



EASTERN CHINA IN WINTER TOUR REPORT 2026

11 - 26 January 2026

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Does our Eastern China in Winter itinerary deliver the largest number of encounters with very spectacular birds of any Asian bird tour? I think it does! If you are in any doubt, just take a look at the Top Birds of the 2026 tour. Not only an amazing list of magnificent birds, but every single one seen up close and personal! I only need to list those great birds to make my point: Cabot's Tragopan, Reeves's and Elliot's Pheasants, Brown Eared Pheasant, Siberian and White-naped Cranes, White-eared Night Heron, Scaly-sided Merganser, Crested Ibis, Relict Gull, Reed Parrotbill and the lovely 'Chinese' Long-tailed Rosefinch. And then there was the supporting cast of sought-after birds including Taiga Bean, Tundra Bean, Swan and Lesser White-fronted Geese, Baer's Pochard, Hooded Crane, Great Bustard, Oriental Stork, Long-billed Plover, Saunders's Gull, Chinese Barbet, Pied Falconet, Chinese Grey and Bull-headed Shrikes, Collared Crow, Marsh Grassbird, Chinese Penduline Tit, Japanese Waxwing, Red-throated, Naumann's, Dusky and Grey-backed Thrushes, Siberian Accentor, Japanese Grosbeak, Pallas's and Chinese Beautiful Rosefinches, Asian Rosy Finch, and Ochre-rumped, Pallas's Reed, Yellow-browed and Tristram's Buntings. And I have not even included all the specialities of this remarkable tour, as there are so many!

We had planned to head off directly to the coast, but with a waxwing invasion going on, there was no option but to head into the city of Beijing and visit Beihai Park. This proved a great move, with no fewer than 60 Japanese Waxwings and an unexpected bonus of 30 Bohemian Waxwings! We also had the chance to start off our East Asian specialities list with a bang, finding the smart Azure-winged Magpie, Oriental Magpie, Light-vented Bulbul, Red-billed and White-cheeked Starlings, Chinese Blackbird, wintering Red-throated and Naumann's Thrushes, Chinese Grosbeak and Oriental Greenfinch. A glorious assemblage of 80 Mandarin Ducks added to the enjoyment.

From Beijing, we headed off to explore the coast and wetlands at the Gulf of Bohai, not far to the southeast of Beijing. Here, our major targets were two very special gulls: the localised Saunders's Gull, which breeds along the east coast of China (and rarely in Korea), and the poorly-known Relict Gull, a bird that nests in just a few places from western Kazakhstan to Mongolia and northern China, and which winters along the coastline of northeast China. We enjoyed great encounters with both, finding a total of 110 Saunders's Gulls and no fewer than 430 Relict Gulls! Small numbers of Pallas's, Vega and Mongolian Gulls added to the interest.

The coastal wetlands, reedbeds and fields hosted large numbers of Tundra Bean Geese, Eastern Spot-billed Ducks and Common Cranes, as well as plenty of beautiful Smew, Eurasian Bittern, the very impressive Reed Parrotbill and both Pallas's Reed and Ochre-rumped (or Japanese Reed) Buntings. One area of fields held many hundreds of 'Oriental' Rooks and Daurian Jackdaws, as well as a wintering Upland Buzzard.

From the coast, in dramatic contrast, we headed into the partly forested mountains situated to the west of the capital. Our first excursion, at Yangtai Shan, was very productive, turning up Silver-throated Bushtit, Beijing Babbler, Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Plain (or Pere David's) Laughingthrush, Chinese (or Snowy-browed) Nuthatch, plenty of wintering Siberian Accentors, Alpine Accentor, Meadow and Godlewski's Buntings, and best of all, no fewer than 30 wintering Pallas's Rosefinches!

Next we visited Lingshan, one of the highest mountains in the region. There was not too much snow around, so most of us opted to climb up onto the mountain, our goal the pretty Asian Rosy Finch. We were not disappointed, eventually finding a flock of nine, while some of the group managed to see some Hill Pigeons and all of us enjoyed the beautiful 'Chinese' Long-tailed Rosefinches. During the afternoon we explored an area of fallow fields where a single Great Bustard was a surprise turn-up, and we also encountered another Upland Buzzard, a Chinese Grey Shrike and a lone Pine Bunting that soon made its getaway. A flock of Whooper Swans at a small lake were a bonus.

