TROPICAL BIRDING

NORTHEAST INDIA:

MEGA BIRDS OF THE HIMALAYAS

A Tropical Birding Custom Tour

May 9-28, 2019
Guide: Ken Behrens

All photos by Ken Behrens

TOUR SUMMARY

Northeast India, specifically the states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, offer a dazzling array of habitats, from Brahmaputra River grasslands, to lush hill rainforests, to montane forest, all the way up to Alpine habitats above treeline. These habitats support a huge array of birds, including some of the best-looking and most sought-after of Asian birds. It's no exaggeration to say that this area of the eastern Himalayas offers the best montane birding in all of Asia.

This custom tour was build around a short list of target birds. Chief among these were Slender-billed Vulture, Green (see photo above) and Purple Cochoas, and Beautiful Nuthatch. It took a lot of work, but we enjoyed excellent, lengthy views of all of these targets. In general, hard work with great rewards was a theme of this trip. There were a couple dozen other targets, the vast majority of which we found as we put in the time in the field. Birding in this part of the world is never easy. Many of the birds are shy and seem to exist in low densities. But this very fact makes encountering them all the more satisfying!

In the Assam plains, we visited two excellent national parks: Kaziranga and Manas. These parks are famous among general tourists as sites for big mammals, especially a large population

of Indian Rhino. Among birders, they're more famous for holding scarce grassland birds like Black-breasted Parrotbill, Indian Grassbird, Jerdon's and Slender-billed Babblers, Pale-footed Bush Warbler, and Yellow or Finn's Weaver, all of which we saw. In Kaziranga, we had good views of the increasingly scarce Slender-billed Vulture. We also visited a couple grassland sites outside of national parks, and added Blue-breasted Quail and Marsh Babbler. Doing a bit of exploration and finding Swamp Prinia (perhaps better called "Swamp Grass Babbler") at a new site was a major thrill, at least in terms of the rarity of the bird, if not its stunning good looks!

Finding the rare and enigmatic Swamp Prinia (a.k.a. Swamp Grass Babbler) at a new site provided a major adrenaline rush!

The low hills adjacent the Brahmaputra floodplain support lush rainforest, which has a completely different set of birds from the nearby grasslands or the montane forests higher in elevation. In this habitat, we fought a long battle with Blue-naped Pitta and only had fleeting glimpses of it. We had more success with some rare birds like Malayan Night-Heron, Pale-capped Pigeon, Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush, and Brown Hornbill, which we saw visiting a nest hole.

It's hard to choose, but Chevron-breasted may be the coolest-looking of all the wren-babblers. This group reaches its peak diversity in the eastern Himalayas.

Rich Himalayan forests are the marquee habitat of this region, and we spent nearly a week exploring this habitat in Eaglesnest, plus a couple more days in the Mishmi Hills farther east. We saw so many mouth-watering birds in this habitat that it's hard to know where to begin! Three of our top four targets were here: the two Cochoas and Beautiful Nuthatch. Other prized sightings included Hodgson's Frogmouth on a day roost; Dark-rumped Swift; Yellow-rumped Honeyguide; Rufous-throated, Chestnut-breasted, and Hill Partridges; Ward's Trogon; Rufous-throated, Rusty-throated, Long-billed, Blackish-breasted and Chevron-breasted Wren-Babblers; Slender-billed, Red-billed, and Coral-billed Scimitar-Babblers; Himalayan Cutia; Collared Treepie; Black-headed Shrike-Babbler; Rusty-bellied Shortwing; and Golden-breasted Fulvetta. After a few hours of searching we had fantastic views of the incredibly rare Bugun Liocichla, which was only described in the 1990s. Another highlight at Eaglesnest was excellent views of the incredibly rare Rufous-vented Laughingthrush, a lifer for our local guide! With highlights like those listed above, we can't complain, but we did have bad luck with Blyth's Tragopan, hearing it and creeping to within 10m, only to have it melt back into the forest unseen. Cuckoos were incredibly vocal on this late trip, and at least one species could be heard nearly all the time from about 3:30am onwards!

We spent three nights based in the mountain town of Dirang, and made two daytrips up to Sela Pass. The Alpine habitat here has a small but exciting set of birds. Some of our most prized

sightings on the scenic heights included Bearded Vulture, Snow Pigeon, Rufous-breasted and Golden Bush-Robins, White-browed Tit-Warbler, Grandala, and Alpine Thrush. Fire-tailed Sunbirds were buzzing around the rhododendron in delightfully high numbers.

Although amassing a huge trip list was never a priority on this target-focused custom trip, we still racked up nearly 500 species of birds! Many of the species that were missed, or hear-only, were so simply because we made no effort to target them. There were plenty of challenges on this trip: bumpy and winding mountain roads, very rustic accommodations, simple food, long days in the field, and some ridiculously early wakeup calls. But there were no regrets at the end of the tour. For keen birders who want to enjoy the riches of the richest part of the Himalayas, and to enjoy exploring a still relatively unknown part of the world, this is the place to go.

White-browed Tit-Warbler at Sela Pass. Quite a scarce bird in this part of India.

ITINERARY

May 9	Arrival in Guwahati. Drive to Kaziranga.
May 10	Kaziranga National Park and surrounds.
May 11	Kaziranga to Nameri.
May 12	Nameri to Lama Camp, Eaglesnest.
May 13	Lama Camp to Bompu Camp, Eaglesnest.
May 14-16	Bompu Camp area, Eaglesnest.
May 17	Bompu, Eaglesnest to Dirang.
May 18-19	Sela Pass (based in Dirang).
May 20	Dirang to Manas National Park.
May 21	Manas National Park.
May 22	Manas to Guwahati.
May 23	Flight from Guwahati to Dibrugarh. Drive to Tinsukia. Afternoon Maguri.
May 24	Digboi Oil Fields and Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary.
May 25	Morning Maguri Grassland. Tinsukia to Mishmi Hills.
May 26	Mishmi Hills.
May 27	Mishmi Hills to Tinsukia.
May 28	Tinsukia to Dibrugarh. Flight to Guwahati.

