



INDONESIA'S LESSER SUNDAS TOUR REPORT 2026

5 - 23 August 2026

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Our latest Birdquest to Sumba, Timor, Rote, Flores and Komodo was another great success, with around 105 taxonomy-dependant Tenggara endemics amongst our huge trip total of 262 species. Some of the top highlights this year included Black and Eucalypt Cuckoo-Doves, Sumba and Flores Green Pigeons, Timor Imperial Pigeon, Banded and Red-naped Fruit Doves, Sumba Buttonquail, Timor and Mees's Nightjars, all nine owls, including the Sumba form of Eastern Barn Owl, and daytime views of Flores Scops Owl, the magnificent Flores Hawk-Eagle, Sumba Hornbill, White-rumped and Cinnamon-banded Kingfishers, Yellow- and Citron-crested Cockatoos, Jonquil Parrot, Sumba Eclectus, Wallace's Hanging Parrot, Iris, Olive-headed, Marigold and Leaf Lorikeets, excellent perched views of both Ornate and Elegant Pittas, 3 endemic myzomelas, 6 endemic honeyeaters, 6 potentially endemic Campephagids including Little Minivet and the little-known Timor Cicadabird, Timor Figbird, Timor Oriole, 5 endemic whistlers including the vocally well-endowed Bare-throated, 3 endemic fantails, 3 potentially endemic drongos, Tenggara Paradise Flycatcher, Flores Monarch, Flores Crow, amazing views of Buff-banded Thicketbird, Timor Stubtail, Russet-capped Tesia, 5 endemic Heleias, the Endangered Tenggara Hill Myna, Chestnut-capped, Chestnut-backed and Orange-sided Thrushes, Wallacean Island Thrush, 6 endemic flycatchers including the smart Black-banded, Flores Shortwing, White-bellied Bush Chat, all 7 endemic flowerpeckers (taxonomy-dependant), Apricot- and Flame-breasted Sunbirds, both Tricolored and the recently discovered Timor (or Mount Mutis) Parrotfinch (including adult males), and Timor Sparrow.

The tour began with an early morning group rendezvous at Denpasar Airport, where we were joined by local bird-guide Mas Untung, who was with us for the whole trip. In no time at all, we were on the ground in Tambolaka, north-west Sumba, being picked up by our cars, and were then on our way along forested sections of the main highway towards our simple accommodation at Lewa. This year we had three and a half days to find our many targets on Sumba. Early morning at a vantage point overlooking a forested valley was one of the

premier venues for the non-passerine specialities. Here we scoped marvellous Citron-crested Cockatoos and our only Sumba Eclectus, a female. Despite increasing traffic, there are still some very nice stretches of road running through extensive forests to the west of Lewa, and here we succeeded in finding the likes of Eucalypt Cuckoo-Dove, Red-naped Fruit Dove, Sumba Hornbill, Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher, many Marigold Lorikeets, Sumba Myzomela, Tenggara Paradise Flycatcher, the local form of Wallacean Cuckooshrike, Sumba (Tenggara) Whistler, Sumba Spangled (Wallacean) Drongo, Yellow-spectacled Heleia, Ashy-bellied White-eye, Sumba Brown, Sumba Jungle and Sumba Flycatchers, Sumba Flowerpecker, and Apricot-breasted Sunbird. A huge fruiting fig was attracting Sumba Green Pigeons, Chestnut-backed Thrush, and Tenggara (Thick-billed) Flowerpeckers. Our nocturnal activities were extensive. Great Sumba Boobook showed very easily on several occasions, but the sneaky Little Sumba Boobook was another matter. We eventually found a spot away from the road and succeeded in getting satisfactory views after much planning. The local form of Eastern Barn Owl (once considered a potentially distinct species) was seen hunting on the outskirts of Lewa. Our final day on Sumba was spent in the north-east of the island. Yumbu Grasslands was our first port of call, in search of Sumba Buttonquail. The second sweep was successful, and we ended up with several pretty good and close flight views of a pair. We moved on to Teluk Maujawa, a birdy coastal lagoon with fringing vegetation. A nice selection of shorebirds included a male Malaysian Plover, good numbers of Javan Plovers, a few Grey-tailed Tattlers, a couple of Great Knot, breeding Little Terns, and a very large loafing flock of Greater Crested Terns. A couple of Savanna Nightjars were flushed and we connected with a pair of Olive-backed Tailorbirds. A smart Spotted Harrier and large flocks of Pale-headed Munias were found in ricefields on the outskirts of Waingapu. In the afternoon we visited the freshwater wetlands of Menggitimbe. Wet areas were extensive this year, and we logged our first Wandering Whistling and Pacific Black Ducks, as well as a couple of Sunda Teal. Also of interest were several Dusky Moorhens, Australian (Purple) Swampheaven, Australian Reed Warbler, and 'Sunda' Zebra Finch.

The following morning, we had an early flight to Kupang in west Timor. After arrival, we had time for a few hours birding at a nearby coastal spot, before checking-in to our hotel. The best bird was a ridiculously showy Buff-banded Thicketbird, an endemic that often takes many attempts to see well. There were other endemics here too, with Drab Swiftlet, Timor Friarbird, Streak-breasted Honeyeater, Plain Gerygone, Timor (Northern) Fantail, White-bellied Bush Chat and Red-chested Flowerpecker, as well as Rose-crowned Fruit Dove, Barred Dove, Rainbow Bee-eater, Brown Honeyeater, Supertramp Fantail, and Broad-billed Flycatcher. In the afternoon we visited Bipolo Fishponds. Starting in the nearby dry ricefields, we were excited to spot a dozen Oriental Plovers and, moving to an area closer to the forest edge, we found good flocks of munias, including Five-coloured, amongst which were at least 40-50 excellent Timor Sparrows. The fishponds themselves produced small numbers of Far Eastern Curlew and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, as well as loads of Red-capped Plovers, and a single Australian Tern.