From Beijing we took the first of a number of high-speed train rides we were to experience during our journey through eastern China. China already has around 50,000 kilometres (30,000 miles) of high-speed tracks (here in Britain we still have none, which makes you think about how that could be possible). In what seemed no time flat, we were whisked at speeds of up to 300 kms per hour (around 180 mph) to Shanxi province and on our way up into the mountains, a journey that would have taken all day just 20 years ago!

By mid-afternoon we were already at a famous Brown Eared Pheasant hide (or blind) in the coniferous forest and waiting with great excitement for the birds to appear. As is often the case at China's many bird hides, the owner called out to the birds as if he was calling in some errant chickens (indeed, the Chinese name for pheasant equates to 'wild chicken'). At first nothing happened, but then he told us they were coming and we got ready. There they were, seven of these huge pheasants strutting around and showing off their magnificence. Most of us had cameras with us, and we were soon shooting away when the owner told us we could leave the hide and approach the pheasants as long as we moved slowly. And so we did, until we were just a few metres away from these extraordinary birds! How amazing this was. The birds wandered around, sometimes jumping up on rocks or low branches. One bird even displayed. They were almost fearless, continuing to feed even when we shuffled around to get a new angle. After what seemed an age, they headed back into the forest, and our magic encounter was over. It was time to enjoy a great Chinese meal back at our cosy and hospitable guesthouse.

After a frustrating session trying to see, as opposed to hear, some unusually shy Himalayan Owls, we enjoyed some noisy Southern Nutcrackers as well as a pair of Grey-headed Bullfinches and some Little Buntings and smart Yellow-throated Buntings. Then it was time to head back to the high-speed rail line and head south to Xinyang in southern Henan province.

Dongzhai National Nature Reserve and its surroundings, which straddle the Henan/Hubei border, are famous as an important locality for both the rare and endangered Crested Ibis and the declining Reeves's Pheasant.

During our time in the area, we visited two different pheasant hides in the forested hill country. The first one turned up a couple of females, which were pleasant to see but lacked the star quality of the male. The second hide turned up trumps, however, with not just another two females but a superb male with an incredibly long tail (they can be up to two metres long). We were surprised to watch it displaying ardently to one of the females, quivering with passion as it fluffed out its beautiful body feathers and spread out its glorious tail, even though it was still only January!

The other major highlight was visiting a hide specially positioned at a pool frequented by Crested Ibis. It was great to be so close to this still rare bird, but one that is now steadily increasing thanks to much-reduced persecution and reintroductions. The adults were a creamy

white colour, the young birds pale grey, but in flight the salmon-coloured underwing coverts created a striking contrast. It was fun to watch them hunting for small fish in the shallows, raising their crests whenever they became excited, and sometimes chasing off Little Egrets that muscled in on their territory. Big Crested Kingfishers were also regular visitors to the pool.

We also found plenty of other good birds during our visit, most notably many Yellow-browed Buntings. Central China in winter is just about the only accessible area for seeing this migrant that breeds in Central Siberia. Other notable finds included numerous Collared Crows (now an increasingly rare bird in much of China), flocks of Yellow-bellied Tits and Japanese Grosbeaks, Bull-headed Shrike, Collared Finchbill, Brown-breasted and Chestnut Bulbuls, Masked Laughingthrush, Chinese Hwamei, and both Dusky and Grey-backed Thrushes.

We stopped off in the Jiujiang area on our way south to famous Poyang Hu (Poyang Lake), primarily to see the rare and endangered Baer's Pochard. A concentration of 90 had been seen just a couple of days earlier, but despite much searching, they seemed to have moved temporarily, so we had to make do with decent views of a small number of individuals. Huge numbers of Tundra Swans, geese, and ducks were present, including over 4000 Falcated Ducks, and a single Black-faced Spoonbill flying with a Eurasian Spoonbill was very unexpected so far inland. We also came across our first White-browed Laughingthrushes and Siberian Pipits.

