long-tailed Broadbills, Rufous Limestone Babbler, and a male Blue Pitta that gave us a long look. In the hills of the north we found Mrs. Hume's Pheasants, Pin-tailed Green Pigeons, Slender-billed Orioles, Giant Nuthatch, Ultramarine, White-gorgeted, Sapphire and Pale Blue Flycatchers, Pallas's and Chinese Leaf Warblers, Spot-breasted and Grey-headed Parrotbills, White-necked, White-browed and Silver-eared Laughingthrushes, Rufous-backed Sibia, Scarlet-

headed Liocichla, Spectacled Barwings, Himalayan Cutia, Crested Finchbills and Spot-winged Grosbeaks, Black-breasted Thrushes, Siberian Rubythroat, Daurian and White-bellied Redstarts, Crested and Chestnut Buntings. In fields alongside the Kok River we found Pied Harrier and hundreds of Small Pratincoles, Chestnut-eared Buntings, and a Baikal Bush Warbler. At other sites we saw six Green Peafowl, and at our final stop on Doi Inthanon we saw Rufous-throated Partridges, Blossom-headed Parakeet, White-rumped Falcon, Collared Falconet, Rufous-winged Buzzard, Black-headed Woodpeckers, Himalayan and Lesser Shortwings, Dark-sided and Eyebrowed Thrushes, Eyebrowed and Pygmy Wren Babblers, Slaty-bellied Tesia and White-crowned Forktail. On our South Thailand extension, at coastal sites we saw Great Eared Nightjar, Brown-winged and Ruddy Kingfishers, Mangrove Pitta and Black-and-Red Broadbills, while at forest sites we saw Malayan Banded Pitta, Green Broadbill, Barred Eagle Owl, Spotted Wood Owl, Blyth's Frogmouth, Bushy-crested Hornbill, Blue-banded and Banded Kingfishers, Red-bearded Bee-eater and Chestnut-naped Forktail. Mammals also featured with a Leopard walking down the road at Kaeng Krachan, and a Chinese Goral at Doi Lang.



*Chinese Egret*

Once we had all arrived and assembled at Bangkok's busy airport, we met our guide Mr Pipith and excitedly set off towards the coast to begin our birding. Once we were through the worst of the city traffic, we cruised down the coast through the salt pans and fishponds to Pak Thale, to begin our search for Spoon-billed Sandpiper. A lot of birds here both on the salt pans and wheeling around in the air, with the massed ranks of Lesser Sand Plovers, Kentish Plovers, Red-necked Stints, Curlew and Broad-billed Sandpipers making it a hard task to find one of the diminutive waders. Very quickly we spied a rather distant bird, though it departed with a nervous flock of Stints, but further on we found a better example in good light that showed well as he hovered up and down in the shallows. Glad to found our main target, we could turn our attention to some of the other great birds around us, such as the Caspian, Gull-billed, Little and Common Terns, Brown-headed Gulls, Red-necked Phalaropes, many Broad-billed and Curlew Sandpipers, a large flock of Terek Sandpipers, Bar-tailed and Black-tailed Godwits. We enjoyed our first Thai meal overlooking the seashore, before heading down to the nearby jetty where we boarded two small boats and chugged slowly along the mangrove-lined the creek towards the sea. We had great looks at Chinese Egret feeding in the shallows, plus saw Javan Pond



Heron acquiring their distinctive breeding dress, then landed on the end of the sand spit. On the sandy shore were large numbers of Common Terns, Caspian and Greater Crested Terns, a couple of White-winged Terns, we found a couple of distinctive Malaysian Plovers, and a super female White-faced Plover racing across the sand, showing itself to be quite different to the nearby Kentish Plovers. We added Pacific Reef Heron, a few Sanderling, and another Chinese Egret showed well on the return leg. We had a walk around the Royal Project in the late afternoon, and in mangrove we found Golden-bellied Gerygone plus Wood Sandpipers and Spotted Redshanks, Pin-tailed Snipe, Ruff, Ruddy-breasted Crake, Brown-throated Sunbird, Malaysian Pied Fantail, and at dusk scores of White-shouldered Starlings flew towards the mangroves, heading to roost along with dozens of Black Drongos. Altogether a bird-filled start to the tour!

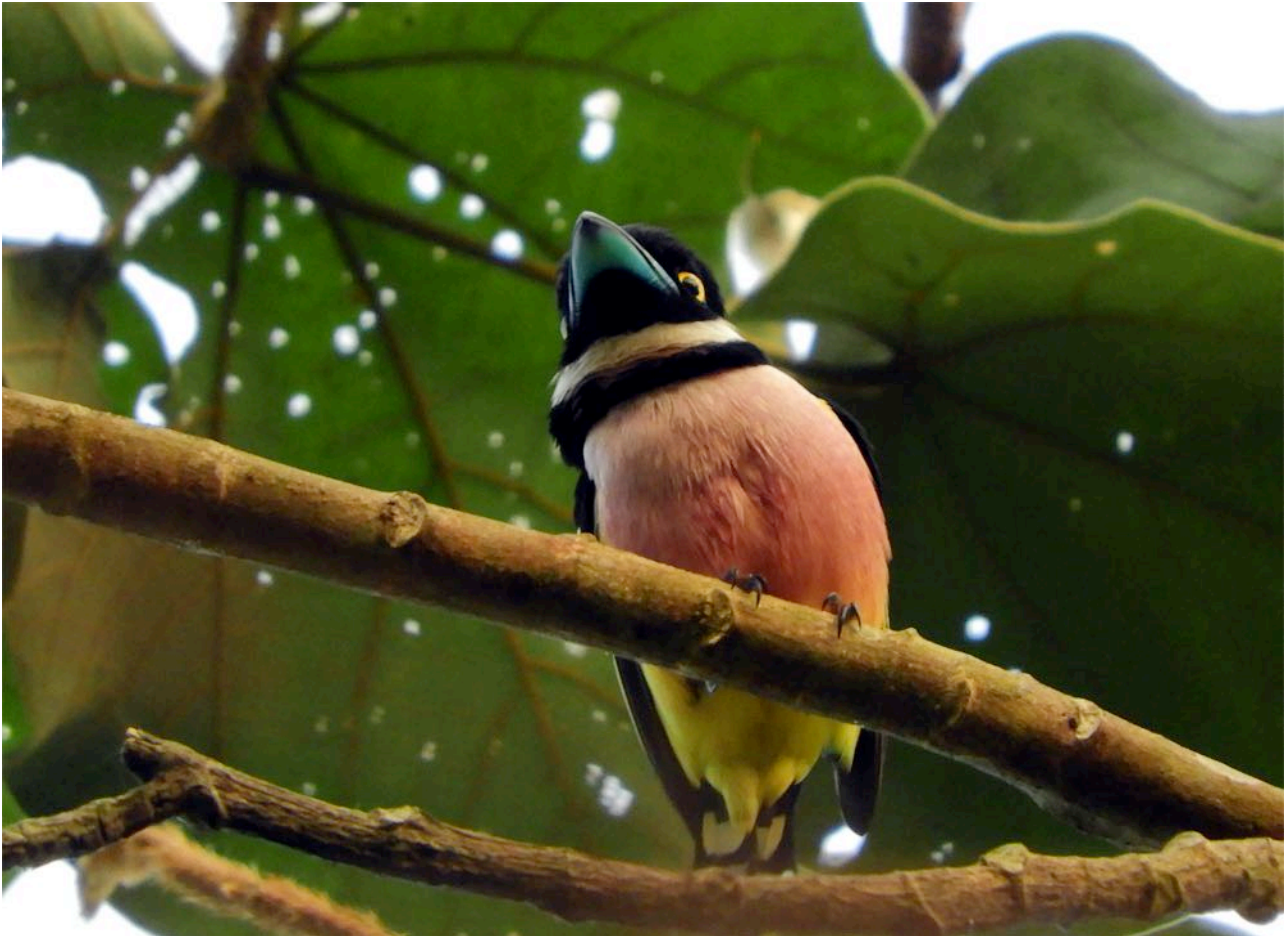


*Green-legged Partridge*

The next morning we began at sunrise on the salt pans, and quickly found our first target of Nordmann's Greenshank, although we never expected to see 155 of them! Reading further, it seems that the world population is estimated to be 600 – 1300 individuals, so we had just seen somewhere between 12 and 25% of the world population! There was a horde of thousands of Great Knot that took off and wheeled around in a giant smoke-like murmuration, plus we saw a few Red Knot mixed in. In another area we stumbled upon a group of Asian Dowitcher close to the track, on a beautifully lit saltpan covered in Red-necked Stints and Broad-billed Sandpipers, Red-necked Phalaropes, Lesser Sandpipers and a few Long-toed Stint. We also found Pied Avocets, Racket-tailed Treepie and Black-capped Kingfisher, then we headed up to Pak Thale for some seconds of Spoon-billed Sandpiper. Unfortunately we arrived just as a phantom raptor caused a massive dread, and we were unable to find it, and as the heat got more brutal we had to retreat to the cool of our vans. Some kicking around dry scrubby areas yielded Paddyfield Pipits and Indochinese Bushlarks, and many Oriental Pratincoles, before it was time to drive inland towards Kaeng Krachan National Park. As the heat seemed to be a feature of the day we headed for one of the small waterholes set up for photographers. Here

we spent a wonderful couple of hours watching White-crested, Lesser and Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes, White-browed Scimitar Babbler, Abbott's and Puff-throated Babblers, Tickell's and Chinese Blue Flycatchers, a pair of Bar-backed Partridges, Lesser Mouse Deer, Northern Tree Shrew and three species of squirrel. Leaving here just before dusk, en route to our lodgings we happened upon a large flock of Chestnut-tailed Starlings together with a pair of Daurian Starlings, and a dozen Spot-winged Starlings, a write-in and a Thai lifer for the leader.

This year the majority of Kaeng Krachan National Park was closed to visitors, because supposedly they were restructuring the road to the top, so we were not allowed to go beyond the km15 campsite. Although this changed the prospects for seeing many species found up on the ridge, we did rather well, mitigated with visits to the waterhole hides where we saw some amazing birds.



*Black-and-Yellow Broadbill*

After a twilight drive in, we birded along the entrance road where we were able to find Oriental Pied Hornbills plus some brief views of Tickell's Brown Hornbills, and watched five cute Black-thighed Falconets leave their tiny roost hole. We had an introduction to some of the numerous Bulbuls and Drongos, Blue-eared and Green-eared Barbets, Greater Yellownapes, Common and Greater Flamebacks, Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Asian Brown and Verditer Flycatchers, Crested Honey Buzzard, Crested Goshawk, Thick-billed Warbler, Pin-striped Tit-Babbler and Asian Barred Owlet. We walked a trail from the campsite where we found Eastern Crowned Warblers, Hainan Blue Flycatcher, Orange-headed Thrush, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, White-browed Piculet, and a Green Vine Snake. We lunched in the HQ canteen, then in the afternoon visited another hide. This proved to be challengingly quiet, with nothing visiting the waterhole for the first 30 minutes, and little activity from thereon, barring a Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher, and the usual Black-naped Monarchs and Brown-cheeked Fulvettas. After a couple of hours and when thoughts turned to giving up, a few birds began to show such as Siberian Blue Robin, Bar-backed Partridge and Abbott's Babbler, along with a number of squirrels and Tree



Shrews, then suddenly an apparition of orange appeared with a plump patterned Ferruginous Partridge coming to join the party. We had exceptional views of this gorgeous bird, then its mate joined it and they drank together from the pool. So the wait was all worth it! This is the first time this has actually been seen on the tour, and the one time I have seen it previously, Pipith and I shared a small tent hide overlooking a feeding area in the forest for nine hours over two days, before the birds appeared!



