

Southern Thailand, 24th March – 7th April 2008

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Nordmann's Greenshanks, Krabi River, 27/03/08

(All bird pictures taken with Canon Eos 30D + EF 300mm F4 USM IS + Kenko 1,4x)

Introduction

Together with my girlfriend Nathalie Debels I spent 15 days in southern Thailand. Since my girlfriend isn't into birding it was not a fulltime birding holiday. I tried not to be too fanatic and didn't get my expectations of a lengthy bird list too high.

Sometimes I went out birding alone but Nathalie was often with me. In KNC she endured the long wait in the hide to see the Gurney's Pitta and she bravely took the long walk in Khao Sok, despite the intense heat and the leeches. She often got excited about the birds, especially the more colourful ones like the pittas and the flowerpeckers.

We spent the first week in Ao Nang (Krabi) and the second week in Khao Lak.

Thailand is a wonderful country with friendly people, nice food and we found it to be safe everywhere.

I managed to do some birdwatching everyday, especially in the mornings and the evenings. The hot midday periods were often spent relaxing at the swimming pool or at the beach.

It was my first time birding in Southeast Asia (and outside the WP), so most of the birds were new for me.

In total **167 species** were seen (another 5 species were heard only). Highlights of the trip are:

Gurney's Pitta, Banded Pitta, Nordmann's Greenshank, Chinese Egret, Great Hornbill, Banded Kingfisher, Rufous-backed Kingfisher, Chestnut-naped Forktail and 'White-faced Plover'.

Mangrove birding was a disappointment. I missed out most of the mangrove specialties because the mangrove boardwalk in Phang Nga turned out to be destroyed and I didn't have the chance to do another trip in the mangrove. Other target species that weren't seen were Green Broadbill, Nicobar Pigeon and Christmas Island Frigatebird.

Before leaving I bought a lightweight, cheaper tripod as I wanted to take along my scope (Optolyth 65, 20x WW). The scope turned out to be very useful, not only for watching waders but also in the forest, to check birds that were high in the canopy.

To prepare for this trip I read numerous trip reports found on travellingbirder.com. Thanks to all the people who made their reports and put them online.

Also thanks to Nick Upton (www.thaibirding.com) who provided lots of information.

I made a summary with information taken out of many reports. This and other information I will be glad to share, you can contact me on johannes.buckens@telenet.be.

Books and sounds

I used the book 'Birds of Thailand' by Craig Robson.

This is a decent book (probably the best field guide for the birds of Thailand) but unfortunately it doesn't give any information about the abundance of each species. Another minus point of this book is that the plumages of birds are placed rather disorderly (before leaving I spent hours of separating the plumages of each species with a pencil). But then I guess we are spoilt with the excellent field guides of European birds... Before leaving I studied hard on the birds which turned out to be necessary since quite a lot of species were only seen on a single occasion, and often briefly.

Special thanks to my friend Hans Matheve who supplied me with the sounds of most of the bird species.

Health

We experienced no health problems during the trip.

Apparently malaria has occurred in Khao Nor Chuchi (KNC) but we only used some insect repellants. In KNC we used repellants based on DEET.

Mosquitoes were present everywhere but were not too much of a problem. Only in Khao Sok did we encounter any leaches.

Weather

The weather was hot and humid. Although I don't like the hot temperatures I almost never felt really uncomfortable. Temperatures were mostly between 30-35 °C, except for two days when the temperature reached over 35°C, which felt a little bit too hot for me.

Although April is still dry season we had daily some showers, except for two days.

Mostly rain showers came in late afternoon and evening. Only a couple of times did the rain interfere with birdwatching.

Accommodation

My girlfriend is a travel agent for Neckermann so we were able to book the flight and hotel at a good price.

The first week we stayed at the Peace Laguna Resort in Ao Nang, the second week at the Laguna Resort in Khao Lak.

During our visit to KNC we stayed one night in the Morakot resort. I booked 3 months in advance since this place can be busy in March-April (best time for Gurney's Pitta). They can be contacted by e-mail on pittagurney@yahoo.com. We had an air-conditioned bungalow for 648baht/night.

Transportation

Initially I planned to hire a car for 12 days. But on the road from the Airport to Ao Nang with the transfer bus we noticed that the Thai people are rather reckless drivers (overtaking just before a sharp turn is not an unusual sight in Thailand). This and the fact that driving is on the left made us decide to use public transportation (mostly taxis), for at least the first week.

Don't forget to bargain. We took a taxi from Krabi to KNC at the price of 1500 baht, which turned out to be pricy since the friendly lady at the Morakot arranged us a taxi for the return to Ao Nang (which is further than Krabi) for 1200 Baht.

The second week I could convince my girlfriend to hire a car in Khao Lak, although the local travel agent from Neckermann advised us not to (she had some bad experiences with tourists hiring a car). We chose to hire a car with Hertz for 5 days, at the rate of 1580 Baht a day (there are a lot of small agencies that offer cheaper cars though). They only had automatic cars.

Driving on the left, getting used to an automatic and to the Thai way of driving was a lot to cope with but luckily the region of Khao Lak is rather quiet and we didn't have to cross big cities. Except for having troubles finding our way a few times we didn't experience any problems on the road.

Good maps of the region are not easy to find. At home I bought a Michelin map of Thailand (1/1 370 000), in Thailand I found some tourist maps.

Here you can download some useful roadmaps (with some traffic information):

<http://asiatours.net/thailand/budget/phuketsa.pdf>

Bird Guides

On two occasions we used a guide.

In KNC we used the services of Yotin Meekaew for one day. He can be contacted by e-mail on yotinpitta@hotmail.com.

He is pricy (we paid 6000 Baht for one day) but he's a very good guide. If you don't have a lot of time he's your best chance to see **Gurney's Pitta**. We booked him a few months in advance since he is very busy in March-April.

In the trip report of Vincent van der Spek (Van der Spek, March 2004) I read about Tang (pronounce 'Ting', his full name is Tassanai Naktong), a local bird guide in Khao Sok. He doesn't know all the birds and his English is not as good as Yotin's but he knows where to look for **Banded Pitta** and **Chestnut-naped Forktail**. When we arrived in Khao Lak I called him on his cell phone (06-2777784) and made arrangements for a one-day trip in Khao Sok. He asked 1200 Baht for one day.

Itinerary

24/03: arrival at the hotel in Ao Nang at 16.00

25/03: birding the hotel grounds

26/03: Hat Nopparat beach + hotel grounds

27/03: Krabi River + KNC

28/03: KNC with Yotin

29/03: visit to Poda Island + Hat Nopparat Thara beach

30/03: Phi Phi isles

31/03: transfer to Khao Lak hotel

01/04: morning and evening visit to Chong Fa waterfall in Khao Lak national park

02/04: Phang Nga mangrove + Ton Pariwat + evening visit to Laem Pakarang

03/04: morning visit to Chong Fa + evening visit to Laem Pakarang

04/04: Khao Sok

05/04: morning visit to Chong Fa + Thai Muang golf coarse

06/04: Similan islands

07/04: morning visit to Chong Fa before heading back to Belgium at 11.00



Collared Kingfisher, Poda Island, 29/03/08

Visited places:

Hotel grounds Peace Laguna Resort in Ao Nang (near Krabi)

This is a very lovely place to stay. The hotel is built in a nice setting, with lots of greenery and water. On one side of the hotel there is a big limestone rock, which provides a nice view.