By the time we reached the vast Poyang wetland complex, the weather had turned much windier and colder; indeed, this was to be the coldest of my many visits. With light breezes, sunshine and a southerly airflow, it can be very mild at Poyang even in mid-winter, but not this time with a big cold front arriving. Low grey clouds and a biting wind persisted during our first couple of days, although by our third day things were rapidly improving with sunshine and blue skies replacing the grey murk.

Poyang is all about sheer numbers of birds plus its status as the last remaining haunt of the beautiful but endangered Siberian Crane. We explored a series of areas around the western and southern shores during our visit and came across many thousands of waterbirds. Flocks of geese, both large and small, were everywhere we went. The endangered Swan Goose and Tundra Bean Goose were the most numerous: we had many thousands of each. Taiga Bean Geese were also numerous, and there were smaller numbers of Greylag and Greater White-fronted Geese. A lot of painstaking searching finally turned up around 30 rare Lesser White-fronted Geese on our final day. Tundra Swans were everywhere and in large numbers, but ducks, while comprising many species, were generally not as numerous. Great Cormorants and Eurasian Spoonbills were present in large numbers.

The Siberian Cranes 'stole the show', needless to say. We had up to 1100 each day, and estimated we had recorded over 2000 in total by the end of our visit, after allowing for potential overlap. Their beautiful cries echoed across the wild 'wastelands' of Poyang, and one can only hope this last population on Earth continues to survive. Certainly, the Chinese authorities and conservationists have worked hard to protect their environment for the future. In recent years, an extensive feeding station has been developed for the cranes and, naturally, as the views that can be obtained are very close and simply stunning, we paid it a visit. Over a thousand Siberian Cranes were present, alongside large numbers of Swan Geese and both bean geese. The area is very well laid out, with walkways and low-level hides. It is extraordinary how close the cranes come, just a few metres away at times, and we all enjoyed the amazing spectacle.

The number of other crane species in the Poyang region is much lower, however. Our maximum daily count for the elegant White-naped Cranes was 104, while for Hooded Cranes it was 43. The striking Oriental Stork was significantly fewer in number at Poyang than the Siberian Crane even two decades ago, but it seems to be increasing, with our group recording up to 2100 in a single day and probably around 3000 individuals in total.

Other birds of note included Black Stork, Greater Spotted Eagle, a series of Brown Crakes, Greater Painted-snipe, three Long-billed Plovers, Chinese Penduline Tit, Marsh Grassbird, 'Amur' Stonechat and Chestnut-eared Bunting. Mammals were inconspicuous, as always, but we had really close views of Chinese Water Deer and could even see its small 'tusks'.

From Poyang Hu we headed eastward to the town of Wuyuan, set amidst attractive partly forested country in eastern Jiangxi province and famous for its wintering Scaly-sided Mergansers.

Yet another great bird hide featured in our quest to see Scaly-sided Mergansers up close, this time, naturally enough, by the edge of a wide river with gravel islands. Here we waited for the mergansers to come close. Ten individuals could be counted from the hide, and before long the first individuals had steamed up close in front of the hide and had started to fish. The weather was perfect! Hardly any wind and hazy sunshine. I had seen many Scaly-sided Mergansers before, but nothing like this. Just a few metres away, their plumage glowing in the late afternoon sun and water droplets scattered across their heads after every shallow dive. Every so often one caught a small fish, and it was fun to watch them struggling to gulp it down before a rival merganser or an opportunistic Little Egret stole it from

them! We couldn't get enough of this spectacle, but after a time the mergansers drifted away, and it was time to leave.

Visiting Wuyuan is not just about mergansers, however, so we spent some time exploring the partly wooded valleys in the area. Most notably, a traditional site for the rare and localised Pied Falconet. It was great fun to watch these tiny falcons emerge from their communal roost hole in a large tree, although we ended up going back in the late afternoon to successfully watch them perching in treetops in the local area before swooping down to their roosting hole and disappearing. Three species of forktail, Slaty-backed, White-crowned and even Little, inhabited the nearby river. Elsewhere we came across a magnificent Black Eagle, a group of Chinese Bamboo Partridges, and the endemic Grey-sided Scimitar Babbler and Huet's Fulvetta.