*White-crested Laughingthrush*

The second morning here we drove in the darkness along the entrance road, seeing a couple of Large-tailed Nightjars, and as soon as it was light enough we then saw a shape in the middle of the road walking away from us – Leopard! We followed it for a minute before it went off into the bushes – a slim female that was quite darkly patterned. Hurrah! A welcome birthday present for the leader! We dismounted and birded along the road for a while, finding Sultan Tit, Oriental Dollarbird, a flyby Golden-crested Myna, Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, and a group of Red Junglefowl. Moving up the road to the campsite we once again took the trail along the stream where found Orange-breasted Trogon, Sulphur-breasted Warbler, Great Iora, a roosting Brown Hawk Owl, Chestnut-breasted and Raffle's Malkohas, and around the HQ we saw Brown-backed Needletail and a Lesser Green Leafbird. In the afternoon we visited yet another waterhole hide, where saw Racket-tailed Treepies, Green-legged and Bar-backed Partridges, more Red Junglefowl, White-browed Scimitar Babblers and the super-quick Large Scimitar Babblers, while a friendly Malaysian Pied Fantail kept up sentry duty just inches in front of the blinds.

A travel day followed, however as our lodge was right next to Kaeng Krachan park entrance we decided to have one more go along the entrance road. Alarmingly no Large-tailed Nightjars were along the road (in recent years there could be dozens...) and we found little around the campsite at dawn apart from a perched Crested Honey Buzzard. Nearby however we found a pair of Silver-breasted Broadbills, and a Black-and-Yellow Broadbill was seen exceptionally well at close quarters. We hurried back and collected our luggage before hitting the road, driving through the fields and ponds of the Phetchaburi area. Roadside stops produced a fine Greater Spotted Eagle, three Booted Eagles (a write-in), Black-eared Kite, both Asian Golden and Baya Weavers, Oriental Reed Warbler, Plain-backed Sparrow and Black-shouldered Kite. Some fishponds were home to many Northern Pintail a couple of Northern Shoveler, Garganey Black-headed Ibis, Purple Heron and a Spot-billed Pelican. After some lunch nearby we spent several hours circling Bangkok on a Friday afternoon, a journey that took rather longer than anticipated, ending in our resort adjacent to Khao Yai National Park.



*Blue Pitta*

Starting our day searching for roadside Pheasants, we drew a blank so walked along a road lined with tall forest. We found Heart-spotted Woodpecker, Banded Bay Cuckoo, Collared Owlet, Swinhoe's Minivet, Puff-throated Bulbuls and various other commoner species. We skulked along forest trails where we saw a couple of rather friendly male Red-headed Trogons, Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Common Hill Myna and managed to find a stunning male Blue Pitta, standing still in the undergrowth for several minutes before he disappeared. Along the riversides we watched Black-crested Bulbuls, Oriental Pied Hornbill and Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, and from an overlook at the highest point here we saw Black-throated Laughingthrushes, Common Green Magpie, Radde's and Yellow-browed Warblers, Chestnut-flanked White-eye and Black-throated Sunbird. Driving back down we saw Wreathed Hornbill and Golden-headed Cisticola, before finishing with some Brown-backed Needletails coming to drink at one of the ponds. Not bad for what is often a difficult site for birding, not least because we had arrived on a weekend and it was thronged with visitors from the capital.

A typically difficult day of Khao Yai birding followed, hard work required to extract any birds from the forests. We began on what should have been a quiet side road but the traffic was heavy and no Pheasants were jaywalking today. We found Banded Broadbill, Rufous-bellied Eagle, Mountain Imperial Pigeon and Hill Blue Flycatcher, before heading onto trails where we saw Great Iora and glimpsed another Blue Pitta. Around the HQ we saw Orange-headed Thrush, Green-billed Malkoha, a pair of Asian Emerald Cuckoo and Moustached Barbet, and in a big fruiting tree we saw Great Hornbill. On another trail we saw Long-tailed Broadbill and a pair of Red-headed Trogon, and under the big fruiting tree we had a brief sighting of some shy Siamese Firebacks. Still time for one last bird, at our hotel we saw a pair of Spotted Owlets.

The next day was primarily one of traveling, but we began with a visit to a temple to see Rufous Limestone Babbler (previously Limestone Wren Babbler which is now split in two), and we enjoyed some good looks at two pairs of this very restricted range species. Pressing on towards Bangkok we squeezed in a short stop at a small marsh where we saw Yellow-bellied Prinia, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Yellow-vented Bulbul and Sand Martin, before rushing to the airport to catch our flight to Chiang Mai. The flight was delayed due to heavy rain, and



we reached Chiang Mai in the mid-afternoon and drove north to Chiang Dao. We made a stop at a tranquil temple at the foot of Doi Chiang Dao where we managed to see Buff-breasted Babbler, and Brown Hawk Owl, before retreating to our nearby hotel for the night.



*Streaked Wren Babbler*

The next morning we returned to the temple where we found a fruiting tree busy with Striated Yuhina, Grey-eyed and Black-headed Bulbuls, Scarlet Minivet and Black-hooded Oriole, then in the forest we saw Pin-tailed Green Pigeon, Purple-naped Sunbirds, Thick-billed Flowerpecker, had a first glimpse of a Streaked Wren Babbler, Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher, Little Spiderhunter, Golden-fronted Leafbird, and Puff-throated Babbler. We drove from here up to Doi Ang Khang on the border with Myanmar, where around a restaurant we saw no less than eight Black-breasted Thrushes, Grey-sided Thrush, a smart male Daurian Redstart, Spot-winged Grosbeaks feeding in the cherry trees, Chestnut-flanked White-eye and Mrs. Gould's Sunbirds feeding in the flowering bushes. Around a small feeding station a Scaly Thrush popped into view, a bit of a shock to see one with the sun on its back! Also here were several White-tailed Robins, Hill Blue Flycatcher, Large Niltava, and finally we had a good view of Streaked Wren Babbler.

Moving on we made several stops around the ridge of Doi Ang Khang and saw Brown-breasted and Flavescent Bulbuls, Crested Finchbill, Rufous-backed and Dark-backed Sibias, Silver-eared Mesia, a flock of Little Buntings, Chestnut-vented Nuthatch, a group of six Scarlet-faced Liocichla, Burmese Shrike, Blyth's Shrike Babblers, Buff-throated and Chinese Leaf Warblers. Quite a day!

The following day was somewhat different. We began pre-dawn along pine-clad roadsides where we heard a Hodgson's Frogmouth, but were unable to find it. After some breakfast we headed back up the hill where we had a good start with great views of Giant Nuthatch, a pair of Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush, Long-tailed Minivet and Grey-backed Shrike. In wooded glades we saw Maroon Orioles and Davidson's Leaf Warbler, before we headed once more to the Royal Project area. The Black-breasted Thrushes had multiplied, with double figures of these scarce birds hopping around on the lawns, plus Grey-sided Thrush, Daurian Redstart, Amur Wagtail, Chestnut-flanked White-eyes, Mrs. Gould's Sunbird, another Streaked Wren Babbler, and a Stripe-breasted Woodpecker. After this the birding slowed down, we heard the Hodgson's Frogmouth call from its roost but it couldn't be found, then one of our drivers got his minibus stuck and had to call the army to help tow him out, and a Spot-breasted Parrotbill showed briefly but really wasn't interested.



*Mrs. Hume's Pheasant*

We left very early in order to reach Doi Lang for dawn, a plan that was hampered by a 45 minute detour, and when we reached the entrance and ticket office, the sight of five large minibuses already in front of us didn't help the mood! Hoping to be first up the road onto the pine clad ridge for any jaywalking Pheasants, we needn't have worried, as the birds now come to a feeding place on the roadside. Reaching the place, where photographer's tent hides were blocking the view down the road, we joined the queue of buses lining the road waiting for Mrs. Hume's Pheasant to appear. Soon after arriving we were able to reposition into an agreeable viewpoint at the invitation of one of the leaders of the large group (who were 43 strong!) and we were treated to the sight of a male Mrs. Hume's Pheasant and three females calmly feeding at the roadside. Wow! What a bird!

Once the Pheasants had potted off we continued down the road to where there were several roadside feeding stations in play, and soon we were getting close view of arch skulkers such as Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babblers, a male White-bellied Redstart, White-browed Laughingthrush, a male Siberian Rubythroat, Slaty-blue Flycatchers, all ridiculously easy to see, popping out into open scrapes where they obviously expected some mealworms to be provided. A splendid Spot-breasted Parrotbill showed very well, and we also found Pale Blue, Slaty-backed and Rufous-gorgeted Flycatchers, Sapphire Flycatcher, Dark-backed Sibias, Aberrant Bush Warbler, Rufescent and Hill Prinias.



We posed for a group photo with one foot in Burma, and near our picnic stop we saw a female Crimson-breasted Woodpecker excavating a hole. It grew hot and quiet, but we added a splendid little White-gorgeted Flycatcher, plus an Ultramarine Flycatcher, before we dropped down to the paddies at Thaton.



*Spot-breasted Parrotbill*

It was quite birdy here too in the late afternoon, we saw hundreds of Small Pratincole, Black-collared Starlings, Richard's Pipits, and a close Baikal Bush Warbler as the sun set. We returned to Doi Lang the next morning (a much shorter journey today) and climbed up the ridge in the half light, the lead vehicle seeing a brief Mountain Bamboo Partridge and a male Mrs. Hume's Pheasant was seen by both vehicles as it scuttled down the road. After passing the roadblock of photographers hides (when they move they look like camouflage daleks!) we walked along the road along the cool ridgetop, a very peaceful place with just the sound of the birds. We saw handsome Slender-billed Oriole singing from the pines, Yellow-eyed Babblers, Blyth's shrike Babbler, White-browed and Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babblers, a Stripe-breasted Woodpecker, many Grey Treepies and a couple of Lesser Racket-tailed Drongos. Further explorations provided Crested Buntings in the grass, Black-throated Bushtits and a female Himalayan Cutia, all top drawer birds for Thailand, and the Spot-breasted Parrotbill showed stupidly well at about 3m range as it mistook rhythmic pishing for the call of another Parrotbill! Also we enjoyed White-gorgeted Flycatcher, Silver-eared and White-browed Laughingthrushes, Marten's Warblers and Long-tailed Broadbills. Another Sapphire Flycatcher showed plus we added Grey-chinned Minivet, and a Chinese Goral that ran off the roadside.

At lower levels in seeding bamboo we saw a Chestnut Bunting and White-rumped Munias, Speckled Piculet and Common Rosefinch, and the only Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon of the tour. A very brief halt at Thaton fields was enlivened by hundreds of Chestnut-tailed Starlings heading to roost.

We returned to Thaton fields at dawn, and while the habitat, river and cropping changes from year to year we were still able to find Pied Harrier, Bluethroat, Baya Weavers, and two Chestnut-eared Buntings sat up in the grass while hundreds of Small Pratincoles filled the sky. Moving to another section we found both Lanceolated and Baikal Bush Warblers in agreeable mood and showing well, plus a Striated Grassbird. From here we headed back south, pausing at Chiang Dao where we saw 14 Grey-headed Lapwings and a pair of Wire-tailed Swallows. In the afternoon we went to the Royal Project at Huai Hong Khrai, where after a bit of driving around we saw a total six Green Peafowl in the dry woodland, all rather shy and mainly lurking inside cover across one of the lakes. Also here we saw our first Crested Serpent Eagles, plus a fine Changeable Hawk Eagle soaring in the hot air. We then headed to our hotel at the foot of Doi Inthanon, home for the next four nights.



