



Rockjumper Birding Tours

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Endangered Endemics of the Philippines & Visayan Island Extension

27th March - 19th April 2008



Philippine Eagle at the nest

Tour Leaders Tim Fisher & David Hoddinott
Trip Report compiled by Tour Leader David Hoddinott

Tour Summary

Located in Southeast Asia, the Republic of the Philippines is an archipelago between the South China and Philippine Seas composed of 7,107 islands strewn across a great stretch of tropical waters. The Philippines occupies the unenviable position as the number one most critically at-risk destination in the world for endemic plants, animals, and birds followed by Madagascar and eastern Brazil, respectively. Due to unregulated logging, a massive farming expansion, a population of ninety million with the highest population growth in the world, this modern disaster has only continued to escalate. Despite this there are still some wonderful places to explore and still remains one of my favourite countries to bird in Asia.



Our pre-tour extension started off with a flight from the capital Manila to Bacolod on Negros Island. A very early start, the first of many, saw us taking a jeepney (local transport in flashy long wheel-base pick-ups) to the cooler, forested slopes of Mount Kanlaon. We spent a memorable full day on the mountain picking up our first Philippine endemics including several very localized ones such as the beautiful Flame-templed Babbler. Other highlights included, Metallic Pigeon, a fruiting tree where we enjoyed scope views of the stunning Yellow-breasted Fruit Dove, a very confiding Red-bellied Pitta – showing off for all, localized White-winged Cuckooshrike, distinct sub-species of White-browed Shama, White-vented Whistler,

Stripe-breasted Creeper – one of three species of Rhabdornis, an endemic family to the Philippines, localized Black-belted Flowerpecker and a pair of Besra nest building.

The following day we took a flight to the island of Cebu and transferred by ferry to the island of Bohol. Here we enjoyed a pleasant stay in the scenic Chocolate Hills (remarkably uniform hilly country) and spent two days in the wonderful Rajah Sikatuna National Park. Amongst many highlights here included a flock of fifty-one Chinese Sparrowhawks on migration, Amethyst Brown Dove, superb Black-chinned Fruit Dove, striking Black-faced Coucal, dainty Whiskered Treeswift, several stunning Philippine Trogon, Tropic Hornbill, rare Wattled Broadbill, localized Yellow-breasted Tailorbird and secretive Striated Wren Babbler. We also enjoyed great sightings of the bizarre Colugo (a bizarre mammal placed in its own order) and splendid Philippine Tarsier.



From Bohol we transferred to Cebu, one of the most desecrated islands, and after a lengthy search found Black Shama. Other highlights here included good views of Tawny Grassbird, Mangrove Blue Flycatcher, Everett's White-eye and Crimson Sunbird.

From Cebu we took a flight back to Luzon. Here we spent a substantial amount of time in the Mount Makiling area and although very quiet for long periods we did have some notable sightings including a fabulous Spotted Wood Kingfisher. Weaving our way up the forest trails we found a very tame Guaiabero, stunning Red-crested Malkoha, Sulphur-billed Nuthatch, Stripe-headed Creeper, stunning male Flaming Sunbird and Striped Flowerpecker. Along a forested stream we found the dainty and



highly sought-after Indigo-banded Kingfisher. In the more open areas we had great scope views of Spotted Buttonquail and Plain Bushhen (a lucky sighting and the only one of the trip). Travelling to Northern Luzon we stopped at the wetland hotspot of Candaba Marsh. As usual it was teeming with birds and we enjoyed sightings of large numbers of migrant ducks as well as the endemic Philippine Duck. Scanning carefully along the network of dams and channels we found Yellow, Cinnamon and Black Bittern, Purple Swamphen, striking Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Greater Painted Snipe, Oriental Pratincole, Island Collared and Red Turtle Dove and Lesser Coucal. En route to Banaue we stopped at some flooded rice fields where we enjoyed a surprise sighting of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. Leaving the lowlands we traveled up to Mount Polis for a full days birding.

Shortly after dawn we came across a pair of the rare and beautiful Flame-crowned Flowerpecker and a late migrant Grey-faced Buzzard flew overhead. Tim managed to coax a stunning Mountain Tailorbird into view and it showed extremely well. After a great deal of searching we all managed good views of the elusive Philippine Bush Warbler. Several Blue-headed Fantails, Chestnut-faced Babbler and beautiful Metallic-winged Sunbird showed well. However Green-backed Whistler proved particularly elusive and it was only in the fading light of sunset that we managed to find one. The localized Luzon Water Redstart was seen shortly after lunch on a nearby river, where we witnessed some of the famous terraced rice paddies.

Our final destination on Luzon was Subic Bay and we were treated to some wonderful sightings in the surrounding forest. This remnant forest patch has been well protected due to the fact that it's been occupied by the Navy for a long period of time. A productive afternoon in the area produced many Blue-naped Parrots, great views of the difficult to see Rufous Coucal, and both White-bellied and Sooty Woodpeckers that showed particularly well. The following morning a pre-dawn drive produced one of the highlights of the trip, a magnificent Philippine Eagle-Owl seen eating a large rat in the spotlight – a really lucky find of this rare species and exceptional to see it so well. In the early morning we were treated to great scope views of the impressive Philippine Hawk-Eagle, tiny Philippine Falconet, a brief Green Racket-tail, Eye-browed Thrush, White-lored Oriole, Philippine Fairy-bluebird and a forty strong colony of superb Blue-throated Bee-eater.