The grasslands of Kaziranga hold hearteningly high numbers of Indian Rhinos.

PHOTO GALLERY

Northeast India has a lot of cool birds that catch your eye in the field guide; birds like Black-headed Shrike-Babbler (left) and Himalayan Cutia (right).

Chestnut-capped Babbler is a fairly common though shy grassland species.

Streak-throated or Manipur Fulvetta has a small range, but is common in the higher Mishmi Hills.

Fire-tailed Sunbird has to be considered Asia's best-looking sunbird.

Snow Partridge is found in the rocky habitat above treeline on Sela Pass.

Small Himalayan gems: Black-throated Tit (left) and a metalmark butterfly (right).

Eurasian Wren singing its heart out in an Alpine scree field at Sela Pass.

Red-wattled Lapwing, a common and conspicuous bird of the Indian plains.

Spangled Drongo (left) with its hair crest visible! Skulking Gray-sided Laughingthrush (right).

We had spectacular views of a male Brown Hornbill bringing food to a nest.

Black-breasted Parrotbill, a scarce grassland specialty.

Plain Mountain-Finch isn't that plain when you look closely!

Chestnut-crowned Warbler, a common sprite of broadleaved woodland.

Golden-breasted Fulvetta is found in frenetic flocks in thick stands of bamboo.

Striated Babblers presiding over their world of grass.

We had an unforgettable close encounter with a Beautiful Nuthatch.

During a week in Eaglesnest, we found the likes of Collared Owlet (left) and Ashy Woodpigeon (right).

Jerdon's Babbler performed beautifully at Manas National Park.

Gray-crested Tit, a titmouse look-alike.

Blackish-breasted or Himalayan Wren-Babbler is a beautiful bird when seen well.

Bronze-winged Jacana in nice breeding plumage at Kaziranga.

Female Green Cochoa. What an odd and beautiful member of the thrush family!

Snow Pigeon on a cold and misty morning at Sela.

Striated Bulbul is fairly common at lower elevations in the mountains.

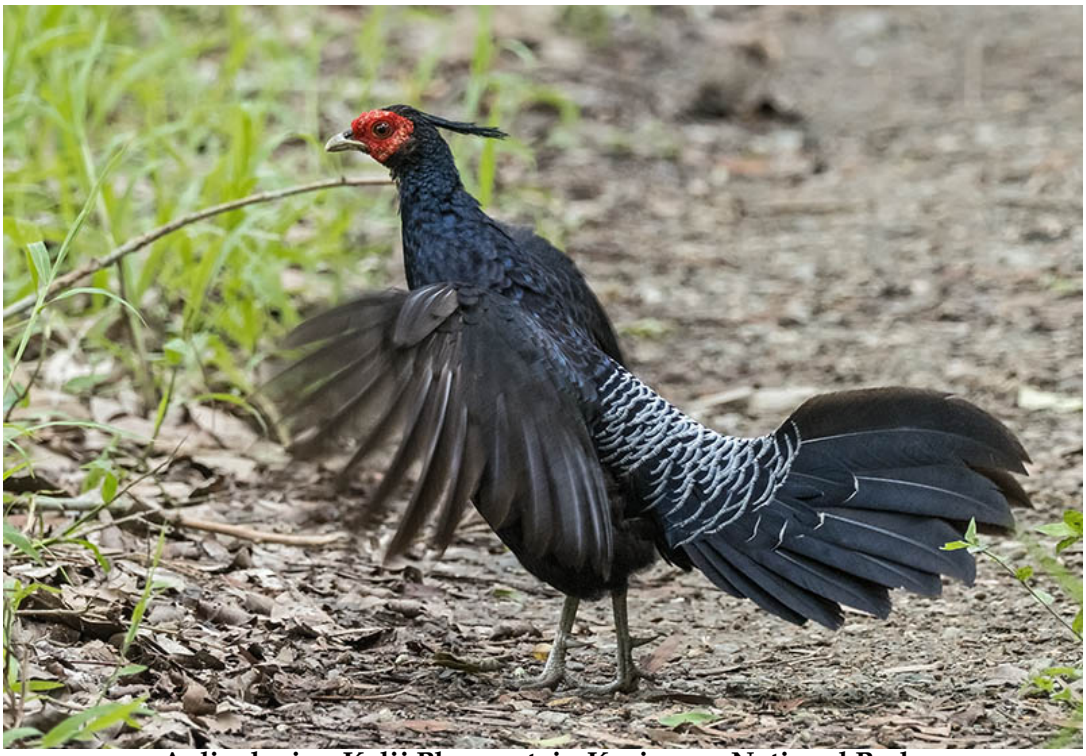
Yellow-cheeked Tit with the over-the-shoulder look.

Rusty-throated (left) and Long-billed Wren-Babblers. Delightful birds!

Greenish Warblers were abundant at Sela Pass, singing all over the place.

Pale-billed Parrotbills, also known as bamboo gremlins!

Barred Cuckoo-Dove (left) and female Ward's Trogon (right).



A displaying Kalij Pheasant, in Kaziranga National Park.

Yellow-rumped Honeyguide has been dependable at Eaglesnest for the last couple years.

Alpine Thrush in a boulder field at Sela Pass.

Rufous-breasted Accentor in song at 13,000 feet.

***Rhyothemis plutonia* dragonfly.**

Indian Grassbird (left) is generally rare, though we saw good numbers in Manas NP. White-collared Blackbird (right) is distinctive at any distance!

Asian Water Buffaloes have an impressive set of horns.

Another view of White-browed Tit-Warbler.

Assamese food is distinctive and delicious.

Black-throated Parrotbill, yet another delightful eastern Himalayan bird.

A beautiful red insect from Eaglesnest.

This Indian Rhino had seemingly been in a fight recently.

The rare Rusty-bellied Shortwing (left) and common Stripe-throated Yuhina (right).