The last province on our itinerary from north to south was Fujian in southeast China, and it was to prove one of the most memorable.

Lishan has long been famous for its beautiful Cabot's Tragopans, and we were all hoping for a close encounter as we climbed high on the mountain before a short but steep hike up to the hide. We waited for some time, watching the sun descending into the west and enjoying the antics of the Pallas's Squirrels and tiny Maritime Striped Squirrels that jumped from the trees to the rocks and helped themselves to the hide owner's supplies of grain.

Then, all of a sudden, tragopans appeared, but not the hoped-for adult male! First a young male with darker plumage and red areas showing on its head, and then two attractive females with very cryptic and intricate grey, buff and white plumage. And finally, in all its creamy glory, a male emerged from the forest and started to feed right in front of us! Over the course of the next 50 minutes or so, it showed us every angle of its glorious body, from its dark tail to its red facial wattle. Sometimes the cylindrical blue 'horns' above its eyes revealed themselves. As the sun began to set, the light turned a lovely orange-yellow and the male tragopan simply glowed, as if it was experiencing some inner illumination. What an amazing end to the day!

Other finds at Lishan paled in comparison to this spectacle, but included the localised endemic Chinese Barbet, the near-endemic Fork-tailed Sunbird and some Tristram's Buntings that skedaddled before most could see them (sometimes they come to the tragopan hide to feed, but not this time).

Our last port of call was the hill country of Mingxi district, where we were hoping for an encounter with the lovely but shy Elliot's Pheasant. But before we took our chance at the inevitable hide, we had something else that was very important to try for. In just the last year, it had been discovered that the rare and endangered White-eared Night Heron was wintering and perhaps nesting at a lake in the district, so we decided to try for an encounter by taking a nocturnal boat trip. After dinner, we set out, our local guide armed with a thermal imager. And indeed, we had barely been ten minutes into the trip before the first White-eared Night Heron was sighted. We enjoyed wonderful close views of this rarity, which is one of the most sought-after Asian birds, and then, after it flew away, several more close sightings. There was some controversy over the number involved; was it one or two adult individuals? Hard to say, as not every encounter resulted in checkable photos. Either way, it was an amazing encounter! Oh yes, and I must not forget to mention the Red Giant Flying Squirrels and the Reeves's Muntjac that both added to the experience.

The next morning we were out at the Elliot's Pheasant hide quite early. Perhaps too early, as it took a bit of time before a female descended a steep slope among the giant bamboos and then fed right in front of us. Before long, a stunning male joined her. It was so very beautiful, with its strong patterning and great combination of colours, that it was voted the second-best bird of the tour, coming in just behind Cabot's Tragopan in the number one slot!

Before leaving, we did try unsuccessfully along the local river for a Blyth's Kingfisher, but for most of the year the birds wander over long distances. Our final new birds included Rufous-faced Warbler, White-bellied Erpornis and a few lowland extras as we passed through Fuzhou city on our way to the airport. What a truly great birding experience it had been!

SPECIES VOTED THE TOP BIRDS OF THIS EXTRAORDINARY TOUR

(We had to go for a full 'Top 10' as there were too many superb candidates)

1st CABOT'S TRAGOPAN
2nd ELLIOT'S PHEASANT
3rd SIBERIAN CRANE
4th REEVES'S PHEASANT
5th WHITE-EARED NIGHT HERON
6th SCALY-SIDED MERGANSER
7th BROWN EARED PHEASANT
8th CRESTED IBIS
9th= RELICT GULL
9th= WHITE-NAPED CRANE
9th= REED PARROTBILL
9th= 'CHINESE' LONG-TAILED ROSEFINCH

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' for some other reason, including being seen on only a few tours.

