

SOUTHWEST CHINA TOUR REPORT 2026

27 January - 12 February 2026

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This new tour, one of the first of its kind, focussed significantly on some of China's most renowned bird hides, in Hainan, Guizhou and Yunnan provinces. It proved to be a great success, and a remarkable experience, allowing as it did, some incredible views of an amazing and dazzling selection of Chinese, Sino-Himalayan and other bird specialities.

Highlights amongst the long list of at least 108 "diamond" birds, not all of which were seen at hides of course, included Rufous-throated, Hainan and White-cheeked Partridges, Lady Amherst's, Silver, Hainan Peacock- and Grey Peacock-Pheasants, Mountain Bamboo Partridge, Ibisbill, River Tern, Black-faced Spoonbill, Himalayan Owl, Chinese Barbet, Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, Pale-headed Woodpecker, Blue-naped Pitta, Ratchet-tailed and Collared Treepies, Indochinese Green and White-winged Magpies, Black-bibbed Tit, Limestone, Hartert's and Hainan Leaf Warblers, Rufous-tailed Babbler, Spectacled, White-browed and Manipur Fulvettas, Rufous-headed, Pale-billed and Eye-ringed Parrotbills, White-collared Yuhina, Bar-winged and Grey-bellied Wren-Babblers, Slender-billed and Black-streaked Scimitar Babblers, Nonggang Babbler, Dusky, Nepal and Huet's Fulvettas, Scaly, Blue-winged, Elliot's, Red-tailed, Spot-breasted, Rufous-cheeked, Moustached, Spotted, White-spectacled, and Hainan (or Black-throated) Laughingthrushes, Beautiful, Grey and Black-headed Sibilas, Scarlet-faced Liocichla, Yellow-billed and Yunnan Nuthatches, Spotted Elachura, Burmese and Collared Mynas, Long-tailed, Sichuan, Black-breasted and Japanese Thrushes, White-tailed, White-gorgeted and Pale Blue Flycatchers, Rufous-tailed Robin, Himalayan Shortwing, Himalayan Bluetail, White-browed Bush Robin, Maroon-backed Accentor, Scarlet Finch, Sharpe's and Vinaceous Rosefinches, Crimson-browed Finch, Grey-headed Bullfinch and Yellow-throated Bunting. Mammal sightings were restricted to smaller stuff, but included Yellow-throated Marten, and Anderson's and Red-hipped Squirrels.

We all met up, along with local guide David Qian, at our hotel at Sanya International Airport, Hainan. Early the following morning we checked-out and made the relatively shortish drive to Jianfengling National Forest Park in the forested hills towards the south-west of this sub-tropical island. Two nights based at the reserve were sufficient for us to track-down all of our targets here, most of which showed well during our long stints in two different hides. Being relatively comfortable, and with a lot of action to keep us busy, it was not difficult to spend many hours waiting for the goodies, and we were also able to have lunch brought to us. Endemic galliforms were the primary focus, with Hainan Partridge and Hainan Peacock-Pheasant both giving stunning views, although the former kept us on tenterhooks well into the afternoon. Other crowd-pleasers included the stunning Silver Pheasant, splittable local forms of Black-throated and Rufous-cheeked Laughingthrushes (particularly the former, as Hainan Laughingthrush), superb Indochinese Green Magpies, Dusky Fulvetta, Large Scimitar Babbler, and Rufous-tailed Robins. Away from the hides, we walked a number of roadsides, where we found the glowing endemic Hainan Leaf Warbler, as well as more widespread South China specialities in the form of Chinese Barbet, Hartert's Leaf Warbler, and Huet's Fulvetta, and the likes of Collared Owlet, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Chestnut Bulbul, Sultan Tit, Yellow-billed Nuthatch, Spot-necked Babbler, Pale Blue Flycatcher, and Fork-tailed Sunbird. Calling-in at some coastal pools on the way back to the airport, we were also able to see a flock of 60 or so wintering Black-faced Spoonbills, as well as a rather distant White-faced Plover, amongst a selection of nice shorebirds. After a short internal flight, we arrived at Nanning in Guizhou, where stayed overnight at a comfortable hotel.

Well before dawn we embarked on the drive down to the Nonggang area, close to the Vietnamese border, where we spent the following two nights. Our main target here, amongst the impressive limestone outcrops, was the quite recently discovered Nonggang Babbler, a close relative of the similar-looking Sooty Babbler of the Annamite limestone in Laos and Vietnam. A feeding area had been developed in recent years for the babbler, but we had heard that the birds had not been coming regularly for some eight months. Fortunately these stories turned out to be inaccurate, and we soon received word that the babblers were at the feeding spot. Reaching the site asap, we were soon enjoying some nice close views of these great little babblers. We also visited two other feeding stations. The first had been

developed for White-winged Magpies, a remarkable achievement, and we did not have to wait too long before a group of three birds alighted on branches in front of us to feast on chunks of meat, whilst Silver Pheasant and Red Junglefowl came to grain. The next morning, after bagging the localised Limestone Leaf Warbler, we spent many hours in a hide waiting for Blue-rumped Pitta. The bird called very close, quite early on, but we were out of luck with this one, and it never came in. We made do with Black-throated Laughingthrush, Siberian Rubythroat, Rufous-tailed Robin, Red-flanked Bluetail, and Fork-tailed Sunbird. Other Nonggang highlights included Puff-throated Bulbul and David's Fulvetta. We returned to Nanning.