*Sunrise at Thaton*

We began our Doi Inthanon birding with the classic habitat of the mountain, on the summit marsh boardwalk. We enjoyed a fruiting tree full of Grey-sided Thrushes to start, then peering into the gloomy corners of the swamp we found a Dark-sided Thrush, feeding in a hole it had dug for itself, a trio of Rufous-throated Partridges, confiding Himalayan (split from White-browed) Shortwings, Snowy-browed Flycatcher, Blyth's Leaf, Ashy-throated and Buff-barred Warblers, Mrs. Gould's Sunbird and Green-tailed Sunbird of the endemic Doi Inthanon subspecies, Yellow-browed Tit, Chestnut-tailed Minla and Silver-eared Laughingthrushes rearranging the leaf litter. Its quite atypical to clean up on a single visit!

We headed downhill to a lower level and walked in tall forest that was challenging for the neck vertebrae, finding Clicking Shrike Babbler, Chestnut-crowned Warbler and Slaty-bellied Tesia. We immersed ourselves in a gully where we had a good look at an Eye-browed Wren Babbler, before eating a takeaway lunch from the park canteen. Exploring a side road at middle altitudes we saw Bay Woodpecker, Grey-throated Babbler, Grey-chinned Minivet and Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo. We spent the last hour of the day at low levels where we saw Lineated and Coppersmith Barbets, Racket-tailed Treepie, and had some rapid flybys by Blossom-headed Parakeets.



We began near the foot of the mountain the next morning, in the cool of dawn we had a great view of a pair of White-rumped Falcons, plus a total five Collared Falconet perched up on the high tops. We had a poor view of a Black-headed Woodpecker, scoped a Rufous-winged Buzzard, and searched in vain for Forktails. By a large waterfall we saw two White-headed Bulbul in a flowering tree, with three Crested Honey Buzzard overhead. A little further up the road near another waterfall we saw both Slaty-backed and White-crowned Forktails together, a very close and confiding Pygmy Wren Babbler (or Cupcake) and Asian House Martins overhead. After a tasty lunch in the field we returned to the summit area where we saw Rufous-throated Partridges once more, Grey-sided and Blue Whistling Thrushes. Dropping lower as the afternoon advanced we found Short-billed Minivet and Small Niltava, and we spent the last hour of the day as we did the first hour, this time having a great look at wonderfully colourful Black-headed Woodpeckers, and had another view of White-rumped Falcon.



*Black-breasted Thrush*

Our third day on Doi Inthanon concentrated on filling in the gaps and catching up with some of the harder to find species. We began with a flock of 14 Speckled Woodpigeon that sat up sunning themselves in the dawn light, then had a good look at a Large Hawk Cuckoo languidly flying past. We saw Short-billed Minivet and White-gorgeted Flycatcher, and along a quiet forest road we saw Grey-headed Parrotbill, Indochinese Cuckooshrike, Hume's Treecreeper, and a cute Lesser Shortwing coming to a feeder, an unusual sight to see one out in the open even just for seconds. An al fresco lunch by some flowering bombax trees provided some welcome Eye-browed Thrushes, and the slower afternoon birding provided a brief view of Vivid Niltava, a pair of Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher, and at sundown in the dry woodlands we saw Red-billed Blue Magpie and some more Black-headed Woodpeckers.

We drove at dawn to Chiang Mai airport, and flew down to Bangkok, then after a short turnaround and a personnel change (one leaving, another joining) we flew on to Krabi in the south for our southern Thailand extension. Rather hotter down here, we ventured out around the garden of our hotel that bordered the mangrove creek and soon found first a Ruddy Kingfisher calling away to us, then had some sublime views of a Mangrove Pitta sat up in a tree, calling away for many minutes until we had had our fill and walked away. There wasn't a great deal else of note after these highlights but we did have excellent views of Ashy Tailorbird, and Brown-throated Sunbirds dominated the flowering trees.



*Mangrove Pitta*

The next morning our breakfast was interrupted by the sight of a Great Eared Nightjar passing the window, and running outside we saw two of these great birds circling the pond, plus a Yellow Bittern that flew around in the torchlight. We then ventured onto long-tail boats for a trip up the mangrove creek, finding Brown-winged and Black-capped Kingfishers, Streak-breasted Woodpecker, Ashy Minivet and Arctic Warbler. The tide was very low and we headed out into the bay where we saw Lesser and Greater Crested Terns, Terek Sandpipers, Greater Sand Plovers and many Whimbrel. In the afternoon we travelled the short distance to Khao Phra Bang Khram Wildlife Sanctuary, and a couple of hours of birding along a road through good forest produced Spectacled Spiderhunter, Silver-rumped Spinetails, Grey-rumped Treeswift, Asian Red-eyed Bulbul, and a wealth of Barbets with Red-throated, Blue-eared, Sooty and Golden-whiskered all seen.

The park itself now rather stupidly doesn't open till 0800, so we began birding outside the park finding Puff-backed Bulbul and a Rufous-winged Philentoma, before going inside on the trails. The first hour was fine and we found Green Broadbill, Rufous-crowned and Moustached Babblers, Crow-billed Drongo and a Black Baza, but after that the cicadas took over.



At lunchtime at our hotel the garden was busy with Crimson-breasted and Orange-bellied Flowerpeckers, then out along the road in the afternoon we saw Whiskered Treeswift, Sooty Barbet, Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher, and a couple of soaring Black Baza.

The next morning we were taken by a local park ranger to where we hoped to find a Barred Eagle Owl at roost. He soon found the ghostly juvenile which stayed long enough for us to see, then circling around the back through an oil palm plantation we also found an adult, though it was too shy to stay for very long, flushed by the ingress of the observers. The juvenile was refound and showed nicely before that too decided we were too much for it. A short distance away we were shown a fine Spotted Wood Owl that did decide to stay, and we were able to watch it in a more leisurely fashion. From here we returned to the hot and quiet forest of Khao Phra Bang Khram, finding Sooty Barbet once more, Grey-breasted Spidehunter, heard some distant White-crowned Hornbill, and at the eleventh hour saw a splendid Blyth's Hawk Eagle soaring over the treetops. After checking out of the delightful Morakot resort, we drove north around the coast, and paused at a boardwalk through some mangroves where we had a nice look at a pair of Black-and-Red Broadbills, and Mangrove Whistlers. From here we headed on to our night stop near Si Phang Nga National Park.



*Malayan Banded Pitta*

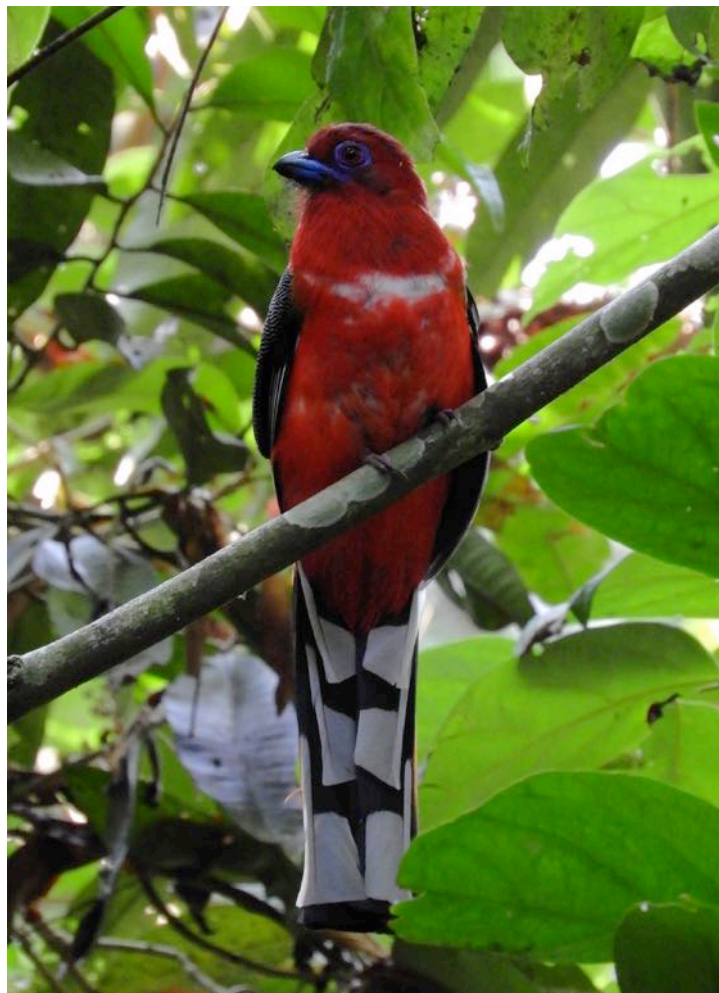
Reaching the outskirts of the park in the early morning, we visited a hide at a feeding station on the edge of a rubber plantation that reeked of its product, and settled in behind the blinds. It wasn't long before the riffraff of Puff-throated Babblers and White-rumped Shamans were joined by a spanking male Siberian Blue Robin, and then the apparition of a male Banded Pitta sprung into view and wowed us as it bounded around the small open area, before heading back into the real forest. It has to be one of the most beautiful of all the Pittas, and that is saying something!

Moving on from here into the park we saw Banded Woodpecker and Red-billed Malkoha, then along the stream we saw Chestnut-naped Forktail, another Banded Woodpecker that showed really well, Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Chestnut-winged Babbler, a flyby by Blue-banded Kingfisher, Dark-sided Flycatcher, and vocal Violet Cuckoos called from the tall trees.

As expected the midday period was very quiet and hot, but we persisted in the afternoon and found Ochraceous and a smart Grey-bellied Bulbul, a superb Red-bearded Bee-eater, and finished with a splendid Banded Kingfisher, while a Rufous-collared Kingfisher called from a distance. At dusk we saw a Square-tailed Drongo Cuckoo sitting around in the gardens, and heard a distant Helmeted Hornbill.

Our last morning of the tour at Si Phang Nga was after some overnight rain, which seemed to have a positive effect, and the birds just kept coming! We had a good view of a perched Blue-banded Kingfisher (another write-in), sat fishing over the stream, then a Black-backed Kingfisher shot past into the forest. A pair of Orange-headed Thrush emerged on to the track, plus several Vernal Hanging Parrots, and a flock of Bushy-crested Hornbills surprised us, while White-crowned Hornbills were heard. We found Plain Sunbird, Thick-billed, Scarlet-backed and Orange-bellied Flowerpeckers, Hairy-backed Bulbul, a brief Large Blue Flycatcher and a ranger led us across the river and through a bamboo thicket to view a mostly hidden Blyth's Frogmouth (how did he.. ?), a great finale to a very successful tour indeed.

We travelled to Phuket airport where our tour ended and said our farewells as we headed in different directions. Enhanced by a some tweaking of the itinerary both in northern and southern Thailand, we ended up with a record species total for the tour overall despite losing out on birding in Kaeng Krachan. This remains one of my favourite tours of all time, and I can't wait to return!



*Red-headed Trogon*





*Asian Dowitcher at Laem Phak Bia.*

## 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 which were only recorded on the extension to Southern Thailand are indicated by the symbol (S)

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).

**Lesser Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna javanica* A large flock in the Phetchaburi wetlands.

**Garganey** *Spatula querquedula* At least 30 in the Phetchaburi wetlands.

**Northern Shoveler** *Spatula clypeata* A couple with the flocks of the above.

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta* Several hundred in the Phetchaburi wetlands.

