

# Trip report Vietnam

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## 1 Introduction

Aves Tours first birdwatching venture to Vietnam in November 2003 was an unforgettable journey to some of the most magnificent natural sites of South-east Asia, and yielded sightings of some of the best bird (and animal) species the country has to offer.

## 2 Xuan Thuy

After the arrival of all three participants (plus leader) in Hanoi, we started off well with an afternoon and the subsequent morning at Xuan Thuy, a coastal area of mangroves, mudflats and sandbanks renowned as a staging site for rare East Palearctic shorebirds. A stop along open fields on the way there produced our first Common Kestrels, Japanese White-eyes, White-rumped Munias, Red-throated Pipits, Plain Prinias, Long-tailed Shrikes, Barn Swallows, Black Drongos, Gray and White (ssp. *leucopsis*) Wagtails, Tree Sparrows and Common Stonechats. Many of these birds proved to be common during the remainder of the trip. A little village along the way yielded our only Sooty-headed Bulbuls of the trip, and wintering flocks of Red-billed Starling made a common appearance in the countryside. A stroll along the fringe of the mangroves at Xuan Thuy introduced us to some of the more widespread South East Asian birds of open country and wetlands, such as Common, White-throated, Pied and Black-capped Kingfishers, Little Grebe, Greater Coucal, Chinese Pond, Gray and Purple Heron as well as Little, Cattle and Great Egret. Some of the adjacent shrimp ponds were inhabited by waterfowl, and we took note of around 10 Spot-billed Ducks, 100 Eurasian Wigeon, 5 Gadwall, 5 Northern Shoveler, 20-30 Northern Pintail, 200 Garganey and 5 Common Teal. One of our main destinations that day was the roosting pond of the globally threatened Black-faced Spoonbill, of which fewer than 1000 individuals are reckoned to be left on earth. Xuan Thuy is one of the most reliable sites to see this species, and our highest count of 40 individuals (plus one misplaced Black-headed Ibis) may well have comprised 5 percent of the world population. Xuan Thuy is also known for its wintering songbirds: Numerous Dusky Warblers and the shy Bluethroat afforded only brief glimpses, but fantastic perching views were obtained of the splendid Siberian Rubythroat as well as the rather mundane Eurasian Blackbird. Excellent looks were had at a completely unexpected Rufous-tailed Robin, though some only sighted it when it perched further away such that merely its silhouette could be seen against the dark of the dusk. A male Chestnut-eared Bunting in best light was deemed by many one of the highlights at Xuan Thuy, while wintering Yellow-browed Warblers would turn out to be the most common birds during

the entire trip. The local subspecies of the Light-vented Bulbul, looking quite unlike most subspecies that can be seen up north in China, briefly showed up a couple of times, as did an Oriental Turtle Dove. With the single exception of the ubiquitous Eastern Marsh Harrier, birds in the mangroves and reedy vegetation were relatively shy: Nevertheless we managed to find 2 Slaty-breasted Rails and a number of White-breasted Waterhen, apart from the more usual Purple Swampheens and Common Moorhens. A boat ride to one of the outlying sandbanks at high tide gave us the chance to see most of the shorebirds at this site, though some species were also seen at shrimp ponds near the headquarters. Unfortunately, the highly coveted Spoon-billed Sandpiper, which had been seen earlier this fall according to park staff, must have moved on, but a few other delightful shorebird species continually disturbed by a hunting Peregrine were of some consolation, such as Great Knot (around 20), Lesser Sandplover (ca. 100), Red-necked Stint (ca. 30), Terek Sandpiper (2), Broad-billed Sandpiper (ca. 10), Pacific Golden Plover (4), Black-tailed Godwit (around 300), Eurasian Curlew (5), Whimbrel (4), Common Snipe (1, only seen by half our group), Dunlin (around 700), Curlew Sandpiper (around 10), Marsh Sandpiper (around 30), Common Redshank (ca. 50), Spotted Redshank (more than 10), Common Greenshank (ca. 100), Common Sandpiper (1, not seen by one of us), Sanderling (ca. 30), Gray Plover (ca. 30) and Kentish Plover (ca. 100). A handful of large *Larus* gulls in the distance were left unidentified, but we were able to pin down Black-headed Gull (ca. 5), Caspian Tern (3) and Gull-billed Tern (4) to species level. On our way inland from Xuan Thuy, our first Yellow Wagtails of the trip, a flock of 17 Black-crowned Night Herons, the only Great Tit of the trip (and unfortunately only seen by the leader) as well as the first of quite a few groups of Scaly-breasted Munia were notable. Additionally, our first Oriental Magpie Robin was missed by some at this point, but was re-sighted quite a few times during the trip.