BIRDS

Tundra Swan ◊ (Bewick's Swan) *Cygnus [columbianus] bewickii*

Whooper Swan ◊ *Cygnus cygnus*

Bar-headed Goose ◊ *Anser indicus*

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

Swan Goose ◊ *Anser cygnoides*

Lesser White-fronted Goose ◊ *Anser erythropus*

Greater White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

Tundra Bean Goose ◊ *Anser serrirostris*

Taiga Bean Goose ◊ *Anser fabalis*

Mandarin Duck ◊ *Aix galericulata*

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

Smew ♦ *Mergellus albellus*

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

Scaly-sided Merganser ♦ *Mergus squamatus*

Common Merganser (or Goosander) *Mergus merganser*

Ferruginous Duck (or Ferruginous Pochard) *Aythya nyroca*

Baer's Pochard ♦ *Aythya baeri*

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina*

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

Greater Scaup *Aythya marila*

Northern Shoveler *Spatula clypeata*

Falcated Duck ♦ *Mareca falcata*

Gadwall *Mareca strepera*

Eurasian Wigeon *Mareca penelope*

Eastern (or Chinese) Spot-billed Duck ♦ *Anas zonorhyncha*

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*

Green-winged (or Common) Teal *Anas crecca*

White-necklaced Partridge ♦ *Arborophila gingica* (heard only)

Cabot's Tragopan ♦ *Tragopan caboti*

Reeves's Pheasant ♦ *Syrnaticus reevesii*

Elliot's Pheasant ♦ *Syrnaticus ellioti*

Common (or Ring-necked) Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

Brown Eared Pheasant ♦ *Crossoptilon mantchuricum*

Chinese Bamboo Partridge ♦ *Bambusicola thoracicus*

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

Black-necked (or Eared) Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Great Bustard ♦ *Otis tarda*

Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis*

Oriental (or Rufous) Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis*

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Hill Pigeon ♦ *Columba rupestris*

Rock Dove (introduced) (Feral Pigeon) *Columba [livia] var_domestica*

Siberian Crane ♦ *Leucogeranus leucogeranus*

White-naped Crane ♦ *Antigone vipio*

Common Crane *Grus grus*

Hooded Crane ♦ *Grus monacha*

Brown-cheeked (or Eastern Water) Rail ♦ *Rallus indicus* (heard only)

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

Brown Crake ♦ *Zapornia akool*

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

Grey (or Black-bellied) Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Long-billed Plover ♦ *Thinornis placidus*

Little Ringed Plover *Thinornis dubius*

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

Kentish Plover *Anarhynchus alexandrinus*

Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula benghalensis*

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*

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

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Ruff *Calidris pugnax*

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

Saunders's Gull ♦ *Saundersilarus saundersi*

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

Pallas's (or Great Black-headed) Gull ♦ *Larus ichthyæetus*

Relict Gull ♦ *Ichthyæetus relictus*

Common Gull ♦ *Larus canus*

Vega (or East Siberian)Gull ♦ *Larus vegæ*

Mongolian Gull ♦ *Larus mongolicus*

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*

Oriental Stork ♦ *Ciconia boyciana*

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Crested Ibis ♦ *Nipponia nippon*

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

Eurasian Spoonbill ♦ *Platalea minor*

Eurasian (or Great) Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

White-eared Night Heron ♦ *Oroanassa magnifica*

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

Great Egret (Eastern Great Egret) *Ardea [alba] modesta*

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*

Collared Owlet *Taenioptynx brodiei*

Little Owl *Athene noctua*

Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides*

Himalayan (Wood) Owl *Strix niviculum* (heard only)

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*

Mountain Hawk-Eagle *Nisaetus nipalensis*

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malaiensis*

Greater Spotted Eagle *Clanga clanga*

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Eurasian Goshawk *Astur gentilis*

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus*

Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus*

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

Rough-legged Buzzard ♦ *Buteo lagopus*

Upland Buzzard ♦ *Buteo hemilasius* (Edward only)

Eastern (or Japanese) Buzzard *Buteo [japonicus] japonicus*

Common Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Crested Kingfisher *Megaceryle lugubris*

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*

Great Barbet *Psilopogon virens*

Chinese Barbet ♦ *Psilopogon faber*

Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus*

Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* (heard only)