Peace Laguna Resort, Ao Nang

We stayed in a bungalow surrounded by a water pool and a small artificial stream. One morning I saw from the balcony of the bungalow a huge Water Monitor swimming in the stream.

The place was very quiet and provided a nice introduction to the birds of Thailand.

A **Pied fantail** cleaning itself on the bridge near the bungalow was a nice welcome here when we arrived.

Best birding was at the side of the hotel where the big rock is situated. Here the hotel is adjacent to a small swamp and some scrub. Some small trees with dead sticks bordering the hotel grounds attracted lots of birds. In these trees we had nice views of **Coppersmith Barbet**, **Blue-eared Barbet**, **Chestnut-headed Bee-eater**, **Vernal Hanging Parrot** and other birds.



Ruddy-breasted Crake, Ao Nang, 25/03/08



Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Ao Nang, 25/03/08

The little swamp is just visible through the hedge that borders the hotel grounds. Here I recorded a **Ruddy-breasted Crake** (my only Crake for the trip), **Yellow Bittern** and **White-breasted Waterhen**.

Birding was, surprisingly, better in the evening than in the morning. Especially the last two hours, from 17.00 till 18.45.

I only saw one **Red-whiskered Bulbul** (a fly-by), which was surprisingly the only bird of the trip. This species is held everywhere in small cages though.



Changeable Lizard (Calotes versicolor), Ao Nang, 31/03/08



Brown-throated Sunbird (juvenile), Ao Nang, 26/03/08

The first days I had some difficulties identifying a juvenile Sunbird that frequented our garden. It had bright orange feet and legs while all the sunbirds in Robson's Guide are depicted with dark legs. Only when I saw the adult male and female on the third day I could safely put a name on it: **Brown-throated Sunbird** (notice that the adult female also showed orange feet).

I recorded 32 species here:

Common Myna, Tree Sparrow, Pacific Swallow, Pied Fantail, Peaceful Dove, Vernal Hanging Parrot, Scaly-breasted Munia, Brown-throated Sunbird, Olive-backed Sunbird, Large-billed Crow, Brown Shrike, Ruddy-breasted Crake, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Coppersmith Barbet, Blue-eared Barbet, Common Tailorbird, Common Sandpiper, Chinese Pond Heron, Yellow Bittern, Brahminy Kite, House Swift, Greater Coucal, Indian Roller, Asian Palm Swift, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Streak-eared Bulbul, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Black Drongo, White-breasted Waterhen, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Oriental Magpie Robin, Blue Rock Trush.

Hat Nopparat Thara Beach

This place is well described on www.thaibirding.com by Nick Upton. It's a stretch of beach mostly frequented by Thai people and it is close to the resorts of Ao Nang. To get there I took a tuk tuk.

At low tide there are some mudflats that attract **Greater** and **Lesser Sandplovers**. Some of them were already in nice breeding plumage (especially Greater, they seem to moult earlier than Lesser).

Before I left Belgium I read a report on thaibirding.com of a '**White-faced Plover**' at this place, so I hoped to find this recently described 'species' here. To my surprise this bird (or another one) was still present. I found it on the banks of the small river that flows into the sea here.



'White-faced Plover', Hat Nopparat Thara, 26/03/08

I advise to come here in the early morning when it's still calm at the beach, at low tide. You can check the tide tables here: www.phuketgazette.net/tides.

I got this link thanks to Stijn Dewin. These are the tide tables for Phuket but I found them matching the tides in Ao Nang.

I visited the place a couple of times and I have found out that at high tide the plovers rest on the western side of the riverbanks. Here they give more distant views.

The western side of the river has some mangrove forest. It is possible to get in there by longtail, which I didn't try. One evening I heard a **Mangrove Pitta** calling from there.

I tried two evenings for **Pale-capped Pigeon**, as mentioned on thaibirding.com.

I waited from 17.30 till 18.45 on the eastern shore of the river mouth, where you have good views on the 3 small islands. I didn't see the pigeons on the two occasions; I only saw some small groups of unidentified Green Pigeons coming in (in total about 15-20 birds).



view on one of the small islands



Lesser Sand Plovers (with hundreds of little Crabs)

Bird list:

Lesser Sandplover, Greater Sandplover, 'White-faced' Plover, Kentish Plover, Common Sandpiper, Pacific Reef Egret, Collared Kingfisher, Little Heron, Brahminy Kite.

(**Mangrove Pitta** was heard only)

Krabi Rivermouth

This was the day I was looking forward to for a long time: going to KNC in search for Gurney's Pitta. But first we made a stop at Krabi river mouth to search for another most wanted species: Nordmann's Greenshank.

In the morning we took a taxi to the pier of Krabi River. We went in a longtail with the first driver that offered himself. It was a young guy, he didn't speak any English but I showed him the wader section in the field guide and he seemed to understand what I was looking for. We went off and he moved the boat along the shores, heading to the river mouth. The shores held some egrets and a small amount of waders. When there were some birds he slowed down which gave me the opportunity to take some pictures. A little later we passed an interesting small sandy island, which held some egrets, terns and waders. Amongst the more numerous **Chinese Pond Herons** there was one **Javan Pond Heron** in nice breeding plumage. I got the opportunity to check the small amount of waders and we went on.



Javan Pond Heron and Great egrets, Krabi River, 27/03/08

A little later we approached another island that was bigger and had sandy shores. This one looked more interesting and indeed there was a relatively large group of waders. I tried to explain to the boatman to approach the waders carefully and with the sun in the back, which he did perfectly. The group consisted mainly of **Bar-tailed godwits**, **Grey plovers** and **Great Knots**. From the rocking boat I noticed an interestingly pale coloured greenshank. I asked the boatman if the water was deep, he showed me with his stick and I jumped out of the boat. I was standing in the knee-deep hot water and now I had a stable image through the scope. Yellow legs, thickset posture: I was unmistakably looking at a **Nordmann's Greenshank!** I was surprised how distinctive they are, they were in fact really easy to identify. I counted a total of 11 birds, some in winter plumage but most had started the moult to summer plumage. Goal accomplished, only 45 minutes after we left the pier.



I took some time to take pictures and then hurried back to the boat because of the upcoming tide. Satisfied we returned and with time left the boatman went into some mangrove. It was already noon and it started to get very hot, so bird activity was very low. Some **Whimbrels** sitting in the mangrove trees were a funny sight. **Collared Kingfisher, Osprey** and **Little Heron** were among the few birds we saw here. The boatman tried to imitate some birds (maybe he learned from the famous Mr. Dai?), but with little response. Since I had planned to visit the mangrove in Phang Nga (at a better time of the day!) I didn't bother much. After a little more than two hours we arrived back at the pier. We paid the boatman 1000 Baht (his price was 400 Baht/hour).