The next day saw us fly to Tengchong in West Yunnan via Chengdu. From the airport we continued south-west to Yingjiang, where the Daying River, on the outskirts of town, was our only birding stop of the day. A good range of species included Indian Spot-billed Duck, Small Pratincole, the "Vulnerable" and declining River Tern, our first Grey-throated Martins, two flyby flocks of Collared Mynas, Citrine Wagtail, and Little Buntings.

Another early start was required to reach the Husa area, where we hoped to find the restricted-range and seldom seen Grey-bellied Wren-Babbler. Fortunately for us, it didn't prove too difficult, although a little patience was required before we all obtained good views. Also of interest in this area were our first Striated Buleuls, Grey Sibias, Sichuan Leaf Warblers, Yunnan Fulvettas, and Himalayan Bluetails, as well as our only Chinese Leaf Warbler of the tour.

We continued to Tongbiguan, where we had lunch, and then onwards again to Nabang on the Myanmar border for a one-night stay. A couple of birding stops en route produced flight views of Mountain Bamboo Partridge, Crested Finchbill, Buff-throated Warbler, and Mrs Gould's Sunbird. At Nabang itself, late afternoon birding was excellent, with an unexpected pair of Ibisbills along the river, River Lapwing, a flyover pair of Wreathed Hornbills, Wire-tailed Swallow, Indian Pied Starling, and Burmese, Collared and Great Mynas.

Retracing our steps somewhat the next morning, we revisited one of the previous afternoons stops. It was a little hard-going due to the depth of the valley and late sunrise, but we did get good views of Grey-sided Bush Warbler and Slaty-blue Flycatcher, along with our first Rusty-fronted Barwings. After lunch and some police station formalities we reached the Hongbenghe area, where we went directly to one of the best bird hides. During the following four hours we were treated to some superb views of an amazing range 'Eastern Himalayan' and other regional specialities, including White-cheeked Partridge, Short-billed Minivet, Collared Treepie, Rufous-headed and Pale-billed Parrotbills, White-hooded Babbler, Striated Yuhina, Brown-crowned and Red-billed Scimitar Babblers, White-throated Bulbul, Long-tailed Sibia, encouragingly large numbers of Silver-eared Mesias, Lesser and Greater Necklaced Laughingthrushes side-by-side, Large and Rufous-bellied Niltavas, and Hill Blue Flycatcher. Stretching our legs along the road afterwards, we enjoyed some neat Collared Falconets, while a calling Sapphire Flycatcher frustratingly remained out of sight. We continued to our accommodation, where we were to spend the next three nights.

Our first day at Hongbenghe consisted of six to seven hours spent between two of the main hides, and some downhill roadside birding. As expected, the hides produced some great sightings, with Kalij Pheasant, a number of presumed Kalij x Silver Pheasant hybrids, male and female Grey Peacock-Pheasant, Grey-backed Shrike, Chestnut-crowned Warbler, Grey-bellied Tesia, Streaked Wren-Babbler, Brown-cheeked and Nepal Fulvettas, Rusty-fronted Barwing, Black-throated Laughingthrush, Black-breasted Thrush, Small Niltava, and Streaked Spiderhunter. Along the road, we found Red-headed Trogon, Stripe-breasted Woodpecker, Maroon Oriole, Sultan Tit, Two-barred Warbler, Spotted Forktail, and Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush.

On day two, we moved up to the higher elevation hides near Shiti Village. Temperatures were significantly lower at dawn and, as soon as we had bums on seats in the first hide, we were treated to wonderful views of another amazing selection of avian megas, frantically feeding before us. A pair of uncharacteristically showy Spot-breasted Laughingthrushes stole the limelight, but were supported by tour-additions like Blue-winged Laughingthrush (normally a skulker also), stunning Red-tailed Laughingthrushes and Scarlet-faced Liocichlas, Rufous-backed Sibia, Grey-winged Blackbird, a marvellous White-crowned and Slaty-backed Forktails, and Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher. A brief walk along the road, traversing bamboo-clad gullies, brought us a Spotted Elachura, before we moved on to our next hide. Here we had a bit of a wait, with many of the group admittedly starting to nod-off, before the star of the show, a male Blue-naped Pitta, put in his appearance, along with another Grey Peacock-Pheasant. A male White-tailed Flycatcher was also noteworthy. Back along the roads and tracks, a pair of Jerdon's Bazas circled low overhead, and we enjoyed a congregation of no fewer than 13 Collared Falconets.

A couple of hours were still at our disposal on our last morning, so we returned to Shiti and birded on foot, as well as making a few stops on the way back down the hill. A performing Pale-headed Woodpecker was one of the main highlights, but we also had a neat pair of Crested Treeswifts, Oriental Hobby, Davison's Leaf Warbler, and more views of Rufous-headed and Pale-billed Parrotbills. It was soon

time to head-off to Baihualing for another three-night stay, the final destination of the main-tour. On the way we made time to search for the tricky Brown-winged Parrotbill, visiting several sites along the Longchuan River, north-east of Tengchong. Despite a very concerted effort, we frustratingly drew a blank with the parrotbill, instead being consoled with Long-billed Plover, Alpine (or apparently now Tickell's) Leaf Warbler, and White-browed Laughingthrush, amongst a range of more widespread tour additions. We arrived quite late at Baihualing, after dinner en route.