### 3 Cuc Phuong

For the next two full days and the following morning, the beautiful lowland dipterocarp forest in Cúc Phuong National Park provided some nice background scenery for bird-watching. In spite of low bird activity, we managed to find a good number of specialties, including both local pitta species (2 Bar-bellied and 2 Blue-rumped Pittas, the latter species was seen particularly well), Rufous-throated Fulvetta, Silver-breasted Broadbills, Scaly-crowned Babblers, a tape-responsive pair of White-tailed Flycatcher and even an Orange-headed Thrush. Wintering songbirds came in an exciting variety in the form of Asian Stub-tails, Scaly and Japanese Thrushes, Mugimaki Flycatchers as well as Raddes

and Sulphur-breasted Warblers. A male and a female Fujian Niltava were only seen by the tour leader, while one of the other participants managed to log on to a taped-out Lesser Shortwing, a species that was heard but not seen again at other sites. Another highlight at Cúc Phuong was a confiding and filmable Rufous-tailed Robin, especially for those who had had unsatisfactory glimpses at Xuan Thuy. Streaked Wren-Babblers were occasionally seen in limestone undergrowth, and - as others have pointed out - it seems that many of the reports of the much rarer Limestone Wren Babbler from Cúc Phuong may in fact be attributable to misidentifications of this species. Three shy Ratchet-tailed Treepies caused some dismay, as two participants failed to catch on to them at this site. Woodpeckers stayed relatively inactive, so only Greater Yellownape, Bay Woodpecker and White-browed Piculet were seen (the latter only by the leader, but fortunately the species was re-sighted at a number of other sites during the trip). Some of the mega-avifauna at Cúc Phuong included a pair of Black Eagle, a Crested Goshawk, a few Red-headed Trogons, Green-billed Malkohas, a Black-winged Cuckooshrike, an obliging Banded Bay Cuckoo and a White-bellied Green Pigeon in the same tree, as well as Green-eared and very vocal Red-vented Barbets. One Eurasian Woodcock was seen (but not by all) at dusk and at dawn around the lodge clearing. Mixed flocks were notably scarce, but regularly included Blue-winged Leafbird, Asian Fairy Bluebird, Scarlet Minivet, White-throated Fantail, Great Iora, Gray-headed Canary Flycatcher, Puff-throated Bulbul, Buff-breasted and Gray-throated Babblers, Striped Tit-Babbler, Black-browed Fulvetta, Fork-tailed Sunbird and the strange White-bellied Erpornis, which was until recently widely believed to be a yuhina. Some flocks also contained vocalizing Gray-crowned Warblers (*Seicercus tephrocephalus*), members of the *Seicercus burkii* superspecies that has recently been divided in no fewer than 5-6 species by different scientists. Great taxonomic confusion surrounds these little creatures, such that even the excellent and recently published field guide by C. Robson seems to oversimplify the picture insofar as recent research by Martens et al. (2002) confirms that the Gray-crowned Warbler (*Seicercus tephrocephalus*) depicted therein should actually be further split into a mid-elevation *S. omeiensis* and a low-elevation *S. tephrocephalus* (elevationally divided by the more distinct *S. soror*) that are both hard to distinguish through call notes and plumage. On geographical grounds, however, it is safe to assume that the wintering birds here at Cúc Phuong belong to *S. tephrocephalus* sensu stricto. Both Greater and Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo, Large Woodshrike, Verditer Flycatcher, White-rumped Shama, Red-whiskered, Gray-eyed and Stripe-throated Bulbul, Rufescent Prinia, Dark-necked Tailorbird, Purple-naped Sunbird, Streaked Spiderhunter, Common Green Magpie (seen only by the leader), Puff-throated Babbler, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker

and Olive-backed Pipit were some of the other treats at Cúc Phương. On the way out from the park on rice paddies, we finally obtained the good views of a flock of 24 Gray-headed Lapwings that we had been waiting for. Additionally, most of us, but not the tour leader, were lucky enough to glimpse 8 Northern Lapwings on a field from the vehicle (supposedly not a common sight in Vietnam). Cúc Phương had also been notable in terms of mammal sightings, with Rhesus Macaques, Giant Squirrels (*Ratufa bicolor*) and the vocalizations of Black Gibbons most remarkable. On the way out from the park, we spent 30min at the Primate Breeding Center, where some of the globally most threatened primate species can be marvelled at.

## 4 Tam Dao

Tam Dao, in the mountains of Tonkin just north-west of Hanoi, is well known among birders for its constantly foggy weather and a few range-restricted specialties, some of which have become so rare that you can only see them on the menus of local restaurants these days. During only one full day and 2 more very rewarding morning hours in montane forest at Tam Dao, we lucked out big time, as the weather stayed stable and the forest held a few good flocks (including the stunning Sultan Tit, Gray-cheeked Fulvetta, Golden Babbler, Gray-chinned Minivet and Black Bulbuls of two different subspecies). Finding four of the most highly prized rarities within so short a time was far beyond our expectations: at least six individuals of the rare and elusive Short-tailed Parrotbill, a single Chestnut Bulbul (this species is otherwise difficult to see outside Yunnan, China), a flock of the range-restricted Gray Laughingthrush and five Spot-necked Babblers. Apart from more common forest species already seen at Cúc Phương, we added to our list a male Lesser Yellownape, Bronzed Drongo, House Swift, Blue Whistling-Thrush, a beautiful male White-tailed Robin, a vocalizing and well-seen Bianchi's Warbler (*Seicercus valentini* of the recently split *Seicercus burkii* complex) and two groups of Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babblers. Some of the more notable birds that we had already seen at Cúc Phương include Ratchet-tailed Treepie (this time seen well by all) and a skulking Streaked Wren-Babbler.