From Luzon we traveled south to the large island of Mindanao with our first stop being Mount Kitanglad. An early departure for the walk up the slopes of Kitinglad saw us having our luggage carted up by a combination of Horses and Water Buffalo. We got comfortably settled in to our camp for the next three nights and you could feel the anxious excitement mounting as the following day, the search was on for the great bird of the Philippines, the bird everyone wants to see, the bird often acclaimed as one of the greatest birds in the world ! Yes you guessed it, the great Philippine Eagle! We spent four and a half hours scouring the slopes of Mt.Kitinglad with our telescopes and just when we were starting to feel that perhaps we might not see it, the eagle vocalized some way off, a frantic scurry ensued as we all tried to see this magical eagle. The bird was eventually located flying about five hundred metres away over a low ridge of trees and proceeded to fly straight towards us eventually soaring low overhead, allowing phenomenal views. Everyone was absolutely ecstatic and



this was certainly one of the great highlights of the trip. Other great sightings on the mountain included King Quail, rare Bukidnon Woodcock (only discovered in the 90's), Philippine Nightjar, McGregor's Cuckooshrike, Rufous-headed Tailorbird, Black-and-cinnamon Fantail, Elegant Tit, Grey-hooded & Apo Sunbird, Olive-capped and beautiful Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Mindanao and Cinnamon Ibon and Apo Myna.

Leaving Mount Kitanglad we traveled to the lowland rainforest remnants at PICOP. The continued forest clearing here is very evident and the last remnants of forest occur in the ragged limestone areas where it is difficult to access. Fortunately there are a few trails with reasonable patches of forest and it was along these trails that we had great views of a pair of Wattled Broadbill building a nest. Other gems seen here included the beautiful Azure-breasted Pitta, the elusive Little Slaty Flycatcher and



Short-crested Monarch. Our pre-dawn forreys produced some wonderful night birds including a confiding Philippine Frogmouth and Giant Scops-Owl. We spent a full two days in the area, searching various pockets of forest that produced some memorable sightings including Barred Honey Buzzard, a lone Pink-bellied Imperial Pigeon, stunning Silvery, Winchell's and Hombron's Kingfisher, huge Rufous and Writhed Hornbill, scarce Black-bibbed Cuckooshrike, Yellowish Bulbul, Philippine Leafbird, superb Black-headed Tailorbird and confiding Naked-faced Spiderhunter.

Next we traveled to the island of Palawan. Our first stop at a patch of mangroves produced the soughtafter Chinese Egret followed by another stop at a mature stand of mangrove where we had great views of the striking Copper-throated Sunbird. Moving on to the Sabang area we picked up Oriental Hobby, Palawan Hornbill, a very tame White-vented Shama and Palawan Flowerpecker. Our final sighting of the day was a surprise sighting of a single Red-vented Cockatoo that sat up and posed in the late afternoon.

The following day we took an early morning boat trip to St.Pauls National Park where we enjoyed many memorable sightings. We spent time walking slowly along the network of forest trails and found several confiding Philippine Megapode, the incredible Palawan Peacock Pheasant, great scope views of Blue-headed Racket-tail, Palawan Blue Flycatcher and along the beach Malaysian Plover. Our evening night walk produced an elusive Palawan Scops-Owl and Javan Frogmouth. We also ventured out to the nearby Bandan Island in search of the localized Mantanani Scops-Owl and we were not disappointed with a great sighting for all. Other interesting species seen included a Great-billed Heron carrying nesting material and several Pied Imperial Pigeons.



Moving on to the Iwahig Penal Farm we recorded White-browed Crake, several Watercock including a male in near full breeding plumage, Pintail Snipe and many Long-toed Stint.

Our final morning was spent on the Zig-zag road where we enjoyed superb views of Ashy-headed Babbler and the elusive Palawan Flycatcher. This brought to a close our wonderful adventure through the Philippines and we transferred to Manilla for our return flights home.

Photos: Philippine Eagle, Wattled Broadbill, Philippine Tarsier, Spotted Wood Kingfisher, Azure-breasted Pitta, PICOP forest scenery and Palawan Peacock-Pheasant by David Shackelford.

Annotated List of Bird Species recorded

Key to Abbreviations:

E: endemic species found only in the Philippines

NE: near endemic species found in the Philippines and one or more nearby small islands

Checklist follows taxonomy treated as a full species in (IOC): "Birds of the World. A Checklist."

Scrubfowl Megapodiidae

Philippine Megapode (Tabon Scrubfowl) (NE) *Megapodius cumingii*

Five birds were observed at close quarters on forest trails in St. Paul's Underground River National Park at Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we observed the resident subspecies *cumingii*.

Pheasants & Allies Phasianidae

King (Blue-breasted) Quail *Coturnix chinensis*

One bird was seen well on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the near-endemic subspecies *lineata*.

Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus*

We heard one calling near Rajah Sikatuna National Park in the Chocolate Hills, Bohol.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies *philippensis*.

Palawan Peacock-Pheasant (E) *Polyplectron napoleonis*

We enjoyed unforgettable views of one male seen at St. Paul's Underground River National Park, Palawan. It was seen at very close range as it fearlessly seemed to approach, almost inquisitively, as we stood very still gawking at what is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful birds of the world.

Ducks & Geese Anatidae

Wandering Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*

Up to thirty were seen at wetlands in Bislig Airport on Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *philippensis*.

Eurasian Wigeon *Anas Penelope*

We had wonderful scope views of five at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Philippine Duck (E) *Anas luzonica*

More than five hundred were found at the Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Up to four thousand were found at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

The Candaba Marsh in Luzon held forty of these winter migrants.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

We had great views of a flock of eleven at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Grebes Podicipedidae

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

We encountered two that we scoped at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: Two endemic subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies *philippensis*.

Hérons & Bitterns Ardeidae**Yellow Bittern***Ixobrychus sinensis*

Birds were seen very well at several wetland sites with peak numbers of twenty seen during a visit to Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Cinnamon Bittern*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

A total of four were seen at Candaba Marsh, Luzon with a further magnificent sighting of two at Iwahig, Palawan.