Bird list:

Little Heron, Chinese Pond Heron, Javan Pond Heron, Great Egret, Little Egret, Nordmann's Greenshank (11), Common Greenshank (1), Great Knot, Grey Plover, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Greater Sand Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Terek Sandpiper, Sanderling, Ruddy Turnstone, Osprey, Little Tern, Lesser Crested Tern, Common Tern, Collared Kingfisher

Khao Nor Chuchi

At the pier in Krabi we took a taxi to KNC, where we arrived in the afternoon. At the Morakot resort we met a Swiss couple that gave us a lift to the entrance of the park, to do some initial birding. I decided to go in the S-trail, for a first attempt to look for Gurney's Pitta.

This appeared to be not the easiest trail for our first real jungle walk. The trail was very narrow and overgrown, sometimes it was hard to see the trail. So after half an hour of walking and seeing just one bird (a **Green-backed Flycatcher**) we decided to go back to the main road.

Just arrived at the main road we were hit by a very heavy rain shower that lasted for more than an hour. The pocket umbrella I had taken with me suited just enough to keep my optics dry but our clothes and shoes got soaked in no time. With only one bird seen we returned to the Morakot and did some birding in the garden, which was more productive.

Here we had very nice views of an **Orange-bellied Flowerpecker**.

The next day we got up early and met Yotin at the Morakot at 6.15 a.m. By 6.30 we left in his jeep and drove, surprisingly, to the west (so not in the direction of the checkpoint, where the 'gurney's-trails' mentioned in trip reports start). He parked the car and we walked to his hide. Here we had to sit very still and wait... After one hour of waiting Yotin left the hide to try to locate the pitta.

Meanwhile we enjoyed good views of **Siberian Blue Robin** (a first winter male) and **Puff-throated Babblers** that were hobbling around in the gully. Although we had to sit completely still it became difficult for me to ignore the other bird species around. I spotted an **Eye-browed Thrush**, and to safely identify a **Pale-legged Leaf Warbler** I carefully removed my camera from the tripod and installed my scope (big mistake, as it turned out later). After another hour Yotin came back and told us the male Gurney's was around, but, although we were very carefully in our whispering and moving, apparently we were not still enough.

Now we didn't dare to move at all and suddenly Yotin whispered: '**Gurney's Pitta**, at the end of the gully'. At first we didn't see a thing but seconds later a splash of colour appeared in the brown gully: a male Gurney's Pitta! It only stayed for about 15 seconds but the views were awesome. Because my camera was removed from the tripod I wasn't able to take pictures of it.

So after two and a half hours of waiting we were finally rewarded. Yotin told us afterwards that the male was very nervous that day because another male had entered his territory.

By now it was already 9.30u and we did some birdwatching in the same part of the forest.

Here Yotin showed us he was indeed a very good guide. He knows every sound, is very keen in spotting birds and if we couldn't find a bird he showed it with a green laserlight or showed it in his scope. We saw amongst others **Purple-throated** and **Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, Chestnut-bellied Malkoha, Drongo Cuckoo** and a nice male **Tickells Blue Flycatcher**. I spotted a **Black Baza** in a tree, which gave Yotin the opportunity to digiscope it. Unfortunately **Green Broadbill** was heard only.

By noon we returned to the Morakot where we had a meal and watched some birds in the garden. The garden is also good for birding, nice birds here were **Striped Tit Babbler** and **Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker**.

In the afternoon Yotin took us to a place in the forest where birds come to drink. On the road he showed us a splendid male **Banded Kingfisher** and a **Fulvous-chested Flycatcher**. At the drinking place we only saw some bulbuls but we didn't stay here very long because it started to rain again. When the rain stopped Yotin took us to an open space along the main road, to look for **Black-and-yellow Broadbill**. Soon we got response from a bird but it took half an hour to get one in view. Eventually it showed itself very well, joined by a female. This was one of the birds Nathalie really wanted to see, so she was very delighted.

Brown-backed Needletails and a **Crested Serpent Eagle** flew by. **Banded Broadbill** was heard only.

By now evening came and some incredible, loud noises from the cicadas arose out of the forest. We returned to the Morakot, had a meal and took a taxi back to Ao Nang.



Orange-bellied Flowerpecker, Morakot Garden, 28/03/08

Bird list:

Gurney's Pitta, Black-and-yellow Broadbill, Chestnut-bellied Malkoha, Drongo Cuckoo, Banded Bay Cuckoo, Plaintive Cuckoo, Purple-throated Sunbird, Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, Black-naped Monarch, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Fulvous-chested Flycatcher, Yellow-browed Warbler, Pale-legged Leaf Warbler, Siberian Blue Robin, Eye-browed Trush, Puff-throated Babbler, Chestnut-winged Babbler, Striped Tit Babbler, Black Baza, Crested Serpent Eagle, Forest Wagtail, Germain's Swiftlet, Whiskered Treeswift, Brown-backed Needletail, Banded Kingfisher, Puff-backed Bulbul, Red-eyed Bulbul, White-eyed Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Ochraceous Bulbul, Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker.

(Heard only: Green Broadbill, Great Iora, Blue-eared Kingfisher, Banded Broadbill)

Morakot garden:

Brown Shrike, Brown-throated Sunbird, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Orange-bellied Flowerpecker, Common Tailorbird, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Stripe-throated Bulbul, Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike, Striped Tit Babbler

Poda Island

This is a small island that can be easily reached from Ao Nang beach by a short boat ride (by longtail). It's a popular trip for tourists because the island has a nice sandy beach. From an ornithological point of view it's not that interesting but the island has a rocky, forested part that holds a couple of Oriental Pied Hornbills.

We made an afternoon trip to the island and had brief flight views of one **Oriental Pied Hornbill** (when you arrive on the island, walk to the bungalows, behind the bungalows starts the piece of forest, we saw it on the left corner, this is the southern part of the isle).

Besides the Hornbill I had nice views of a **Forest Wagtail** here.

Bird list:

Oriental Pied Hornbill, Forest Wagtail, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Black-naped Tern, Collared Kingfisher

Kho Phi Phi

These beautiful islands are well-known and are a big touristic attraction.

The main reason for birders to visit these isles is Christmas Island Frigatebird.

Good information is on thaibirding.com:

http://www.thaibirding.com/locations/south/ko_pp.htm

The best way to see the Frigatebirds is to make an evening visit by longtail to the small island Ko Pida Nork. This way you have to spend the night at the Phi Phi isles. We didn't want to spend two days so we went on a daytrip, hoping to be lucky and see some Frigatebirds on the way. Well I think you have to be VERY lucky to see them this way. During the boat trip and from the beaches I often looked for Frigatebirds but we only saw three Frigatebirds (from the shores of Bamboo Island, they were very distant and flew high above the sea, so it was impossible to identify them).

A new species here was **Pied Imperial Pigeon**, they are not difficult here and we had several sightings.