The neighbouring island of Rote was our destination the next morning, as we made our way to the ferry port. After a smooth journey of around two hours, we were picked up by our cars, dropped luggage at our hotel, and headed off to begin our explorations. This year we had a day and a half to track down our targets, and this proved sufficient. Almost all of our birding was done in the general vicinity of Lake Sotimori, in the north-east of the island. The strict endemics, Rote Boobook, Rote Myzomela, Rote (Northern) Fantail and Rote Leaf Warbler were easily and quickly found. The remainder of our time was spent front-loading species that are endemic to the Timor region (including Rote), in the form of Black Cuckoo-Dove, Banded Fruit Dove, Pink-headed Imperial Pigeon, Yellow-crested Cockatoo (heard-only), Jonquil Parrot, Timor (Wallacean) Cuckooshrike, Fawn-breasted Whistler, Green Figbird, Timor Oriole, Timor Stubtail, Orange-sided Thrush, Timor Blue Flycatcher, and Flame-breasted Sunbird. Lake Sotimori itself was good this time, with significant numbers of Green Pygmy Goose, Hardhead, and Royal Spoonbill, as well as a couple each of Australian Pelican and Australasian Darter. Other good birds on Rote included Pacific Emerald Dove, Sunda Cuckoo, Pacific Koel, and impressive gatherings of Brown Boobies, Bridled and Black-naped Terns offshore.

After taking a morning fast ferry back to Kupang, we drove inland and up to the small town of Soe. The afternoon was spent at nearby Oelnasi, an area of monsoon forest 15km back towards Kupang. It wasn't long before we heard the distinctive wolf-whistle of a Timor Cuckoo-Dove but unfortunately, this species was to prove extremely elusive over the next few days, with only fleeting flight views and brief perched views by the guides. We concluded that they were breeding at this time, rendering them shy and unresponsive. We did find many other important targets however, during several visits to this site: Great views of the recently described Timor Nightjar as well as Timor Boobook, Black-breasted Myzomela, Timor Heleia, Black-banded Flycatcher, and Tricoloured Parrotfinch to name a few. Perhaps our greatest success was locating a pair of the recently split Timor Cicadabird, a shy and little known species.

West Timor's highest mountain, Gunung Mutis was our next port of call, as we left in the dark in our 4-wheel drive vehicle. A quick sortie around the trailhead area brought great views of the local form of Pygmy Cupwing, and our first looks at the Timor form of Wallacean

Island Thrush. Moving down to Fatumnasi, we explored the lower montane levels after breakfast. We focussed hard on parrotfinches, and our patience paid off, with good looks at red-eared males of the recently discovered Timor (or Mount Mutis) Parrotfinch, as well as the more widespread Tricoloured. We also added Flame-eared Honeyeater, Timor Leaf Warbler and, while we ate lunch, a pair of Timor Flowerpeckers, another recent split, performed admirably.

We left early on our final morning in the highlands and, after a couple of hours driving, reached the lower slopes of Gunung Timau. The lovely peaceful Eucalypt forests here were full of birds at dawn, and we enjoyed great views of the elusive Timor Imperial Pigeon, both Iris and Olive-headed Lorikeets, Timor (Tenggara) Whistler, and Timor Spangled (Wallacean) Drongo. We continued on to Kupang after lunch.

After a short early morning flight the next day, we were in Ruteng, Flores. From the airport, we headed south-east to Borong on the south coast. A short break in the highlands at Danau Ranamese brought our first endemics, in the form of Little Minivet, Bima (Tenggara) Whistler, Flores Spangled (Wallacean) Drongo, Flores (Ashy-bellied) White-eye, Flores Jungle Flycatcher, and Golden-rumped Flowerpecker. Borong was our base for exploring the remaining forest at Kisol and Gunung Pacandeki. The big draw here is the Endangered Flores Hawk-Eagle, and thankfully this year we were treated to a lengthy and very satisfying encounter. Ashutosh picked the bird up distantly off the flank of the mountain, but it eventually came much closer, vocalised and performed partial display, and landed in trees at close and briefly very close range. Other highlights at Kisol were Metallic Pigeon, a male Tenggara (Variable) Goshawk, the striking White-rumped Kingfisher, a very obliging Ornate Pitta, quite a number of crazy Flores Crows, Russet-capped Tesia, and Black-fronted Flowerpecker. Nocturnal activities were highlighted by Mees's Nightjar and Moluccan Scops Owl, while our concerted efforts to connect with the tricky Wallace's Scops Owl remained unfulfilled.

We moved on to our hotel in Ruteng, and began our montane birding activities. Extensive forests and other habitats each side of Golo Lusang provided our primary area of focus. The dawn chorus of Bare-throated Whistlers was as impressive as ever, and several of these skulkers were seen well. Huge fig trees attracted two smart male Wallace's Hanging Parrots, and we experienced a superb double-whammy on our first evening's owling, with both Flores and Wallace's Scops Owls seen well (the former was later to be seen at a day-roost also). Other specialities that we found at Golo Lusang were flyby Parzudaki's (Ruddy) Cuckoo-Doves and Leaf Lorikeets, Sunda Honeyeater, Brown-capped Fantail, Eyebrowed and Flores Heleias, Flores (Timor) Leaf Warbler, Yellow-breasted Warbler, a male Flores Shortwing, and several recently split Flores Flowerpeckers. At a somewhat lower elevation, a morning along the Pagal to Gapong road brought us close views of a perched male Flores Green Pigeon, and we also added Crested Heleias.

There was another early start the next morning, as we travelled west for a dawn visit to Puarlolo, in search of the endemic Flores Monarch. The monarch performed well again this year, in two different spots, and it was nice to be able to observe them feeding unperturbed. Several Chestnut-capped Thrushes also showed well, along with a single Chestnut-backed. Further along the highway at a regular spot for feeding Leaf Lorikeets, we succeeded in getting scope views of this scarce endemic, while an additional stop produced a pair of the Endangered and much wanted Tenggara Hill Myna, the female of which was carrying a Boschma's Flying Dragon! Continuing on to Labuan Bajo we had lunch and checked-in to our comfortable hotel. The afternoon was spent along the Potawangka Road, where four Great-billed Parrots were the highlight.