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Yungipicus canicapillus*

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

Pied Falconet ♦ *Microhierax melanoleucos*

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Merlin *Falco columbarius*

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

White-bellied Erpornis *Erpylognathus zantholeuca*

Chinese Grey Shrike ♦ *Lanius sphenocercus*

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*

Bull-headed Shrike ♦ *Lanius bucephalus*

Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae*

Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythroryncha*

(Asian) Azure-winged Magpie ♦ *Cyanopica cyanus*

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

Oriental Magpie ♦ *Pica serica*

Southern Nutcracker *Nucifraga hemispila*

Daurian Jackdaw ♦ *Coloeus dauuricus*

Rook ♦ (Oriental Rook) *Corvus [frugilegus] pastinator*

Collared Crow ♦ *Corvus torquatus*

Carrion Crow (Oriental Crow) *Corvus [corone] orientalis*

Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos*

Chinese Penduline Tit ♦ *Remiz consobrinus*

Cinereous (or Asian) Tit *Parus cinereus*

Yellow-bellied Tit ♦ *Periparus venustulus*

Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

Marsh Tit *Poecile palustris*

Willow Tit ♦ *Poecile montanus*

Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula*

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris*

Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata*

Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*

Zitting Cisticola (Double Zitting Cisticola) *Cisticola [juncidis] tinnabulans*

Marsh Grassbird ♦ (or Japanese Swamp Warbler, Japanese Marsh Warbler) *Helopsaltes pryeri*

Silver-throated Bushtit ♦ *Aegithalos glaucogularis*

Black-throated Bushtit *Aegithalos concinnus*

Rufous-faced Warbler *Abroscopus albogularis*

Brown-flanked Bush Warbler ♦ *Horornis fortipes*

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Pallas's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus*

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

Collared Finchbill ♦ *Spizixos semitorques*

Brown-breasted Bulbul ♦ *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*

Light-vented (or Chinese) Bulbul ♦ *Pycnonotus sinensis*

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

Sooty-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus aurigaster*

Chestnut Bulbul ♦ *Hemixos castanonotus*

Mountain Bulbul *Ixos mcclllandii*

Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*

Beijing Babbler ♦ *Rhopophilus pekinensis*

Reed Parrotbill ♦ *Paradoxornis heudei*

Vinous-throated Parrotbill ♦ *Suthora webbiana*

Indochinese (or Chestnut-collared) Yuhina *Staphida torqueola*

Swinhoe's White-eye *Zosterops simplex*

Rufous-capped Babbler *Cyanoderma ruficeps*

Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis*

Grey-sided Scimitar Babbler ♦ *Erythrogenys swinhoi*

Huet's Fulvetta ♦ *Alcippe hueti*

Chinese Hwamei ♦ *Garrulax canorus*

Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax monileger* (heard only)

Moustached Laughingthrush ♦ *Ianthocincla cineracea*

Black-throated Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus chinensis*

White-browed Laughingthrush ♦ *Pterorhinus sannio*

Masked Laughingthrush ♦ *Pterorhinus perspicillatus*

Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus pectoralis* (heard only)

Plain (or Pere David's) Laughingthrush ♦ *Pterorhinus davidi*

Japanese Waxwing ♦ *Bombycilla japonica*

Bohemian Waxwing ♦ *Bombycilla garrulus*

Chinese (or Snowy-browed) Nuthatch ♦ *Sitta villosa*

Eurasian Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*

Common (or Eurasian) Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Black-collared Starling *Gracupica nigricollis*