A restless flock of Rufous-necked Laughingthrushes in Manas.

A pair of Speckled Piculets near Khellong in Eaglesnest.

The skulky Spot-throated Babbler.

A Sikkim Treecreeper, blending into a tree trunk as they always do.

BIRD LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *The Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World v2018* (including updates through August 2018).

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)		
Lesser Whistling Duck (Tree Duck)	*Dendrocygna javanica*	
Indian Spot-billed Duck	*Anas poecilorhyncha*	
Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)		
(Common/Necklaced) Hill Partridge	*Arborophila torqueola*	
Chestnut-breasted (Hill) Partridge	*Arborophila mandellii*	
Rufous-throated (Hill) Partridge	*Arborophila rufogularis*	
White-cheeked (Hill) Partridge	*Arborophila atrogularis*	
Indian Peafowl	*Pavo cristatus*	
Grey Peacock-Pheasant	*Polyplectron bicalcaratum*	H
Blue-breasted (King) Quail	*Synoicus chinensis*	
Black Francolin	*Francolinus francolinus*	
Swamp Francolin	*Francolinus gularis*	H
Red Junglefowl	*Gallus gallus*	
Himalayan (Impeyan) Monal	*Lophophorus impejanus*	
Snow Partridge	*Lerwa lerwa*	
Blyth's Tragopan	*Tragopan blythii*	H
Kalij (Kaleej) Pheasant	*Lophura leucomelanos lathami*	
Podicipedidae (Grebes)		
Little Grebe	*Tachybaptus ruficollis*	
Ciconiidae (Storks)		
Asian Openbill	*Anastomus oscitans*	
Woolly-necked Stork	*Ciconia episcopus*	

Black-necked Stork	*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*	
Lesser Adjutant	*Leptoptilos javanicus*	
Greater Adjutant	*Leptoptilos dubius*	
Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)		
Little Cormorant	*Microcarbo niger*	
Indian Cormorant (Shag)	*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*	
Anhingidae (Anhingas)		
Oriental Darter	*Anhinga melanogaster*	
Pelecanidae (Pelicans)		
Spot-billed Pelican	*Pelecanus philippensis*	
Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)		
Yellow Bittern	*Ixobrychus sinensis*	
Cinnamon (Chestnut) Bittern	*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*	
Black Bittern	*Ixobrychus flavicollis*	
Grey Heron	*Ardea cinerea*	
Purple Heron	*Ardea purpurea*	
(Eastern) Great (White) Egret	*Ardea alba modesta*	
Intermediate Egret	*Ardea intermedia*	
Little Egret	*Egretta garzetta*	
(Eastern) Cattle Egret	*Bubulcus ibis coromandus*	
Indian Pond-Heron	*Ardeola grayii*	
Striated (Little/Green-backed) Heron	*Butorides striata*	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	*Nycticorax nycticorax*	
Malayan Night-Heron	*Gorsachius melanolophus*	
Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)		
Black-headed (Oriental/Black-necked) Ibis	*Threskiornis melanocephalus*	

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)		
Black-shouldered (-winged) Kite	*Elanus caeruleus*	
Bearded Vulture (Lammergeier)	*Gypaetus barbatus barbatus*	
Oriental (Crested) Honey-Buzzard	*Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis*	
Red-headed Vulture	*Sarcogyps calvus*	
White-rumped (Indian White-backed) Vulture	*Gyps bengalensis*	
Slender-billed (Indian) Vulture	*Gyps tenuirostris*	
Himalayan Griffon (Vulture)	*Gyps himalayensis*	
Crested Serpent-Eagle	*Spilornis cheela*	
Changeable Hawk-Eagle	*Nisaetus limnaeetus*	
Black Eagle	*Ictinaetus malaiensis*	
Indian Spotted Eagle	*Clanga hastata*	
Steppe Eagle	*Aquila nipalensis*	
Crested Goshawk	*Accipiter trivirgatus*	
Shikra	*Accipiter badius*	
Besra (Sparrowhawk)	*Accipiter virgatus*	
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	*Accipiter nisus*	
Northern Goshawk	*Accipiter gentilis*	
Black (Black-eared) Kite	*Milvus migrans lineatus*	
Gray-headed Fish-Eagle	*Haliaeetus ichthyaetus*	
Himalayan (Common) Buzzard	*Buteo refectus*	
Otididae (Bustards)		
Bengal Florican	*Houbaropsis bengalensis*	
Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)		
White-breasted Waterhen	*Amaurornis phoenicurus*	
Watercock	*Gallicrex cinerea*	

Grey-headed (Indian/Purple) Swamphen	*Porphyrio poliocephalus*	
Eurasian (Common) Moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus*	
Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)		
Black-winged Stilt	*Himantopus himantopus*	
Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)		
Red-wattled Lapwing	*Vanellus indicus*	
Little Ringed Plover	*Charadrius dubius jerdoni*	
Jacanidae (Jacanas)		
Pheasant-tailed Jacana	*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*	
Bronze-winged Jacana	*Metopidius indicus*	
Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)		
Common Sandpiper	*Actitis hypoleucos*	
Spotted Redshank	*Tringa erythropus*	
Common Greenshank	*Tringa nebularia*	
Turnicidae (Buttonquail)		
Barred Buttonquail	*Turnix suscitator*	
Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)		
Whiskered Tern	*Chlidonias hybrida*	
Black-bellied Tern	*Sterna acuticauda*	
Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)		
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	*Columba livia*	
Snow Pigeon	*Columba leuconota*	
Ashy Wood-Pigeon	*Columba pulchricollis*	
Pale-capped Pigeon	*Columba punicea*	
Oriental Turtle Dove	*Streptopelia orientalis*	