On our last day in the Lesser Sundas we made the journey to Komodo National Park. We boarded our boat at dawn and were already on the island after an hour and a half. A surprisingly confiding Great-billed Heron greeted us as we walked down the jetty. After being allotted our park guide, we were soon staring at several enormous Komodo Dragons, and a walk through the dry woodlands enabled us to get great views of Orange-footed Scrubfowl and Green Junglefowl, as well as Komodo's most important bird, the Critically Endangered Yellow-crested Cockatoo. Other good birds included a couple of tame Sunda Collared Doves, Pied Imperial Pigeon, and Lemon-bellied White-eye. Heading back to Labuan Bajo with our eyes glued to the sea, we had some stunning close views of Bulwer's Petrels, as well as a pod of Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphins. After lunch at our hotel we travelled inland towards Puarlolo and took a forest trail. Dark-backed Imperial Pigeon was the main target, and gave great scope views. Ken spotted another pair of Tenggara Hill Mynas.

Our last birding of the tour was a leisurely look at Labuan Bajo Fishponds. Cerulean Kingfisher was a nice addition to the trip list, and we got our best views of Black-faced Munias. A selection of other birds rounded-off the trip nicely for us, before we all headed off to the airport and went our separate ways.

BIRDS OF THE TOUR

1st Flores Hawk-Eagle

2nd Sumba Eclectus

3rd Tenggara Hill Myna

4rd Ornate Pitta

5th Flores Scops Owl

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

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).

The species names and taxonomy used in the bird list follows **AviList v2025** (AviList Core Team 2025. *AviList: The Global Avian Checklist, v2025*); this was the current version when the checklist for the tour report was created.

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

The species names and taxonomy used in the mammal list follow the mammal list on the iGoTerra website (www.igoterra.com). This list largely follows IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) taxonomy with just a few modifications. It is listed in family order, alphabetically by genera within families. Some alternative names are given in parentheses.

BIRDS

Wandering Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata* 12 at Menggitimbe, Sumba and 100 at Lake Sotimori, Rote.

Green Pygmy Goose *Nettapus pulchellus* c.10 at Lake Sotimori.

Hardhead *Aythya australis* At least 14 at Lake Sotimori.

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

Sunda Teal ◊ *Anas gibberifrons* 2 at Menggitimbe, 10 at Bipolo Fishponds, Timor, and 9 at Labuan Bajo Fishponds.

Orange-footed Scrubfowl ◊ *Megapodius reinwardt* Best seen as usual on Komodo.

Green Junglefowl ◊ *Gallus varius* Ditto.

Red Junglefowl (introduced) *Gallus gallus* Heard-only. Timor.

Brown Quail *Synoicus ypsilophorus pallidior* Three flushed on Sumba.

Little Grebe (Tricolored G) ◊ *Tachybaptus [ruficollis] tricolor*

Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis*

Pacific Koel *Eudynamis orientalis* Many heard, but just one seen on Rote.

Little Bronze Cuckoo ◊ [Gould's B C] *Chrysococcyx [minutillus] russatus* Endemic. Seen well on Timor & Flores.

Sunda Brush Cuckoo (Rusty-breasted C) *Cacomantis sepulcralis*

Sahul Brush Cuckoo (Australian B C) *Cacomantis variolosus*

Sunda Cuckoo ◊ *Cuculus lepidus* First seen on Rote, then later on Flores.

Black Cuckoo-Dove ◊ (Slaty C-D) *Turacoena modesta* Endemic. At least six seen on Rote & Timor; others heard.

Barred Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia unchall unchall* A couple near Ruteng, including a recently fledged juvenile.

Timor Cuckoo-Dove ◊ (Barred-necked C-D) *Macropygia magna* Endemic. Several at Oelnasi but no perched view.

Ruddy Cuckoo-Dove ◊ (Parzudaki's C-D) *Macropygia emiliana emiliana* One or two in flight on Flores.

Little Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia ruficeps orientalis* A couple on Flores, with one scoped.

Eucalypt Cuckoo-Dove ◊ *Macropygia sp. nov.* Endemic. Well seen on Sumba; others heard there and Timor.

Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis tigrina*

Sunda Collared Dove *Streptopelia bitorquata* Two seen nicely on Komodo.

Metallic Pigeon ◊ *Columba vitiensis metallica* Widespread sightings.

Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon) (introduced) *Columba [livia] var. domestica*

Common Emerald Dove (Asian E D) *Chalcophaps indica indica*

Pacific Emerald Dove (Green-winged Pigeon) *Chalcophaps longirostris timorensis*

Sumba Green Pigeon ◊ *Treron teysmannii* Endemic. A dozen logged across three days.

Flores Green Pigeon ◊ *Treron floriss* Endemic. A male was scoped near Ruteng. Ashutosh saw another at Kisol.

Barred Dove ◊ *Geopelia maugeus*

Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea polia*

Pink-headed Imperial Pigeon ◊ *Ducula rosacea* Seen very well on Rote and Timor.