Baihualing has the most established and long-running bird hides in Yunnan, and we were excited to get to the first one that we had booked for the morning. Significantly colder now, at even higher and more northerly levels, we wrapped-up well. The hide owner did his stuff, putting out various foods, hanging strings of apples from wires and the like. Soon the viewing area was alive with birds. Our third *Arborophila* partridge of the tour, Rufous-throated, was joined by Yellow-cheeked Tit, Pygmy Cupwing, Black-streaked Scimitar Babbler, Rusty-capped and Yunnan Fulvettas, Himalayan Shortwing, Blue-fronted Redstart, and Vinaceous Rosefinch; while the apples attracted Great, Golden-throated and Blue-throated Barbets, Crested Finchbills, and Black-headed Sibias. Moving to another hide, we had stunning views of the marvellous Scaly Laughingthrush, as well as Beautiful Sibia, and Long-tailed Thrush. The latter part of the afternoon was spent exploring lower elevations, with no real stand-out birds.

Another well-known hide was our destination the next morning, and it supported even more birds. The unique Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler was likely appreciated the most, but there was a strong supporting cast, with Scaly-breasted Cupwing, at least 12 Red-tailed Laughingthrushes, our only Assam Laughingthrushes of the tour, Blue-winged and Red-tailed Minlas, no fewer than 18 Black-breasted Thrushes, a single Japanese Thrush, and White-gorgeted Flycatcher. After lunch we decided to walk around the Hotspring Loop, for fresh scenery and a chance to stretch our legs. It proved to be a great choice. First we lucked-in on a small group of Scarlet Finches and then, right at the far end of the loop by some honeycombs on a cliff-face, we managed to spot the scarce Yellow-rumped Honeyguide. Chestnut-headed Tesia was also seen well, as were both Little and Spotted Forktails.

The main tour ended late the following morning, when we arrived at Dali Airport, and dropped off one of the group members. Continuing on with the post-tour extension, we drove via the east side of Erhai Lake, to the Shangri Xiongnu Scenic Area, west of Lijiang. It was still rather too hot surprisingly, but a walk through the pinewoods soon turned-up the endemic Yunnan Nuthatch and Rufous-tailed Babbler, as well as lots of Black-browed Bushtits. Moving on down to the banks of the Yangtze River, we began searching for the localised Eye-ringed Parrotbill (formerly lumped in Brown-winged). Despite the rather windy conditions, it wasn't too long before the species was found in a sheltered spot, and we enjoyed a magical encounter with a crazy flock of around 70 birds. With nightfall approaching, we headed inland to our secluded lodge near Liju, where we were booked-in for a two-night stay.

The next morning we met up with local ranger and bird enthusiast Mr. Qian, who led us up to a nearby hamlet, and then along a narrow trail to one of his feeding spots. Along the way, our first Black-bibbed Tits, Spectacled Fulvettas and White-collared Yuhinas were bagged. After a very short wait at his spot, a pair each of the scarce Moustached, as well as commoner Elliot's Laughingthrush appeared, were joined by a nice female-type White-browed Bush Robin and both White-browed and Manipur Fulvettas, and gave excellent views. We then changed location to another site, where Mr. Qian's friendly laughingthrushes performed without even the need for a hide. The birds know him so well that they just gather around when he appears. A large flock of perhaps 30 laughingthrushes included the rare White-speckled (or Biet's) as well as the stunning Spotted, a few Elliot's, and a lot of Black-faced's. Nearby we also enjoyed Maroon-backed and Rufous-breasted Accentors, Sharpe's Rosefinch, and Yellow-throated Bunting. After lunch we were taken along a secluded track into a narrow valley where we were shown a pair of cracking Bar-winged Wren-Babblers at close range. Patches of bamboo harboured a flock of glowing Golden-breasted Fulvettas, we found two wintering Sichuan Thrushes, a localised and often hard to find Chinese endemic, and we also added Green Shrike-Babbler, double figures of Crimson-browed Finches, and a nice group of Grey-headed Bullfinches. Some of us were lucky enough to get a brief look at a male Lady Amherst's Pheasant that slipped upslope.

Our final morning of the tour was spent exploring more valleys in this wonderfully scenic area. There were no major surprises but some nice birds, including another Lady Amherst's Pheasant briefly, Speckled Piculet, Necklaced Woodpecker, Yellow-browed and Black-bibbed Tits, more Golden-breasted Fulvettas, Stripe-throated Yuhina, Chestnut-tailed Minla, Spotted and White-speckled Laughingthrushes, Goldcrest, Eurasian Wren, Brown Dipper, and Godlewski's Bunting. Two Himalayan Owls were heard calling predawn, and we were able to get good views of one in the spotlight.

As the tour drew to a close, we drove to Lijiang and then onwards to the airport, reflecting back on a most enjoyable trip.

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

The species names and taxonomy used in the bird list follows **AviList v2025** (AviList Core Team. 2025. *AviList: The Global Avian Checklist, v2025*).

Where the subspecies seen is/are known, these are often given in parentheses at the end of the species comment.

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. only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; 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).