Red Collared-Dove (Turtle-Dove)	*Streptopelia tranquebarica*	
Spotted Dove	*Streptopelia chinensis*	
Barred Cuckoo-Dove	*Macropygia unchall*	
Asian (Common) Emerald Dove	*Chalcophaps indica*	
Orange-breasted (Green) Pigeon	*Treron bicinctus*	
Ashy-headed Green-Pigeon	*Treron phayrei*	
Thick-billed (Green) Pigeon	*Treron curvirostra*	
Yellow-footed (Green) Pigeon	*Treron phoenicopterus*	
Pin-tailed (Green) Pigeon	*Treron apicauda*	
Wedge-tailed Pigeon	*Treron sphenurus*	
Green Imperial Pigeon	*Ducula aenea*	
Mountain Imperial Pigeon	*Ducula badia*	
Cuculidae (Cuckoos)		
Greater Coucal	*Centropus sinensis sinensis*	
Lesser Coucal	*Centropus bengalensis*	
Green-billed Malkoha	*Phaenicophaeus tristis*	
Chestnut-winged Cuckoo	*Clamator coromandus*	H
Asian (Common) Koel	*Eudynamys scolopaceus*	
Asian Emerald Cuckoo	*Chrysococcyx maculatus*	
Violet Cuckoo	*Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*	
Banded Bay Cuckoo	*Cacomantis sonneratii*	H
Plaintive Cuckoo	*Cacomantis merulinus*	
Square-tailed (Asian) Drongo-Cuckoo	*Surniculus lugubris*	
Large Hawk-Cuckoo	*Hierococcyx sparverioides*	
Common Hawk-Cuckoo	*Hierococcyx varius varius*	H
Hodgson's (Whistling) Hawk-Cuckoo	*Hierococcyx nisicolor*	

Lesser (Small) Cuckoo	*Cuculus poliocephalus*	
Indian Cuckoo	*Cuculus micropterus*	
Himalayan (Oriental) Cuckoo	*Cuculus saturatus*	
Common (Eurasian) Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	
Strigidae (Owls)		
Mountain Scops-Owl	*Otus spilocephalus*	H
Collared Scops-Owl	*Otus lettia*	H
Spot-bellied (Forest) Eagle-Owl	*Bubo nipalensis*	H
Collared Owlet	*Glaucidium brodiei brodiei*	
Asian Barred Owlet	*Glaucidium cuculoides*	
Spotted (Little Owl) Owlet	*Athene brama*	H
Himalayan (Chinese Tawny) Owl	*Strix nivicolum*	H
Brown Boobook (Hawk-Owl)	*Ninox scutulata burmanica*	H
Podargidae (Frogmouths)		
Hodgson's Frogmouth	*Batrachostomus hodgsoni*	
Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)		
Grey Nightjar	*Caprimulgus jotaka*	
Large-tailed Nightjar	*Caprimulgus macrurus*	
Apodidae (Swifts)		
White-throated Needletail	*Hirundapus caudacutus*	
Himalayan Swiftlet	*Aerodramus brevirostris brevirostris*	
Blyth's (Pacific/Fork-tailed) Swift	*Apus leuconyx*	
Dark-rumped Swift	*Apus acuticauda*	
House Swift	*Apus nipalensis*	
Asian Palm Swift	*Cypsiurus balasiensis*	

Trogonidae (Trogons)		
Red-headed Trogon	*Harpactes erythrocephalus*	
Ward's Trogon	*Harpactes wardi*	
Upupidae (Hoopoes)		
Eurasian (Common) Hoopoe	*Upupa epops*	
Bucerotidae (Hornbills)		
Great (Indian/Pied) Hornbill	*Buceros bicornis*	
Rufous-necked Hornbill	*Aceros nipalensis*	
(Austen's/White-throated) Brown Hornbill	*Anorrhinus austeni*	
Oriental Pied Hornbill	*Anthracoceros albirostris*	
Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)		
Common Kingfisher	*Alcedo atthis*	
Blue-eared Kingfisher	*Alcedo meninting*	
Black-backed (Oriental) Dwarf-Kingfisher	*Ceyx erithaca*	
Stork-billed Kingfisher	*Pelargopsis capensis capensis*	
Ruddy Kingfisher	*Halcyon coromanda coromanda*	
White-throated Kingfisher	*Halcyon smyrnensis*	
(Lesser) Pied Kingfisher	*Ceryle rudis*	
Meropidae (Bee-eaters)		
Blue-bearded Bee-eater	*Nyctyornis athertoni*	
(Little) Green Bee-eater	*Merops orientalis*	
Blue-tailed Bee-eater	*Merops philippinus*	
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	*Merops leschenaulti*	
Coraciidae (Rollers)		
Indian (Indochinese/Black-billed/Burmese) Roller	*Coracias benghalensis affinis*	
(Oriental) Dollarbird	*Eurystomus orientalis*	

Megalaimidae (Asian Barbets)		
Coppersmith Barbet	*Psilopogon haemacephalus*	H
Blue-eared Barbet	*Psilopogon duvaucelii cyanotis*	H
Great Barbet	*Psilopogon virens*	
Lineated Barbet	*Psilopogon lineatus*	
Golden-throated Barbet	*Psilopogon franklinii franklinii*	
Blue-throated Barbet	*Psilopogon asiaticus asiaticus*	
Indicatoridae (Honeyguides)		
Yellow-rumped Honeyguide	*Indicator xanthonotus*	
Picidae (Woodpeckers)		
Speckled Piculet	*Picumnus innominatus*	
Grey-capped (Pygmy) Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos canicapillus*	
Fulvous-breasted (Pied) Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos macei*	
Crimson-breasted (Pied) Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos cathpharius*	H
Darjeeling (Pied) Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos darjellensis*	
Lesser Yellownape	*Picus chlorolophus*	
Greater Yellownape	*Picus flavinucha*	
Grey-headed (-faced) Woodpecker	*Picus canus hessei*	
Black-rumped Flameback (Lesser Goldenback)	*Dinopium benghalense benghalense*	
Pale-headed Woodpecker	*Gecinulus grantia*	
Rufous Woodpecker	*Micropternus brachyurus*	H
Greater Flameback (Goldenback)	*Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus guttacristatus*	
Bay Woodpecker	*Blythipicus pyrrhotis*	
Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)		
Eurasian (Common) Kestrel	*Falco tinnunculus tinnunculus*	
Oriental Hobby	*Falco severus*	