Dark-backed Imperial Pigeon ♦ *Ducula lacernulata sasakensis* A couple seen on Flores, with one scoped.
Timor Imperial Pigeon ♦ *Ducula cineracea* Endemic. Great views of one at Gunung Timau.
Pied Imperial Pigeon *Ducula bicolor* Just one on Komodo.
Banded Fruit Dove ♦ (Black-backed F D) *Ptilinopus cinctus* Endemic. Timor (*cinctus*) & Flores (*albocinctus*).
Red-naped Fruit Dove ♦ *Ptilinopus dohertyi* Endemic. A couple seen well on Sumba, and others heard.
Rose-crowned Fruit Dove ♦ *Ptilinopus regina flavicollis* Many sightings of this lovely subspecies.
Black-naped Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus melanospilus melanauchen*
Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus philippensis philippensis*
Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus orientalis*
Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa frontata* Around four noted at Menggitimbe, Sumba.
Purple Swampphen (Australasian S) *Porphyrio [porphyrio] melanotus* A couple at Menggitimbe,
White-browed Crake *Poliolimnas cinereus*
White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus leucomelana*
Pied Stilt (White-headed S) *Himantopus leucocephalus*
Grey Plover (Black-bellied P) *Pluvialis squatarola*
Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*
Little Ringed Plover *Thinornis dubius* Two on Rote.
Oriental Plover *Anarhynchus veredus* A dozen at Bipolo, Timor. Always nice.
Siberian Sand Plover *Anarhynchus mongolus* Just a single on Sumba.
Greater Sand Plover *Anarhynchus leschenaultii*
Red-capped Plover *Anarhynchus ruficapillus* Good numbers at Bipolo Fishponds, with at least 30 counted.
Malaysian Plover ♦ *Anarhynchus peronii* A single male at Teluk Maujawa, Sumba.
Javan Plover ♦ *Anarhynchus javanicus* 13 logged on Sumba, and another on Rote.
Eurasian Whimbrel (Siberian W) *Numenius [phaeopus] variegatus*
Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* Four at Bipolo Fishponds.
Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* One at Teluk Maujawa, Sumba.
Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes*
Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*
Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris* Two at Teluk Maujawa.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* Three at Bipolo Fishponds.
Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*
Red-necked Stint (Rufous-n S) *Calidris ruficollis*
Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*
Barred Buttonquail ♦ (Dusky B) *Turnix [suscitator] powelli* 1 at Kisol died after being chased by a Variable Goshawk, and crashing into building!
Sumba Buttonquail ♦ *Turnix everetti* Endemic. A pair were flushed multiple times at Yumbu, showing well.
Bridled Tern *Onychoprion anaethetus* Up to 90 or so in the Rote area.
Little Tern *Sternula albifrons* c.25 at Teluk Maujawa, Sumba, with 2 half-grown young noted; 8 at Menggitimbe.
Australian Tern (A Gull-billed T) *Gelochelidon macrotarsa* One quartering Bipolo Fishponds.
Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* One at the river mouth south of Labuan Bajo.
Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*
Greater Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*
Common Tern *Sterna hirundo longipennis* A couple with other terns off Rote.
Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana*
Bulwer's Petrel *Bulweria bulwerii* At least 15 during the Komodo boat journey, with best ever views.
Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster* Nine noted during the Rote trip.

Australasian Darter (Australian D) *Anhinga novaehollandiae* Two at Lake Sotimori, Rote.

Little Pied Cormorant *Microcarbo melanoleucos*

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* Largest numbers at Lake Sotimori, with c.300.

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia* 40 counted at Lake Sotimori, a wonderful sight.

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus* Two at Lake Sotimori.

Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*

Pacific Reef Heron (P R Egret) *Egretta sacra*

Little Egret (Black-footed E) *Egretta [garzetta] immaculata*

Nankeen Night Heron (Rufous N H) *Nycticorax caledonicus* One at Lake Sotimori.

Little Heron *Butorides atricapilla*

Javan Pond Heron *Ardeola speciosa*

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

Medium Egret *Ardea intermedia*

Eastern Cattle Egret *Ardea coromanda*

Great-billed Heron *Ardea sumatrana* A confiding bird on the beach at Komodo.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Timor Nightjar ♦ *Caprimulgus ritae* Endemic. Lovely flight views of a male near Soe, Timor.

Mees's Nightjar ♦ (Sunda N) *Caprimulgus meesi* Endemic. A couple of sightings at Kisol, Flores.

Savanna Nightjar *Caprimulgus affinis kasuidori* Two flushed in daytime on Sumba.

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

Tenggara Swiftlet ♦ *Collocalia sumbawae* Endemic.

Drab Swiftlet ♦ (Timor S) *Collocalia neglecta* Endemic.

Edible-nest Swiftlet (White-nest S) *Aerodramus fuciphagus*

Eastern Barn Owl *Tyto javanica delicatula* A flyby at Oelnasi, Timor.

Eastern Barn Owl ♦ (Sumba B O) *Tyto [javanica] sumbaensis* Endemic. A hunting individual near Lewa.

Great Sumba Boobook ♦ *Ninox rudolfi* Endemic. Fantastic views of several near Lewa.

Rote Boobook ♦ *Ninox rotiensis* Endemic. Amazing views of two on Rote.

Timor Boobook ♦ (Streaked B) *Ninox fusca* Endemic. One performed admirably at Oelnasi.

Little Sumba Boobook ♦ (Least B) *Ninox sumbaensis* Endemic. Great views eventually near Lewa; two seen.

Flores Scops Owl ♦ *Otus alfredi* Endemic. Excellent encounters on Flores, by day and night. At least 2-3 seen.

Wallace's Scops Owl ♦ *Otus silvicola* Endemic. Tricky, but of two seen, one showed well near Ruteng.

Moluccan Scops Owl ♦ *Otus magicus albiventris* Three were easily seen at Kisol.

Osprey (Eastern O) *Pandion [haliaetus] cristatus* One perched-up in mangroves as we left Komodo.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus hypoleucus*

Pacific Baza *Aviceda subcristata timorlaoensis* One or two at Oelnasi.

Crested Honey Buzzard (Oriental H B) *Pernis ptilorhynchus* One on Timor and two on Flores.

Flores Hawk-Eagle ♦ *Nisaetus floris* One of our best years, with a lengthy encounter at Kisol; in flight and perched.

Variable Goshawk ♦ (Tenggara G) *Tachyspiza [hiogaster] sylvestris* Endemic. Several on Flores Kisol.

Brown Goshawk *Tachyspiza fasciata tjendanae* Two on Sumba.

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis* Great views of one hunting in ricefields on Sumba.

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus intermedius*

Black Kite *Milvus migrans affinis* Just one on Sumba.

White-bellied Sea Eagle *Ichthyophaga leucogaster*

Sumba Hornbill ♦ *Rhyticeros everetti* Endemic. Great views, with ten logged.

Oriental Dollarbird (Common D) *Eurystomus orientalis*

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

Blue-tailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus*

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis bengalensis* Identified at Lake Sotimori, Rote and at Labuan Bajo, Flores.

Common Kingfisher ♦ (Hispid K) *Alcedo [atthis] hispidoides* Heard-only. Timor.