The definition "Endemic" refers to China.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Common Merganser *Mergus merganser*

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata*

Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha* Good numbers loafing at the Daying River, Yingjiang, Yunnan.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* Non-leader.

Green-winged Teal (Eurasian T) *Anas crecca*

Rufous-throated Partridge ◊ *Arborophila rufogularis* Good views at two hides near Baihualing, Yunnan.

Hainan Partridge ◊ *Arborophila ardens* Endemic. A wonderful encounter with a group of six at Jianfengling.

White-cheeked Partridge ◊ *Arborophila atrogularis* Seen at two hides at Hongbenghe – great views.

Lady Amherst's Pheasant ◊ *Chrysolophus amherstiae* Two males seen rather too briefly near Liju, Yunnan.

Kalij Pheasant *Lophura leucomelanos* Two or three males at Hongbenghe (*lathamii*).

Silver Pheasant ◊ *Lophura nycthemera* 7 seen nicely at Jianfengling (*whiteheadi*) & 5 at Nonggang (n nominate).

Kalij x Silver Pheasant (hybrid) *Lophura leucomelanos x nycthemera* Small numbers at Hongbenghe-Shiti.

Hainan Peacock-Pheasant ◊ *Polyplectron katsumatae* Endemic. 4-5 at Jianfengling, incl. 2 chicks.

Grey Peacock-Pheasant ◊ *Polyplectron bicalcaratum* At least three seen and a handful heard, in W Yunnan.

Mountain Bamboo Partridge ◊ *Bambusicola fytchii* Four flushed along a trail near Tongbiguan, W Yunnan.

Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus*

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*

Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii* Heard-only.

Barred Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia unchall* Heard-only.

Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis*

Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis*

Rock Dove (feral) *Columba livia*

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra*

Pin-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron apicauda* One at Shiti; leader only.

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenurus* Heard-only.

Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia*

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* Non-leader.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Ibisbill ◊ *Ibidorhyncha struthersii* A presumed pair along the river at Nabang, always a nice surprise.

Grey Plover (Black-bellied P) *Pluvialis squatarola* Non-leader.

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

Long-billed Plover *Thinornis placidus* Three seen well at Longchuan Rafting Area.

Little Ringed Plover *Thinornis dubius*

River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii*

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*

Tibetan Sand Plover *Anarhynchus atrifrons*

White-faced Plover ◊ *Anarhynchus dealbatus* A single, rather distant bird at Yinggehai Saltpans, Hainan.

Kentish Plover *Anarhynchus alexandrinus*

Black-tailed Godwit (Eastern B-t G) *Limosa [limosa] melanuroides*

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea* Just a single flyby at the Daying River.

River Tern ◊ *Sterna aurantia* Great flight views of a smart adult at the Daying River.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* One with the next species.

Black-faced Spoonbill ◊ *Platalea minor* A wintering flock of at least 60 birds at Yinggehai Saltpans.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Little Heron *Butorides atricapilla*

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Eastern Cattle Egret *Ardea coromanda*

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Crested Treeswift *Hemiprocne coronata*

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*

Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus brevirostris*

Brown Boobook *Ninox scutulata* Heard-only.

Collared Owlet *Taenioptynx brodiei*

Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides*

Mountain Scops Owl *Otus spilocephalus* Heard-only.

Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia* Heard-only.

Himalayan Owl *Strix nivicolium* One of two calling birds showed surprisingly well near Liju, Yunnan.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

Jerdon's Baza ♦ *Aviceda jerdoni* A pair circled close overhead at Shiti.

Crested Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*

Mountain Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus nipalensis*

Crested Goshawk *Lophospiza trivirgata*

Shikra *Tachypiza badia*

Black Kite (Black-eared K) *Milvus [migrans] lineatus*

Eastern Buzzard *Buteo japonicus*

Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus*

Wreathed Hornbill *Rhyticeros undulatus*

Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis athertoni*

Asian Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis*

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*

Coppersmith Barbet *Psilopogon haemacephalus*

Blue-eared Barbet *Psilopogon cyanotis*

Great Barbet *Psilopogon virens*

Golden-throated Barbet *Psilopogon franklinii*

Chinese Barbet ♦ *Psilopogon faber* Endemic. Common on Hainan, with several seen well (nominate).

Blue-throated Barbet *Psilopogon asiaticus*

Yellow-rumped Honeyguide ♦ *Indicator xanthonotus* A nice bonus-bird along the Hotspring Loop at Baihualing.

Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus*

Lesser Yellownape *Picus chlorolophus*

Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus*

Greater Yellownape *Chrysophlegma flavinucha*

Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis*

Pale-headed Woodpecker ♦ *Gecinulus grantia* A couple seen in the bamboo at Shiti.

Greater Flameback *Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus*

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Yungipicus canicapillus*

Stripe-breasted Woodpecker ♦ *Dendrocopos atratus* One seen well near Hongbenghe.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* Non-leader.

Necklaced Woodpecker ♦ *Dryobates pernyi* Just one near Liju.

Collared Falconet *Microhierax caerulescens* Lovely to see 13 roosting together (and 19 in all) near Hongbenghe.

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Oriental Hobby *Falco severus* Two loafing above Hongbenghe.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarisomus dalhousiae*

Silver-breasted Broadbill *Serilophus lunatus* Six at Jianfengling (endemic *polionotus*).