## 5 Cat Tien

From frosty Tam Dao and pleasantly temperate Hanoi, a southbound flight took us into some serious tropical heat in Saigon. From here, we set out to Cát Tien National Park, a last stronghold of tropical lowland forest in Vietnam. Due to the short nature of our trip, only one full day, the preceding afternoon and the

subsequent morning could be spent at Cát Tien, and this is definitely a site where more time will have to be invested during future trips. In spite of the briefness of our stay, we did find some of the parks specialties. All participants opted to stay one night at a basic house at Crocodile Lake so as to be right there in the early morning, when mammal sightings are most likely. On the reptile front, the lake lived up to its name, but mammal-wise, only one of us glimpsed a Sambar Deer. Nonetheless, the stay was fruitful, as all of us got to see the peculiar and rare Green Peafowl seemingly grazing at the lakeshore amongst Red Junglefowl. Moreover, the lake harboured ca. 100 Lesser Whistling-Duck, a few Bronze-winged Jacanas, Red-wattled Lapwings, Osprey and Stork-billed Kingfishers. Large birds flying over the lake could be seen well from the veranda of the house and included Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Dollarbird, Great Eared-Nightjar (at dusk) and a single Painted Stork. Only two of us could do a boat trip at a time, respectively. Therefore, some birds around the lake were only seen by one party and missed by the other, such as a flock of Baya Weaver, two Orange-breasted Green Pigeons, a Green Sandpiper, a Yellow Bittern, a Brown Shrike and a Black-naped Oriole (though the latter two species were seen by all at a later stage of the trip). For some, a pair of Siamese Fireback along the road through the park featured as a highlight at Cát Tien National Park, others also liked the Forest Wagtail seen in the same fashion. In the forest and along its edge, the presence of ancient trees was attested to by a great diversity of woodpeckers and allies, featuring a Laced Woodpecker, a Great Slaty Woodpecker, a Common Flameback, two White-bellied Woodpeckers and an Orange-breasted Trogon (omitting those species seen elsewhere). A female White-throated Rock Thrush, a flock of White-crested Laughingthrush and two female Blue-throated Flycatchers are among the nice passerines we detected within more closed vegetation. Birding in some of the open and disturbed forest habitat in Cát Tien was quite satisfying with regard to the large number of species we added to our trip list, best being a very confiding Little Bronze Cuckoo (apparently a new record for the park), second best probably a group of four Black Baza circling overhead, closely followed by two Woolly-necked Storks and two breath-taking Blue-bearded Bee-eaters, with other sightings including Oriental Honey Buzzard, Crested Serpent-eagle, Chestnut-headed and Green Bee-eater, Plaintive Cuckoo, Asian Palm-Swift (not seen by all), Vernal Hanging-Parrot, Red-breasted Parakeet, Indian Roller, Green Imperial Pigeon, Thick-billed and Pompadour Green Pigeon, Emerald Dove, Black-hooded Oriole, Common Iora, Spotted Dove, Red Collared Dove, Lineated and Coppersmith Barbets, Spangled and Ashy Drongos, Racket-tailed Treepie, Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike, Blue-winged Monarch, Asian Brown and Red-throated Flycatchers, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Vinous-breasted Starling (missed by one), Black-crested and Streak-

eared Bulbul, Thick-billed and Yellow-vented Flowerpecker, Little Spiderhunter as well as Purple-throated, Olive-backed, Ruby-cheeked and Crimson Sunbirds. At Cát Tien, we had our best primate total, comprising Rhesus and Long-tailed Macaque, Black-shanked Douc Langur and a vocalizing gibbon species.

## 6 Dalat plateau

### 6.1 Ta Nung valley

We used the remaining two hours of daylight that were left after arrival on the Dalat Plateau to look for birds in a forest fragment near the settlement of Ta Nung whence the endangered Gray-crowned Crocias is reported. We knew this one would probably require more time investment, as good birdwatchers that have spent entire days around here have previously missed the species. Nonetheless, the time was not wasted, and we found a few montane goodies, such as Black-browed Barbet and a Collared Owlet that was harassed by a Little Pied Flycatcher and a group of Blue-winged Minla of the drab local ssp. *orientalis*. Furthermore, it was here that we saw our first pair of Large Niltava of the highly distinct local ssp. *decorata*.

### 6.2 Mt. Lang Bian

The next day, on Mt. Lang Bian, the second highest rise on the Dalat Plateau, heavy winds were very counterproductive and bird activity stayed at a catastrophic level throughout the day. Yet through hard work we earned ourselves quite a few additions to our trip list: The coniferous zone yielded two Common Buzzards, a Burmese Shrike, a pair of Gray Bushchat, Long-tailed Minivets, Chestnut-vented Nuthatches, Green-backed Tits, Flavescent Bulbuls, a Pallass Leaf-Warbler, and a Gray-capped Pygmy Woodpecker. Eurasian Jays at this site looked nothing like those we know from Europe. A female Siberian Blue Robin was only seen by the first person in the file. Of the species previously seen elsewhere, a male White-throated Rock Thrush was quite remarkable. The broad-leaved forest zone higher up was too windy for flocks to be active, but we did find scattered Ashy and Mountain Bulbuls, Mountain Tailorbirds (seen only by the leader, heard by all), Ashy-throated Warblers, a Golden-throated Barbet and the yellowish ssp. *klossi* of the White-tailed Leaf-Warbler. Gray-bellied Tesias sang from the lush undergrowth, but despite tape duels only two people got satisfactory looks. Similarly, only the tour leader succeeded in getting a glimpse of a Silver-eared Mesia, a species that is heavily persecuted in this area. The shy Spot-throated Babbler was only seen by one of the participants. The odd