Cerulean Kingfisher ♦ (Small Blue K) *Alcedo coerulescens* One showed well at Labuan Bajo Fishponds.

Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis floresiana* Heard-only. One on Flores.

White-rumped Kingfisher ♦ (Glittering K) *Caridonax fulgidus* Endemic. Not uncommon on Flores; two seen well.

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus sanctus*

Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris chloris*

Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher ♦ *Todiramphus a. australasia* Near-endemic. 2 seen on Sumba, and 1 on Timor.

Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker *Yungipicus moluccensis grandis* Several sightings on Flores.

Spotted Kestrel ♦ (Indonesian K) *Falco moluccensis microbalius*

Peregrine Falcon [Australasian P] *Falco [peregrinus] ernesti*

Yellow-crested Cockatoo ♦ *Cacatua sulphurea* Excellent views on Komodo (*occidentalis*), with 15+. One heard in north Rote (*parvula*).

Citron-crested Cockatoo ♦ (Orange-c C) *Cacatua citrinocristata* Endemic. A handful on Sumba.

Jonquil Parrot ♦ (Olive-shouldered P) *Aprosmictus j. jonquillaceus* Endemic. 12 or so on Rote and 11+ on Timor.

Sumba Eclectus ♦ *Eclectus cornelia* Endemic. A female was scoped on Sumba.

Red-cheeked Parrot *Geoffroyus geoffroyi floresianus* Many seen on Sumba and Flores.

Great-billed Parrot ♦ *Tanygnathus megalorhynchus* 1 on Sumba (*sumbensis*), & 4 near Labuan Bajo (nominate).

Wallace's Hanging Parrot ♦ *Loriculus flosculus* Endemic. Two males seen exceedingly well near Ruteng.

Iris Lorikeet ♦ *Trichoglossus iris iris* Endemic. At least ten of these little beauties at Gunung Timau, Timor.

Olive-headed Lorikeet ♦ *Trichoglossus euteles* Endemic. Small numbers seen in the mountains of Timor.

Marigold Lorikeet ♦ *Trichoglossus capistratus* Endemic. Large numbers seen on Sumba this year.

Leaf Lorikeet ♦ (Flores L) *Trichoglossus weberi* Endemic. Small numbers on Flores, with nice scope views.

Ornate Pitta ♦ (Wallace's Elegant P) *Pitta concinna* Endemic. Many heard, and seen very well on Flores & Komodo.

Elegant Pitta ♦ (Temminck's E P) *Pitta elegans maria* Endemic breeder. Two seen well on Sumba.

Plain Gerygone ♦ (Timor G) *Gerygone inornata* Endemic. Quite common on Timor and Rote.

Golden-bellied Gerygone (Sunda G) *Gerygone sulphurea sulphurea*

Sumba Myzomela ♦ *Myzomela dammermani* Endemic. Locally frequent on Sumba.

Rote Myzomela ♦ *Myzomela irianawidodoae* Endemic. Common.

Black-breasted Myzomela ♦ (Timor M) *Myzomela vulnerata* Endemic. well seen in numbers at Oelnasi.

Timor Friarbird ♦ *Philemon inornatus* Endemic. Scattered sightings on Timor.

Helmeted Friarbird ♦ (Tenggara F) *Philemon [buceroideus] buceroides* Endemic. Rote (nom.); Sumba, Flores & Komodo (*neglectus*).

Scaly-crowned Honeyeater ♦ (Sunda H) *Lichmera lombokia* Endemic. Frequently seen in highland Flores.

Brown Honeyeater ♦ (Indonesian H) *Lichmera [indistincta] limbata*

Flame-eared Honeyeater ♦ (Yellow-e H) *Lichmera flavicans* Endemic. Particularly in the Timor mountains.

Streak-breasted Honeyeater ♦ (Timor Meliphaga) *Meliphaga reticulata* Endemic. Locally common on Timor.

Little Minivet ♦ (Flores M) *Pericrocotus lansbergei* Endemic. This little beauty was quite common on Flores.

Wallacean Cuckooshrike ♦ (Flores C) *Coracina [personata] floris* Endemic. Five noted on Flores.

Wallacean Cuckooshrike ♦ (Sumba C) *Coracina [personata] sumbensis* Endemic. A few seen well on Sumba.

Wallacean Cuckooshrike ♦ (Timor C) *Coracina [personata] personata* Endemic. Singles on Rote and Timor.

White-shouldered Triller ♦ *Lalage sueurii*

Pale-shouldered Cicadabird ♦ *Edolisoma dohertyi* Endemic. Seven noted on Sumba, and a couple on Flores.

Timor Cicadabird ♦ *Edolisoma timoriense timoriense* Endemic. Possibly a Birdquest lifer. A pair at Oelnasi, Timor.

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

Green Figbird ♦ (Timor F) *Sphecotheres viridis* Endemic. Several seen on Rote, including a male.

Timor Oriole ♦ *Oriolus melanotis* Endemic. Two seen well on Rote.

Black-naped Oriole ♦ (Tenggara Golden O) *Oriolus [chinensis] broderipi* Endemic. A few on Flores & Komodo.

Bare-throated Whistler ♦ *Pachycephala nudigula* Endemic. One of the birds of the trip, with its amazing voice.

Fawn-breasted Whistler ♦ *Pachycephala orpheus orpheus* Endemic. Many sightings of this drab endemic.

Tenggara Whistler ♦ (Bima W) *Pachycephala [calliope] fulvotincta* Endemic. Several seen on Flores & Komodo.

Tenggara Whistler ♦ (Sumba W) *Pachycephala [calliope] fulviventris* Endemic. Frequent on Sumba.

Tenggara Whistler ♦ (Timor W) *Pachycephala [calliope] calliope* Endemic. A few seen on Timor.

Northern Fantail ♦ (Rote F) *Rhipidura [rufiventris] tenkatei* Endemic. Common enough.

Northern Fantail ♦ (Timor F) *Rhipidura [rufiventris] rufiventris* Endemic. Common.