**Rufous-throated Partridge** ◊ *Arborophila rufogularis* Great views of up to four on the summit of Doi Inthanon.

**Bar-backed Partridge** ◊ *Arborophila brunneopectus* Seen very well at all three hides we visited at Kaeng Krachan.

**Green-legged Partridge** ◊ *Arborophila chloropus* Only seen at Lung Sin waterhole at Kaeng Krachan.

**Ferruginous Partridge** ◊ *Caloperdix oculeus* A fantastic site of a pair at Kaeng Krachan, coming to a waterhole.

**Mountain Bamboo Partridge** ◇ *Bambusicola fytchii* A single seen briefly from the lead van at Doi Lang.

**Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus* In good number around Kaeng Krachan.

**Siamese Fireback** ◇ *Lophura diardi* Two males and a female seen briefly under a fruiting tree at Khao Yai.

**Mrs. Hume's Pheasant** ◇ *Symaticus humiae* A male and three females seen well at Doi Lang, a second male also.

**Grey Peacock-Pheasant** ◇ *Polyplectron bicalcaratum* (H) Only heard, at Kaeng Krachan.

**Green Peafowl** ◇ *Pavo muticus* At least six seen at Huai Hong Khrai, all rather timid.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis* Seen on ponds at Thaton.

**Painted Stork** *Mycteria leucocephala* A few small flocks around the coastal wetlands.

**Asian Openbill** *Anastomus oscitans* Numerous around the Bangkok area and coastal lowlands, a few up north.

**Black-headed Ibis** *Threskiornis melanocephalus* Four seen on coastal wetlands.

**Yellow Bittern** *Ixobrychus sinensis* (S) A strange sight of one in the torchbeam flying over the hotel pond at Krabi.

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* (H) Heard flying over the Khao Yai hotel.

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata* Seen around the coastal wetlands plus another on Doi Inthanon.

**Chinese Pond Heron** *Ardeola bacchus* None in breeding dress, but most birds seen were this species.

**Javan Pond Heron** *Ardeola speciosa* Just three in breeding dress seen around the coastal wetlands.

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea* A single on ponds near Phetchaburi.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

**Intermediate Egret** *Ardea intermedia*

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

**Pacific Reef Heron** *Egretta sacra* Some smoky examples around Laem Phak Bia.

**Chinese Egret** ◇ *Egretta eulophotes* Some superb examples, two at Laem Phak Bia, two at Krabi.

**Spot-billed Pelican** *Pelecanus philippensis* A single on lakes near Phetchaburi.



Little Cormorant



Spot-billed Pelican

**Little Cormorant** *Microcarbo niger* Frequent.

**Indian Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis* Present in number around Laem Phak Bia, also some over Rangsit.

**Western Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* A single on lakes near Phetchaburi.

**Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* A single seen near Phetchaburi.

**Crested Honey Buzzard (Oriental H B)** *Pernis ptilorhynchus* Frequent encounters, at least 17 noted.

**Black Baza** *Aviceda leuphotes* (S) At least three birds seen at Khao Phra Bang Khram.

**Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela* Seen at Huai Hong Khrai and Khao Phra Bang Khram.

**Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus cirrhatus* A fine example photographed over Huai Hong Khrai, plus another.

**Mountain Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus nipalensis* An immature gave us the fly around at Doi Lang.

**Blyth's Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus alboniger* (S) A fine example seen well overhead at Khao Phra Bang Khram.

**Rufous-bellied Eagle** *Lophotriorchis kienerii* Two seen at Khao Yai.

**Black Eagle** *Ictinaetus malaiensis* One only, at Doi Lang.

**Greater Spotted Eagle** *Clanga clanga* A single seen near Phetchaburi.

**Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus* Three dark birds seen near Phetchaburi. A write-in.

**Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus* Seen at Thaton, and from highways near Bangkok.



**Shikra** *Accipiter badius*

**Pied Harrier** ♦ *Circus melanoleucos* A lovely male at Thaton on both visits.

**Black-eared Kite** *Milvus [migrans] lineatus* Just one seen, near Phetchaburi.

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*

**White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (S) A couple of nice examples around Krabi.

**Rufous-winged Buzzard** ♦ *Butastur liventer* A single bird perched up at Doi Inthanon.

**Himalayan Buzzard** *Buteo burmanicus* A single only, at Doi Ang Khang.

**White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

**Ruddy-breasted Crake** *Porzana fusca* A single seen at Laem Phak Bia, others heard.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*



Nordmann's Greenshank

**Indian Stone-curlew** *Burhinus indicus* (H) Heard from Samarn resort at Kaeng Krachan.

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

**Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta* A distant flock of 50+ at Laem Phak Bia saltpans.

**Grey-headed Lapwing** ♦ *Vanellus cinereus* One seen from the highway near Bangkok, 14 at Chiang Dao paddies.

**Red-wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus indicus*

**Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*

**Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius* Seen at Pak Thale and Thaton.

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus*

**Kentish Plover** ♦ (White-faced P) *Charadrius [alexandrinus] dealbatus* Seen well at Laem Phak Bia. See note.

**Malaysian Plover** ♦ *Charadrius peronii* At least three seen at Laem Phak Bia.

**Lesser Sand Plover** *Charadrius mongolus* Very numerous on the coastal saltpans.

**Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii* A few seen along the coasts.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata* A good number on the coastal saltpans, too far to pick out other species.

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*

**Black-tailed Godwit** (Eastern B-t G) *Limosa [limosa] melanuroides* A couple of big flocks on the coastal wetlands.

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* A few noted on the coastal saltpans.

**Great Knot** ♦ *Calidris tenuirostris* Impressive flocks of thousands on the coastal saltpans.

**Red Knot** *Calidris canutus* Rather unusually, 20+ found with the above species.

**Ruff** *Calidris pugnax* Fairly scarce here, at least 5 at Laem Phak Bia.

**Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Calidris falcinellus* Good numbers at Pak Thale, looking very smart.

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

**Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii* A few at Laem Phak Bia and Thaton.

**Long-toed Stint** *Calidris subminuta* Several at Laem Phak Bia.

**Spoon-billed Sandpiper** ♦ *Calidris pygmea* A yellow-flagged bird at Pak Thale seen well. See note.

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis*

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*

**Asian Dowitcher** ♦ *Limnodromus semipalmatus* A superb close look at a flock of 15 near Laem Phak Bia.

**Pin-tailed Snipe** *Gallinago stenura* Two at Laem Phak Bia.

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus* 80+ at Pak Thale, another small flock at Krabi.

**Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus* A flock of three and a flock of six at Pak Thale and environs.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus* Only seen at Thaton, along the Kok river.

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus*

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola* A few seen at Laem Phak Bia Royal project.

**Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus* Good numbers feeding around the coastal salt pans.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

**Nordmann's Greenshank** ♦ *Tringa guttifer* An amazing 155+ seen on the Laem Phak Bia salt pans.

**Oriental Pratincole** *Glareola maldivarum* At least 30 or more in the air near Pak Thale, our only sighting.

**Small Pratincole** *Glareola lactea* Hordes of birds high in the air above Thaton, more than 300.

**Brown-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus*

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* A flock of 20 seen on the coastal salt pans.

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia* Several good sized flocks around the coast.



*Caspian, Greater Crested and Common Terns*

**Greater Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bergii* Fifty or more at Laem Phak Bia, two at Krabi.

**Lesser Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bengalensis* (S) At least fifteen squeezed onto a sandbar at Krabi.

**Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons*

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida*

**White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus* A small number were picked out around Laem Phak Bia.

**Rock Dove (introduced)** *Columba livia*

**Speckled Wood Pigeon** *Columba hodgsonii* Fourteen counted at Doi Inthanon, just in the nick of time!

**Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis* Two seen briefly at Doi Lang.

**Red Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia tranquebarica*

**Spotted Dove** *Spilopelia chinensis*

**Barred Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia unchall* A few seen zipping past at Khao Yai.



Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*  
 Zebra Dove (Peaceful D) *Geopelia striata*  
 Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra* Several seen at scattered locations.  
 Pin-tailed Green Pigeon ♦ *Treron apicauda* Two seen at Doi Chiang Dao.  
 Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenurus* Just one seen, at Doi Lang.  
 Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia* Seen at Khao Yai and in the north-west.  
 Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*  
 Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis*  
 Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo ♦ *Carpococcyx renauldi* (H) Heard calling for a few minutes one morning at Khao Yai.  
 Raffles's Malkoha *Rhinortha chlorophaea* A pair at Kaeng Krachan, a single at Khao Phra Bang Kham.  
 Red-billed Malkoha ♦ *Zanclostomus javanicus* (S) One seen at Si Phang Nga.  
 Chestnut-breasted Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris* Seen at Kaeng Krachan and Si Phang Nga.  
 Green-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus tristis* Seen well at Khao Yai, a few others seen.  
 Asian Koel *Eudynamis scolopacea*  
 Asian Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx maculatus* A pair seen by the restaurant at Khao Yai.  
 Violet Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus* At least two, active and vocal at Si Phang Nga.  
 Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii* Common and widespread by voice, at least four seen.  
 Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus* (H) Heard at Rangsit.  
 Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo *Surniculus lugubris* Good looks at Si Phang Nga and Kaeng Krachan. See note.  
 Large Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx sparveroides* A fine look at one slowly flying past at Doi Inthanon.  
 Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia* Only recorded at our lodgings at Doi Inthanon where it was vocal on one night.  
 Barred Eagle Owl *Bubo sumatranus* A nice write-in and lifer for the leader, an adult and juvenile at Bang Kham.  
 Spotted Wood Owl ♦ *Strix seloputo* (S) Great views of one in daytime at Bang Kham.  
 Brown Wood Owl *Strix leptogrammica* (H) Heard calling at Doi Ang Khang and at Krabi.  
 Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei* One seen at Khao Yai, several heard.  
 Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides* Four individuals seen, heard more often.  
 Spotted Owlet *Athene brama* A pair at our Khao Yai hotel showed well.  
 Brown Hawk-Owl *Ninox scutulata* A nice look at one in daytime at Kaeng Krachan, at dusk at Chiang Dao..  
 Hodgson's Frogmouth ♦ *Batrachostomus hodgsoni* (H) Heard at night - and also by day - at Doi Ang Khang.  
 Blyth's Frogmouth ♦ *Batrachostomus affinis* (S) One shown to us at Si Phang Nga – how did he find it?!



Indian Roller



Blyth's Frogmouth

Great Eared Nightjar *Lyncornis macrotis* (S) A surprise viewing of a pair near our Krabi hotel in the dawn light.  
 Grey Nightjar *Caprimulgus jotaka* A single came off the road pre-dawn near Doi Ang Khang.  
 Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* Very few at Kaeng Krachan, seen at our lodge, plus 3 others on road.  
 Crested Treeswift *Hemiprocne coronata* Seen randomly in the north of Thailand.  
 Grey-rumped Treeswift *Hemiprocne longipennis* (S) A few seen at Khao Phra Bang Kham and Si Phang Nga.  
 Whiskered Treeswift *Hemiprocne comata* (S) A single bird feeding from a perch at Khao Phra Bang Kham.  
 Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus brevirostris* Frequent in the north of Thailand.  
 Germain's Swiftlet *Aerodramus germani* Numerous around the Gulf of Siam, also present in the south.