loose aggregation of birds in the montane broad-leaved forest contained Rufous-capped Babbler, Mountain Fulvetta, Black-headed Sibia, Mrs Goulds Sunbird and once even a White-spectacled Warbler (*Seicercus affinis*; the latter occurs on the plateau in the form of an isolated outpost from the main species with undocumented but very divergent vocalizations. This population appears to lack formal description as a subspecies.).

## 7 Dinh Linh

On our last day in the field, we left Dalat early (Blue Rock Thrush on the way) and stopped at a mountain pass near Di Linh en route to Saigon. This is the last regular site of the recently split Orange-breasted Laughingthrush, a taxon confined entirely to the Dalat Plateau. With the help of tape, we found an extremely shy family group of around four laughingthrushes, which took more than half an hour to get a look at. Furthermore, we managed to find a minimum of five Vietnamese Greenfinches on isolated conifers within the broad-leaved vegetation, all of them within good sight as opposed to the previous day, when we had only calling individuals in far more suitable habitat on Lang Bian. A very productive mixed flock kept us busy for a long time in the morning, and some of the better birds within it were represented by Black-throated Tits, White-browed and Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler, Black-throated Sunbird (of the local johnsi race) and an uncooperative Gray-headed Parrotbill (which was only seen by the tour leader). Other additions to our trip list were overflying Mountain Imperial Pigeons, a female Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon and Ochraceous Bulbuls. A small group of Pig-tailed Macaques provided some distraction from the birds.

## 8 Ba Vi

Prior to the arrival of our three participants, the leader had spent two days at Ba Vi National Park near Hanoi on a scouting journey to assess its potential for birdwatching. Most species found during that stay were seen again during the trip, with a few notable exceptions: Wintering songbirds put in a great show, including a single female Siberian Thrush and a few Eyebrowed Thrushes, a couple of Orange-flanked Bush Robins, and few Blyths Leaf Warblers. Mixed flocks also contained Gray-cheeked Warblers and numerous Striated Yuhinas. A Pygmy Wren-Babbler was seen well, but only heard again at sites visited with our participants. More common species that we missed elsewhere include a Blue-throated Barbet, many Orange-bellied Leafbirds and Fire-breasted Flowerpeckers.

## 9 Conclusion

In the future, Aves Tours Vietnam trips will be one week longer to enhance the chances of seeing some of the species we missed this time. This will ensure that more days will be spent in the field at such crucial sites as Tam Dao, Cát Tien or the Dalat Plateau, where on this trip we felt that additional time would have been useful in locating more birds. All in all, however, and despite the short duration of our trip, we saw a great proportion of target species at most sites and returned to Europe with heaps of memorable observations and impressions etched on our mind.

## 10 Species list

XT = Xuan Thuy, CP = Cúc Phuong, TD = Tam Dao, CT = Cát Tien, TN = Ta Nung, LB = Lang Bian, DL = Di Linh, BV = Ba Vì; cm = common; ho = heard only

Please note that ten species were only seen at Ba Vì National Park, which was not visited with our participants as part of the official trip itinerary. These species are therefore only added in parantheses.

In almost all species, taxonomy follows Robson, C. 2000. A Field Guide to the Birds of South-east Asia. New Holland Publishers. Deutsche Namen richten sich nach Slatosch, H. 2001. Die Vögel Südostasiens. Ornithologischer Sprachführer Englisch Latein Deutsch. Christ Media Natur.

Amounts refer to our best estimates, and not necessarily to counts.

1. Red Junglefowl - *Gallus gallus gallus* - Bankivahuhn CT
2. Siamese Fireback - *Lophura diardi* - Prälatfasan CT 1,1
3. Green Peafowl - *Pavo muticus* - Ährenträgerpfau CT 2-3
4. Lesser Whistling-Duck - *Dendrocygna javanica* - Javapfeifgans CT 100
5. Eurasian Wigeon - *Anas Penelope* - Pfeifente XT 100
6. Gadwall *Anas strepera* - Schnatterente XT 5
7. Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha* - Fleckschnabelente XT 10-20
8. Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* - Löffelente XT 5
9. Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* Spießente XT 30
10. Garganey *Anas querquedula* Knäkente XT 200