Brown-capped Fantail ♦ (Trumpeting F) *Rhipidura diluta* Endemic. Frequent on Flores, mainly mountains.

Supertramp Fantail ♦ *Rhipidura semicollaris* 2 forms seen: *sumbensis* (Sumba); *semicollaris* (Flores, Rote & Timor).

Wallacean Drongo ♦ (Flores Spangled D) *Dicrurus [densus] bimaensis* Endemic. A handful on Flores & Komodo.

Wallacean Drongo ♦ (Sumba Spangled D) *Dicrurus [densus] sumbae* Endemic. Pretty common.

Wallacean Drongo ♦ (Timor Spangled D) *Dicrurus [densus] densus* Endemic. Always scarce, with just 3 at Timau.

Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea symmixta* Frequent on Flores and Komodo.

Tenggara Paradise Flycatcher ♦ *Terpsiphone floris* Endemic. Many seen on Sumba & Flores.

Broad-billed Flycatcher (B-b Monarch) *Myiagra ruficollis ruficollis* Well seen on Sumba, Rote and Timor.

Flores Monarch ♦ *Symposiachrus sacerdotum* Endemic. Four seen, including a fledged juvenile.

Spectacled Monarch (Australian S M) *Symposiachrus trivirgatus trivirgatus* One on Sumba and two on Timor.

Flores Crow ♦ *Corvus florensis* Endemic. Quite common this year. Some good looks at this clever sneak.

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

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis connectens* Small numbers on Sumba and Flores.

Cinereous Tit *Parus cinereus cinereus* Ditto.

Olive-backed Tailorbird ♦ (Javan T) *Orthotomus sepium* A couple seen on the Sumba coast.

Zitting Cisticola (Double-zitting C) *Cisticola [juncidis] tinnabulans*

Golden-headed Cisticola (Bright-capped C) *Cisticola exilis lineocapilla*

Australian Reed Warbler (Australasian R W) *Acrocephalus australis sumbae* A few at Menggitimbe, Sumba.

Buff-banded Thicketbird ♦ (Timor T) *Cincloramphus bivittatus* Endemic. Often heard; amazing views near Kupang.

Pygmy Cupwing *Pnoepyga pusilla* One performed at Gunung Mutis (*timorensis*); also seen on Flores (*everetti*).

Pacific Swallow *Hirundo javanica javanica*

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

Timor Stubtail ♦ *Urosphena subulata* Endemic. A few seen well on Rote. Frequently heard on Timor.

Russet-capped Tesia ♦ *Tesia everetti* Endemic. Easily seen on Flores; an obliging member of the genus.

Mountain Tailorbird (M Leaftailer) *Phyllergates cucullatus everetti* Showed well in Flores highlands.

Aberrant Bush Warbler ♦ (Sunda B W) *Horornis [flavolivaceus] vulcanius* Seen well on Timor (*everetti*).

Yellow-breasted Warbler *Seicercus montis floris* A few seen well in montane Flores.

Rote Leaf Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus rotiensis* Endemic. Several seen very well.

Timor Leaf Warbler ♦ *Phylloscopus presbytes* Endemic. Ditto on Timor.

Timor Leaf Warbler ♦ (Flores L W) *Phylloscopus [presbytes] floresianus* Endemic. A few seen in montane Flores.

Sooty-headed Bulbul (introduced) *Pycnonotus aurigaster*

Eyebrowed White-eye ♦ (Cream-browed Heleia, White-b W-e) *Heleia superciliaris* Endemic. Seen well on Flores.

Crested Heleia ♦ (Dark-crowned White-eye) *Heleia dohertyi* Endemic. Ditto, at lower levels.

Timor Heleia ♦ (Spot-breasted H, Timor White-eye) *Heleia muelleri* Endemic. Some very good views on Timor.

Thick-billed Heleia ♦ (Flores White-eye) *Heleia crassirostris* Endemic. One seen well on Flores

Yellow-spectacled Heleia ♦ (Wallace's H) *Heleia wallacei* Endemic. Widespread sightings; Sumba, Flores, Komodo.

Warbling White-eye (Mountain W-e) *Zosterops [japonicus] montanus* Upland Flores; montane Timor (*neglectus*).

Lemon-bellied White-eye ♦ *Zosterops chloris sumbavensis* A few seen on Komodo and in Labuan Bajo.

Ashy-bellied White-eye ♦ *Zosterops citrinella* Endemic. Common on Sumba and lowland Timor.

Ashy-bellied White-eye ♦ (Flores W-e) *Zosterops [citrinella] unicus* Endemic. The yellow-bellied form of Flores.

Tenggara Hill Myna ♦ *Gracula venerata* A wonderful pair near Labuan Bajo, and then two more seen by Ken.

Short-tailed Starling *Aplonis minor*

Javan Myna (introduced) *Acridotheres javanicus*

Chestnut-capped Thrush ♦ *Geokichla interpres* Great views of at least four individuals on Flores.

Chestnut-backed Thrush ♦ *Geokichla dohertyi* Endemic. Seen on Sumba and Flores; best on the former.

Orange-sided Thrush ♦ (Orange-banded T) *Geokichla peronii* Endemic. Easily seen on Rote and Timor.

Wallacean Island Thrush ♦ (Timor I T) *Turdus [poliocephalus] schlegelii* Endemic. A few seen Mutis & Timau.

Sumba Brown Flycatcher ♦ *Muscicapa segregata* Endemic. A good year, with three seen well.

Timor Blue Flycatcher ♦ (T Warbling-f) *Eumyias hyacinthinus* Endemic. Common on Rote and Timor.