Blue-naped Pitta ♦ *Hydrornis nipalensis* Patience was rewarded with brilliant views of a male at Shiti.

Blue-rumped Pitta ♦ *Hydrornis soror* Heard-only. Came so close to the hide at Nonggang.

Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris*

Short-billed Minivet *Pericrocotus brevirostris* A female right in front of a hide at Hongbenghe was a surprise.

Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus*

Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus*

Black-winged Cuckooshrike *Lalage melaschistos*

Ashy Woodswallow *Artamus fuscus*

White-browed Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius aeralatus*

Green Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius xanthochlorus* A couple near Liju (eye-ringed *pallidus*).

White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis zantholeuca*

Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii*

White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis*

Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*

Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus*

Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus* Small numbers in W Yunnan (*hopwoodi*); 1 presumed wintering *leucogenis/salangensis* on Hainan.

Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*

Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea*

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*

Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus*

Ratchet-tailed Treepie ♦ *Temnurus temnurus* Three seen on Hainan.

Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae* Heard-only.

Collared Treepie ♦ *Dendrocitta frontalis* Amazing to get such great views from hides; 3-5 birds in W Yunnan.

Common Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis* W Yunnanese nominate.

Indochinese Green Magpie ♦ *Cissa hypoleuca* Brilliant hide-views of this (Hainan *katsumatae*) & the last species.

Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythroryncha* Heard-only.

White-winged Magpie ♦ *Urocissa whiteheadi* Wonderful encounter with 3 at the Nonggang hide. Others heard.

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius* One near Liju.

Oriental Magpie ♦ *Pica serica*

Large-billed Crow *Corvus [macrorhynchos] macrorhynchos*

Large-billed Crow (Eastern Jungle C) *Corvus [macrorhynchos] levillantii*

Yellow-bellied Fantail *Chelidorhynch hypoxanthus*

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*

Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus* Small numbers near Liju.

Sultan Tit *Melanochlora sultanea*

Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus*

Cinereous Tit (Asian T) *Parus cinereus* Nonggang: *commixtus*. W Yunnan: *subtibetanus* (Japanese group).

Yellow-cheeked Tit *Machlolophus spilonotus*

Black-bibbed Tit ♦ *Poecile hypermelaenus* A couple of pairs were noted near Liju.

Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula*

Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*

Hill Prinia *Prinia superciliaris*

Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens*

Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii*

Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris*

Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata*

Oriental Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis* Heard-only.

Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata*

Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris*

Scaly-breasted Cupwing *Pnoepyga albiventer*

Pygmy Cupwing *Pnoepyga pusilla*

Grey-throated Martin *Riparia chinensis*

Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii* Two at Nabang.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus*

Eastern Red-rumped Swallow (Striated S) *Cecropis daurica*

Black-throated Bushtit *Aegithalos concinnus* Tengchong and Lijiang areas (*talifuensis*).

Black-browed Bushtit ♦ *Aegithalos iouschistos* Common in the Lijiang region (*bonvaloti*).

Grey-bellied Tesia ♦ *Tesia cyaniventer* Performed nicely in front of a hide at Hongbenghe.

Slaty-bellied Tesia ♦ *Tesia olivea* Heard-only.

Grey-sided Bush Warbler *Cettia brunnifrons*

Chestnut-headed Tesia *Cettia castaneocoronata* One was teased-out along the Hotspring loop at Baihualing.

Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus superciliaris*

Rufous-faced Warbler *Abroscopus albogularis* Heard-only.

Black-faced Warbler *Abroscopus schisticeps* A small group showed briefly near Liju.

Mountain Tailorbird *Phyllergates cucullatus* Heard-only.

Buff-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus pulcher*

Ashy-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus maculipennis*

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei*

Chinese Leaf Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus yunnanensis* Endemic (breeder). Just one seen well in the Husa area

Pallas's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus* A couple in the Nonggang area.

Sichuan Leaf Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus forresti* Endemic (breeder). Frequent in Yunnan.

Tickell's Leaf Warbler (Alpine L W) *Phylloscopus [affinis] occisinensis* Two at Longchuan Rafting Area.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

Buff-throated Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus subaffinis* One seen well near Tongbiguan.

Grey-cheeked Warbler *Phylloscopus poliogenys* Heard-only.

Bianchi's Warbler *Phylloscopus valentini*

Two-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus* One was identified near Hongbenghe.

Pale-legged Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus tenellipes* Heard-only. A calling bird at Jianfengling.

Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus castaniceps*

Limestone Leaf Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus calciatilis* Several birds in the Nonggang area.

Hartert's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus goodsoni* Endemic (breeder). Two individuals at Jianfengling.

Hainan Leaf Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus hainanus* Endemic. Uncommon, with only two noted.

Davison's Leaf Warbler ◊ *Phylloscopus intensor* One at Shiti.

Black-crested Bulbul *Rubigula flaviventris*

Crested Finchbill *Spizixos canifrons*

Flavescent Bulbul *Pycnonotus flavescens*

Brown-breasted Bulbul ◊ *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*

Light-vented Bulbul ◊ (Chinese B) *Pycnonotus sinensis* Common on Hainan (*hainanus*).