Red-billed Starling ♦ *Spodiopsar sericeus*

White-cheeked Starling ♦ *Spodiopsar cineraceus*

Crested Myna ♦ *Acridotheres cristatellus*

Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasii*

Chinese (or Mandarin) Blackbird ♦ *Turdus mandarinus*

Red-throated Thrush ♦ *Turdus ruficollis*

Naumann's Thrush ♦ *Turdus naumanni*

Dusky Thrush ♦ *Turdus eunomus*

Grey-backed Thrush ♦ *Turdus hortulorum*

Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis*

Little Forktail *Enicurus scouleri*

White-crowned Forktail *Enicurus leschenaulti*

Slaty-backed Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus*

(Northern) Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus*

Plumbeous Water Redstart *Phoenicurus fuliginosus*

Daurian Redstart *Phoenicurus aureus*

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*

Siberian Stonechat ♦ (Amur Stonechat) *Saxicola [maurus] stejnegeri*

Fork-tailed Sunbird ♦ *Aethopyga christinae*

Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii*

Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*

Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris*

Siberian Accentor ♦ *Prunella montanella*

Russet Sparrow *Passer cinnamomeus*

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*

Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis*

White Wagtail ♦ (East Siberian Wagtail) *Motacilla [alba] ocularis*

White Wagtail (Amur or Chinese Wagtail) *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis*

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*

Siberian Pipit ♦ *Anthus japonicus*

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

Brambling ♦ *Fringilla montifringilla*

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Chinese (or Yellow-billed) Grosbeak ♦ *Eophona migratoria*

Japanese Grosbeak ♦ *Eophona personata*

Chinese Beautiful Rosefinch ♦ *Carpodacus davidianus*

Long-tailed Rosefinch ♦ (Chinese Long-tailed Rosefinch) *Carpodacus [sibiricus] lepidus*

Pallas's Rosefinch ♦ *Carpodacus roseus*

Grey-headed Bullfinch ♦ *Pyrrhula erythaca*

Asian Rosy Finch ♦ *Leucosticte arctoa*

Oriental (or Grey-capped) Greenfinch ♦ *Chloris sinica*

Eurasian Siskin *Spinus spinus*

Yellow-throated Bunting ♦ *Emberiza elegans*

Ochre-rumped (or Japanese Reed) Bunting ♦ *Emberiza yessoensis*

Pallas's Reed Bunting ♦ *Emberiza pallasi*

Yellow-browed Bunting ♦ *Emberiza chrysophrys*

Tristram's Bunting ♦ *Emberiza tristrami*

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*

Chestnut-eared Bunting ♦ *Emberiza fucata*

Meadow Bunting ♦ *Emberiza cioides*

Godlewski's Bunting *Emberiza godlewskii*

Pine Bunting ♦ *Emberiza leucocephalos*

MAMMALS

Reeves's Muntjac *Muntiacus reevesi*

Eastern (or Siberian) Roe Deer *Capreolus pygargus*

Chinese Water Deer *Hydropotes inermis*

Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes*

Tolai Hare *Lepus tolai*

Pallas's (or Belly-banded) Squirrel *Callosciurus erythraeus*

Pere David's Rock Squirrel *Sciurotamias davidianus*

Maritime (or Formosan) Striped Squirrel *Tamias maritimus*

Red Giant Flying Squirrel *Petaurista petaurista*



Yellow-throated Bunting (image by Mark Beaman)



Yellow-browed Bunting (image by Mark Beaman)



White-naped Crane (image by Mark Beaman)



White-naped Crane immature (image by Mark Beaman)



White-eared Night Heron (image by Mark Beaman)



White-eared Night Heron (image by Mark Beaman)



White-eared Night Heron (image by Mark Beaman)



Tundra Bean Geese (image by Mark Beaman)



Taiga Bean Geese (image by Mark Beaman)



Taiga Bean Geese (image by Mark Beaman)



Swan Geese (image by Mark Beaman)



Swan Geese (image by Mark Beaman)



Slaty-backed Forktail (image by Mark Beaman)



Silver-throated Bushtit (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Pipit (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Cranes (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Cranes (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Cranes (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Crane (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Cranes (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Cranes (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Cranes (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Crane (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Crane (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Crane (image by Mark Beaman)



Siberian Accentor (image by Mark Beaman)



Scaly-sided Merganser female (image by Mark Beaman)



Scaly-sided Merganser female (image by Mark Beaman)



Scaly-sided Merganser (image by Mark Beaman)



Scaly-sided Merganser (image by Mark Beaman)



Saunders's Gull (image by Mark Beaman)



Saunders's Gull (image by Mark Beaman)