**Silver-rumped Spinetail** *Rhaphidura leucopygialis* (S) Quite a few seen over forest at Khao Phra Bang Khram.

**Brown-backed Needletail** *Hirundapus giganteus* Small flocks seen at Kaeng Krachan, Khao Yai and Bang Khram.

**Asian Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

**Pacific Swift** *Apus pacificus* (S) Seen high over the forest at Si Phang Nga. See note.

**Cook's Swift** *Apus cooki* Hundreds passing over the ridges at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**House Swift** *Apus nipalensis*

**Orange-breasted Trogon** *Harpactes oreskios* A good look at a vocal bird at Khao Yai, more furtive at Kaeng Krachan

**Red-headed Trogon** *Harpactes erythrocephalus* Two or three rather obliging birds at Khao Yai.

**Indian Roller** *Coracias benghalensis*

**Oriental Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis* Seen at Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai.

**Rufous-collared Kingfisher** ♦ *Actenoides concretus* (S) (H) Heard at dusk at Si Phang Nga.

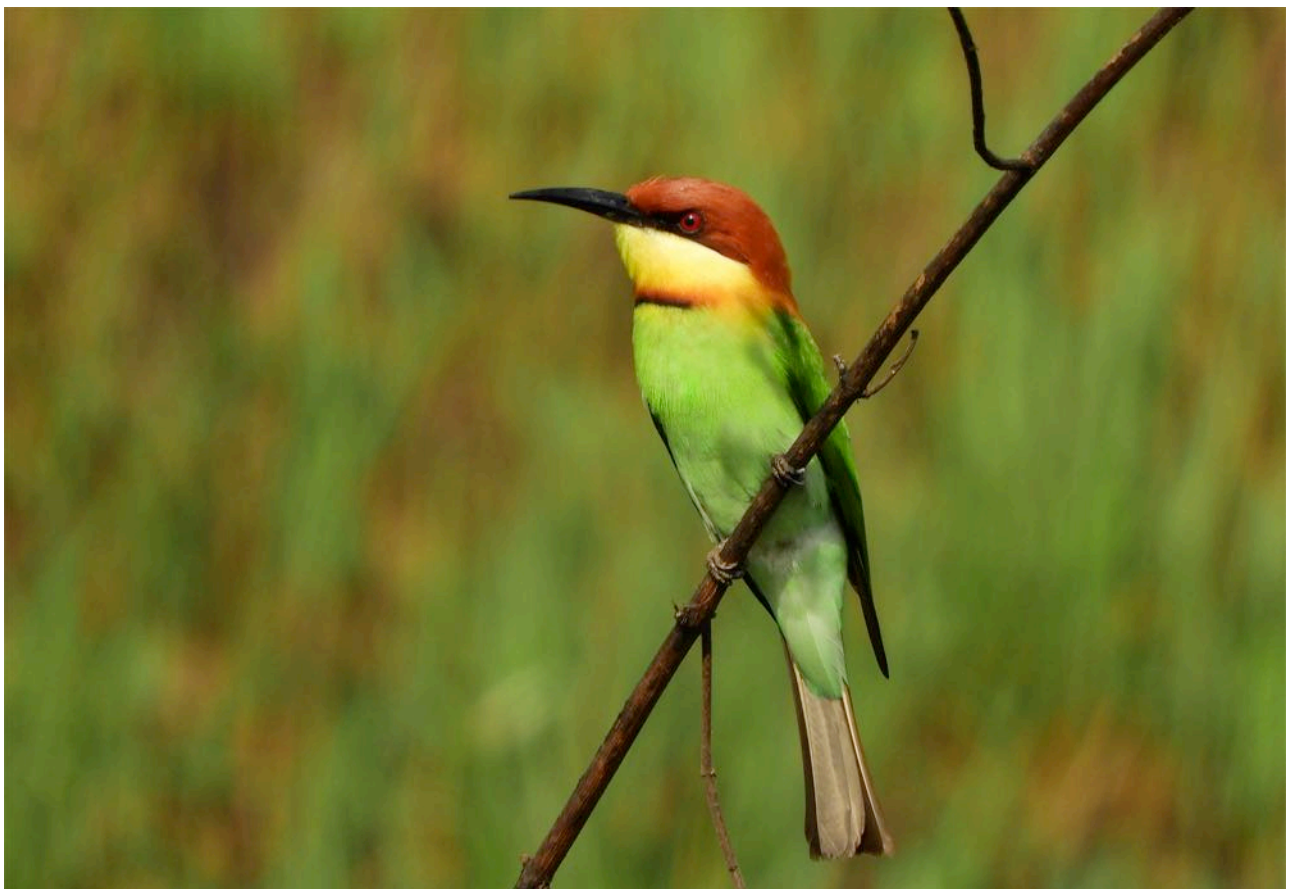
**Banded Kingfisher** *Lacedo pulchella* (S) A single seen at Si Phang Nga, heard at Khao Yai.

**Brown-winged Kingfisher** ♦ *Pelargopsis amauroptera* (S) Two or more seen in the mangroves at Krabi.

**Ruddy Kingfisher** ♦ *Halcyon coromanda* (S) A good look at one in the Krabi mangroves.

**White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis*

**Black-capped Kingfisher** *Halcyon pileata* A few seen, at Laem Phak Bia, Kaeng Krachan and Krabi.



*Chestnut-headed Bee-eater*

**Collared Kingfisher** *Todiramphus chloris*

**Blue-banded Kingfisher** *Alcedo euryzona* A good view of one on the stream at Si Phang Nga.

**Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*

**Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher (Black-backed K)** *Ceyx [erithaca] erithaca* (S) A flyby at Si Phang Nga.

**Red-bearded Bee-eater** *Nyctyornis amictus* (S) A great look at a confiding example at Si Phang Nga.

**Blue-bearded Bee-eater** *Nyctyornis athertoni* Five seen, nice views at Kaeng Krachan.

**Green Bee-eater** *Merops orientalis*

**Blue-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops philippinus*

**Chestnut-headed Bee-eater** *Merops leschenaulti* Looking lovely at Khao Yai, also seen at Doi Inthanon.

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*



**White-crowned Hornbill** ◇ *Berenicornis comatus* (S) (H) Distant woofing heard at Bang Khram and Si Phang Nga.

**Great Hornbill** *Buceros bicornis* Just two or three seen at Khao Yai, heard at Si Phang Nga.

**Helmeted Hornbill** *Rhinoplax vigil* (H) Heard distantly at Si Phang Nga.

**Oriental Pied Hornbill** *Anthracoceros albirostris* Quite numerous and visible at Khao Yai and Kaeng Krachan.

**Tickell's Brown Hornbill** ◇ *Anorrhinus tickelli* A glimpse of three in flight at Kaeng Krachan.

**Bushy-crested Hornbill** *Anorrhinus galeritus* (S) A nice surprise to see a flock of six at Si Phang Nga.

**Wreathed Hornbill** *Rhyticeros undulatus* A single at a flock of five at Khao Yai.

**Great Barbet** *Psilopogon virens* A glimpse of one in flight at Doi Inthanon, heard at Doi Ang Khang.

**Lineated Barbet** *Psilopogon lineatus* A few seen in the dry woodlands on Doi Inthanon, heard elsewhere.

**Green-eared Barbet** ◇ *Psilopogon faiostrictus* Good looks at Kaeng Krachan, also seen at Khao Yai

**Golden-whiskered Barbet** *Psilopogon chrysopogon* (S) A good view of one at Si Phang Nga.

**Red-throated Barbet** *Psilopogon mystacophanos* (S) Good views of one of several calling birds at Si Phang Nga.

**Golden-throated Barbet** *Psilopogon franklinii* Just a couple seen in northernmost Thailand.

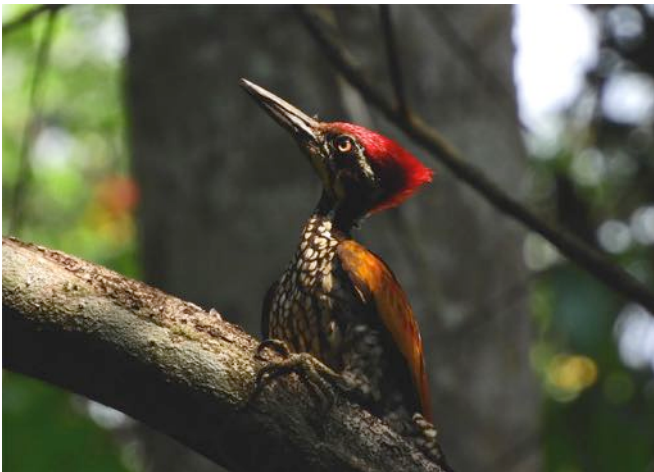
**Blue-throated Barbet** *Psilopogon asiaticus* Only seen at Chiang Dao, heard more widely.

**Moustached Barbet** ◇ *Psilopogon incognitus* Two seen at Khao Yai, more heard there.

**Blue-eared Barbet** *Psilopogon duvaucelii* Seen at Kaeng Krachan and elsewhere.

**Coppersmith Barbet** *Psilopogon haemacephalus* Several seen at various dry locations.

**Sooty Barbet** ◇ *Caloramphus hayii* (S) Repeated views of three at Khao Phra Bang Khram.



Greater Flameback



Red-bearded Bee-eater

**Speckled Piculet** *Picumnus innominatus* A single at Doi Lang.

**Rufous Piculet** *Sasia abnormis* (S) Two seen at Si Phang Nga along the stream, another in the Frogmouth thicket.

**White-browed Piculet** *Sasia ochracea* Two seen at Kaeng Krachan.

**Heart-spotted Woodpecker** ◇ *Hemicircus canente* Two seen on our first morning at Khao Yai.

**Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker** *Yungipicus canicapillus* A small number seen in scattered localities.

**Crimson-breasted Woodpecker** ◇ *Dryobates cathpharius* A female watched excavating a hole at Doi Lang.

**Stripe-breasted Woodpecker** ◇ *Dendrocopos atratus* Singles at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**White-bellied Woodpecker** *Dryoscopus javensis* (H) Heard in the dry woodland on Doi Inthanon.

**Banded Woodpecker** *Chrysophlegma miniaceum* (S) Great views at Si Phang Nga, at least two seen.

**Greater Yellownape** *Chrysophlegma flavinucha* Seen well at Kaeng Krachan, also at Khao Yai.

**Streak-breasted Woodpecker** ◇ *Picus viridanus* (S) A fine example in the mangroves at Krabi.

**Black-headed Woodpecker** ◇ *Picus erythropygius* Some good looks at these colourful birds at Doi Inthanon.

**Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus* (H) Heard at Kaeng Krachan, our only contact.

**Common Flameback** *Dinopium javanense* Two seen well at Kaeng Krachan, two in the Krabi mangroves.

**Greater Flameback** *Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus* Good views of several at Kaeng Krachan, also at Khao Yai.

**Bay Woodpecker** *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* One on Doi Inthanon showed fairly well.

**White-rumped Falcon** ◇ *Polihierax insignis* Excellent views of a vocal pair in dry woodland on Doi Inthanon.

**Collared Falconet** *Microhierax caerulescens* Five seen perched up in the dry forest on Doi Inthanon.

**Black-thighed Falconet** *Microhierax fringillarius* Five popping out of a roost hole at Kaeng Krachan.

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus* A single near Chiang Mai.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* Singles seen at Thaton and Krabi.

**Blossom-headed Parakeet** ♦ *Psittacula roseata* Some very rapid flybys at Doi Inthanon.

**Vernal Hanging Parrot** *Loriculus vernalis* Seen at Khao Yai, better looks at Si Phang Nga.

**Green Broadbill** ♦ *Calyptomena viridis* (S) Two at Bang Kham, and a trio at Si Phang Nga. What a colour!

**Black-and-Red Broadbill** ♦ *Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos* (S) A pleasing pair in the Phang Nga mangroves.