Bird list:

Pied Imperial Pigeon (6 sightings), White-bellied Sea Eagle (4), Bridled Tern, Black-naped Tern (and three unidentified Frigatebirds)

Hotel grounds Laguna Resort in Khao Lak

The region of Khao Lak was severely hit by the Tsunami back in 2004. Although the region has been rebuilt there still were signs of it everywhere.

Khao Lak is a typically touristic region with large resorts, but it is a good base for birding trips to the nearby Khao Lak national park and a bit further, Khao Sok National Park (about one hour and a half driving).

The Laguna Resort doesn't have a garden like the Peace Laguna resort in Ao Nang, but there were also some nice birds around.

Grey-rumped Treeswift flying over (one time sitting in a tree near the beach) was a new bird for the trip.

Best bird here was a **Cinnamon Bittern** that gave excellent views. It was near a small pool we could look over from our hotel room. This pool is visible (and also accessible) from the main road. I saw one bird in the early morning of 05/04 and 2 birds in the late evening of 06/04.



Cinnamon Bittern, Laguna Resort, 05/04/08



view on the small pool from the hotel room

I had hoped to find some nice insects (especially moths, like the giant Atlasmoth) in Thailand but the number of moths found was disappointing. Maybe the rainy season is a better period for insects. The Laguna Resort has an open hallway, which I regularly checked during the evenings and early mornings. Although not much moths were present, the morning we departed to Khao Sok I was rewarded with a superb **Golden Emperor Moth** in the hallway.

Gliding Lizards flying from tree to tree were an awkward view at the beach.



Common Gliding Lizard (Draco sumatranus)



Golden Emperor Moth (Loepa sikkima)

Bird list:

Asian Brown Flycatcher, Brown Shrike, Yellow-vented Bulbul, Common Myna, Grey-rumped Treeswift, Little Cormorant (migrating over sea), Common Iora, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Scaly-breasted Munia, Common Tailorbird, Spotted Dove, Chinese Pond Heron (>10), Cinnamon Bittern (2), Coppersmith Barbet (2), Pacific Swallow, Lesser Whistling Duck (2 flying over)



Dragonfly species, Khao Lak

Phang Nga mangrove

In a few trip reports I had read about a boardwalk in the mangrove at Phang Nga. This place was described as one of the easiest place to see Mangrove Pitta, so it seemed very promising. So at home I had decided not to do a mangrove trip with Mr. Dai in Krabi but instead visiting this place.

On Wednesday morning we drove from Khao Lak to Phang Nga. We missed an exit (signposts aren't always very clear in Thailand) and arrived later than planned at the site, around 8 a.m.

The first 50 meters of the boardwalk were in concrete, then started a wooded part. This part was in very bad condition and there were big holes in it. I went over the first hole but a look through the bins showed more and bigger holes further on. It looked dangerous and I decided not to go further. By that time a noisy class of students arrived at the concrete part of the boardwalk which ruined our chances of seeing any birds here. So this trip turned out to be a big disappointment, especially when I heard a Mangrove Pitta calling in the distance. We decided not to spend more time here and instead we made a visit to Ton Pariwat sanctuary on the way home.

Bird list:

Green-billed Malkoha, Ashy Drongo

Ton Pariwat Sanctuary

How to get there:

Coming from Phang Nga take route 4 to the north in the direction of Kapong and Takua Pa.

At the junction take route 4090 in the direction of Kapong (and Khao Lak). After a short while you will cross a river, the immediately take the small road to the right. This road eventually (after about 10km, it might be more) ends at the HQ of Ton Pariwat Sanctuary.

The last part of this road goes through nice pieces of forest, with some nice views. On the way up I saw two large raptors soaring distantly. They looked like **Black Eagles** but by the time we got closer they had disappeared behind the hills. Arrived at the HQ we followed the trail to the waterfall. I hoped to see Chestnut-naped Forktail here so I regularly scanned the riversides, without success. It was already noon now so bird activity was low and we encountered only a few birds. Back at the HQ I was trying to photograph a **Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker** when my girlfriend called me and said she had seen three large raptors. When I asked her where she had seen them, she told me they were in the trees now. This seemed a little odd and I scanned the trees with my bins. Suddenly three large Hornbills appeared. I grabbed my scope and recognized 3 **Great Hornbills**. They were rather far away on the

hillside but in the scope we had satisfying views of the birds, moving from tree to tree. Great birds! It turned out that we were lucky since we didn't see a single hornbill in Khao Sok later on.

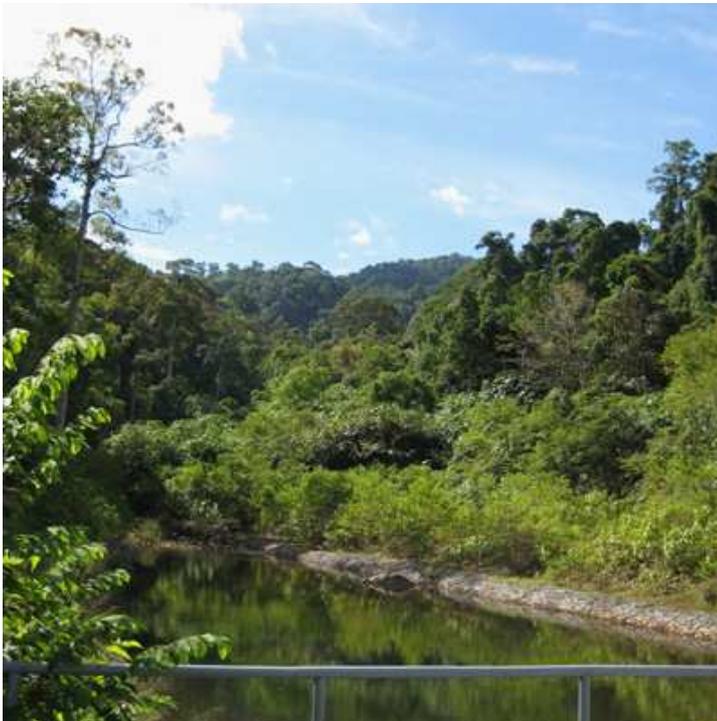
Bird list:

Crested Serpent Eagle, Great Hornbill (3), Black-headed Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Ochraceous Bulbul, Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker, Common Tailorbird

Chong Fa waterfall (Khao Lak national Park)

How to get there:

From Khao Lak Laguna resort (this is one of the first resorts after the national park reaches the sea, coming from the south) drive approximately 4 km north in the direction of Takua Pa, then it is clearly signposted (in English), to the right. Then it's about another 7 km driving. The last end of the road is a dirt track, but you don't need a 4-wheel drive (maybe you do in the middle of the rain season). At the end there is a barrier (which was always open), a little bit further you can park the car.



Chong Fa, view on the small reservoir



Blyth's Hawk Eagle, Chong Fa, 03/04/08

I got to know this place from a trip report (Mark and Sandra Dennis, April 2002). They recommended this place and they are certainly right.

It's a nice piece of rainforest with rather easy birding. It's close to the resorts of Khao Lak, which makes it ideal for early morning visits while the girlfriend or wife and family are still sleeping.