Peregrine (Shaheen) Falcon	*Falco peregrinus peregrinator*	
Psittaculidae (Old World Parrots)		
Alexandrine Parakeet	*Psittacula eupatria*	
Rose-ringed Parakeet	*Psittacula krameri*	
Blossom-headed (Rosy-headed) Parakeet	*Psittacula roseata*	
Red-breasted Parakeet	*Psittacula alexandri*	
Vernal Hanging Parrot	*Loriculus vernalis*	
Eurylaimidae (Asian and Grauer's Broadbills)		
Long-tailed Broadbill	*Psarisomus dalhousiae*	
Silver-breasted Broadbill	*Serilophus lunatus rubropygius*	
Pittidae (Pittas)		
Hooded Pitta	*Pitta sordida*	
Blue-naped Pitta	*Hydrornis nipalensis*	
Vangidae (Vangas, Helmetshrikes, and Allies)		
Large Woodshrike	*Tephrodornis virgatus*	
Common Woodshrike	*Tephrodornis pondicerianus*	
Bar-winged (Pied) Flycatcher-shrike	*Hemipus picatus*	
Artamidae (Woodswallows)		
Ashy Woodswallow	*Artamus fuscus*	
Aegithinidae (Ioras)		
Common Iora	*Aegithina tiphia*	
Campephagidae (Cuckooshrikes)		
Small Minivet	*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*	
Grey-chinned Minivet	*Pericrocotus solaris*	
Short-billed Minivet	*Pericrocotus brevirostris*	

Long-tailed Minivet	*Pericrocotus ethologus*	
Scarlet Minivet	*Pericrocotus speciosus speciosus*	
Rosy Minivet	*Pericrocotus roseus*	
Large Cuckooshrike	*Coracina macei nipalensis*	
Black-winged Cuckooshrike	*Lalage melaschistos*	
Laniidae (Shrikes)		
Brown Shrike	*Lanius cristatus cristatus*	
('Black-headed') Long-tailed Shrike	*Lanius schach tricolor*	
Gray-backed Shrike	*Lanius tephronotus*	
Vireonidae (Vireos, Shrike-Babblers, and Erpornis)		
Black-headed Shrike-Babbler	*Pteruthius rufiventer*	
Blyth's (White-browed) Shrike-Babbler	*Pteruthius aeralatus validirostris*	
Black-eared Shrike-Babbler	*Pteruthius melanotis*	
Oriolidae (Old World Orioles)		
Black-hooded Oriole	*Oriolus xanthornus*	
Maroon Oriole	*Oriolus traillii*	
Dicruridae (Drongos)		
Black Drongo	*Dicrurus macrocercus*	
Ashy Drongo	*Dicrurus leucophaeus hopwoodi*	
Bronzed Drongo	*Dicrurus aeneus*	
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus remifer*	
Hair-crested (Spangled) Drongo	*Dicrurus hottentottus hottentottus*	
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus paradiseus*	
Rhipiduridae (Fantails)		
White-throated Fantail	*Rhipidura albicollis*	

Monarchidae (Monarch Flycatchers)		
Black-naped (Blue) Monarch	*Hypothymis azurea styani*	
Blyth's (Oriental/Indian) Paradise-Flycatcher	*Terpsiphone affinis saturatior*	
Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)		
Eurasian Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*	
Yellow-billed (Gold-billed) Blue-Magpie	*Urocissa flavirostris*	
Rufous Treepie	*Dendrocitta vagabunda*	
Gray Treepie	*Dendrocitta formosae*	
Collared Treepie	*Dendrocitta frontalis*	
Eurasian (Spotted) Nutcracker	*Nucifraga caryocatactes macella*	H
Red-billed Chough	*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax himalayanus*	
Yellow-billed (Alpine) Chough	*Pyrrhocorax graculus*	
House Crow	*Corvus splendens*	
Large-billed (Eastern Jungle) Crow	*Corvus macrorhynchos levaillantii*	
Large-billed Crow	*Corvus macrorhynchos japonensis*	
Alaudidae (Larks)		
Bengal Bushlark	*Mirafra assamica*	
Sand Lark	*Alaudala raytal*	
Oriental Skylark	*Alauda gulgula*	
Hirundinidae (Swallows)		
Gray-throated (Brown-throated/Plain) Martin (Sand-Martin)	*Riparia chinensis*	
Barn Swallow	*Hirundo rustica*	
Red-rumped Swallow	*Cecropis daurica nipalensis*	
Striated Swallow	*Cecropis striolata*	
Asian House-Martin	*Delichon dasypus*	
Nepal House-Martin	*Delichon nipalense*	

Stenostiridae (Fairy Flycatchers)		
Yellow-bellied Fairy-Fantail	*Chelidorhynx hypoxantha*	
Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher	*Culicicapa ceylonensis*	
Paridae (Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice)		
Sultan Tit	*Melanochlora sultanea*	
Coal Tit	*Periparus ater aemodius*	
Grey-crested Tit	*Lophophanes dichrous*	
Green-backed Tit	*Parus monticolus*	
Cinereous (Gray) Tit	*Parus cinereus*	
Yellow-cheeked (Black-spotted Yellow) Tit	*Machlolophus spilonotus*	
Aegithalidae (Long-tailed Tits)		
White-browed Tit-Warbler	*Leptopoecile sophiae*	
Black-throated (Red-headed/crowned) Tit (Bushtit)	*Aegithalos concinnus iredalei*	
Sittidae (Nuthatches)		
Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	*Sitta cinnamoventris*	
White-tailed Nuthatch	*Sitta himalayensis*	
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	*Sitta frontalis*	
Beautiful Nuthatch	*Sitta formosa*	
Certhiidae (Treecreepers)		
Sikkim (Brown-throated/Hume's) Treecreeper	*Certhia discolor*	
Troglodytidae (Wrens)		
Eurasian (Northern/Winter) Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*	
Cinclidae (Dippers)		
Brown Dipper	*Cinclus pallasii*	

Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)		
Striated Bulbul	*Pycnonotus striatus*	
Black-crested Bulbul	*Pycnonotus flaviventris*	
Red-vented Bulbul	*Pycnonotus cafer*	
Red-whiskered Bulbul	*Pycnonotus jocosus*	
White-throated Bulbul	*Alophoixus flaveolus*	
Ashy Bulbul	*Hemixos flavala flavala*	
Mountain Bulbul	*Ixos mcclellandii*	
(Himalayan) Black Bulbul	*Hypsipetes leucocephalus psaroides*	
Pnoepygidae (Cupwings)		
Scaly-breasted Cupwing (Wren-Babbler)	*Pnoepyga albiventer*	H
Pygmy Cupwing (Wren-Babbler)	*Pnoepyga pusilla*	H
Scotocercidae (Bush Warblers and Allies)		
Pale-footed Bush Warbler	*Urosphena pallidipes*	
Grey-bellied (Yellow-browed) Tesia	*Tesia cyaniventer*	
Slaty-bellied Tesia	*Tesia olivea*	H
Gray-sided Bush Warbler	*Cettia brunnifrons*	
Chestnut-headed Tesia	*Cettia castaneocoronata*	
Black-faced Warbler	*Abroscopus schisticeps*	
Mountain Tailorbird (Leaftoiler)	*Phyllergates cucullatus*	
Yellow-bellied Warbler	*Abroscopus superciliaris*	
Rufous-faced Warbler	*Abroscopus albogularis*	
Broad-billed Warbler	*Tickellia hodgsoni*	
Brownish-flanked (Strong-footed) Bush Warbler	*Horornis fortipes fortipes*	
Aberrant Bush Warbler	*Horornis flavolivaceus*	H

Phylloscopidae (Leaf Warblers)		
Buff-barred (Orange-barred) Warbler	*Phylloscopus pulcher*	
Ashy-throated (Gray-faced Leaf) Warbler	*Phylloscopus maculipennis*	
Pale-rumped (Lemon-rumped/Simla) Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus chloronotus*	
Greenish Warbler	*Phylloscopus trochiloides trochiloides*	
Large-billed Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus magnirostris*	
Blyth's Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus reguloides reguloides*	
Yellow-vented Warbler	*Phylloscopus cantator*	
Gray-hooded Warbler	*Phylloscopus xanthoschistos*	
Golden-spectacled (Green-crowned) Warbler	*Seicercus burkii*	
White-spectacled Warbler	*Seicercus affinis*	
Whistler's Warbler	*Seicercus whistleri whistleri*	
Gray-cheeked Warbler	*Seicercus poliogenys*	
Chestnut-crowned Warbler	*Seicercus castaniceps*	
Acrocephalidae (Reed Warblers and Allies)		
Thick-billed Warbler	*Iduna aedon*	
Paddyfield Warbler	*Acrocephalus agricola*	
Locustellidae (Grassbirds and Allies)		
Spotted Bush Warbler	*Locustella thoracica*	
Russet Bush Warbler	*Locustella mandelli mandelli*	H
Striated Grassbird	*Megalurus palustris*	
Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)		
Zitting Cisticola	*Cisticola juncidis*	
Golden-headed (Bright-headed/-capped) Cisticola	*Cisticola exilis*	
Common Tailorbird	*Orthotomus sutorius*	
Dark-necked Tailorbird	*Orthotomus atrogularis*	H

Swamp Prinia	*Prinia cinerascens*	
Striated Prinia	*Prinia crinigera*	H
Grey-breasted Prinia	*Prinia hodgsonii*	
Yellow-bellied Prinia	*Prinia flaviventris flaviventris*	
Ashy Prinia	*Prinia socialis*	
Plain Prinia	*Prinia inornata*	
Paradoxornithidae (Parrotbills, Wrentit, and Allies)		
Golden-breasted (Lioparus) Fulvetta	*Lioparus chrysotis*	
Yellow-eyed Babbler	*Chrysomma sinense*	
Jerdon's Babbler	*Chrysomma altirostre*	
Streak-throated (Manipur) Fulvetta	*Fulvetta manipurensis manipurensis*	
Gray-headed Parrotbill	*Psittiparus gularis*	
Black-breasted Parrotbill	*Paradoxornis flavirostris*	
Pale-billed (Black-browed/Lesser Ruf. Headed) Parrotbill	*Chleuasicus atrosuperciliaris*	
Fulvous Parrotbill	*Suthora fulvifrons*	H
Black-throated (Gray-breasted) Parrotbill	*Suthora nipalensis poliotis*	
White-breasted (Greater Rufous-headed) Parrotbill	*Psittiparus ruficeps*	
Zosteropidae (White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies)		
Striated Yuhina	*Yuhina castaniceps*	
White-naped Yuhina	*Yuhina bakeri*	
Whiskered Yuhina	*Yuhina flavicollis*	
Stripe-throated Yuhina	*Yuhina gularis*	
Rufous-vented Yuhina	*Yuhina occipitalis*	
Black-chinned Yuhina	*Yuhina nigrimenta*	
Oriental White-eye	*Zosterops palpebrosus*	