11. Common Teal *Anas crecca* - Krickente XT 5-7
12. Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* - Zwergtaucher XT 4
13. White-browed Piculet *Sasia ochracea* - Rötelmausspecht CP 1; TD 1; CT 1; BV
14. Gray-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus* Grauscheitelspecht LB 1
15. White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis* - Weißbauchspecht CT 2
16. Lesser Yellownape *Picus chlorolophus* - Gelbhaubenspecht TD 1; CT 1
17. Greater Yellownape *Picus flavinucha* - Gelbnackenspecht CP 2
18. Laced Woodpecker *Picus vittatus* - Netzbauchspecht CT 1
19. Great Slaty Woodpecker *Mulleripicus pulverulentus* - Puderspecht CT 1
20. Common Flameback *Dinopium javanense* - Feuerrückenspecht CT 1
21. Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* Rotohrspecht CP; LB (ho)
22. Red-vented Barbet *Megalaima lagrandieri* - Rotsteißbartvogel CP; TD+CT+LB+DL+TN (ho)
23. Lineated Barbet *Megalaima lineate* Streifenbartvogel CT
24. Green-eared Barbet *Magalaima faiostricta* - Grünohrbartvogel CP; BV
25. Golden-throated Barbet *Megalaima franklinii* - Goldkehlbartvogel LB, BV; TD+DL (ho)
26. Black-browed Barbet *Megalaima oorti annamensis* - Schwarzbrauenbartvogel TN, DL
27. (Blue-throated Barbet *Megalaima asiatica* - Blauwangenbartvogel) (BV only)
28. Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala* Kupferschmied CT, Saigon
29. Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris* - Orienthornvogel CT
30. Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis* - Doppelhornvogel CT 5
31. Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus* Rotkopftrogon CP, BV; TD (ho)

32. Orange-breasted Trogon *Harpactes oreskios* Grünkopftrogon CT 1
33. Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis athertoni* Blaubartspint CT 2
34. Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis* - Smaragdspint CT
35. Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaultia* - Braunkopfspint CT, DL
36. Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* Eisvogel cm
37. Stork-billed Kingfisher *Halcyon capensis* - Storchschnabelliest CT 4
38. White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis* Braunliest cm
39. Black-capped Kingfisher *Halcyon pileata* Kappenliest XT
40. Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* Graufischer XT, CT
41. Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii* Sonneratkuckuck CP 1
42. Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus* Klagekuckuck CT 1
43. Little Bronze Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus* Kleiner Bronzekuckuck CT 1
44. Green-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus tristis* - Grünschnabelkuckuck CT, CP
45. Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis* - Heckenkuckuck cm
46. Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis* Hinduracke CT
47. Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis* Dollarvogel CT
48. Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri* Bartsittich CT
49. Vernal Hanging-Parrot *Loriculus vernalis* - Frühlingspapageichen CT
50. Asian Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis* - Bengalensegler CT 2
51. House Swift *Apus affinis* Haussegler CT, TD, Saigon
52. Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei* Wachtelkauz TN 1; CP (ho)
53. Great Eared-Nightjar *Eurostopodus macrotis* - Riesennachtschwalbe CT 15-20
54. Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea* - Bronzefruchttaube CT 1
55. Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia* - Fahlbauchfruchttaube DL 3-5

56. Orange-breasted Green Pigeon *Treron bicincta* - Bindengrüntaube CT 2
57. Pompadour Green Pigeon *Treron pompadora* Pompadourtaube CT 1,1
58. Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra* - Papageischnabeltaube CT 1
59. Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenura* - Keilschwanzgrüntaube DL 1
60. White-bellied Green Pigeon *Treron sieboldii* - Sieboldgrüntaube CP 1
61. Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis* Orientturteltaube XT 1
62. Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis* - Perlhalstaube CT
63. Red Collared Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica* Zwerglachtaube CT, Saigon
64. Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica* - Glanzkäfertaupe CT 1, LB 1
65. Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio* Purpurhuhn XT, CT
66. Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* Teichhuhn XT
67. Bronze-winged Jacana *Metopidius indicus* Hindu-Blatthühnchen CT 4
68. Slaty-breasted Rail *Gallirallus striatus* Graubrustralle 2 X
69. White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus* Weißbrust-Kielralle CT, XT
70. Eurasian Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola* Waldschnepfe CP 1-2
71. Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago* Bekassine XT 1
72. Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* Uferschnepfe XT 300
73. Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* - Regenbrachvogel XT 4
74. Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* Großer Brachvogel XT 5
75. Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus* Dunkler Wasserläufer XT 10
76. Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* - Rotschenkel XT 50
77. Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* Teichwasserläufer XT 30
78. Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* Grünschenkel XT 100, CT 1
79. Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* - Waldwasserläufer CT 1

80. Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus* - Terekwasserläufer XT 2
81. Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* Flussuferläufer XT 1
82. Sanderling *Calidris alba* Sanderling XT 30
83. Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis* - Rotkehlstrandläufer XT 30
84. Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* Sumpfläufer XT 10
85. Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris* Großer Knutt XT 20
86. Dunlin *Calidris alpina* - Alpenstrandläufer XT 700
87. Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* - Sichelstrandläufer XT 10
88. Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus* - Seeregenpfeifer XT 100
89. Lesser Sandplover *Charadrius mongolus* - Mongolenregenpfeifer XT 100
90. Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* Pazifischer Goldregenpfeifer XT 4
91. Gray Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* - Kiebitzregenpfeifer XT 30
92. Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* - Kiebitz near Hanoi 8 (not seen by leader)
93. Gray-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus* Graukopfkiebitz near CP 24, CT 1, XT 2
94. Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus* - Rotlappenkiebitz CT
95. Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus* Lachmöwe XT 5
96. Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia* - Raubseeschwalbe XT 3
97. Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica* - Lachseeschwalbe XT 4
98. Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* Fischadler CT 3
99. Crested Serpent-eagle *Spilornis cheela* - Schlangenweihe CT 1, DL 1, BV 1
100. Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis* - Malaienadler CP 1,1
101. Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus* - Mangroveweihe XT 30
102. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* Schopfabicht CP 1, CT 1
103. Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* Dreifarbenweih CT 4

104. Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo japonicus* Mäusebussard LB 2 dark morph
105. Oriental Honey-Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhyncus* - Schopfwespenbussard CT 2, BV 1
106. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* Turmfalke cm
107. Peregrine *Falco peregrinus* Wanderfalke XT 1
108. Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* Seidenreiher cm
109. Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea* Graureiher cm
110. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* Purpurreiher CT, XT
111. Great Egret *Casmerodius albus* Silberreiher cm
112. Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* Kuhreiher cm
113. Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus* Bacchusreiher cm
114. Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* - Nachtreiher Ninh Binh 17
115. Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis* Chinadommel CT 1
116. Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephalus* - Schwarzhalsibis XT 1
117. Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor* - Schwarzgesichtslöffler XT 40
118. Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala* Buntstorch CT 1
119. Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus* - Wollhalsstorch CT 1-2
120. Blue-rumped Pitta *Pitta soror* Blaubürzelpitta CP 2
121. Bar-bellied Pitta *Pitta elliotii* Elliotpitta CP 2
122. Silver-breasted Broadbill *Serilophus lunatus* - Würgerbreitrachen CP 6
123. Asian Fairy Bluebird *Irena puella* - Türkisfeenvogel cm
124. Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinchinensis* Blauflügel-Blattvogel CP, CT
125. Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii* Orangebauch-Blattvogel (BV only)
126. Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* - Rotschwanzwürger CT, Dalat Highway
127. Burmese Shrike *Lanius colluriooides* Burmawürger LB 2

128. Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach* - Schachwürger cm (north)
129. Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus* Königsdrongo cm
130. Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus* Graudrongo CT, DL, LB
131. Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus* - Bronzedrongo TD, CT
132. Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer* - Spateldrongo TD, CP, DL
133. Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus* - Haarbuschdrongo CT
134. Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus* Flaggendrongo CP, CT
135. Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius leucotis* Eichelhäher LB
136. Common Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis* Jagdelster CP
137. Racket-tailed Treepie *Crypsirina temia* - Spatelbaumelster CT 2
138. Ratchet-tailed Treepie *Temnurus temnurus* Leiterschwanzelster CP 3, TD 6
139. Black-naped Oriole *Oriolus chinensis* - Schwarznackenpirol CT
140. Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus* - Schwarzkopfpirol CT
141. Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia* - Schwarzflügeliora CT
142. Great Iora *Aegithina lafresnayi* Großiora CP, CT
143. Black-winged Cuckooshrike *Coracina melaschistos* - Trauerraupenfänger CP 1
144. Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike *Hemipus picatus* - Elsterraupenschmätzer cm
145. Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis gularis* Großer Raupenwürger CP 1
146. Gray-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris* - Graukehlmennigvogel DL 1, TD
147. Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus* Langschwanzmennigvogel LB
148. Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus* Scharlachmennigvogel CP, CT, DL, BV
149. White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis* - Weißkehlfächerschwanz cm

150. Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea* - Schwarznackenschnäpper CT, DL
151. White-throated Rock Thrush *Monticola gularis* - Amurrötel LB 1, CT 1
152. Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius* - Blaumerle Dalat Highway 2
153. Blue Whistling-Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus* - Purpurpfeifdrossel TD 1, BV
154. (Siberian Thrush *Zoothera sibirica* - Schieferdrossel) (BV only; 0,1)
155. Orange-headed Thrush *Zoothera citrina* - Damadrossel CP 1
156. Scaly Thrush *Zoothera dauma* - Erddrossel CP, TD, BV
157. Japanese Thrush *Turdus cardis* - Scheckendrossel CP 20; BV
158. Eurasian Blackbird *Turdus merula* - Amsel XT, CP
159. Eyebrowed Thrush *Turdus obscurus* - Weißbrauendrossel (BV only; 4)
160. Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica* - Braunschnäpper CT 2
161. Red-throated Flycatcher *Ficedula parva* - Zwergschnäpper CT 2
162. Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassina* - Azurschnäpper CP, LB, DL
163. White-tailed Flycatcher *Cyornis concretus* - Weißschwanz-Blauschnäpper CP 2,1
164. Gray-headed Canary Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis* - Graukopf-Kanarienschnäpper cm
165. Mugimaki Flycatcher *Ficedula mugimaki* - Mugimakischnäpper CP, LB, DL
166. Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni* - Elsterschnäpper TN, LB
167. Large Niltava *Niltava grandis decorata* - Kobaltblauschnäpper TN 1,1; DL 3
168. Fujian Niltava *Niltava davidi* - Davidblauschnäpper CP 1,1; BV 1,0
169. Blue-throated Flycatcher *Cyornis rubeculoides klossi* - Blaukehlschnäpper CT 0,2
170. Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophrys* - Zwergkurzflügel CP 1; TD+LB (ho)