The birding around the two houses is very good because there's a nice open space with large trees and some fruiting trees, and you have good views over the surrounding woods.

I didn't have to pay an entrance fee. The man of the house is very friendly but he doesn't speak English. He was very amazed and pleased when I showed him the **Whiskered Treeswifts** through my scope. It seemed like the first time in his life he saw a telescope.

It's easy to see Whiskered Treeswift here, I had far better views of them than I had in KNC.

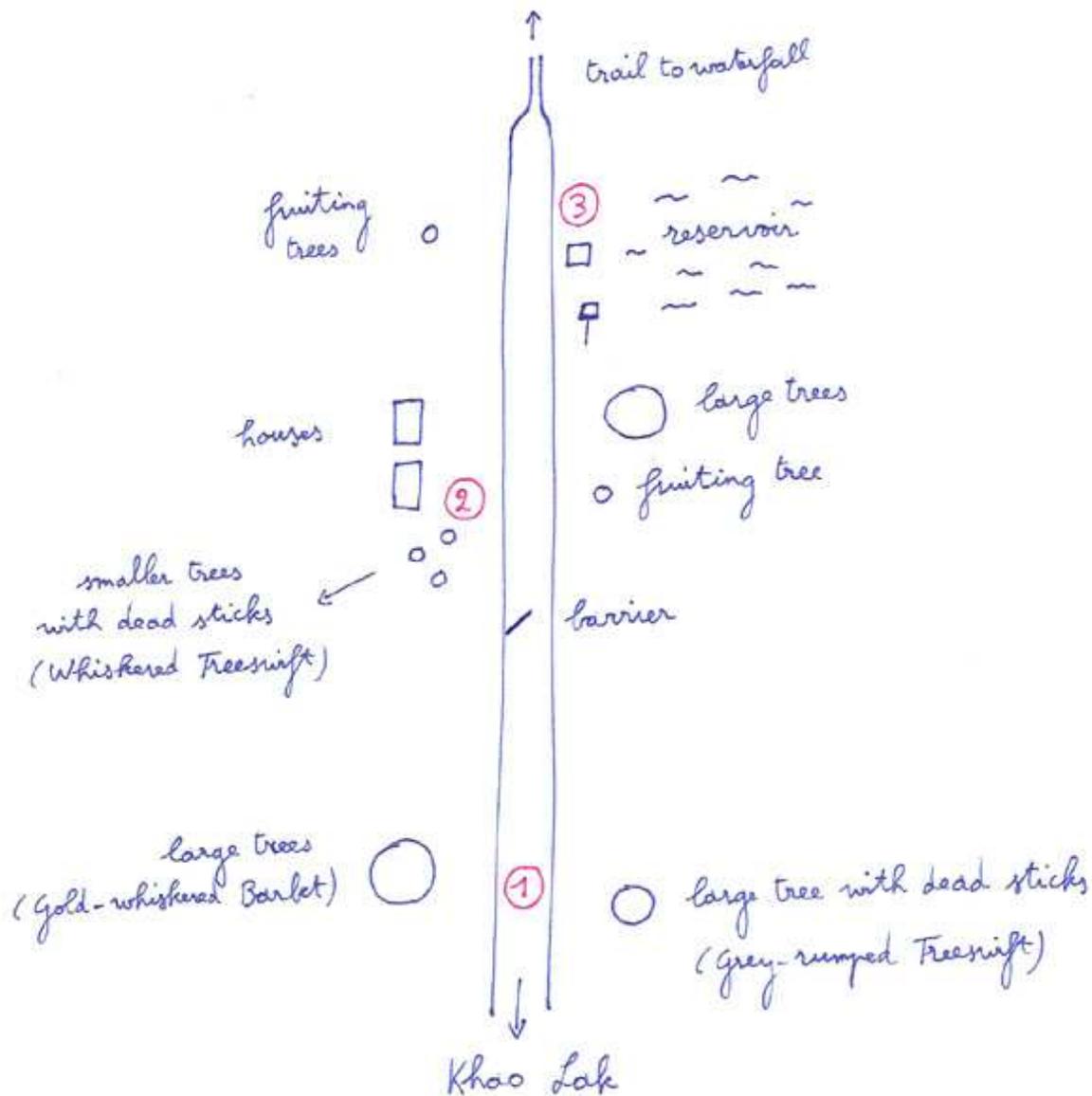
I spent four mornings and one evening here, the first time with my girlfriend, the other times I went alone. During these visits I have seen **52 species** of birds.

Birding was best in the morning from 7.30 till 10 a.m.

I saw most of the birds by standing still for a longer time at the same place. The scope was very useful here; quite a lot of birds would have been left unidentified if I hadn't had a scope.

This was so productive that I never walked the trail all the way up to the waterfall. I did about the first half of it, but I only saw few birds this way.

I have drawn a little map and pointed out some good places to wait for birds:



1 : On the left side of the road there is a very large tree (this is the first large tree you see when coming from Khao Lak). On several mornings there was a **Gold-whiskered Barbet** calling from the top of this tree, invisible in the leafy canopy. I had heard this species on several occasions in KNC, but, like Red-throated Barbet, they are hard to see. At Chong Fa I had two sightings: once when it flew from its tree to the woods on the other side of the road, and on another occasion when it made a short visit to the fruiting tree at point 2.

The same large tree held a couple of **Thick-billed Green Pigeons** on my last visit (my only sighting of this species during the whole trip).

Grey-rumped Treeswifts were often present on the dead sticks in the tree on the right side of the road.

At this spot a few times a small group of **Silver-rumped Needletails** flew by.

2 : This is a very productive spot. Next to the house you can stand a bit higher and you have good views on the trees. In the smaller trees with dead sticks **Whiskered Treeswifts** were always present. They gave very good views here. I saw this species before in KNC, but there they were very high in the top of some large trees.

In the same trees I had also great views of 2 **Velvet-fronted Nuthatches** on my third visit.

The small fruiting tree on the right side of the road attracted lots of birds: 4 species of Barbets (the common **Blue-eared Barbet** but also **Brown Barbet**, **Red-throated Barbet** and **Gold-whiskered Barbet**), **Blue-winged** and **Greater Green Leafbird** (notice that the blue wings of Blue-winged Leafbird are much brighter than is depicted in Robson's guide), and 6 species of **Flowerpeckers** were all recorded here. But be patient, I saw all these species by waiting here for more than an hour each during several visits.

In the top of the large trees I regularly saw a couple of **Lesser Cuckooshrikes**. They were easier to see from point 3.

One morning I heard a **Banded** or **Black-and-Yellow Broadbill** calling from the distance.



Whiskered Treeswift, Chong Fa, 01/04/08



Grey-rumped Treeswifts, Chong Fa, 03/04/08



Greater Green Leafbird, Chong Fa, 05/04/08



Blue-winged Leafbird, Chong Fa, 01/04/08

3: Here you have a good overview on the woods on the other side of the reservoir.

From this point I had a splendid **Verditer Flycatcher** that made a brief appearance. Strangely, I saw the same bird in exactly the same little tree on my second visit at about the same hour and again it was only present for a short time.