Black Bittern*Ixobrychus flavicollis*

Our first sighting was of one at Candaba Marsh, Luzon with a further sighting of five at Bislig Airport, Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies flavicollis.

Black-crowned Night-Heron*Nycticorax nycticorax*

An estimated 300 birds were observed in a breeding colony at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies nycticorax.

Striated (Little) Heron*Butorides striata*

At least five were seen on the tiny island of Bandan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the resident subspecies carcinophilus.

Chinese Pond Heron*Ardeola bacchus*

We had great scope views of one at Candaba Marsh, Luzon, a vagrant to the Philippines.

Cattle Egret*Bubulcus ibis*

A cosmopolitan species found in good numbers throughout the tour.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies coromandus.

Grey Heron*Ardea cinerea*

We found small numbers of this widespread species on Luzon including great views of thirty- five at Candaba Marsh.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies jouyi.

Great-billed Heron*Ardea sumatrana*

One was seen carrying nesting material on the tiny island of Bandan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies sumatrana.

Purple Heron*Ardea purpurea*

We had one sighting at Bislig airport, Mindanao with peak numbers of more than fifty birds at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies manilensis.

Great Egret*Ardea alba*

We encountered scattered numbers throughout the tour on the islands of Luzon and Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies modesta.

Yellow-billed (Intermediate) Egret*Egretta intermedia*

Small numbers were first seen at the roadside wetlands on Luzon followed by peak numbers of up to twenty daily on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies plumifera.

Little Egret*Egretta garzetta*

Scattered sightings throughout the tour, most of the observations were on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies nigripes.

Pacific Reef Heron*Egretta sacra*

A total of five birds were seen feeding along the shore near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies sacra.

Chinese Egret*Egretta eulophotes*

We had superb scope views of several on Palawan. The Philippine islands of Palawan, Bohol and Olango may be a primary wintering area for this globally endangered species.

Falcons Falconidae**Philippine Falconet (E)***Microhierax erythrogenys*

First scoped perched on a dead snag at Subic, Luzon with further sightings at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies erythrogenys on Luzon and the subspecies meridionalis on Mindanao.

Oriental Hobby*Falco severus*

We enjoyed scope views of one near Sabang.

Peregrine Falcon*Falco peregrinus*

One was seen at Candaba Marsh, Luzon, another at Mt.Kitanglad, Mindanao and two on the island of Palawan including good views of one near Sabang.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies ernesti on Luzon and Mindanao and the subspecies calidus on Palawan.

Eagles & Hawks Accipitridae**Osprey***Pandion haliaetus*

An uncommon species in the Philippines, we were fortunate to see four on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies haliaetus.

Crested (Oriental) Honey Buzzard*Pernis ptilorhynchus*

We enjoyed great scope views of two birds perched at Mount Kitanglad on the island of Mindanao and a further two soaring at eye-level on Mt.Makiling on Luzon.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies philippensis on Luzon and Mindanao.

Barred Honey Buzzard (NE)*Pernis celebensis*

Several birds were seen on two consecutive days in lowland rainforest in PICOP logging concession on the east coast of Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies steerei. The endemic subspecies steerei is considered by some authorities to be a separate species from the subspecies, celebensis in Sulawesi.

Brahminy Kite*Haliastur Indus*

We had several sightings near Subic Bay, Luzon and at Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao of this handsome and widespread species.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies intermedius.

White-bellied Sea Eagle*Haliaeetus leucogaster*

One juvenile was seen at Sabang, Palawan, our only sighting during the trip.

Philippine Serpent Eagle (E)*Spilornis holospilus*

We enjoyed scattered sightings of this attractive raptor throughout the tour with our best sightings of six individuals on a single day at Subic.

Crested Goshawk*Accipiter trivirgatus*

One individual was seen near Rajah Sikatuna, Bohol, another perched at PICOP, Mindanao and finally one seen at Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies extimus on Bohol & Mindanao and palawanus on Palawan.

Chinese Sparrowhawk*Accipiter soloensis*

We observed a great site of fifty-one flying north on migration at Rajah Sikatuna, Bohol with scattered sightings elsewhere.

Besra*Accipiter virgatus*

A pair was seen building a nest at Mt. Kanlaon, Negros with further sightings at Mt.Makiling, Luzon and PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies confusus on Luzon & Negros and subspecies quagga on Mindanao.

Grey-faced Buzzard*Butastur indicus*

We had great views of one of these migrants flying over Mt. Polis.

Philippine Eagle (E) *Pithecophaga jefferyi*

Undoubtedly one of the highlights of the tour. We obtained simply mind-boggling views of this huge raptor as if flew towards us and then soared above us. No words could explain our elation after such a fantastic experience with this world-class bird of prey.

Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus limnaeetus*

We found a single bird near Sabang on the island of Palawan where this species is at the edge of its natural range.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies limnaeetus.

Philippine Hawk-Eagle (E) *Spizaetus philippensis*

We had fantastic scope views of one in the forest at Subic, Luzon and several others were seen at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies philippensis on Luzon and subspecies pinskeri on Mindanao.

Crakes & Rails Rallidae

Barred Rail *Gallirallus torquatus*

We had excellent scope views of one with two chicks at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies torquatus.

Plain Bush-hen (E) *Amaurornis olivacea*

We had wonderful scope views of one near Mt. Makiling, Luzon.

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

This widespread species was seen well at Candaba Marsh followed by scattered sightings throughout the tour at wetland sites and inundated rice paddies.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies phoenicurus.

White-browed Crake *Porzana cinerea*

We enjoyed incredible views of a single bird in the waterside vegetation at Candaba Marsh, Luzon and a further two at Iwahig Fish Ponds, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies ocellaris.