Timaliidae (Tree-Babblers, Scimitar-Babblers, and Allies)		
Chestnut-capped Babbler	*Timalia pileata*	
Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	*Mixornis gularis rubicapilla*	
Golden Babbler	*Cyanoderma chrysaeum*	
Buff-chested (Rufous-fronted) Babbler	*Cyanoderma ambiguum*	
Rufous-capped Babbler	*Cyanoderma ruficeps*	
Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler	*Spelaeornis caudatus*	
Rusty-throated (Mishmi) Wren-Babbler	*Spelaeornis badeigularis*	
Red-billed (Orange-billed/Long-billed) Scimitar Babbler	*Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps*	
Coral-billed (Black-crowned) Scimitar Babbler	*Pomatorhinus ferruginosus ferruginosus*	
Slender-billed (Sickle-billed) Scimitar Babbler	*Pomatorhinus superciliaris*	
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler	*Pomatorhinus ruficollis*	
White-browed Scimitar Babbler	*Pomatorhinus schisticeps*	
Grey-throated Babbler	*Stachyris nigriceps*	
Blackish-breasted (Sikkim/Himalayan) Wedge-billed) Babbler	*Stachyris humei*	
Chevron-breasted (Cachar/Manipur Wedge-billed) Babbler	*Stachyris roberti*	
Pellorneidae (Ground Babblers and Allies)		
(Indian) White-hooded Babbler	*Gampsorhynchus rufulus*	
Yellow-throated Fulvetta	*Schoeniparus cinereus*	
Rufous-winged Fulvetta	*Schoeniparus castaneceps*	
Rufous-throated Fulvetta	*Schoeniparus rufogularis*	H
Puff-throated Babbler	*Pellorneum ruficeps*	
Marsh Babbler	*Pellorneum palustre*	
Spot-throated Babbler	*Pellorneum albiventre*	
Buff-breasted Babbler	*Pellorneum tickelli*	H
Long-billed Wren-Babbler	*Napothera malacoptila*	

Abbott's (Wren-) Babbler	*Turdinus abbotti*	
Indian (Rufous-rumped) Grassbird	*Graminicola bengalensis*	
Leiothrichidae (Laughingthrushes and Allies)		
Ludlow's (Brown-throated) Fulvetta	*Alcippe ludlowi*	
Nepal Fulvetta	*Alcippe nipalensis*	
Striated Laughingthrush	*Grammatoptila striata*	
Himalayan Cutia	*Cutia nipalensis*	
Striated Babbler	*Turdoides earlei*	
Slender-billed Babbler	*Turdoides longirostris*	
Jungle Babbler	*Turdoides striata striata*	
White-crested Laughingthrush	*Garrulax leucolophus*	
Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush	*Garrulax monileger*	
Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla rufogularis*	
Spotted Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla ocellata*	H
Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla pectoralis*	
White-throated Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla albogularis*	
Rufous-necked Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla ruficollis*	
Chestnut-backed Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla nuchalis*	
Rufous-vented Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla gularis*	
Gray-sided Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla caerulata*	
Bhutan Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron imbricatum*	
Scaly Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron subunicolor*	H
Blue-winged Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron squamatum*	
Black-faced Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron affine*	
Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron erythrocephalum*	
Beautiful Sibia	*Heterophasia pulchella*	

Long-tailed Sibia	*Heterophasia picaoides*	
Silver-eared Mesia	*Leiothrix argentauris argentauris*	
Red-billed Leiothrix (Peking Robin)	*Leiothrix lutea*	
Red-tailed Minla	*Minla ignotincta*	
Rufous-backed Sibia	*Minla annectens*	
Bugun Liocichla	*Liocichla bugunorum*	
Red-faced (Crimson-faced) Liocichla	*Liocichla phoenicea*	
Streak-throated Barwing	*Actinodura waldeni*	
Rusty-fronted Barwing	*Actinodura egertoni*	
Blue-winged Minla (Siva)	*Actinodura cyanouroptera*	
Chestnut-tailed Minla (Bar-throated Siva)	*Actinodura strigula*	
Irenidae (Fairy-bluebirds)		
Asian Fairy-bluebird	*Irena puella*	
Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)		
Dark-sided (Siberian) Flycatcher	*Muscicapa sibirica*	
Oriental Magpie-Robin	*Copsychus saularis saularis*	
White-rumped Shama	*Copsychus malabaricus macrourus*	
White-gorgeted Flycatcher	*Anthipes monileger*	H
Pale-chinned Blue Flycatcher	*Cyornis poliogenys*	
Pale Blue Flycatcher	*Cyornis unicolor*	
Blue-throated Flycatcher	*Cyornis rubeculoides rubeculoides*	H
Large Blue Flycatcher	*Cyornis magnirostris*	
Large Niltava	*Niltava grandis*	
Small Niltava	*Niltava macgrigoriae*	
Rufous-bellied Niltava	*Niltava sundara*	
Vivid Niltava	*Niltava vivida oatesi*	

Verditer Flycatcher	*Eumyias thalassinus*	
Rusty-bellied Shortwing	*Brachypteryx hyperythra*	
Lesser Shortwing	*Brachypteryx leucophris*	H
White-browed Shortwing	*Brachypteryx montana cruralis*	
Blue Whistling-Thrush	*Myophonus caeruleus*	
(Northern) White-crowned Forktail	*Enicurus leschenaulti indicus*	
Spotted Forktail	*Enicurus maculatus*	
Black-backed Forktail	*Enicurus immaculatus*	
Slaty-backed Forktail	*Enicurus schistaceus*	
White-tailed (Blue) Robin	*Myiomela leucura*	
Blue-fronted (Blue) Robin	*Cinclidium frontale*	
Grandala	*Grandala coelicolor*	
Rufous-breasted Bush Robin	*Tarsiger hyperythrus*	
Golden Bush Robin	*Tarsiger chrysaeus*	
Snowy-browed Flycatcher	*Ficedula hyperythra*	
Rufous-gorgeted (Orange-gorgeted) Flycatcher	*Ficedula strophiata*	
Sapphire (Blue) Flycatcher	*Ficedula sapphira*	
Little Pied Flycatcher	*Ficedula westermanni*	
Blue-fronted Redstart	*Phoenicurus frontalis*	
Plumbeous (Water) Redstart	*Phoenicurus fuliginosus*	
White-capped (Water) Redstart (River-chat)	*Phoenicurus leucocephalus*	
Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush	*Monticola rufiventris*	
Blue-capped Rock-Thrush	*Monticola cinclorhynchus*	
White-tailed Stonechat	*Saxicola leucurus*	
Gray Bushchat	*Saxicola ferreus*	