In the same woods I had a distant sighting of a group of 4 wonderful **Scarlet Minivets** (male and females).

During my third morning visit a very small kingfisher flew by very fast. I could just get the bird from its back in my bins, when it disappeared in the woods.

Its flashy pink colours gave away its identity: **Rufous-backed Kingfisher**. I tried to look for it several times by climbing the trail alongside the river, but I failed to locate the bird. I only had another sighting of the bird flying by on another visit.

The fruiting trees here were good for **Green Leafbirds** and **Spiderhunters**.

Another good bird at this place was **Chestnut-bellied Malkoha**.



Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, Chong Fa, 05/04/08 *Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker, Chong Fa, 05/04/08*

Bird list:

Blue-eared Barbet, Brown Barbet, Red-throated Barbet, Gold-whiskered Barbet, Greater Green Leafbird, Blue-winged Leafbird, Whiskered Treeswift, Grey-rumped Treeswift, Silver-rumped Needletail, Black-nest Swiftlet, Pacific Swallow, Crested Serpent Eagle, Oriental Honeybuzzard, Blyth's Hawk Eagle, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker, Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker, Orange-bellied Flowerpecker, Yellow-vented Flowerpecker, Thick-billed Flowerpecker, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Olive-backed Sunbird, Purple-naped Sunbird, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Dark-sided Flycatcher, Verditer Flycatcher, Lesser Cuckooshrike, Little Cormorant, Bar-winged Flycatcher Shrike, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Rufous-backed Kingfisher, White-breasted Kingfisher, Chestnut-bellied Malkoha, Vernal Hanging Parrot, Common Iora, Scarlet Minivet, Oriental Magpie Robin, Velvet Fronted Nuthatch, Grey Wagtail, Little Spiderhunter, Yellow-eared Spiderhunter, Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Black-crested Bulbul, Black-headed Bulbul, Stripe-throated Bulbul, Ochraceous Bulbul, Grey-bellied Bulbul, Streak-eared Bulbul, Red-eyed Bulbul, Buff-vented Bulbul, Yellow-browed Warbler

Laem Pakarang

This place is well described on www.thaibirding.com by Nick Upton.



Grey-tailed Tattler, Laem Pakarang, 03/04/08



Greater Sand Plover, Laem Pakarang, 03/04/08

I made two evening visits to this place, which is especially good for waders and egrets. Best birds here were 2 **Chinese Egrets** (a bird in winter plumage on 02/04, a second bird was more advanced to summer plumage on 03/04) and **Grey-tailed Tattlers** (2 on 02/04 and 3 on 03/04).

The surrounding fields are also worth checking, here we saw amongst others **Black-shouldered Kite**, a **Red-wattled Lapwing**, **Cattle Egrets** and **Indian Rollers**.

The bee-eater roost mentioned on thaibirding.com probably doesn't exist anymore because now there's a brand new resort built very close to that place (I checked it once in the evening and didn't see any bee-eaters). Hopefully the wader site at Laem Pakarang won't be destroyed by hotel buildings.



Chinese Egret (summer plumage), Laem Pakarang, 03/04/08



Chinese Egret (winter plumage), Laem Pakarang, 02/04/08

Bird list

Grey-tailed Tattler (3), Lesser Sand Plover, Greater Sand Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Pacific Golden Plover (2), Terek Sandpiper (> 10), Whimbrel, Common Sandpiper, Bar-tailed Godwit, Sanderling, Grey Plover, Chinese Egret (2), Little Egret, Cattle Egret (12), Common Kingfisher (1), White-throated Kingfisher (1), White-breasted Waterhen, Indian Roller (2), Brown Shrike, White-bellied Sea Eagle

Khao Sok

On one of the last days of our stay we planned a daytrip to Khao Sok. This national park is described in other trip reports and in thaibirding.com.

To increase my chances of seeing some species high on my wish list like Banded Pitta and Chestnut-naped Forktail I used the services of the local bird guide Tang.

On Wednesday I called him on his cell phone and we made an arrangement for Friday, two days later. We departed in Khao Lak at 5.45 and arrived at the HQ at 7.00. We paid our entrance fee and asked the man if he knew where we could find our guide. He didn't really understand us but a few minutes later our guide arrived.

We took the wide trail and started birding. **White-rumped Shama** was common along this trail and often gave good views. We heard a woodpecker calling but it was difficult to find it. Tang took me with him off trail and after a while we had good views of 2 splendid **Maroon Woodpeckers** (this was the only species of Woodpecker seen during the whole trip, the Woodpeckers turned out to be much more difficult to see than I had expected).

We also walked up a little stream to try for Chestnut-headed Forktail but failed to see one.

Other birds along the trail were **Crimson Sunbird** (a male in eclipse plumage), **Ruby-cheeked Sunbird**, **Raffles's Malkoha**, **Asian Paradise Flycatcher**, **Asian Fairy Bluebird** and **Black-naped Monarch**.

Tang stopped at a good site for Banded Pitta but we didn't get any response.

After more than 2 hours we arrived at the restaurant (disused campsite, 2 to 3 km from the HQ) where we stopped to have something to eat and drink. Tang surprised us with a small meal his wife had made for us. As all the food in Thailand it tasted delicious. But by then we still hadn't seen our target birds.

From the restaurant several trails start. We took the bridge over the stream and after a few hundred meters we stopped at another site for **Banded Pitta**. This time a beautiful male responded quickly and showed itself very well for more than 10 minutes, making it one of the absolute highlights of our vacation. We also saw the female and got to capture it on videotape.

Satisfied we returned to the HQ, while birding a little while along the wide trail.

We tried again for the **Chestnut-naped Forktail** on the same spot and this time we were lucky: we saw one bird on the rocks of the small stream. It was very shy and showed itself only for a short while, but what a bird!

We also stopped at some good viewpoints for Hornbills, unfortunately without success.

Finally we arrived back at the HQ and gave Tang a lift to his house. Like he asked I wrote a short note in his copy of Robson's guide, which he had received from Vincent van der Spek back in 2004.

Tang had heard a **Blue-winged Pitta** in his garden early in the morning and invited us in his garden to look for it but we couldn't find it, probably because it was too hot by the time.

Satisfied we returned to Khao Lak at 2.30 p.m. On the road (a few km after we left) we saw some **Fork-tailed Swifts** flying over.



Butterfly species

Khao Sok, 04/04/2008



Forest Crested Lizard (*Calotes emma*)

Bird list:

Banded Pitta, Chestnut-naped Forktail, Maroon Woodpecker, Dark-necked Tailorbird, White-rumped Shama, Raffles's Malkoha, Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Asian Paradise Flycatcher, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Black-naped Monarch, Ruby-cheeked Sunbird, Crimson Sunbird, Fork-tailed Swift, Abbott's Babbler, Striped Tit Babbler, Black-headed Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Striped-throated Bulbul, Asian Glossy Starling (in a village on the way back).