171. Rufous-tailed Robin *Luscinia sibilans* - Schwirrnachtigall XT 1, CP 1
172. Siberian Rubythroat *Luscinia calliope* Rubinkehlchen XT 3-4
173. Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica* Blaukehlchen XT 2-3
174. Siberian Blue Robin *Luscinia cyane* Blaunachtigall LB 0,1
175. (Orange-flanked Bush Robin *Tarsiger cyanurus* - Blauschwanz) (BV only)
176. Oriental Magpie Robin *Copsychus saularis* - Dajaldrossel cm
177. White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus* - Schamadrossel CP, CT
178. White-tailed Robin *Myiomela leucura* - Schattenschmätzer TD 1,0
179. Common Stonechat *Saxicola torquata stejnegeri* - Schwarzkehlchen cm
180. Gray Bushchat *Saxicola ferrea* Grauschmätzer LB 1,1
181. Red-billed Starling *Sturnus sericeus* Seidenstar XT 30
182. Vinous-breasted Starling *Sturnus burmannicus* - Burmastar CT 1
183. Chestnut-vented Nuthatch *Sitta nagaensis* - Rotbauchkleiber LB
184. Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis* - Samtstirnkleiber CT 2, DL 4
185. Great Tit *Parus major* Kohlmeise XT 1
186. Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus legendrei* - Bergkohlmeise LB
187. Black-throated Tit *Aegithalos concinnus annamensis* Rotkopf-Schwanzmeise  
DL
188. Sultan Tit *Melanochlora sultanea* Sultansmeise TD 3-4
189. Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* Rauchschwalbe cm
190. Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanicterus* Goldbrustbülbul LB, CT
191. Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus* - Rotohrbülbul CP, BV
192. Light-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus sinensis hainanus* - Chinabülbul XT 5
193. Sooty-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus aurigaster klossi* - Kotilangbülbul near  
XT 2
194. Stripe-throated Bulbul *Pycnonotus finlaysoni* Streifenkehlbülbul CT, CP
195. Flavescent Bulbul *Pycnonotus flavescens* - Gelbwangenbülbul DL, LB

196. Streak-eared Bulbul *Pycnonotus blanfordi* - Blanfordbülbül CT
197. Puff-throated Bulbul *Allophoixus pallidus* - Blassbauchbülbül CP, TD, BV
198. Ochraceous Bulbul *Allophoixus ochraceus* - Rostbauchbülbül DL
199. Gray-eyed Bulbul *Iole propinqua* - Grauaugenbülbül CP 2
200. Ashy Bulbul *Hemixos flavala* Weißkehlbülbül LB, DL, BV
201. Chestnut Bulbul *Hemixos castanonotus* - Kastanienbülbül TM 2
202. Mountain Bulbul *Hypsipetes mcclllandii* - Kurzflügelbülbül LB
203. Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus* (sinensis+leucocephalus)
204. Rotschnabelbülbül TD, LB
205. Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens* Rostprinie CP, CT
206. Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata* - Rahmbrustprinie XT
207. Mountain Tailorbird *Orthotomus cuculatus* - Bergschneidervogel LB, BV; DL (ho)
208. Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis* - Strichelschneidervogel cm
209. Asian Stubtail *Urosphena squameiceps* Stummelsänger CP 3; BV 2
210. Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* - Dunkellaubsänger XT
211. Raddes Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi* - Bartlaubsänger CP 1
212. Ashy-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus maculipennis* - Graukehlhaubsänger LB 2
213. Pallas Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus* Goldhähnchen-Laubsänger LB 1; BV 1
214. Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus* - Gelbbrauenlaubsänger cm
215. White-tailed Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus davisoni klossi* - Weißschwanzlaubsänger LB, DL
216. (Blyths Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides* - Streifenkopflaubsänger) (BV only; 1)

217. Sulphur-breasted Warbler *Phylloscopus ricketti* - Goldscheitellaubsänger  
CP 2; BV 2
218. Japanese White-eye *Zosterops japonicus* - Japanbrillenvogel XT
219. Gray-bellied Tesia *Tesia cyaniventer* Olivscheiteltesia
220. Gray-crowned Warbler *Seicercus tephrocephalus* - Grauscheitellaubsänger  
CP
221. Bianchis Warbler *Seicercus valentini* Valentin-Laubsänger TD
222. (Gray-cheeked Warbler *Seicercus poliogenys* - Grauwangenlaubsänger)  
(BV only)
223. White-spectacled Warbler *Seicercus affinis* - Silberbrillenlaubsänger LB  
1
224. White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus* - Weißhaubenhäher-  
ling CT; CP (ho)
225. Gray Laughingthrush *Garrulax maesi* Maeshäherling TD
226. Orange-breasted Laughingthrush *Garrulax annamensis* Orangebrust-  
Häherling DL 3-4
227. Buff-breasted Babbler *Pellorneum tickelli* Rotbrust-Maustimalie CP,  
BV; CT (ho)
228. Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps* - Streifenbrusttimalie CP 1
229. Spot-throated Babbler *Pellorneum albiventre* Weißbauch-Erdtimalie LB  
1 (not seen by leader)
230. Scaly-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron cinereum indochinense* Rotstirn-  
Zweigtimalie CT, CP
231. Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis* - Rothals säbler  
TD 4-5
232. Streaked Wren-Babbler *Napothera brevicaudata* - Stutzschwanztimalie  
CP; TD 1
233. (Pygmy Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga pusilla* - Moostimalie) (seen BV only,  
1; LB, ho)
234. Rufous-capped Babbler *Stachyris ruficeps* - Rotkopftimalie LB, DL
235. Golden Babbler *Stachyris chrysaea* Goldkopftimalie TD, BV