Watercock *Gallicrex cinerea*

One was seen briefly at Bislig airport, Mindanao and later we enjoyed incredible views of four at Iwahig Rice Fields, Palawan.

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*

We had good scope views of three at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies pulverulentus.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

This widespread species was seen in small numbers at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies orientalis.

Buttonquails Turnicidae

Spotted Buttonquail (E) *Turnix ocellatus*

We had excellent scope views of six at the foot of Mt. Makiling while waiting in the late afternoon along a cut track through the secondary forest.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies ocellatus.

Avocets and Stilts Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

We found twenty-five in the rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon.

Plovers Charadriidae

Pacific Golden Plover*Pluvialis fulva*

We had great views of five in rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon and a further five at Iwahig rice fields, Palawan.

Little Ringed Plover*Charadrius dubius*

A group of three was seen in rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *dubius*.

Kentish Plover*Charadrius alexandrinus*

We had good scope views of three at Iwahig fishponds, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *dealbatus*.

Malaysian Plover*Charadrius peronii*

We had great views of two birds, one adult and one young bird, along a white sandy beach in St. Paul's NP on Palawan.

Painted-snipe Rostratulidae**Greater Painted Snipe***Rostratula benghalensis*

At least a dozen birds were seen at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Jacanas Jacanidae**Pheasant-tailed Jacana***Hydrophasianus chirurgus*

Six of these stunning waders were seen at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Sandpipers & Snipes Scolopacidae**Bukidnon Woodcock (E)***Scolopax bukidnonensis*

We enjoyed several rodding display flights at twilight on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Pin-tailed Snipe*Gallinago stenura*

We enjoyed great scope views of one at Iwahig fishponds, Palawan.

Whimbrel*Numenius phaeopus*

We had good views of two on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *variegatus*.

Common Redshank*Tringa totanus*

We had great views of a dozen at Iwahig fishponds, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *eurhinus*.

Marsh Sandpiper*Tringa stagnatilis*

We found three in rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon.

Common Greenshank*Tringa nebularia*

Twenty were seen in rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon and a further fifteen at the Iwahig fishponds, Palawan.

Wood Sandpiper*Tringa glareola*

We found eighty in the rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon and a further thirty at Iwahig fishponds, Palawan.

Common Sandpiper*Actitis hypoleucos*

We first found this species at the Candaba Marsh, Luzon followed by scattered sightings throughout the tour.

Grey-tailed Tattler*Heteroscelus brevipes*

Small numbers were seen at Bandan Island and a further one at Iwahig fishponds, Palawan.

Sanderling*Calidris alba*

We had great views of one near Sabang, Palawan.

Long-toed Stint*Calidris subminuta*

Up to eight seen the rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon and a further thirty at Iwahig fishponds, Palawan.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

We had great scope views of one in the rice fields en route to Banaue, Luzon.

Pratincoles Glareolidae

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*

A flock of twenty was seen at Bacolod airport, Negros and a further four at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Gulls Laridae

Common Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

We saw five during the ferry trip to Bohol.

Terns Sternidae

Swift (Great Crested) Tern *Sterna bergii*

Two were seen during the ferry trip to Bohol.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies cristatus.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Up to thirty were seen during the ferry trip to Bohol.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies longipennis.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

First seen at Bacolod airport, Negros with further sightings at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies hybrida in Negros and subspecies javavanicus in Luzon.

Pigeons & Doves Columbidae

Common (Rock) Pigeon *Columba livia*

This feral species was observed in most urban areas throughout the tour.

Metallic Pigeon *Columba vitiensis*

One was seen well but briefly on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies griseogularis.

Island Collared Dove *Streptopelia bitorquata*

We enjoyed good views of four at Candaba Marsh, Luzon our only sightings of the trip.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies dusumieri.

Red Turtle Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica*

We had great scope views of one male at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies humilis.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

This widespread Asian species was found throughout the tour in good numbers, especially in degraded habitat on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies tigrina.

Andaman Cuckoo-Dove (E) *Macropygia rufipennis*

Several were seen flying over Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol and later we enjoyed great views of several daily on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao and finally two on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies indica. Clements splits this species as Philippine Cuckoo-Dove, M. tenuirostris.

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

Heard calling its mournful repeated notes throughout lowland forest sites with several sightings on the island of Palawan and the Visayan Islands.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies indica.

Zebra Dove*Geopelia striata*

Similar to the species above, we found this bird to be a regular inhabitant of degraded forest sites and towns throughout the tour.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *striata*.

Luzon Bleeding-heart (E)*Gallicolumba luzonica*

We heard this species calling on Mt. Makiling, Luzon.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies *luzonica*.

Mindanao Bleeding-heart (E)*Gallicolumba crinigera*

This species was heard calling in PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies *crinigera*.

White-eared Brown Dove (E)*Phapitreron leucotis*

This shy species was found first at Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol, several on Cebu, on Mt. Makiling, Luzon and at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies *brevirostris* on Bohol, subspecies *nigrorum* on Cebu and subspecies *leucotis* on Luzon.

Amethyst Brown Dove (E)*Phapitreron amethystinus*

This distinctive species was seen near Rajah Sikatuna, Bohol and later seen on Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *amethystinus*.

Pink-necked Green Pigeon*Treron vernans*

This widespread species prefers more open secondary habitat and we found small numbers near the Balsahan trail on Palawan.

Pompadour Green Pigeon*Treron pompadora*

We first found this bird in small numbers in Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol and later enjoyed great scope views of many at Subic Bay, Luzon.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *canescens* on Bohol and subspecies *axillaris* on Luzon.

Thick-billed Green Pigeon*Treron curvirostra*

Two were seen briefly near Sabang, Palawan.