Similan Islands



Island No. 9, Similand Islands, 06/04/08

Birders who want to see the Nicobar Pigeon mostly visit the Similan Islands.

Besides the pigeons there are not many birds here but the islands are very beautiful and the snorkeling is very good here.

A lot of small travel agencies offer snorkeling trips to the Similan islands. It is crucial to check their programs so you have the chance to get on land on island number 4 (Koh Miang), the only island where you can see Nicobar Pigeon.

We ended up with Ruk Talay Travel. They charged 2300 baht/person. We chose this agency because their program started with island No. 4, where we had the chance to get on land from 10.30 till 12.

In the brochure it was also told that the program could be changed depending on weather condition. Unfortunately that's what they did...

We departed from Pakarang beach with a speedboat at 9 am. We arrived at about 10.15 but first we stopped next to island No. 7 for snorkeling (thus not at island No. 4, the reason for it had something to do with the current). The next stop was at island No. 4 at around 11.30. We arrived at a small picnic place. The island also has a bigger picnic area with a restaurant and some bungalows on the other side. You can easily reach the other side by a small trail through the woods (about 10 minutes walking). The pigeons can be seen on both places, just walking around on the ground.

Arrived on the island I immediately went to the big picnic area where I started looking for the pigeons. Unfortunately the picnic area was crowded with people, with no sign of the pigeons. I also checked the woods from the trail and in between I had a quick lunch. I found lots of **Pied Imperial Pigeons**, saw one **Asian Koel**, some big lizards and large fruit bats. On my last attempt I found a dark pigeon in the woods but it turned out to be a **Green Imperial Pigeon**.

By 12.30 the boat left the island.

The best tactics to see the pigeon (if you have time) is to make a deal with a travel agency so they can drop you on the island, spend the night there in a bungalow and return the day after.

The more expensive way (I guess at least more than 10.000 baht) is to hire a boat (with driver) so you can spend as much time at the island as you wish.

We also visited island No. 8 and finally island No. 9. On the last spot we had the choice to go at the beach or to do some more snorkeling. I chose the latter and had in fact the best snorkeling here.

During the boat trip I saw some terns but they were difficult to identify from the fast moving boat.

On the way back we had a brief encounter with 3 dolphins, probably **Bottlenose Dolphins**.



Pied Imperial Pigeons, Island No 4, Similan Islands, 06/04/08

Bird list:

Pied Imperial Pigeon (>20), Green Imperial Pigeon (1), Asian Koel, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Little Tern, Black-naped Tern

Thai Muang golf course

How to get there:

Drive from Khao Lak to the south in the direction of Thai Muang. In the town centre of Thai Muang drive to the right, this is where the main road makes a turn to the left and leads to Phuket (at this point if you take the small road straight ahead you will find the marshy fields at your right side, after a few km). After a short while you will find the entrance of the golf course at your left side.

If you are tired of looking for birds in the woods this area offers a nice change.

We visited this place on our second last full day and we added 12 new species to the trip list.

The golf course is large and has some small pools in it. Adjacent in the south there are some marshy fields with buffaloes.

The golf course was closed (it had recently changed from owner) but I approached the man in the little watchtower and showed him my bird guide and binoculars. To my surprise he opened the barrier and let us in (in Belgium this wouldn't be that easy). We then had the place all for ourselves!

The golf course is a large area and I tried to drive a dirt track, but it wasn't suitable for a normal car. Then I decided to visit the place on foot.

The fields were loaded with birds. The first new species we met was a **Paddyfield Pipit**, easily recognized by its call. Other Pipits present were **Richard's Pipit** and **Red-throated Pipit**.

Lots of **Pacific Golden Plovers** were present and I flushed several **Pintail Snipes** (the call is clearly different from Common Snipe). Other birds in the fields were **River Lapwing**, **Red-wattled Lapwing** and **Plain-backed Sparrow**.

After two hours I reached the edge of the golf course, where the marshy area starts. This area looked very interesting but unfortunately I didn't have enough time left to check it decently (we had to return the car to the office). I quickly scanned the area with the scope and I recorded some **Oriental Pratincoles**, **Purple Swamphen**, **Lesser Whistling Duck** and **White-vented Myna** (on the back of the buffaloes). Then I rushed back to the car but halfway I was stopped by the biggest surprise of the day: in a tree in the middle of the golf course I found 2 adult and two juvenile **Spotted Wood Owls**. They gave splendid views and after taking some pictures we returned to Khao Lak.



Spotted Wood Owl (juvenile)

Thai Muang 05/04/08



Spotted Wood Owl (adult)

Bird list:

Paddyfield Pipit (>6), Richard's Pipit (4), Red-throated Pipit (2), Yellow Wagtail (2), Pacific Golden Plover (>50), River Lapwing, Red-wattled Lapwing, Oriental Pratincole, Pintail Snipe, Purple Swamphen (3), White-breasted Waterhen, Little Heron, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Brahminy Kite, Black Drongo, Brown Shrike, White-throated Kingfisher, Yellow-vented Bulbul, Little Cormorant, Plain-backed Sparrow, Green-billed Malkoha, Spotted Wood Owl, Lesser Whistling Duck, White-vented Myna



Tokay Gecko (Gekko gecko), KNC (Morakot Resort), 27/03/08

Complete species list (only birds seen, order as in Robson's guide)

1. Lesser Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna javanica*)
2. Maroon Woodpecker (*Blythipicus rubiginosus*)
3. Gold-whiskered Barbet (*Megalaima chrysopogon*)
4. Blue-eared Barbet (*Megalaima australis*)
5. Red-throated Barbet (*Megalaima mystacophanos*)
6. Coppersmith Barbet (*Megalaima haemacephala*)
7. Brown Barbet (*Calorhamphus fuliginosus*)
8. Oriental Pied-Hornbill (*Anthracoceros albirostris*)
9. Great Hornbill (*Buceros bicornis*)
10. Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)
11. Banded Kingfisher (*Lacedo pulchella*)
12. White-throated Kingfisher (*Halcyon smyrnensis*)
13. Collared Kingfisher (*Todirhamphus chloris*)
14. Rufous-backed Kingfisher (*Ceyx rufidorsa*)
15. Chestnut-headed Bee-eater (*Merops leschenaulti*)
16. Greater Coucal (*Centropus sinensis*)
17. Banded Bay Cuckoo (*Cacomantis sonneratii*)
18. Plaintive Cuckoo (*Cacomantis merulinus*)
19. Drongo Cuckoo (*Surniculus lugubris*)
20. Asian Koel (*Eudynamys scolopacea*)
21. Chestnut-bellied Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus sumatranus*)
22. Green-billed Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus tristis*)
23. Raffles's Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus*)
24. Chestnut-breasted Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*)
25. Indian Roller (*Coracias benghalensis*)
26. Vernal Hanging Parrot (*Loriculus vernalis*)
27. Black-nest Swiftlet (*Collocalia maxima*)
28. Germain's Swiftlet (*Collocalia germani*)
29. Silver-rumped Needletail (*Rhaphidura leucopygialis*)
30. Asian Palm Swift (*Cypsiurus balasiensis*)
31. Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*)
32. House Swift (*Apus Affinis*)
33. Brown-backed Needletail (*Hirundapus giganteus*)