Flores Jungle Flycatcher ♦ (F Warbling-f) *Eumyias oscillans* Endemic. Several seen and others heard.
Sumba Jungle Flycatcher ♦ (S Warbling-f) *Eumyias stresemanni* Endemic. Just a pair that showed well.
Flores Shortwing ♦ *Brachypteryx floris* Endemic. Great views of a male at Golo Lusang.
Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni* Small numbers on Rote and Timor (*mayri*), and on Flores (*hasselti*).
Black-banded Flycatcher ♦ *Ficedula timorensis* Endemic. This corker was best seen at Oelnasi.
Sumba Flycatcher ♦ *Ficedula harterti* Endemic. Three showed on Sumba; good views.
White-bellied Bush Chat ♦ (Timor Bushchat) *Saxicola gutturalis* Endemic. Common on Rote and Timor.
Pied Bush Chat *Saxicola caprata* Sumba (*francki*); Rote & Timor (*pyrrhonotus*); Flores & Komodo (*fruticola*).
Thick-billed Flowerpecker ♦ (Tenggara F) *Dicaeum [agile] obsoleta* Endemic. 3 Sumba (*tincta*); 1 Timor (*obsoleta*).
Golden-rumped Flowerpecker ♦ *Dicaeum annae* Endemic. Common on Flores.
Black-fronted Flowerpecker ♦ *Dicaeum igniferum* Endemic. Common on Flores.
Red-chested Flowerpecker ♦ *Dicaeum maugei maugei* Endemic. Common on Rote and Timor.
Flores Flowerpecker ♦ *Dicaeum rhodopygiale* Endemic. 6 noted at Golo Lusang.
Sumba Flowerpecker ♦ *Dicaeum wilhelminae* Endemic. Common.
Timor Flowerpecker ♦ *Dicaeum hanieli* Endemic. A nice pair at Fatumnasi.
Brown-throated Sunbird (Plain-t S) *Anthreptes malacensis* Sumba (*rubrigena*) and Flores (*convergens*).
Ornate Sunbird *Cinnyris ornatus ornatus*
Apricot-breasted Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris buettikoferi* Endemic. Common enough on Sumba.
Flame-breasted Sunbird ♦ *Cinnyris solaris solaris* Endemic. Common on Timor and Flores.
Zebra Finch ♦ (Sunda Z F) *Taeniopygia guttata guttata* Endemic. Widespread.
Timor Sparrow ♦ *Padda fuscata* Endemic. 40-50 seen on Timor, with many juveniles.
Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata* Sumba (*sumbae*); Rote, Timor & Flores (*blasii*).
Black-faced Munia ♦ *Lonchura molucca propinqua* A few on Flores, including one nest-building.
Pale-headed Munia ♦ *Lonchura pallida* Good numbers on Sumba, Timor and Flores.
Five-colored Munia ♦ *Lonchura quincolor* Near-endemic. Small numbers on Sumba, and 50+ on Timor.
Tricolored Parrotfinch ♦ *Erythrura tricolor* Near-endemic. Seen well on Timor on multiple occasions; 20+.
Timor Parrotfinch ♦ (Mount Mutis P) *Erythrura sp. nov.* Endemic. 7+ at Fatumnasi, with some adult males.
Red Avadavat *Amandava amandava flavidiventris* Small numbers at Bipolo Fishponds, Timor.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*
Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus* Seen on Sumba (*albidus*), and Timor (*medius*).

MAMMALS

Wild Boar (Indian W B) *Sus scrofa vittatus* Several on Komodo, where it is considered an archaeophyte.
Timor Deer *Rusa timorensis* Small numbers on Komodo.
Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin *Tursiops aduncus* A small pod on the return journey from Komodo.
Long-tailed Macaque (Crab-eating M) *Macaca fascicularis*
Brown Rat (introduced) *Rattus norvegicus*

REPTILES

Boschma's Flying Dragon *Draco boschmai*
Tokay Gecko *Gekko gekko*
Flat-tailed House Gecko *Hemidactylus platyurus*
Komodo Dragon *Varanus komodoensis* At least eight of these famous giant monitor lizards on Komodo.

AMPHIBIANS

Asian Common Toad (introduced) *Duttaphrynus melanostictus*

BUTTERFLIES

Haliphron Birdwing *Troides haliphron naias* Sumba.
Peranthus Peacock *Papilio peranthus* Kisol.
Mormon *Papilio theseus* Sumba.

Caper White *Belenois java* Labuan Bajo.

Three-spotted Grass Yellow *Eurema blanda* Widespread.

Common Grass Yellow *Eurema hecabe* Widespread.

Timor Gull *Cepora laeta* Fatumnasi.

Gull *Cepora temena* Endemic. Komodo.

Jezebel *Delias oraia* Endemic. Kisol.

Timor Jezebel *Delias timorensis* Endemic. Rote and Timor.

Orangetip *Ixias vollenhovi* Endemic. Rote and Timor.

Psyche *Leptosia nina* Widespread.

Tawny Coster *Acraea terpsicore* Sumba.

Straight Perrot *Caleta rhode* Kisol.

Common Pierrot *Castalius rosimon* Rote and Timor.

Lineblue *Catopyrops rita* Rote.

Long-tailed Blue (Pea B) *Lampides boeticus* Widespread.

White Hedge Blue *Udara akasa* Golo Lusang.

Timor Castor *Ariadne timora* Endemic. Rote.

'Timor' Lacewing *Cethosia lamarckii* Endemic. Rote and Timor.

'Timor' Emperor *Charaxes orilus* Endemic. Oelnasi.

Swamp Tiger *Danaus affinis*

Plain Tiger *Danaus chrysippus* Widespread.

Long-branded Blue Crow *Euploea algea* Timor.

Grey Glassy Tiger *Ideopsis juvena* Kisol.

Grey Pansy *Junonia atlites* Sumba and Timor.

Northern Argus *Junonia erigone* Timor.

Blue Pansy *Junonia orithya* Sumba.

Bushbrown *Mycalesis mynois* Endemic. Fatumnasi.

Common Sailer *Neptis hylas* Flores at least.

Smooth-eyed Bushbrown *Orsotriaena medus* Sumba.

Luzon Glassy Tiger *Parantica luzonensis* Sumba.

Common Leopard *Phalanta phalantha* Timor.

Common Lineblue *Prosotas nora* Sumba.

Blue Tiger *Tirumala limniace* Sumba, Kisol etc.

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui* Golo Lusang.

Malay Cruiser *Vindula dejone*

Pied Flat *Tagiades japetus* Sumba and Kisol.