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer*

Sooty-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus aurigaster*

White-throated Bulbul *Alophoixus flaveolus*

Puff-throated Bulbul *Alophoixus pallidus*

Striated Bulbul *Alcurus striatus* Best seen in the Husa area, but also at Baihualing.

Grey-eyed Bulbul *Iole propinqua*

Chestnut Bulbul ◊ *Hemixos castanonotus* Good numbers seen on Hainan (*nominata*).

Mountain Bulbul *Ixos mcclllandii*

Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*

Rufous-tailed Babbler ◊ (R-t Moupinia) *Moupinia poecilotis* Endemic. 1 popped-up in pinewoods near Lijiang.

Golden-breasted Fulvetta ◊ *Lioparus chrysotis* Two flocks of this cracker near Liju (*forresti*).

Spectacled Fulvetta ◊ *Fulvetta ruficapilla* Endemic. Three seen near Liju (*sordidior*).

White-browed Fulvetta *Fulvetta vinipectus* A dozen of these great little birds near Liju (*bieti*).

Manipur Fulvetta ◊ *Fulvetta manipurensis* Ditto.

Rufous-headed Parrotbill ◊ *Paradoxornis bakeri* Great views at Hongbenghe and Shiti (n nominate).

Pale-billed Parrotbill ◊ *Suthora atrosuperciliaris* Ditto (also nominate).

Eye-ringed Parrotbill ◊ *Suthora ricketti* Endemic. An incredible roving flock of c.70 near Shigu, Yunnan.

White-collared Yuhina ◊ *Parayuhina diademata* Near-endemic. Common near Liju.

Striated Yuhina ◊ *Staphida castaniceps* Large flocks in the Hongbenghe-Shiti area (*plumbeiceps*).

Indochinese Yuhina ◊ *Staphida torqueola* A small group at Nonggang. Leader-only.

Whiskered Yuhina *Yuhina flavicollis*

Chestnut-flanked White-eye *Zosterops erythropleurus*

Swinhoe's White-eye *Zosterops simplex*

Indian White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus*

Pin-striped Tit-Babbler *Mixornis gularis*

Golden Babbler *Cyanoderma chrysaemum*

Rufous-capped Babbler *Cyanoderma ruficeps*

Bar-winged Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaornis troglodytoides* Stunning views of a pair near Liju (*rocki*).

Grey-bellied Wren-Babbler ◊ *Spelaornis reptatus* Mega. A pair in the Husa area, eventually showing well.

Brown-crowned Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Pomatorhinus phayrei* Three in the Hongbenghe-Shiti area (*stanfordi*).

Red-billed Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps* Ditto a dozen (*stenorhynchus*).

Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Pomatorhinus superciliaris* One admired from of a Baihualing hide (*forresti*).

Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis* Seen on Hainan (*nigrostellatus*), Nonggang (*reconditus*) and W Yunnan (*similis*).

Large Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Erythrogenys hypoleucos* One showed at one of the Hainan hides (*hainana*).

Black-streaked Scimitar Babbler ◊ *Erythrogenys gravivox* Recorded at Baihualing (*odica*), and Liju (*decarlei*).

Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps*

Nonggang Babbler ◊ *Stachyris nonggangensis* Mega endemic. Excellent views of ten birds.

Spot-necked Babbler *Stachyris striolata*

White-hooded Babbler ◊ *Gampsorhynchus rufulus*

Rusty-capped Fulvetta *Schoeniparus dubius* Recorded at Baihualing (*intermedius*), and Liju (*genestieri*).

Dusky Fulvetta ♦ (**Brown-capped F**) *Schoeniparus brunneus* Near-endemic. Six on Hainan (endemic *arguta*).

Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps*

Spot-throated Babbler ♦ *Pellorneum albiventre* Heard-only. Baihualing.

Buff-breasted Babbler ♦ *Pellorneum tickelli*

Eyebrowed Wren-Babbler *Napothera epilepidota* Heard-only.

Streaked Wren-Babbler *Gypsophila brevicaudata* Seen well W Yunnan (*venningi*); heard Nonggang (*stevensi*).

Brown-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe poiaicephala* Small numbers in the Hongbenghe-Shiti area (*haringtoniae*).

Nepal Fulvetta ♦ *Alcippe nipalensis* Ditto.

David's Fulvetta ♦ *Alcippe davidi* A handful at Nonggang (*schaefferi*).

Huet's Fulvetta ♦ *Alcippe hueti* Endemic. Common on Hainan (*rufescentior*).

Yunnan Fulvetta ♦ *Alcippe fratercula* Frequent in Yunnan (nominate).

Scaly Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron subunicolor* Splendid views of five at Baihualing (*griseatum*).

Blue-winged Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron squamatum* Wonderful views of four in Yunnan.

Black-faced Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron affine* Common near Liju (*oustaleti*).

Elliot's Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron elliotii* Endemic. Small numbers seen nicely near Liju.

Red-tailed Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron milnei* Close views of this superb stunner in W Yunnan (*sharpei*).

Assam Laughingthrush ♦ *Trochalopteron chrysopterum* Two at a Baihualing hide (*woodi*).

Long-tailed Sibia *Heterophasia picaoides*

Beautiful Sibia ♦ *Heterophasia pulchella* A handful at Baihualing.

Grey Sibia ♦ *Heterophasia gracilis* Not uncommon Husa area to Shiti.