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)		
Alpine Thrush	*Zoothera mollissima*	
Himalayan (Forest) Thrush	*Zoothera salimalii*	H
Tickell's Thrush	*Turdus unicolor*	H
White-collared Blackbird	*Turdus albocinctus*	
Grey-winged Blackbird	*Turdus boulboul*	
Purple Cochoa	*Cochoa purpurea*	
Green Cochoa	*Cochoa viridis*	
Sturnidae (Starlings)		
Common Hill Myna	*Gracula religiosa*	
Asian Pied Starling (Pied Myna)	*Gracupica contra*	
Chestnut-tailed (Gray-headed) Starling	*Sturnia malabarica*	
Common Myna	*Acridotheres tristis*	
Jungle Myna	*Acridotheres fuscus*	
Great (White-vented) Myna	*Acridotheres grandis*	
Chloropseidae (Leafbirds)		
Blue-winged Leafbird	*Chloropsis cochinchinensis kinneari*	
Golden-fronted Leafbird	*Chloropsis aurifrons*	
Orange-bellied Leafbird	*Chloropsis hardwickii hardwickii*	
Dicaeidae (Flowerpeckers)		
Yellow-vented Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum chrysorrheum*	H
Plain Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum minullum*	
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum ignipectus ignipectus*	
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum cruentatum*	
Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)		
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	*Chalcoparia singalensis*	

Purple Sunbird	*Cinnyris asiaticus*	
Fire-tailed Sunbird	*Aethopyga ignicauda*	
Black-throated (-breasted) Sunbird	*Aethopyga saturata*	
(Mrs.) Gould's Sunbird	*Aethopyga gouldiae isolata*	
Green-tailed Sunbird	*Aethopyga nipalensis nipalensis*	
Crimson Sunbird	*Aethopyga siparaja labecula*	
Streaked Spiderhunter	*Arachnothera magna*	
Prunellidae (Accentors)		
Alpine Accentor	*Prunella collaris*	
Rufous-breasted Accentor	*Prunella strophiata*	
Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)		
Citrine (Tibetan/Black-backed) Wagtail	*Motacilla citreola calcarata*	
White-browed Wagtail	*Motacilla maderaspatensis*	
Richard's Pipit	*Anthus richardi*	
Paddyfield (Oriental) Pipit	*Anthus rufulus*	
Rosy Pipit	*Anthus roseatus*	
Elachuridae (Spotted Elachura)		
Spotted (Wren-Babbler) Elachura	*Elachura formosa*	H
Fringillidae (Finches, Euphonias, and Allies)		
Collared Grosbeak	*Mycerobas affinis*	
Spot-winged Grosbeak	*Mycerobas melanozanthos*	
White-winged Grosbeak	*Mycerobas carnipes*	
Common Rosefinch	*Carpodacus erythrinus*	
Scarlet Finch	*Carpodacus sipahi*	
Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch	*Carpodacus thura*	
Brown Bullfinch	*Pyrrhula nipalensis nipalensis*	H

Dark-breasted Rosefinch	*Procarduelis nipalensis*	
Plain Mountain Finch	*Leucosticte nemoricola*	
Yellow-breasted (Himalayan) Greenfinch	*Chloris spinoides*	
Tibetan Serin (Siskin)	*Spinus thibetanus*	
Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)		
House Sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	
Russet (Cinnamon) Sparrow	*Passer rutilans*	
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	*Passer montanus*	
Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)		
('Eastern') Baya Weaver	*Ploceus philippinus burmanicus*	
Yellow (Finn's) Weaver	*Ploceus megarhynchus*	
Bengal (Black-breasted) Weaver	*Ploceus benghalensis*	
Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)		
White-rumped Munia	*Lonchura striata*	
Scaly-breasted Munia (Nutmeg Mannikin)	*Lonchura punctulata subundulata*	
Chestnut (Black-headed) Munia	*Lonchura atricapilla*	

H = heard-only
NL = not seen by Tropical Birding guide

Pale-capped Pigeon is a rare bird, common nowhere across its east Indian and southeast Asian range.

MAMMAL LIST

Western Hoolock Gibbon	*Hoolock hoolock*	H
Eastern Hoolock Gibbon	*Hoolock leuconedys*	H
Rhesus Macaque	*Macaca mulatta*	
Arunachal Macaque	*Macaca munzala*	
Capped Langur	*Trachypithecus pileatus*	
Asian (Indian) Elephant	*Elephas maximus indicus*	
Greater (Indian) One-horned Rhinoceros	*Rhinoceros unicornis*	
Indian (Red) Muntjac	*Muntiacus muntjak*	
Sambar	*Rusa unicolor*	
Swamp Deer (Barasingha)	*Rucervus duvaucelii*	
Hog (Golden) Deer	*Axis porcinus*	
Wild (Water) Buffalo	*Bubalus arnee*	
Indian (Eurasian) Wild Pig (Wild Boar)	*Sus scrofa cristatus*	
Common (Asian) Palm Civet (Toddy Cat)	*Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*	
Small Indian (Asian) Mongoose	*Herpestes auropuntatus*	
(Himalayan) Yellow-throated Marten	*Martes flavigula*	
Asian Small-clawed Otter	*Aonyx cinereus*	
Large-eared Pika	*Ochotona macrotis*	
Northern (Malay) Treeshrew	*Tupaia belangeri*	
Black Giant Squirrel	*Ratufa bicolor*	
Hoary-bellied (Irrawaddy/Ayewaddy) Squirrel	*Callosciurus pygerythrus*	
Pallas's Squirrel	*Callosciurus erythraeus*	
Himalayan Striped Squirrel	*Tamiops mcclellandii*	
Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel	*Dremomys lokriah*	
Brown Rat	*Rattus norvegicus*	

Indian Flying Fox	*Pteropus giganteus*	
South Asian River (Ganges/Gangetic) Dolphin	*Platanista gangetica*	

A large group of Asian Small-clawed Otters was a major highlight of a morning jeep ride in Kaziranga National Park.