Yellow-breasted Fruit Dove (E)*Ptilinopus occipitalis*

This beautiful bird was heard at most lowland sites as it gives a very far-carrying call. It can be tricky to see but we managed outstanding views once on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros, scope views of one at Subic, Luzon and several on Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded the subspecies *occipitalis* on Negros & Luzon and subspecies *incognitus* on Mindanao.

Black-chinned Fruit Dove (E)*Ptilinopus leclancheri*

This species was heard several times in lowland forests throughout the tour but seen very well only near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and a further one on our final day in Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *leclancheri* on Bohol and subspecies *gironieri* on Palawan.

Pink-bellied Imperial Pigeon (E)*Ducula poliocephala*

A bird rapidly declining in numbers due to excessive logging, we heard this species calling loudly across the degraded forest clearings in PICOP on Mindanao and were fortunate enough to see one.

Green Imperial Pigeon*Ducula aenea*

Found in good numbers throughout the tour. First seen in Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol with further sightings at Subic Bay, Luzon, small numbers daily at PICOP, Mindanao and finally peak numbers of up to twenty daily on Palawan.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *aenea* on Bohol, Luzon and Mindanao and subspecies *palawanensis* on Palawan.

Pied Imperial Pigeon*Ducula bicolor*

Some of us had good views of six flying overhead on Bandan Island.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *bicolor*.

Cockatoos & Parrots Psittacidae

Philippine Hanging Parrot (Colasisi) (E) *Loriculus philippensis*

We found this small noisy parrot to be fairly common at most sites throughout the tour including several at Mt. Makiling on Luzon and many at Mt. Kitanglad on Mindanao.

Notes: Ten subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *philippensis* on Luzon and subspecies *apicalis* on Mindanao.

Red-vented (Philippine) Cockatoo (E) *Cacatua haematuropygia*

We enjoyed fabulous daytime views of one of these localized species both in flight and perched on a large dead tree near Sabang, Palawan. This endemic Cockatoo may now be one of the most threatened birds in the Philippines, due to pet trade.

Montane Racket-tail (E) *Prioniturus montanus*

One bird was seen well flying over the forest on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *malindangensis* on Mindanao. Clements splits this species into two species Luzon Racket-tail, *P. montanus* and the one we observed as Mindanao Racket-tail, *P. waterstradti*.

Blue-headed Racket-tail (E) *Prioniturus platenae*

Several of these attractive parrots were seen in the surroundings of St. Paul's Underground River National Park on Palawan. We enjoyed great scope views of one perched up in the early morning.

Green Racket-tail (E) *Prioniturus luconensis*

We had good but brief views of one at Subic.

Blue-crowned Racket-tail (E) *Prioniturus discurus*

We were fortunate to have superb scope views of a pair in Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol. At PICOP, Mindanao we had great scope views of a further two.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *whiteheadi* on Bohol and subspecies *discurus* on Mindanao.

Blue-naped Parrot (NE) *Tanygnathus lucionensis*

We first had excellent views of up to ten birds daily at Subic Bay on the island of Luzon followed by four birds on the island of Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *lucionensis* on Luzon and subspecies *salvadorii* on Palawan.

Guaiabero (E) *Bolbopsittacus lunulatus*

We enjoyed numerous great views of perched feeding birds with our best sightings at Mount Makiling on Luzon and further sightings at PICOP on Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *lunulatus* on Luzon and subspecies *mindanensis* on Mindanao.

Cuckoos, Malkohas & Coucals Cuculidae

Rufous Coucal (E) *Centropus unirufus*

We enjoyed awesome views of four birds seen while birding through Subic Bay, Luzon. This is a particularly shy species that often stays hidden in thick tangles.

Black-faced Coucal (E) *Centropus melanops*

We had superb views of four in the forest near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. A further one was seen at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies *banken* on Bohol and subspecies *melanops* on Mindanao.

Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*

This species was heard calling and seen briefly in the forest on Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *bubutus*.

Philippine Coucal (E) *Centropus viridis*

We heard this attractive bird calling throughout the tour in almost all forest sites and enjoyed numerous sightings.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *viridis*.

Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis*

We found this retiring species on the islands of Luzon, Mindanao and Palawan in secondary habitat.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies *philippinensis* on Luzon & Mindanao and subspecies *javanensis* on Palawan.

Chestnut-breasted Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*

We had great encounters with this widespread but impressive Southeast Asian species on the island of Palawan at St. Paul's Underground River NP.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *harringtoni*.

Rough-crested (Red-crested) Malkoha (E) *Dasylophus superciliosus*

We found a total of three of these beautiful birds at Mount Makiling on Luzon followed by a further two individuals at Subic Bay.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *superciliosus*.

Scale-feathered Malkoha (E) *Dasylophus cumingi*

We were fortunate to have good but brief views of one in the canopy of the forest on Mt. Makiling.

Asian Koel *Eudynamus scolopaceus*

An unforgettable song that is unmistakable; we heard this species calling throughout the tour and had one sighting at PICOP, Mindanao and another on the island of Bandan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *mindanensis*.

Violet Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*

We had great scope views of a pair at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies *amethystinus*.

Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus*

We had great views of two of this widespread species at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *merulinus*.

Rusty-breasted Cuckoo *Cacomantis sepulcralis*

We had great views of one near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, another on Cebu and a final sighting of one at Mt. Polis, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occurs in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *sepulcralis*. Clements does not accept this split and lumps it with Brush Cuckoo, *C.variolosus*.

Philippine Drongo-Cuckoo (E) *Surniculus velutinus*

We had good scope views of one of the subspecies *velutinus* in the forest at PICOP, Mindanao and again near the forest of Rajah Sikatuna NP in the Chocolate Hills on Bohol.

Notes: Two subspecies occurs in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *velutinus*.