34. Grey-rumped Treeswift (*Hemiprocne longipennis*)
35. Whiskered Treeswift (*Hemiprocne comata*)
36. Spotted Wood Owl (*Strix seloputo*)
37. Green Imperial Pigeon (*Ducula aenea*)
38. Pied Imperial Pigeon (*Ducula bicolor*)
39. Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*)
40. Peaceful Dove (*Geopelia striata*)
41. Thick-billed Green Pigeon (*Treron curvirostra*)
42. White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*)
43. Purple Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*)
44. Ruddy-breasted Crake (*Porzana fusca*)
45. Pintail Snipe (*Gallinago stenura*)
46. Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*)
47. Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)
48. Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)
49. Nordmann's Greenshank (*Tringa guttifer*)
50. Terek Sandpiper (*Tringa cinerea*)
51. Common Sandpiper (*Tringa hypoleucos*)
52. Grey-tailed Tattler (*Heteroscelus brevipes*)
53. Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)
54. Great Knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*)
55. Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)
56. Oriental Pratincole (*Glareola maldivarum*)
57. Kentish Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*)
58. 'White-faced Plover'
59. Lesser Sand Plover (*Charadrius mongolus*)
60. Greater Sandplover (*Charadrius leschenaultia*)
61. Pacific Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*)
62. Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)
63. River Lapwing (*Vanellus duvaucelii*)
64. Red-wattled Lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*)
65. Bridled Tern (*Sterna anaethetus*)
66. Lesser Crested Tern (*Sterna bengalensis*)
67. Black-naped Tern (*Sterna sumatrana*)
68. Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)

69. Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons*)
70. Black Baza (*Aviceda leuphotes*)
71. Oriental Honey-buzzard (*Pernis ptilorynchus*)
72. Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur Indus*)
73. White-bellied Sea Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*)
74. Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)
75. Crested Serpent Eagle (*Spilornis cheela*)
76. Blyth's Hawk Eagle (*Spizaetus alboniger*)
77. Black-shouldered Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*)
78. Little Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax niger*)
79. Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)
80. Chinese Egret (*Egretta eulophotes*)
81. Pacific Reef Egret (*Egretta sacra*)
82. Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*)
83. Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)
84. Chinese Pond Heron (*Ardeola bacchus*)
85. Javan Pond Heron (*Ardeola speciosa*)
86. Little Heron (*Butorides striatus*)
87. Yellow Bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*)
88. Cinnamon Bittern (*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*)
89. Banded Pitta (*Pitta guajana*)
90. Gurney's Pitta (*Pitta gurneyi*)
91. Black-and-yellow Broadbill (*Eurylaimus ochromalus*)
92. Greater Green Leafbird (*Chloropsis sonnerati*)
93. Blue-winged Leafbird (*Chloropsis cochinchinensis*)
94. Asian Fairy-bluebird (*Irena puella*)
95. Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*)
96. Black Drongo (*Dicrurus macrocercus*)
97. Ashy Drongo (*Dicrurus leucophaeus*)
98. Large-billed Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*)
99. Lesser Cuckooshrike (*Coracina fimbriata*)
100. Scarlet Minivet (*Pericrocotus flammeus*)
101. Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike (*Hemipus picatus*)
102. Pied Fantail (*Rhipidura javanica*)
103. Common Iora (*Aegithina tiphia*)

104. Black-naped Monarch (*Hypothymis azurea*)
105. Asian Paradise-flycatcher (*Terpsiphone paradisi*)
106. Blue Rock Trush (*Monticola solitarius*)
107. Eyebrowed Trush (*Turdus obscures*)
108. Fulvous-chested Jungle Flycatcher (*Rhinomyias olivacea*)
109. Dark-sided Flycatcher (*Muscicapa sibirica*)
110. Asian Brown Flycatcher (*Muscicapa daurica*)
111. Green-backed Flycatcher (*Ficedula elisae*)
112. Tickell's Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis tickelliae*)
113. Verditer Flycatcher (*Eumyias thalassina*)
114. Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher (*Culicicapa ceylonensis*)
115. Siberian Blue Robin (*Luscinia cyane*)
116. Oriental Magpie Robin (*Copsychus saularis*)
117. White-rumped Shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*)
118. Chestnut-naped Forktail (*Enicurus ruficapillus*)
119. Asian Glossy Starling (*Aplonis panayensis*)
120. Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)
121. White-vented Myna (*Acridotheres javanicus*)
122. Velvet-fronted Nuthatch (*Sitta frontalis*)
123. Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
124. Pacific Swallow (*Hirundo tahitica*)
125. Striated Swallow (*Hirundo striolata*)
126. Black-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus atriceps*)
127. Black-crested Bulbul (*Pycnonotus melanicterus*)
128. Grey-bellied Bulbul (*Pycnonotus cyaniventris*)
129. Red-whiskered Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*)
130. Puff-backed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus eutilotus*)
131. Stripe-throated Bulbul (*Pycnonotus finlaysoni*)
132. Yellow-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus goiavier*)
133. Streak-eared Bulbul (*Pycnonotus blanfordi*)
134. Red-eyed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus brunneus*)
135. Buff-vented Bulbul (*Iole olivacea*)
136. Ochraceous Bulbul (*Alophoixus ochraceus*)
137. Common Tailorbird (*Orthotomus sutorius*)
138. Dark-necked Tailorbird (*Orthotomus atrogularis*)

139. Pale-legged Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus tenellipes*)
140. Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*)
141. Abbott's Babbler (*Malacocincla abbotti*)
142. Puff-throated Babbler (*Pellorneum ruficeps*)
143. Striped Tit-Babbler (*Macronous gularis*)
144. Chestnut-winged Babbler (*Stachyris erythroptera*)
145. Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker (*Prionochilus maculatus*)
146. Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker (*Prionochilus percussus*)
147. Thick-billed Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum agile*)
148. Yellow-vented Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum chrysorrheum*)
149. Orange-bellied Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum trigonostigma*)
150. Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum cruentatum*)
151. Purple-naped Sunbird (*Hypogramma hypogrammicum*)
152. Brown-throated Sunbird (*Anthreptes malacensis*)
153. Ruby-cheeked Sunbird (*Anthreptes singalensis*)
154. Purple-throated Sunbird (*Nectarinia sperata*)
155. Olive-backed Sunbird (*Nectarinia jugularis*)
156. Crimson Sunbird (*Aethopyga siparaja*)
157. Little Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera longirostra*)
158. Yellow-eared Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera chrysogenys*)
159. Forest Wagtail (*Dendronanthus indicus*)
160. Richard's Pipit (*Anthus richardi*)
161. Paddyfield Pipit (*Anthus rufulus*)
162. Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*)
163. Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*)
164. Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)
165. Plain-backed Sparrow (*Passer flaveolus*)
166. Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)
167. Scaly-breasted Munia (*Lonchura punctulata*)

(heard only: Blue-eared Kingfisher, Banded Broadbill, Mangrove Pitta, Great Iora, Green Broadbill)