DRAGONFLIES

Lara Damselfly *Euphaea lara* Endemic. Sumba.

Variable Wisp *Agriocnemis femina* Flores.

Common Bluetail *Ischnura senegalensis* Flores.

Threadtail *Nososticta emphylla* Endemic. Labuan Bajo Nursery.

Threadtail *Nososticta selysii* Endemic. Labuan Bajo Nursery.

Sprite *Pseudagrion deflexum* Oelnasi.

Blue Sprite *Pseudagrion siamense* Menggitimbe, Sumba.

Pale-spotted Emperor *Anax guttatus* Danau Ranamese, Flores.

Slender Skimmer *Orthetrum sabina* Widespread.

Chalky Percher *Diplacodes trivialis* Sumba at least.

PLANTS

Kashmir Tree *Gmelina arborea* Loved by myzomelas at Oelnasi.

White Bark Acacia *Vachellia leucophloea* Beautiful emergent canopy tree of Timor, favoured by many birds.

Whiteweed *Austroepatorium inulifolium* Dominant invasive in Flores uplands. Home to Flores Shortwing.

Asiatic Butterfly Bush *Buddleja asiatica* Timor uplands at least.

Bottlebrush Orchid *Goodyera procera* Flores highlands.

Orchid *Vanda perplexa* Endemic. Komodo.

Balsam *Impatiens platypetala* Flores highlands.



Komodo Dragons (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Green Pigeon (image by Craig Robson)



Rote Boobook (image by Craig Robson)



Komodo Dragon (image by Craig Robson)



fledgling Eyebrowed Heleia (image by Craig Robson)



Ornate Pitta (image by Craig Robson)



Great Sumba Boobook (image by Craig Robson)



Buff-banded Thicketbird (image by Craig Robson)



Little Pied Flycatcher (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Spangled Drongo (image by Craig Robson)



Timor Emperor (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Scops Owl (image by Craig Robson)



watching Flores Hawk-Eagle (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Monarch (image by Craig Robson)



Tenggara Swiftlet (image by Craig Robson)



Komodo Dragons (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Flowerpecker (image by Craig Robson)



Painted Lady (image by Craig Robson)



Komodo Dragons (image by Craig Robson)



Eucalypt Cuckoo-Dove (image by Craig Robson)



Oriental Plover (image by Craig Robson)



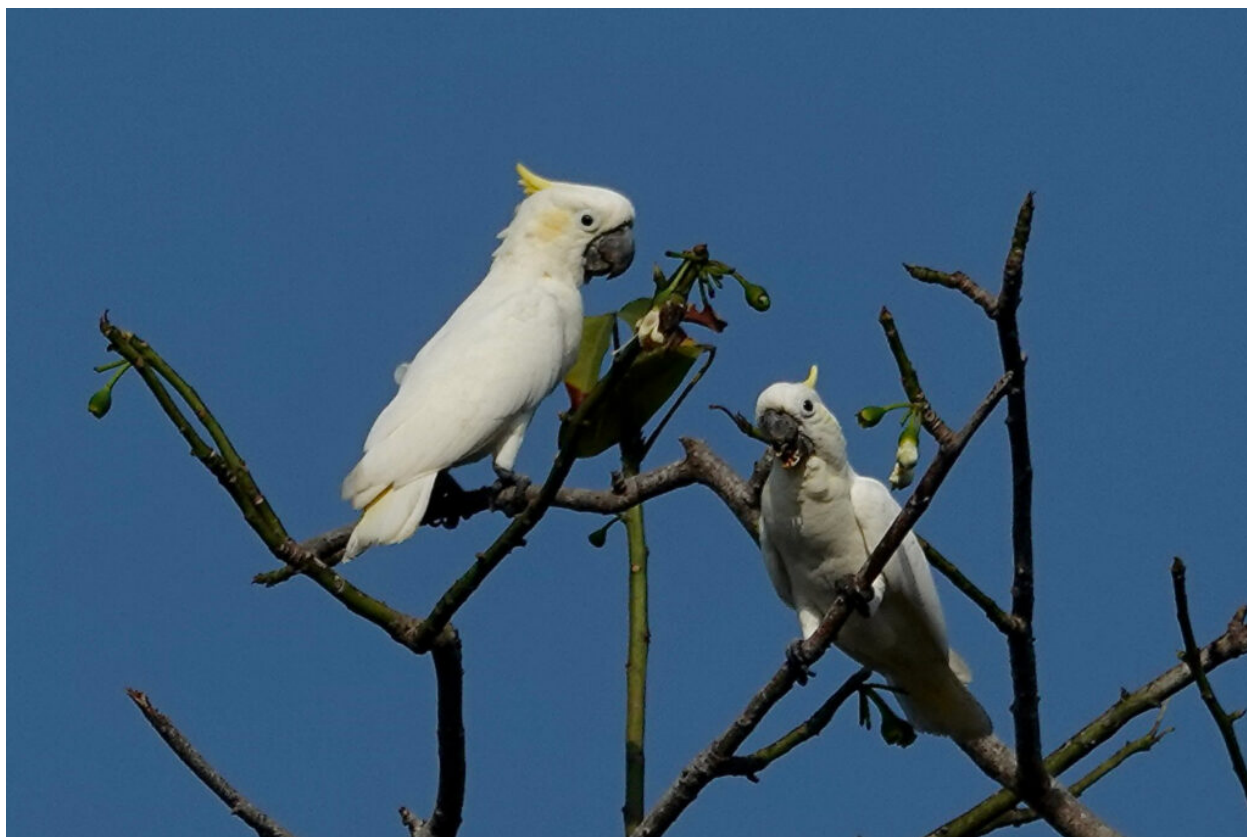
Golo Lusang (image by Craig Robson)



Black-naped Fruit Dove (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Spangled Drongo (image by Craig Robson)



Yellow-crested Cockatoos (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Scops Owl (image by Craig Robson)



Wallace's Hanging Parrot (image by Craig Robson)



Flores Green Pigeon (image by Craig Robson)



Tenggara Hill Myna (image by Craig Robson)