**Long-tailed Broadbill** *Psarisomus dalhousiae* Small groups seen at Khao Yai and Doi Lang.

**Silver-breasted Broadbill** ♦ *Serilophus lunatus* A good look at two or more at Kaeng Krachan on our last morning.



*Silver-breasted Broadbill*



*Black-and-Red Broadbill*

**Banded Broadbill** *Eurylaimus javanicus* Eventually we found one at Khao Yai that showed quite well.

**Black-and-yellow Broadbill** *Eurylaimus ochromalus* Nice looks at Kaeng Krachan, three seen at Si Phang Nga.

**Blue Pitta** ♦ *Hydrornis cyaneus* A great look at a male at Khao Yai, another briefly there.

**Malayan Banded Pitta** ♦ *Hydrornis irena* (S) What a stunner! A male close up, a female in the forest at Si Phang Nga.

**Mangrove Pitta** ♦ *Pitta megarhyncha* (S) Great looks at a vocal bird at Krabi, it was 'walk-away' views.

**Golden-bellied Gerygone (Flyeater)** *Gerygone sulphurea* Two seen in the mangrove at Laem Phak Bia.

**Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus* Several encounters at Kaeng Krachan and at Khao Yai.

**Large Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis virgatus* (S) A single at Khao Phra Bang Kham.

**Rufous-winged Philentoma** ♦ *Philentoma pyrhoptera* (S) Two seen in the forest at Khao Phra Bang Kham.

**Ashy Woodswallow** *Artamus fuscus*

**Common lora** *Aegithina tiphia*

**Great lora** *Aegithina lafresnayei* Several sightings, at both ends of the country.

**Grey-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris* A small number seen at Doi Lang and Doi Inthanon.

**Short-billed Minivet** *Pericrocotus brevirostris* Seen on Doi Inthanon.

**Long-tailed Minivet** *Pericrocotus ethologus* A few in the pines at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus speciosus*

**Ashy Minivet** *Pericrocotus divaricatus* A single at Laem Phak Bia, a pair at Krabi.

**Swinhoe's Minivet** ♦ *Pericrocotus cantonensis* Small flocks seen well at Khao Yai.

**Large Cuckooshrike** *Coracina macei* One at Doi Lang went and sat on what appeared to be a nest.

**Black-winged Cuckooshrike** *Lalage melaschistos* A couple seen at Kaeng Krachan and at Khao Yai.

**Indochinese Cuckooshrike** ♦ *Lalage polioptera* A single bird in a mixed flock on Doi Inthanon.

**Mangrove Whistler** *Pachycephala cinerea* (S) A demure pair in the mangroves at Phang Nga.

**Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*

**Burmese Shrike** ♦ *Lanius collurioides* Good views of a pair at Doi Ang Khang.

**Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach* Some nice examples in the fields at Thaton.

**Grey-backed Shrike** *Lanius tephronotus* A single only, at Doi Ang Khang.

**White-bellied Erpornis** *Erpornis zantholeuca* Not uncommon at Kaeng Krachan and at Khao Yai.

**Blyth's Shrike-babbler** *Pteruthius aeralatus* Common by voice in the north-western hills, seen several times.

**Clicking Shrike-Babbler** ♦ *Pteruthius intermedius* Two males, one female at Doi Inthanon. See note.

**Slender-billed Oriole** ♦ *Oriolus tenuirostris* Nice views of this lovely bird at Doi Lang.

**Black-naped Oriole** *Oriolus chinensis* Scattered sightings along our route.



**Black-hooded Oriole** *Oriolus xanthornus* Seen at Chiang Dao and on Doi Inthanon.

**Maroon Oriole** *Oriolus traillii* See well at Doi Ang Khang, also at Doi Inthanon in flowering trees.

**Black Drongo** *Dicrurus macrocercus*

**Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus* Not uncommon, with white-faced *leucogenis* birds seen at Kaeng Krachan.

**Crow-billed Drongo** *Dicrurus annectens* (S) A single at Khao Phra Bang Khram, another at Si Phang Nga.

**Bronzed Drongo** *Dicrurus aeneus*

**Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus remifer* Seen well on Doi Lang and Doi Inthanon.

**Hair-crested Drongo** *Dicrurus hottentottus*

**Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus paradiseus* A few scattered sightings at lower altitudes.

**Malaysian Pied Fantail** *Rhipidura javanica* Some very friendly ones by one of the Kaeng Krachan hides!

**Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea*

**Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone affinis* Eight individuals seen at various localities on our tour. See note.

**Eurasian Jay** *Garrulus glandarius* One seen at Doi Lang, a couple more on Doi Inthanon.

**Red-billed Blue Magpie** *Urocissa erythroryncha* Three seen in the dry woodland on Doi Inthanon.

**Common Green Magpie** *Cissa chinensis* Seen reasonably well at Khao Yai.

**Rufous Treepie** *Dendrocitta vagabunda* A single at Doi Inthanon.

**Grey Treepie** *Dendrocitta formosae* Numerous in the early morning on Doi Lang.

**Racket-tailed Treepie** *Crypsirina temia* Great views of a pair coming to drink at a waterhole at Kaeng Krachan.



*Racket-tailed Treepie*

**Eastern Jungle Crow** *Corvus leuallantii*

**Yellow-bellied Fantail** *Chelidorhynch hypoxanthus* Seen well on Doi Inthanon summit.

**Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis*

**Yellow-browed Tit** *Sylviparus modestus* A single seen on the summit of Doi Inthanon.

**Sultan Tit** *Melanochlora sultanea* Handsome examples at Kaeng Krachan.

**Japanese Tit** *Parus minor* A small number seen at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**Yellow-cheeked Tit** *Machlolophus spilonotus* A few seen at Doi Ang Khang, Doi Lang, Doi Inthanon.

**Indochinese Bush Lark** ♦ *Mirafr erythrocephala* A couple in open dry habitat at Laem Phak Bia.

**Oriental Skylark** *Alauda gulgula* Two singing at Thaton fields, one seen high in the sky.

**Crested Finchbill** ◇ *Spizixos canifrons* Some splendid examples at Doi Ang Khang, also at Doi Lang.

**Striated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus striatus* Very few, just at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**Black-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus atriceps*

**Black-crested Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flaviventris* NB the Khao Yai birds have red throats.

**Grey-bellied Bulbul** ◇ *Pycnonotus cyaniventris* (S) A handsome individual popped up in front of us at Si Phang Nga.

**Red-whiskered Bulbul** *Pycnonotus jocosus*

**Brown-breasted Bulbul** ◇ *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous* Not uncommon at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**Sooty-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus aurigaster*

**Puff-backed Bulbul** ◇ *Pycnonotus eutilotus* (S) A couple seen at Si Phang Nga.

**Stripe-throated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus finlaysoni* Nice examples coming down to drink at Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Flavescent Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flavescent* Not uncommon around Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**Yellow-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus goiavier* A couple at Rangsit, also at Krabi.

**Olive-winged Bulbul** *Pycnonotus plumosus* (S)

**Streak-eared Bulbul** *Pycnonotus conradi*

**Cream-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus simplex* (S) A few seen in the south.

**Asian Red-eyed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus brunneus* (S) A few seen in the south.

**Puff-throated Bulbul** ◇ *Alophoixus pallidus* Seen at Khao Yai.

**Ochraceous Bulbul** *Alophoixus ochraceus* A couple at Kaeng Krachan, also seen at Si Phang Nga.

**Yellow-bellied Bulbul** *Alophoixus phaeocephalus* (S) (H) Heard squawking at Khao Phra Bang Khram.

**Hairy-backed Bulbul** *Tricholestes criniger* (S) A pair seen at Si Phang Nga, almost the last bird of the tour...

**Grey-eyed Bulbul** ◇ *Iole propinqua* Seen at Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon, also at Chiang Dao, but...

**Buff-vented Bulbul** *Iole crypta* Seen at Si Phang Nga, also seen at Kaeng Krachan, but... See note.

**Mountain Bulbul** *Ixos mccllellandii* Smart looking and fairly common in northern Thailand.



Crested Finchbill



Mountain Bulbul

**Streaked Bulbul** *Ixos malaccensis* (S) A single drinking at the river at Si Phang Nga.

**Black Bulbul** *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*

**White-headed Bulbul** ◇ *Cerasophila thompsoni* Two feeding in a flowering tree on Doi Inthanon.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia* One at Rangsit.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

**Pacific Swallow** *Hirundo tahitica* (S) Not uncommon in the south.

**Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii* A pair seen briefly at Chiang Dao paddies.

**Asian House Martin** *Delichon dasypus* Quite a few in the air at Doi Inthanon.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica* At least one, at our Kaeng Krachan lodgings.

**Striated Swallow** *Cecropis striolata* Small groups seen around Doi Lang and Doi Inthanon.

**Pygmy Cupwing** *Pnoepyga pusilla* Good views of a confiding bird on Doi Inthanon.

**Yellow-bellied Warbler** *Abroscopus superciliosus* Seen at Doi Ang Khang and Si Phang Nga.

**Mountain Tailorbird** *Phyllergates cucullatus* Seen well at Doi Ang Khang.

**Aberrant Bush Warbler** *Horornis flavolivaceus* A couple lurking in the grass at Doi Lang.

**Slaty-bellied Tesia** ◇ *Tesia olivea* Seen well, if a bit skulking, on Doi Inthanon.



**Asian Stubtail** *Urosphena squameiceps* (NL) One briefly at Doi Inthanon.  
**Black-throated Bushtit** *Aegithalos concinnus* At least three seen on Doi Lang.  
**Buff-barred Warbler** *Phylloscopus pulcher* A small number on Doi Inthanon summit.  
**Ashy-throated Warbler** *Phylloscopus maculipennis* Just a few, on the top of Doi Inthanon.  
**Hume's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus humei* Fairly common by voice at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.  
**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus* Widespread, most often heard.  
**Chinese Leaf Warbler** ◇ *Phylloscopus yunnanensis* Singles seen at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.  
**Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus* Singles at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang, detected by call.  
**Radde's Warbler** *Phylloscopus schwarzi* A nice close example at Khao Yai.  
**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* Seen at Laem Phak Bia and Thaton.  
**Buff-throated Warbler** ◇ *Phylloscopus subaffinis* A few examples in the herbage at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.  
**Eastern Crowned Warbler** *Phylloscopus coronatus* Seen at Kaeng Krachan, and also in the south.  
**Grey-crowned Warbler** ◇ *Phylloscopus tephrocephalus* (H) Heard at Doi Lang.  
**Martens's Warbler** ◇ *Phylloscopus omeiensis* A couple seen at Doi Lang.  
**Two-barred Warbler** *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus* Remarkably few, seen at Khao Yai and Doi Ang Khang.  
**Pale-legged Leaf Warbler** ◇ *Phylloscopus tenellipes* Many heard and not seen, a glimpse of a couple at Khao Yai.  
**Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis* (S) Singles at Khao Phra Bang Khram and Bang Phat mangroves.  
**Chestnut-crowned Warbler** *Phylloscopus castaniceps* Good views along the jeep track at Doi Inthanon.  
**Sulphur-breasted Warbler** ◇ *Phylloscopus ricketti* Seen in mixed bird flocks at Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai.  
**Blyth's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus reguloides* Seen (with certainty!) on the summit of Doi Inthanon.  
**Claudia's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus claudiae* ID by default, these are the ones at Khao Yai.  
**Davison's Leaf Warbler** ◇ *Phylloscopus intensior* Common in the north-western hills.  
**Oriental Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus orientalis* A single near Phetchaburi.  
**Thick-billed Warbler** *Arundinax aedon* One along the roadside at Kaeng Krachan.  
**Lanceolated Warbler** *Locustella lanceolata* Great views of a friendly one at Thaton.  
**Baikal Bush Warbler** *Locustella davidi* A very close view of a vocal bird at Thaton.