Asian Drongo-Cuckoo *Surniculus lugubris*

This widespread Asian bird of the subspecies *minimus* was heard calling its distinctive song on several occasions in forested areas on Palawan and we enjoyed scope views of several birds near Sabang.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *brachyurus*.

Philippine Hawk-Cuckoo (E) *Hierococcyx pectoralis*

We had brief views of one in Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and another on Mt. Makiling in Luzon. Notes: This species is a split from Hodgson's Hawk Cuckoo *Cuculus niscolor*.

Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus*

We enjoyed good sightings on Mt. Kitinglad and at PICOP on Mindanao.

Notes: Clements splits this as Himalayan Cuckoo, *C.saturatus* and some authorities as Horsfield's Cuckoo, *C.horsfieldi*.

Typical Owls Strigidae

Palawan Scops Owl (E) *Otus fuliginosus*

Great but brief views of one in a dense vine tangle near Sabang on the island of Palawan.

Philippine Scops Owl (E) *Otus megalotis*

We had great scope views of one on Mt.Makiling, Luzon and another in PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies megalotis on Luzon and subspecies everetti on Mindanao.

Mantanani Scops Owl (NE) *Otus mantananensis*

We were fortunate to have incredible close views of this tricky bird on Bandan Island.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies romblonis.

Giant Scops Owl (Mindanao Eagle-Owl) (E) *Mimizuku gurneyi*

We heard this species calling near our bunkhouse on Mount Kitanglad but were unable to locate it however we were very fortunate to have great views of one at PICOP, Mindanao.

Philippine Eagle-Owl (E) *Bubo philippensis*

We were extremely fortunate to not only see this massive owl but enjoy great views of it perched in the spotlight at Subic Bay, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies philippensis.

Spotted Wood-Owl *Strix seloputo*

This species was heard calling in the distance at Sabang while we focused our attention on finding Palawan Scops Owl.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies wiepkeni.

Southern Boobook (Chocolate Boobook) (E) *Ninox boobook*

We had great views of one at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occurs in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies randi. Clements splits the resident subspecies randi as Chocolate Boobook.

Philippine Hawk-Owl (E) *Ninox philippensis*

We heard this species calling at several locations and had outstanding views of a single bird on Mount Makiling, Luzon. We also saw one in the forest of Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol and had good views of one in PICOP on the island of Mindanao.

Notes: Eight subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies philippensis on Luzon, subspecies centralis on Bohol and subspecies spilocephala on Mindanao, the latter is split by some authorities as Mindanao Hawk-Owl.

Frogmouths Podargidae

Philippine Frogmouth (E) *Batrachostomus septimus*

After only hearing one at Mt.Kitanglad we were finally rewarded with superb views of this nocturnal oddity at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies septimus.

Javan Frogmouth *Batrachostomus javensis*

We had simply unbelievable views of this outrageous bird on the island of Palawan during a nocturnal birding excursion.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies chaseni.

Nightjars Caprimulgidae

Great Eared Nightjar *Eurostopodus macrotis*

This large nightjar was seen in small numbers at dawn and dusk throughout the tour over forested areas. Seen especially well in the spotlight in PICOP and Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies macrotis.

Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus*

We heard this species calling in the forest on the island of Palawan and had great flight views of several individuals at Iwahig. One was also seen on Bandan Island.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies johnsoni.

Philippine Nightjar (E) *Caprimulgus manillensis*

We saw at least three birds on Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies manillensis.

Treeswifts Hemiprocnidae**Whiskered Treeswift***Hemiproctne comata*

We enjoyed great scope views of up to five daily near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies major.

Swifts Apodidae**Glossy Swiftlet***Collocalia esculenta*

We found this bird to be ubiquitous in the Philippines and seen almost daily with a single day high of more than one hundred birds at Mt. Kanlaon, Negros with further sightings on Luzon and Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies marginata on Negros & Luzon and the subspecies bagobo on Mindanao and Palawan.

Pygmy Swiftlet (E)*Collocalia troglodytes*

Fairly common throughout the tour including our best eye-level views at PICOP, Mindanao.

Philippine Swiftlet (E)*Aerodramus mearnsi*

A mountain species, usually found at elevations above 900 m, we only found this species on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao where we found about ten birds daily.

Whitehead's Swiftlet (E)*Aerodramus whiteheadi*

A flock of at least twenty of these large and rare swiftlets was seen flying over Mt. Polis, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies whiteheadi.

Mayr's (Palawan) Swiftlet (E)*Aerodramus orientalis*

Seen daily on the island of Palawan including approximately 300 birds near the nesting colony at the underground river cave in St. Paul's Underground River NP.

Notes: Clements splits Palawan Swiftlet, *A. palawanensis* off Mayr's Swiftlet, *A. orientalis*.

Uniform Swiftlet (Island Swiftlet)*Aerodramus vanikorensis*

Fairly common and seen in small numbers on many days of the tour with a daily high of fifty on Bohol and Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies amelis.

Philippine Spine-tailed Swift (Needletail) (E)*Mearnsia picina*

Two of these distinctive birds were seen in flight above the forest at PICOP, Mindanao over the course of two days. An attractive and unique species.

Purple Needletail (NE)*Hirundapus celebensis*

Our first sighting was very brief views of a flock of four at Mt. Kanlaon, Negros with further sightings of up to eight birds at PICOP, Mindanao.

Asian Palm Swift*Cypsiurus balasiensis*

Two birds were seen flying near Mt. Makiling, Luzon, a widespread Asian species.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies pallidior.

Trogons Trogonidae**Philippine Trogon (E)***Harpactes ardens*

We enjoyed superb views of three daily at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and a further one at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies linea on Bohol and subspecies ardens on Mindanao.