236. Gray-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps* Graukehl-Buschtimalie CP, BV
237. Spot-necked Babbler *Stachyris striolata* Fleckenhals-Buschtimalie TD 5
238. Striped Tit-Babbler *Macronous gularis* - Gelbbrusttimalie cm
239. White-browed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis* Weißbrauen-Würger-timalie DL 1,1
240. Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius aenobarbus* Rotstirn-Würger-timalie DL 1,0
241. Blue-winged Minla *Minla cyanouroptera orientalis* Blauflügelsiva TN, LB
242. Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix argentauris* Silberrohr-Sonnenvogel LB 1, BV 1
243. Rufous-throated Fulvetta *Alcippe rufogularis* - Kropfbandalcippe CP
244. Black-browed Fulvetta *Alcippe grotei* - Schwarzbrauenalcippe CP
245. Mountain Fulvetta *Alcippe peracensis* Malaienalcippe LB, DL
246. Gray-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe morrisonia* - Grauwangenalcippe TD
247. Black-headed Sibia *Heterophasia desgodinsi robinsoni* - Schwarzkopftimalie LB, DL
248. Gray-headed Parrotbill *Paradoxornis gularis margaritae* Graukopf-Papageimeise DL 1
249. Short-tailed Parrotbill *Paradoxornis davidianus* Kurzschwanz-Papageimeise TD 6
250. White-bellied Erpornis (=Yuhina) *Erpornis zantholeuca* Weißbauch-Erporis cm
251. (Striated Yuhina *Yuhina castaniceps* - Rotohryuhina) (BV only)
252. Thick-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum agile* - Dickschnabelmistelfresser CT 1
253. Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum* Gelbsteiß-Mistelfresser CT 1
254. Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum* Scharlach-Mistelfresser cm

255. (Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus* - Feuerbrustumistelfresser) (BV only)
256. Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Anthreptes singalensis* - Rubinwangennektarvogel CT
257. Purple-naped Sunbird *Hypogramma hypogrammicum* - Streifennektarvogel CP 1
258. Purple-throated Sunbird *Nectarinia sperata* - Purpurkehlnektarvogel CT 1,0
259. Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarinia jugularis* - Grünrückennektarvogel CT
260. Mrs Goulds Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae* - Gouldnektarvogel LB, DL
261. Fork-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga christinae* - Hainannektarvogel CP, TD, BV
262. Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga saturate johnsi* - Schwarzkehlnektarvogel DL
263. Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja* - Karmesinnektarvogel CT
264. Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra* - Weißkehl-Spinnenjäger CT
265. Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna* - Strichel-Spinnenjäger CP, TD, BV
266. Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus* - Orientspornpieper LB 2
267. Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni* - Waldpieper cm
268. Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* - Rotkehlpieper near XT
269. Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus* - Baumstelze CT 1, Saigon 1
270. White Wagtail *Motacilla alba leucopsis* - Bachstelze cm (north)
271. Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* - Schafstelze XT
272. Gray Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* - Gebirgsstelze cm
273. Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* - Feldsperling cm
274. Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus* - Bayaweber CT
275. White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata* - Spitzschwanz-Bronzemännchen cm

276. Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata* - Muskatamadine near CP; CT
277. Vietnamese Greenfinch *Carduelis monguilloti* Vietnamgrünling DL 5; LB (ho)
278. Chestnut-eared Bunting *Emberiza fucata* - Bandammer XT 1,0

**Species heard only**

1. Scaly-breasted Partridge *Arborophila chloropus cognacqi* Grünfuß-Buschwachtel CT
2. Gray-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus* - Grauspecht CT
3. Greater Flameback *Chrysocolaptes lucidus* Sultansspecht CP, CT
4. Blue-eared Barbet *Megalaima australis* - Blauohrbartvogel CT
5. Indian Cuckoo *Cuculus micropterus* - Kurzflügelkuckuck LB
6. Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides* - Trillerkauz CT
7. Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus* - Langschwanznachtschwalbe CT
8. Two-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus* - Middendorfflaubsänger CT
9. Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra meridionalis* - Fichtenkreuzschnabel LB

**Large mammals heard and seen**

1. Yellow-cheeked Crested Gibbon DL (ho), CT (ho)
2. Pig-tailed Macaque DL 2
3. Long-tailed Macaque CT 1
4. Rhesus Macaque CT 1, CP 2-3
5. Black-shanked Douc Langur CT ca. 3
6. Sambar CT 1
7. Barking Deer CT (ho)
8. Wild Boar CT 1
9. Giant Squirrel CP 1

10. Pallass Squirrel CT many
11. Red-cheeked Squirrel DL a few
12. Eastern Striped Squirrel cm