Large Scimitar Babbler



White-browed Scimitar Babbler

**Striated Grassbird** *Megalurus palustris* One at Thaton was a nice surprise.  
**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis* (H) Heard around the salt pans at Laem Phak Bia.  
**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis* A good look at one at Khao Yai.  
**Hill Prinia** *Prinia superciliaris* Seen at Doi Lang.  
**Rufescent Prinia** *Prinia rufescens* Good looks at a small group at Doi Lang.  
**Grey-breasted Prinia** *Prinia hodgsonii* Seen in crops at Thaton.  
**Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris* Seen at Rangsit and Thaton.  
**Plain Prinia** *Prinia inornata*  
**Common Tailorbird** *Orthotomus sutorius*  
**Dark-necked Tailorbird** *Orthotomus atrogularis*  
**Rufous-tailed Tailorbird** *Orthotomus sericeus* (S) (H) Heard at Si Phang Nga, could not be found though.  
**Ashy Tailorbird** *Orthotomus ruficeps* (S) Some great views of a pair at our Krabi hotel.  
**Large Scimitar Babbler** ◇ *Pomatorhinus hypoleucos* Three came to drink at the Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler** *Pomatorhinus erythrogenys* Seen easily and openly at Doi Lang.

**White-browed Scimitar Babbler** *Pomatorhinus schisticeps* Several at the KK waterholes, also in the north.

**Grey-throated Babbler** *Stachyris nigriceps* Good views at Doi Inthanon, also at Si Phang Nga.

**Chestnut-rumped Babbler** *Stachyris maculata* (S) One in a mixed flock at Khao Phra Bang Kham.

**Chestnut-winged Babbler** *Stachyris erythroptera* (S) A pair showed well at Si Phang Nga.

**Rufous-fronted Babbler** *Stachyridopsis rufifrons* A few seen at Kaeng Krachan.

**Golden Babbler** *Stachyridopsis chrysaea* A single at Doi Inthanon.

**Pin-striped Tit-Babbler** *Macronus gularis*

**Chestnut-capped Babbler** *Timalia pileata* A glimpse of a vocal bird at Thaton.

**Rufous-winged Fulvetta** *Alcippe castaneiceps* Close looks at this endearing chap on Doi Inthanon summit.

**Brown-cheeked Fulvetta** *Alcippe poioicephala* Common at the Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Yunnan Fulvetta** ◇ *Alcippe fratercula*

**Limestone Wren-Babbler** ◇ *Napothera crispifrons* At least two pairs seen at the 'dog temple'.

**Streaked Wren-Babbler** ◇ *Napothera brevicaudata* Some nice examples seen at Doi Ang Khang.

**Eyebrowed Wren-Babbler** *Napothera epilepidota* A vocal bird came to see us at Doi Inthanon.

**Abbott's Babbler** *Malacocincla abbotti* Some at Kaeng Krachan waterholes, also at Si Phang Nga.

**Moustached Babbler** *Malacopteron magnirostre* (S) Good views at Khao Phra Bang Kham.

**Rufous-crowned Babbler** (S) *Malacopteron magnum* (S) Singing well at Khao Phra Bang Kham, two seen.

**Spot-throated Babbler** ◇ *Pellorneum albiventris* (H) Heard at Doi Ang Khang and Doi Lang.

**Puff-throated Babbler** *Pellorneum ruficeps*

**Buff-breasted Babbler** *Pellorneum tickelli* Two at Chiang Dao.

**White-crested Laughingthrush** *Garrulax leucolophus* Great views of some at the Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**White-necked Laughingthrush** ◇ *Garrulax strepitans* A furtive flock at Doi Ang Khang.

**Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax monileger* Great views at the Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax pectoralis* Great views at the Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Black-throated Laughingthrush** *Garrulax chinensis* Two seen well at Khao Yai.

**White-browed Laughingthrush** ◇ *Garrulax sannio* Easy to see at Doi Lang, otherwise skulking!

**Silver-eared Laughingthrush** ◇ *Trochalopteron melanostigma* Seen well at Doi Lang and Inthanon.



Dark-backed Sibia



Spot-breasted Parrotbill

**Himalayan Cutia** *Cutia nipalensis* A female showed quite well at Doi Lang.

**Blue-winged Minla** *Minla cyanouroptera*

**Bar-throated Minla (Chestnut-tailed M)** *Minla strigula* Not uncommon at Doi Inthanon summit.

**Scarlet-faced Liocichla** ◇ *Liocichla ripponi* An exceptional view of a flock of six at Doi Ang Khang.

**Spectacled Barwing** ◇ *Actinodura ramsayi* Lovely examples at various northern locations.

**Silver-eared Mesia** *Leiothrix argenteauris* Seen well at Doi Ang Khang.

**Rufous-backed Sibia** ◇ *Heterophasia annectens* Seen well at Doi Ang Khang, also at Doi Inthanon.

**Dark-backed Sibia** ◇ *Heterophasia melanoleuca* A pleasing sound and a nice sight in the northern hills.

**Yellow-eyed Babbler** *Chrysomma sinense* Two in the grass at Doi Lang.

**Grey-headed Parrotbill** ◇ *Psittiparus gularis* Two seen in a mixed flock on Doi Inthanon.



**Spot-breasted Parrotbill** ♦ *Paradoxornis guttaticollis* Superb close views at Doi Lang.

**Striated Yuhina** ♦ *Yuhina castaniceps* A busy flock at Chiang Dao, also a couple at Doi Inthanon in flowering trees.

**Chestnut-flanked White-eye** *Zosterops erythroleurus* Plenty at Doi Ang Khang.

**Japanese White-eye** *Zosterops japonicus* A couple seen at Doi Ang Khang.

**Oriental White-eye** *Zosterops palpebrosus* Some in the northern hills, also in the mangroves at Bang Phat.

**Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella* Numerous in Khao Yai, also at Kaeng Krachan.

**Chestnut-vented Nuthatch** ♦ *Sitta nagaensis* Rather common in the north-western hills.

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis* Several seen, at Doi Lang and Doi Inthanon.

**Giant Nuthatch** ♦ *Sitta magna* Excellent views at Doi Ang Khang, heard at Doi Lang.

**Hume's Treecreeper** ♦ *Certhia manipurensis* Good views of a singing bird at Doi Inthanon.

**Spot-winged Starling** *Saroglossa spilopterus* A nice surprise write-in at Kaeng Krachan, a dozen or more.

**Golden-crested Myna** ♦ *Ampeliceps coronatus* A single in flight at Kaeng Krachan.

**Common Hill Myna** *Gracula religiosa* A few seen at Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai.

**Great Myna (White-vented M)** *Acridotheres grandis*

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*

**Black-collared Starling** ♦ *Gracupica nigricollis* Good views of many at Thaton.

**Pied Myna (Asian P Starling)** *Gracupica contra*

**Daurian Starling (Purple-backed S)** *Agropsar sturninus* Two in a big Starling flock at Kaeng Krachan.

**White-shouldered Starling** ♦ *Sturnia sinensis* Small flocks of 120+ flying to roost at Laem Phak Bia.

**Chestnut-tailed Starling** *Sturnia malabarica* A flock at Kaeng Krachan, huge numbers at Thaton going to roost.

**Orange-headed Thrush** *Geokichla citrina* Singles at Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai, two at Si Phang Nga.

**Scaly Thrush** *Zoothera dauma* A surprise visitor to a feeding station at Doi Ang Khang.

**Dark-sided Thrush** ♦ *Zoothera marginata* Great views of one digging itself a hole at Doi Inthanon, one of two.

**Black-breasted Thrush** ♦ *Turdus dissimilis* An unprecedented 10 birds at Doi Ang Khang Royal Project.

**Grey-sided Thrush** ♦ *Turdus feae* Fine examples seen on Doi Inthanon, also at Doi Ang Khang.

**Eyebrowed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus* A small flock in flowering trees at a picnic stop on Doi Inthanon.

**Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*

**White-rumped Shama** *Copsychus malabaricus*



Siberian Blue Robin



Ultramarine Flycatcher

**Dark-sided Flycatcher** *Muscicapa sibirica* (S) A couple seen well at Si Phang Nga.

**Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica*

**White-gorgeted Flycatcher** ♦ *Anthipes monileger* Confiding at Doi Lang and Doi Inthanon, five seen.

**Hainan Blue Flycatcher** ♦ *Cyornis hainanus* Males at Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai.

**Pale Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis unicolor* A pair, plus another sweet singing male, at Doi Lang

**Hill Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis banyumas* Seen at Khao Yai, Doi Ang Khang and Doi Inthanon.

**Large Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis magnirostris* A last glimpse of a good bird at Si Phang Nga, a male.

**Tickell's Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis tickelliae* Plenty at Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis rubeculoides* A pair in the forest on Doi Inthanon.

**Chinese Blue Flycatcher** ♦ *Cyornis glaucicomans* A nice example of a male at a waterhole at Kaeng Krachan.

**Vivid Niltava** ♦ *Niltava vivida* A brief glimpse of a female in the canopy at Doi Inthanon.

**Large Niltava** *Niltava grandis* Both sexes seen well at Doi Ang Khang.

**Small Niltava** *Niltava macgrigoriae* Two smart males at middle altitudes on Doi Inthanon.

**Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassinus*

**Lesser Shortwing** *Brachypteryx leucophris* One that actually left the undergrowth for a moment at Doi Inthanon.

**White-browed Shortwing** *Brachypteryx montana* Nice close ones at Doi Inthanon summit, now called Himalayan S.

**Siberian Blue Robin** *Larvivora cyane* Females seen well at Kaeng Krachan waterholes, a male at Si Phang Nga.

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica* A couple of singles in crops at Thaton.

**White-bellied Redstart** *Luscinia phaenicuroides* Arch-skulker feeding in the open at Doi Lang! A male.

**Siberian Rubythroat** *Calliope calliope* A male feeding in the open at Doi Lang. Not our worms though...



*Siberian Rubythroat*

**White-tailed Robin** *Myiomela leucura* Some tame males hanging around a feeding place at Doi Ang Khang.

**Chestnut-naped Forktail** ♦ *Enicurus ruficapillus* A splendid pair on the stream at Si Phang Nga.

**Slaty-backed Forktail** *Enicurus schistaceus* Seen well along narrow streams on Doi Inthanon.

**White-crowned Forktail** *Enicurus leschenaulti* Alongside the above, a pair on Doi Inthanon.

**Blue Whistling Thrush** *Myophonus caeruleus* A few seen, black-billed Chinese ones seen in some places.

**Slaty-backed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hodgsonii* Some nice examples at Doi Lang.

**Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher** *Ficedula strophiiata* One female seen at Doi Lang.

**Taiga Flycatcher (Red-throated F)** *Ficedula albicilla*

**Snowy-browed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hyperythra* A confiding pair on the summit of Doi Inthanon.