Relict Gulls (image by Mark Beaman)



Relict Gull immature (image by Mark Beaman)



Relict Gull (image by Mark Beaman)



Relict and Saunders's Gulls (image by Mark Beaman)



Reeves's Pheasants (image by Mark Beaman)



Reeves's Pheasants (image by Mark Beaman)



Reeves's Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Reed Parrotbill (image by Mark Beaman)



Reed Parrotbill (image by Mark Beaman)



Reed Parrotbill (image by Mark Beaman)



Red-throated Thrush female (image by Mark Beaman)



Part of the vast Poyang lake complex (image by Mark Beaman)



Pere David's Laughingthrush (image by Mark Beaman)



Pallas's Rosefinch female (image by Mark Beaman)



Pallas's Rosefinch (image by Mark Beaman)



Pallas's Reed Bunting (image by Mark Beaman)



Oriental Storks (image by Mark Beaman)



Oriental Stork (image by Mark Beaman)



Oriental Magpie (image by Mark Beaman)



Ochre-rumped Bunting (image by Mark Beaman)



Naumann's Thrush (image by Mark Beaman)



Mandarin Ducks (image by Mark Beaman)



Mandarin Ducks (image by Mark Beaman)



Mandarin Duck (image by Mark Beaman)



Long-billed Plover (image by Mark Beaman)



Little Forktail (image by Mark Beaman)



The ancient lighthouse at Poyang (image by Mark Beaman)



Light-vented Bulbuls (image by Mark Beaman)



Jiangxi hill country (image by Mark Beaman)



Japanese Waxwing (image by Mark Beaman)



Japanese Waxwing (image by Mark Beaman)



Hooded Cranes (image by Mark Beaman)



Grey-sided Scimitar Babbler (image by Mark Beaman)



Grey-headed Woodpecker (image by Mark Beaman)



Giant bamboos are everywhere in south China (image by Mark Beaman)



The impressive Elliot's Pheasant hide (image by Mark Beaman)



Elliot's Pheasant female (image by Mark Beaman)



Elliot's Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Elliot's Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Elliot's Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Eastern Greylag Geese (image by Mark Beaman)



Daurian Redstart (image by Mark Beaman)



Daurian Jackdaws (image by Mark Beaman)



Crested Kingfisher (image by Mark Beaman)



Crested Ibis (image by Mark Beaman)



Crested Ibis (image by Mark Beaman)



Crested Ibis (image by Mark Beaman)



Crested Ibis (image by Mark Beaman)



Collared Finchbill (image by Mark Beaman)



Collared Crow (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Water Deer (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Water Deer (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Penduline Tit (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Nuthatch (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Long-tailed Rosefinch (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Hwamei (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Grosbeaks (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Blackbird (image by Mark Beaman)



Chinese Beautiful Rosefinch (image by Mark Beaman)



Cabot's Tragopan immature male (image by Mark Beaman)



Cabot's Tragopan female (image by Mark Beaman)



Cabot's Tragopan (image by Mark Beaman)



Cabot's Tragopan (image by Mark Beaman)



Cabot's Tragopan (image by Mark Beaman)



Bull-headed Shrike (image by Mark Beaman)



Brown Eared Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Brown Eared Pheasants (image by Mark Beaman)



The Brown Eared Pheasant hide/blind (image by Mark Beaman)



Brown Eared Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Brown Eared Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Brown Eared Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Brown Eared Pheasant (image by Mark Beaman)



Brown Crake (image by Mark Beaman)



Bohemian Waxwing (image by Mark Beaman)



Bohemian Waxwing (image by Mark Beaman)



Bohemian Waxwing (image by Mark Beaman)



Black-faced Spoonbill (image by Mark Beaman)



The mountains west of Beijing (image by Mark Beaman)



Beijing Babbler (image by Mark Beaman)



Beihai Park, Beijing (image by Mark Beaman)



Azure-winged Magpie (image by Mark Beaman)



Asian Rosy Finch (image by Mark Beaman)



Alpine Accentor (image by Mark Beaman)



Pied Falconet (image by Inger Vandyke)