Rollers Coraciidae**Oriental Dollarbird***Eurystomus orientalis*

We found this widespread and conspicuous species at a few sights during the tour, our first sightings were of two at Subic Bay, Luzon with daily sightings during our visit to the island of Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies orientalis.

Kingfishers Alcedinidae**Spotted Wood Kingfisher (E)***Actenoides lindsayi*

We had crippling scope views of one bird on Mount Makiling, Luzon of this quick-flying but simply stunning species.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies lindsayi.

Hombron's (Blue-capped) Kingfisher (E)*Actenoides hombroni*

Our first sighting was of one on Mt. Kitinglad with a further sighting of great scope views of one at PICOP, Mindanao – a splendid bird indeed.

Stork-billed Kingfisher*Pelargopsis capensis*

We had great views of this stunning large billed species, up to three daily on Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies Gouldi.

Ruddy Kingfisher*Halcyon coromanda*

After a concerted effort we were finally rewarded with good views of one near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies lineae.

White-throated Kingfisher*Halcyon smyrnensis*

A common lowland inhabitant throughout much of Asia, we found good numbers at most lowland sites, first seen at University of the Philippines campus with further sightings at Subic, Luzon and finally several at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies gularis.

Winchell's (Rufous-lored) Kingfisher (E)*Todirhamphus winchelli*

A patient search revealed this stunning species at Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol we later enjoyed outstanding views of another in the lowland forest of PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies nigrorum on Bohol and subspecies mindanensis on Mindanao.

Collared Kingfisher*Todirhamphus chloris*

This widespread species was found throughout the tour in good numbers at virtually all secondary forest sites.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies collaris.

Oriental (Rufous-backed) Dwarf Kingfisher*Ceyx erithaca*

We encountered one of these furtive birds at Iwahig on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies rufidorsa. Many authorities including Clements consider this subspecies as a separate species, Rufous-backed Dwarf Kingfisher.

Indigo-banded Kingfisher (E)*Alcedo cyanopectus*

Another beautiful bird, we had great scope views of one in the Botanical Gardens, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies cyanopectus.

Silvery Kingfisher (E)*Alcedo argentata*

A real eye-catcher, we found one in the PICOP logging concession area, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies argentata.

Bee-eaters Meropidae**Blue-throated Bee-eater***Merops viridis*

We had wonderful views of up to forty at their nesting colony in Subic Bay, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies americanus.

Blue-tailed Bee-eater*Merops philippinus*

This migrant species was seen in good numbers at Mt. Makiling, Luzon.

Hornbills Bucerotidae**Palawan Hornbill (E)***Anthraceros marchei*

Sometimes elusive, we were fortunate to have several separate encounters with this attractive Palawan endemic, including stunning scope views of one.

Rufous Hornbill (E) *Buceros hydrocorax*

Some persistence paid off as we enjoyed great views of a pair and juvenile of this magnificent bird in the PICOP logging concession area, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies mindanensis.

Tarictic Hornbill (E) *Penelopides panini*

We found four at Subic Bay, Luzon, up to eight at Rajah Sikatuna on Bohol and up to five daily at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Eight subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies manillae on Luzon, samarensis on Bohol and affinis on Mindanao. Some authorities including Clements split this group into 5 species. Luzon Hornbill P.manillae, Samar Hornbill P.samarensis, Mindanao Hornbill P.affinis, Mindoro Hornbill P.mindorensis and Tarictic Hornbill P.panini.

Writhed Hornbill (E) *Aceros leucocephalus*

In lowland rainforest along the PICOP logging concession area we found two birds including great scope views of one.

Barbets Capitonidae

Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala*

First seen on Cebu, with further sightings at Mt.Makiling, Luzon and PICOP on Mindanao.

Notes: Six subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the endemic subspecies cebuensis on Cebu, endemic subspecies haemacephala on Luzon and endemic subspecies mindanensis on Mindanao.

Woodpeckers Picidae

Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker (E) *Dendrocopos maculatus*

A widespread endemic on the Philippines, we first encountered several in the Botanical Gardens, Luzon, small numbers at Subic and a couple on Mt.Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies validirostris on Luzon and subspecies fulvifasciatus on Mindanao.

White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis*

We had good views of three at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol followed by sightings at Subic Bay, Lucon, Mt.Kitinglad and PICOP on Mindanao.

Notes: Eight subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies pectoralis on Bohol, subspecies confusus on Luzon and subspecies multilunatus on Mindanao.

Common Flameback *Dinopium javanense*

We found one near Sabang and another at Iwahig, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies everetti.

Greater Flameback *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*

We found this widespread and highly variable Asian species on several occasions first at Subic Bay, Luzon and later at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Six subspecies occurs in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies haematribon on Luzon and subspecies montanus on Mindanao.

Sooty Woodpecker (E) *Mulleripicus funebris*

We enjoyed wonderful views of two pairs of these impressive endemic woodpeckers on consecutive days in the forested areas near Subic Bay on Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies funebris.

Broadbills Eurylaimidae

Wattled Broadbill (E) *Eurylaimus steeri*

Simply unbelievable views of a pair almost at eye-level at times and seen very well by everyone as they quietly flitted from perch to perch with a quick buzz of the wings. They were seen building a nest at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies mayri.

Visayan Broadbill (E) *Eurylaimus samarensis*

We were very fortunate to locate one in the sub-canopy along the forested trails of Rajah Sikatuna NP in the Chocolate Hills of Bohol.

Pittas Pittidae

Red-bellied Pitta *Pitta erythrogaster*

We enjoyed numerous sightings including stunning scope views of one on Mt.Kanlaon, Negros, another near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, two at PICOP, Mindanao and finally one at Iwahig, Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies erythrogaster on Negros, Bohol and Mindanao and subspecies propinqua on Palawan.