**Little Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula westermanni*

**Ultramarine Flycatcher** *Ficedula superciliaris* A couple of smart males at Doi Lang.

**Slaty-blue Flycatcher** *Ficedula tricolor* A couple of females seen at Doi Lang.

**Sapphire Flycatcher** ♦ *Ficedula sapphira* Two female/non-breeding males at Doi Lang.

**Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus aureus* A smart male at Doi Ang Khang.

**Plumbeous Water Redstart** *Phoenicurus fuliginosus* A couple on Doi Inthanon

**White-capped Redstart** *Phoenicurus leucocephalus* A few seen around Doi Inthanon.

**Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius* (NL) One on Doi Inthanon.

**Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush** *Monticola rufiventris* A pair at Doi Ang Khang.

**Stejneger's Stonechat** *Saxicola stejnegeri* Some in open country. See note.

**Pied Bush Chat** *Saxicola caprata*

**Grey Bush Chat** *Saxicola ferreus*

**Greater Green Leafbird** *Chloropsis sonnerati* (S) A male singing at Si Phang Nga.

**Lesser Green Leafbird** *Chloropsis cyanopogon* One at Kaeng Krachan was a bit of a surprise.

**Blue-winged Leafbird** *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*

**Golden-fronted Leafbird** *Chloropsis aurifrons*

**Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker** *Prionochilus percussus* (S) A male showering in the garden of Morakot.

**Thick-billed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum agile* One at Chiang Dao, a showy one at Si Phang Nga.

**Yellow-vented Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum chrysorrheum* Two at Kaeng Krachan, another at Khao Phra Bang Khram.



**Orange-bellied Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum trigonostigma* (S) Nice views in the garden of Morakot resort.  
**Plain Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum minullum*  
**Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum cruentatum*  
**Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** *Chalcoparia singalensis*  
**Plain Sunbird** *Anthreptes simplex* (S) A nice example seen well at Si Phang Nga.  
**Brown-throated Sunbird** *Anthreptes malacensis*  
**Purple-naped Sunbird** *Hypogramma hypogrammicum* One seen very well at Chiang Dao, also at Si Phang Nga.  
**Van Hasselt's Sunbird** *Leptocoma brasiliana* (S) A brief view of a male at Khao Phra Bang Khram. See note.  
**Purple Sunbird** *Cinnyris asiaticus* Seen in dry woodland at Doi Inthanon.  
**Olive-backed Sunbird** *Cinnyris jugularis*  
**Mrs. Gould's Sunbird** *Aethopyga gouldiae* Some nice ones on Doi Inthanon summit, also at Doi Ang Khang.  
**Green-tailed Sunbird** *Aethopyga nipalensis* A few on the summit of Doi Inthanon, the race endemic to the mountain.  
**Black-throated Sunbird** *Aethopyga saturata*  
**Crimson Sunbird** *Aethopyga siparaja* A male seen along the trail at Kaeng Krachan.  
**Little Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera longirostra*  
**Spectacled Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera flavigaster* (S) A couple seen at Khao Phra Bang Khram.  
**Grey-breasted Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera modesta* (S) Several in the south, including one at Morakot. See note.  
**Streaked Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera magna*  
**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*  
**Plain-backed Sparrow** ♦ *Passer flaveolus* Seen well around the coastal sites.  
**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*  
**Asian Golden Weaver** ♦ *Ploceus hypoxanthus* At least three seen in fields near Phetchaburi.  
**Baya Weaver** *Ploceus philippinus*  
**White-rumped Munia** *Lonchura striata* A flock in flowering bamboo at Doi Lang.  
**Scaly-breasted Munia** *Lonchura punctulata*  
**Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla [tschutschensis] macronyx*  
**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola* A single in flight at Thaton.  
**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*  
**White Wagtail (Amur W)** *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis* Many at Thaton.  
**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi* At least five or six seen on each of two visits to the fields at Thaton.  
**Paddyfield Pipit** *Anthus rufulus*  
**Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus hodgsoni*  
**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus* (H) Heard in flight at Thaton.  
**Spot-winged Grosbeak** ♦ *Mycerobas melanozanthos* Some splendid examples enjoying cherries at Doi Ang Khang.  
**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus* A couple of small flocks in the north-west.  
**Crested Bunting** *Emberiza lathami* Two females at Doi Lang were an uncommon sight.  
**Chestnut-eared Bunting** *Emberiza fucata* Two or more in the grass at Thaton was a nice surprise.  
**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla* A flock of a dozen at Doi Ang Khang was a nice sight. Also two at Doi Lang.  
**Chestnut Bunting** *Emberiza rutila* A single seen in bamboo on Doi Lang.



*Spot-winged Grosbeak*



*Dusky Langur family at a salt lick*



## MAMMALS

**Northern Treeshrew** *Tupaia belangeri* Common at Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Crab-eating Macaque** *Macaca fascicularis* Seen in mangrove and in temples.

**Southern Pig-tailed Macaque** *Macaca nemestrina* Gangs of them roaming at Khao Yai.

**Rhesus Monkey** *Macaca mulatta* Two at Doi Lang thought to be this species.

**Dusky Langur** *Trachypithecus obscurus* Nice views with orange babies at Kaeng Krachan.

**Lar Gibbon (Common G)** *Hylobates lar* Seen at Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai, heard at Si Phang Nga.

**Gray-bellied Squirrel** *Callosciurus caniceps* Common at Kaeng Krachan waterholes, also at Khao Yai.

**Pallas's Squirrel (Belly-banded S)** *Callosciurus erythraeus* A few in the northern hills.

**Finlayson's Squirrel (Variable S)** *Callosciurus finlaysonii* The pale ones in the Khao Yai area.

**Indochinese Ground Squirrel** *Menetes berdmorei* Seen well at Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Black Giant Squirrel** *Ratufa bicolor* Seen at Khao Yai.

**Himalayan Striped Squirrel** *Tamiops macclellandii* **Numerous at** Kaeng Krachan waterholes, also at Doi Lang.

**Leopard** *Panthera pardus* A nice surprise to see one on the road at Kaeng Krachan. A write-in.

**Lesser Oriental Chevrotain (L Mouse-Deer)** *Tragulus kanchil* Nice look at several at Kaeng Krachan waterholes.

**Southern Red Muntjac (Barking Deer)** *Muntiacus muntjak* Seen at Khao Yai.

**Sambar** *Rusa unicolor* Tame ones seen at Khao Yai.

**Chinese Goral** *Naemorhedus griseus* One seen at Doi Lang.

## NOTES TO THE SYSTEMATIC LIST

### **White-faced Plover** *Charadrius dealbatus*

A female showed well at Laem Phak Bia. This bird is a recent discovery (or rediscovery), having previously considered as part of Kentish Plover *C. alexandrinus*. It exhibits subtle differences, with its 'jizz' and behaviour clearly different to Kentish Plover. It has noticeably heavier skull, and also an ability to outrun everything else on the beach!

### **Spoon-billed Sandpiper** *Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*

Pak Thale has become a reliable wintering site to see this enigmatic species. With a population in steep decline, one can only wonder about their future survival. The world population estimate is 240-400 birds in total.

### **Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo** *Surniculus lugubris*

There is an error on the birdlist, it is not Fork-tailed Drongo Cuckoo *S. dicruroides*, but Square-tailed , *S. lugubris*.

### **Pacific Swift** *Apus pacificus*

#### **Cook's Swift** *Apus cooki*

The old taxon of Pacific Swift *A. pacificus* has now been split four ways: Cook's *A. cooki*, Salim Ali's *A. salimalii*, Blyth's *A. leuconyx*, with the name Pacific Swift being retained by *A. pacificus*.

### **Clicking Shrike-Babbler** *Pteruthius intermedius*

Some authors lump this species in Trilling Shrike-Babbler *P. aenobarbus* of Java using the name Chestnut-fronted Shrike Babbler for the enlarged species.

### **Buff-vented Bulbul** *Iole crypta*

There is some taxonomic skulduggery going on with various identical Bulbuls getting moved around. Stand by for updates.

### **Blyth's Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone affinis*

This species was formerly lumped in Indian Paradise Flycatcher *T. paradisi*, with the name Asian Paradise Flycatcher being used for the enlarged species.

### **Stejneger's Stonechat** *Saxicola stejnegeri*

This species was formerly lumped in Eastern or Siberian Stonechat *S. maurus*, which in turn some authors lump in European Stonechat *S. rubicola* (of Europe and North Africa) in African Stonechat *S. torquata* (of subsaharan Africa), using the name Common Stonechat for the enlarged species.

### **Van Hasselt's Sunbird** *Leptocoma brasiliana*

Some authors lump this species in Purple-throated Sunbird *Nectarinia sperata*.

### **Grey-breasted Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera modesta*

The bird in the garden at Morakot Resort that was identified as a Long-billed Spiderhunter I now think was a juvenile Grey-breasted.



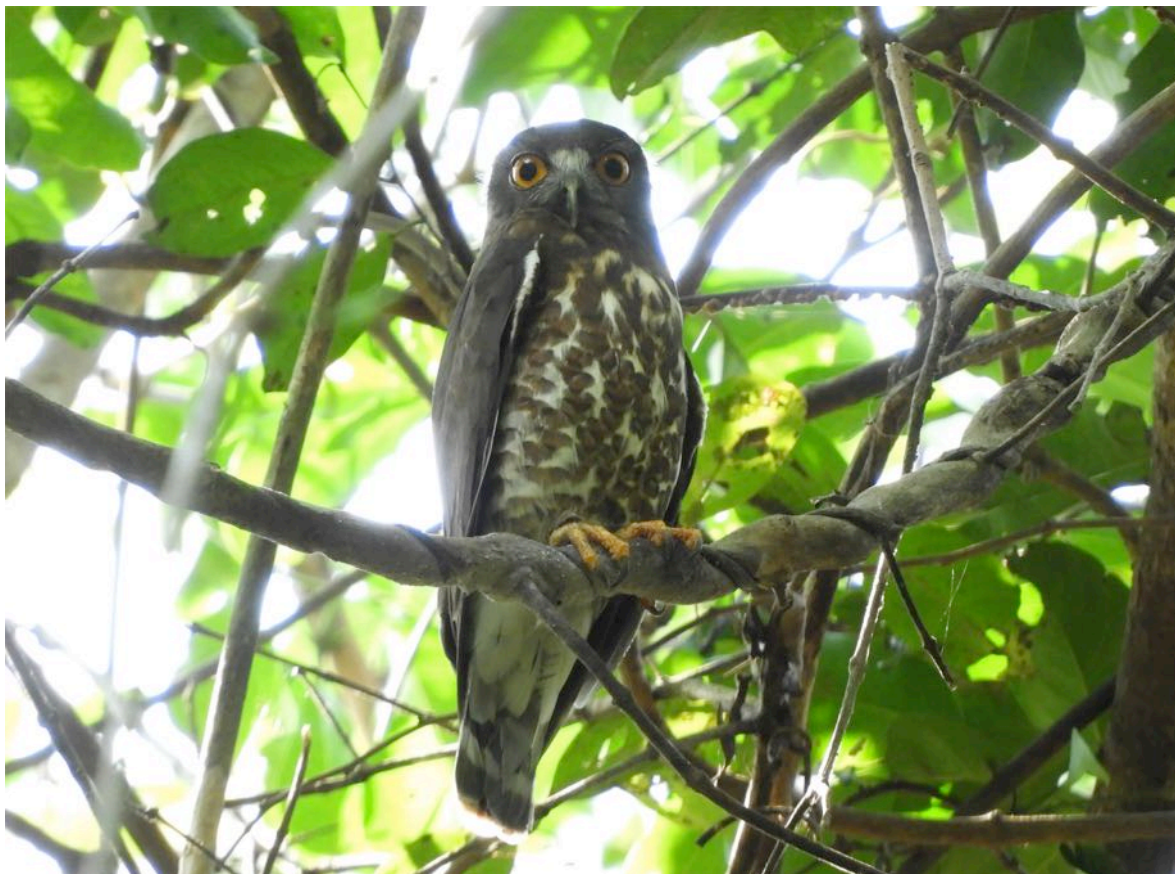


*Spotted Wood Owl*



*Birdquest group invading Burma at Doi Lang.*





*Brown Hawk Owl*



*Giant Nuthatch*