Black-headed Sibia ♦ *Heterophasia desgodinsi* Common at Baihualing to Liju (nominate).

Blue-winged Minla *Actinodura cyanouroptera*

Bar-throated Minla (Chestnut-tailed M) *Actinodura strigula*

Rusty-fronted Barwing ♦ *Actinodura egertoni* Frequently seen in W Yunnan (*ripponi*).

Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix argenteauris*

Red-tailed Minla *Minla ignotincta*

Rufous-backed Sibia ♦ *Leioptila annectens* Great views of one coming to food at Shiti (*mixta*).

Scarlet-faced Liocichla ♦ *Liocichla ripponi* Double figures from the W Yunnan hides (*wellsi*).

Spot-breasted Laughingthrush ♦ *Garrulax merulinus* Extended views of this crippler at Shiti (nominate).

Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax monileger* Lots at Hongbenghe & Shiti (nominate).

White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus* Gracing the hides in W Yunnan (*patkaicus*).

Rufous-cheeked Laughingthrush ♦ *Garrulax castanotis* Great views on Hainan (endemic nominate).

Moustached Laughingthrush ◊ *Ianthocincla cineracea* Two appeared on cue near Liju (*strenua*).

Spotted Laughingthrush ◊ *Ianthocincla ocellata* Stunning views of six near Liju (*maculipectus*).

White-speckled Laughingthrush ◊ *Ianthocincla bieti* Endemic. Mind-blowing views of 4-6 near Liju.

Black-throated Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus chinensis* W Yunnan (*lochmius*) & Nonggang (nominate).

Black-throated Laughingthrush ◊ (Hainan L) *Pterorhinus [chinensis] monachus* Endemic. Four seen well.

White-browed Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus sannio* A few at Longchuan Rafting Area, W Yunnan (*comis*).

Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus pectoralis* Five at Hongbenghe (nominate).

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*

Yellow-billed Nuthatch ◊ *Sitta solangiae* Three seen well at Jianfengling (endemic *chienfengensis*).

Yunnan Nuthatch ◊ *Sitta yunnanensis* Near-endemic.

Chestnut-vented Nuthatch ◊ *Sitta nagaensis*

Eurasian Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Spotted Elachura ◊ *Elachura formosa* One showed in a gully at Baihualing.

Black-collared Starling *Gracupica nigricollis* Ten or so, of this and the next species, at Nabang, W Yunnan.

Indian Pied Myna *Gracupica contra*

White-shouldered Starling *Sturnia sinensis*

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*

Burmese Myna ◊ *Acridotheres burmannicus* Eight at Nabang.

Collared Myna ◊ *Acridotheres albocinctus* 20 at the Daying River, and six at Nabang.

Great Myna *Acridotheres grandis* 15 at Nabang.

Crested Myna *Acridotheres cristatellus*

Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasii* A couple near Liju, right at the end of the tour.

Long-tailed Thrush ◊ *Zoothera dixonii* Many sightings in Yunnan.

Sichuan Thrush ◊ *Zoothera griseiceps* Endemic. Two wintering birds near Liju, a nice find.

Chinese Blackbird ◊ *Turdus mandarinus*

Chestnut Thrush ◊ *Turdus rubrocanus* One briefly near Liju.

Grey-winged Blackbird *Turdus boulboul*

Japanese Thrush ◊ *Turdus cardis* A single first year male at one of the Baihualing hides was a westerly stray.

Black-breasted Thrush ◊ *Turdus dissimilis* 20-30 seen at the Yunnan hides.

Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis*

White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus*

White-tailed Flycatcher ◊ *Leucoptilon concretum* A couple in the Hongbenghe-Shiti area.

Large Niltava *Niltava grandis*

Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigoriae*

Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava sundara*

Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassinus*

White-gorgeted Flycatcher *Anthipes monileger* One eventually popped out for us at a Baihualing hide.

Hainan Blue Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis hainanus*

Pale Blue Flycatcher ◊ *Cyornis unicolor* Several seen at Jianfengling, Hainan.

Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis whitei*

Siberian Rubythroat *Calliope calliope* A sneaky male at the Nonggang pitta hide was welcome.

White-tailed Robin *Myiomela leucura*

Little Forktail *Enicurus scouleri*

White-crowned Forktail *Enicurus leschenaulti*

Spotted Forktail *Enicurus maculatus*

Slaty-backed Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus*

Blue Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus*

Rufous-tailed Robin ◊ *Larvivora sibilans*

Himalayan Shortwing *Brachypteryx cruralis* Several, including a male, from Baihualing hides.

Mugimaki Flycatcher *Ficedula mugimaki* Non-leader. Jianfengling.

Slaty-backed Flycatcher *Ficedula erithacus* A male by the roadside at Hongbenghe.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra*

Slaty-blue Flycatcher *Ficedula tricolor*

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher *Ficedula strophinata*

Sapphire Flycatcher *Ficedula sapphira* Heard-only. Hongbenghe.

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni*

Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus* One at Nonggang.

Himalayan Bluetail *Tarsiger rufilatus* Frequent at the W Yunnan hides.

White-browed Bush Robin ◊ *Tarsiger indicus* A couple of female-types in Yunnan.

Golden Bush Robin *Tarsiger chrysaeus* One briefly near Tongbiguan. Leader only.

Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis*

White-capped Redstart *Phoenicurus leucocephalus*

Plumbeous Water Redstart *Phoenicurus fuliginosus*

Daurian Redstart *Phoenicurus aureus*

Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush *Monticola rufiventris*

Grey Bush Chat *Saxicola ferreus*

Pied Bush Chat *Saxicola caprata*

Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola maurus* Widespread sightings of resident *przewalskii* in Yunnan.

Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum minullum* Not uncommon at Jianfengling.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus*

Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna*

Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga saturata*

Mrs. Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae*

Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*

Fork-tailed Sunbird ◊ *Aethopyga christinae* Common on Hainan and at Nonggang.

Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis moluccensis*

Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii*

Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*

Maroon-backed Accentor ◊ *Prunella immaculata* Four feeding near Liju.

Rufous-breasted Accentor *Prunella strophiate* Common near Liju.

Russet Sparrow *Passer cinnamomeus*

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*

Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis*

White Wagtail (Chinese W) *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis*

White Wagtail (Hodgson's W, Himalayan W) *Motacilla [alba] alboides*

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*

Rosy Pipit *Anthus roseatus*

Scarlet Finch ◊ *Carpodacus sipahi* Three alighted in open trees along the Hotspring Loop, Baihualing.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Sharpe's Rosefinch ◊ *Carpodacus verreauxii* Endemic. A handful in the Liju area.

Vinaceous Rosefinch *Carpodacus vinaceus* A female fed in front of a hide at Baihualing.

Crimson-browed Finch ♦ *Carpodacus subhimachalus* A dozen in track-side bushes near Liju.

Grey-headed Bullfinch ♦ *Pyrrhula erythaca* Eight near Liju.

Black-headed Greenfinch ♦ *Chloris ambigua*

Yellow-throated Bunting ♦ *Emberiza elegans* 12 in small fields near Liju. Lovely birds.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

Godlewski's Bunting ♦ *Emberiza godlewskii*

MAMMALS

Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula*

Northern Treeshrew *Tupaia belangeri*

Northern Red Muntjac *Muntiacus vaginalis* Heard-only.

Rhesus Macaque *Macaca mulatta*

Pallas's Squirrel (Rufous-bellied Tree S) *Callosciurus erythraeus*

Anderson's Squirrel (Stripe-bellied S) *Callosciurus quinquestriatus* Near-endemic. 2 at Nongbenghe-Shiti.

Red-hipped Squirrel *Dremomys pyrrhomerus* Endemic. Several seen nicely on Hainan.

Asian Red-cheeked Squirrel *Dremomys rufigenis* A few at Nonggang and Baihualing.

Black Giant Squirrel *Ratufa bicolor*

Maritime Striped Squirrel *Tamiops maritimus* Small numbers at Jianfengling.

Himalayan Striped Squirrel *Tamiops mcclllandii* Several in W Yunnan.

Swinhoe's Striped Squirrel *Tamiops swinhoei* Endemic. Heard-only. Near Liju.

BUTTERFLIES

Chinese Windmill *Byasa confusa* Nonggang.

Great Windmill *Byasa dasarada* Yunnan.

Green Dragontail *Lamproptera meges* Nonggang.

Lesser Gull *Cepora nadina* Hainan.

Red-based Jezebel *Delias pasithoe* Nonggang.

One-spot Grass Yellow *Eurema andersoni* Nonggang.

Lesser Brimstone *Gonepteryx aspasia* Yunnan.

Indian Cabbage White *Pieris canidia* Nonggang.

Asian Green-veined White *Pieris melete* Nonggang.

Spotted Sawtooth *Prioneris thestylis* Nonggang.

Yellow Orange Tip *Ixias pyrene* Nonggang.
Punchinello *Zemeros flegyas* Nonggang.
Straight Pierrot *Caleta roxus* Nonggang.
Gram Blue *Euchrysops cnejus* Hainan.
Common Cerulean *Jamides celeno* Nonggang.
Pale Grass Blue *Pseudozizeeria maha* Yunnan.
Slate Flash *Rapala manea* Nonggang.
Lesser Grass Blue *Zizina otis* Hainan.
Angled Red Forester *Lethe chandica* Hainan.
Common Evening Brown *Melanitis leda* Nonggang.
Dark Evening Brown *Melanitis phedima* Nonggang.
Commander *Moduza procris* Nonggang.
South China Bushbrown *Mycalesis mucianus* Nonggang.
Glassy Tiger *Parantica aglea* Yunnan.
Black Prince *Rohana parisatis* Nonggang.
Popinjay *Stibochiona nicea* Yunnan.
Common Jester *Symbrenthia lilaea* Nonggang.
Common Five-Ring *Ypthima baldus* Hainan.
Yellow Banded Awl *Hasora schoenherr* Yunnan.

DRAGONFLIES

Yellow Featherlegs *Copera marginipes* Hainan.
Russet Percher *Neurothemis fulvia* Hainan.

PLANTS

Hainan Galangal *Alpinia hainanensis* Hainan.
Hairy Ginger-Lily *Hedychium villosum* Yunnan.
Chinese Quince *Chaenomeles speciosa* Yunnan.
Hairy White-Wand *Leucosceptrum canum* Yunnan.
Centipede Grass Orchid *Zeuxine strateumatica* Salween R., Yunnan