Hooded Pitta *Pitta sordida*

Heard calling from several lowland forest sites throughout the tour and seen very well by everyone in St.Paul's NP, on the island of Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies palawanensis.

Azure-breasted (Steere's) Pitta (E) *Pitta steerii*

Three of these incredible endemic pitas were seen exceptionally well at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and a further one at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies coelestis on Bohol and subspecies steerii on Mindanao.

Australasian Warblers Acanthizidae

Golden-bellied Gerygone *Gerygone sulphurea*

We enjoyed great views of one at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies simplex.

Woodswallow Artamidae

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorynchus*

A widespread species seen most days of the tour with daily totals often up to ten birds.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies leucorynchus.

Ioras Aegithinidae

Common Iora *Aegithina tiphia*

Several of this widespread Asian species were seen almost daily on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies aequanimis.

Cuckooshrikes & Trillers Campephagidae

Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike *Coracina striata*

We found this Asian species on several islands including sightings at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, Mount Makiling and Subic Bay on Luzon and at St.Pauls NP, Palawan.

Notes: Eight subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies boholensis on Bohol, subspecies striata on Luzon and subspecies difficilis on Palawan.

Blackish Cuckooshrike (E) *Coracina coerulescens*

We had wonderful views of a pair at Subic Bay on Luzon.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies coerulescens.

Black-bibbed Cuckooshrike (E) *Coracina mindanensis*

We had good views of two at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies coerulescens.

White-winged Cuckooshrike (E) *Coracina ostenta*

This fine Philippine endemic was seen well on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros.

McGregor's Cuckooshrike (E) *Coracina mcgregori*

Up to three of this scarce, Mindanao endemic were seen daily in the forest on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Black-and-white Triller (E) *Lalage melanoleuca*

One bird was seen on Mount Makiling, Luzon followed by excellent views of two at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies melanoleuca in Luzon and subspecies minor in Mindanao.

Pied Triller *Lalage nigra*

First seen on the island of Cebu, two daily on Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao and two near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies chilensis.

Fiery Minivet *Pericrocotus igneus*

We recorded up to six daily near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies igneus.

Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus*

We found several birds daily in PICOP on Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies johnstoniae.

Whistlers Pachycephalidae

Green-backed Whistler (E) *Pachycephala albiventris*

We encountered a single bird moving through the undergrowth in a mixed flock on the slopes of Mt. Polis, Luzon.

White-vented Whistler (NE) *Pachycephala homeyeri*

We found two on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros and one on Cebu.

Yellow-bellied Whistler (E) *Pachycephala philippinensis*

We had good views of four at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, followed by small numbers daily at Mt. Kitinglad and finally two at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Seven subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies boholensis on Bohol and subspecies apoensis on Mindanao.

Shrikes Laniidae

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*

Up to twenty of this late winter migrant were seen daily throughout the tour in most secondary habitats.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies lucionensis.

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*

This attractive widespread species was first seen near Mt. Makiling and then daily at Mt. Polis, Luzon and finally daily at Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Two endemic subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies nasutus.

Mountain (Gray-capped) Shrike (E) *Lanius validirostris*

We had brief views of one at Mt. Polis, Luzon.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies validirostris.

Orioles Oriolidae

Dark-throated Oriole *Oriolus xanthonotus*

We enjoyed excellent views of two vocal birds along a forested walk near Sabang on the island of Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *persuasus*.

Philippine Oriole (E) *Oriolus steerii*

One was seen briefly on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros and several at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *steerii* on Negros and subspecies *samarensis* on Mindanao.

White-lored Oriole (E) *Oriolus albiloris*

We had incredible views of this localized endemic on two occasions in the forest near Subic Bay, Luzon.

Notes: This species is a fairly recent split from Philippine Oriole, *O. steerii*.

Black-naped Oriole *Oriolus chinensis*

First seen at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, we had further sightings at Subic, Luzon, up to six daily at PICOP, Mindanao and finally a couple on Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *chinensis*.

Drongos Dicruridae

Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus*

Up to five seen daily on the island of Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *leucophaeus*.

Balicassiao (E) *Dicrurus balicassius*

We had good views of eight birds at Mt. Kanlaon, Negros and further sightings on Cebu and Mt. Makiling and Subic, Luzon.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *mirabilis* on Negros & Cebu and *balicassius* on Luzon.

Spangled Drongo (E) *Dicrurus bracteatus*

We found up to ten birds daily at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, two at Mt. Kitinglad and up to three daily at PICOP, Mindanao and finally up to six daily on Palawan.

Notes: Six subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies *samarensis* on Bohol, subspecies *striatus* on Mindanao and endemic subspecies *palawanensis* on Palawan. Hairy-crested Drongo formally lumped with this species is found in the Philippines only on the Sulu Islands.

Fantails Rhipidurae

Blue Fantail (E) *Rhipidura superciliaris*

Five birds were seen in Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, small numbers were seen daily at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *samarensis* on Bohol and subspecies *apo* on Mindanao.

Blue-headed Fantail (E) *Rhipidura cyaniceps*

A total of fourteen were seen on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros with further sightings at Mt. Polis and Subic, Luzon.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *albiventris* on Negros and subspecies *cyaniceps* on Luzon.

Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javanica*

Relatively common in suitable secondary habitat and mangroves, encountered at Mt. Kanlaon, Negros, with further sightings near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, on Cebu, Candaba Marsh, Luzon and on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies *nigritorquis*.

Black-and-cinnamon Fantail (E) *Rhipidura nigrocinnamomea*

Fairly common in the mountain forest on Mt. Kitanglad of the subspecies *hutchinsoni* where we found up to seven birds daily of this very handsome Mindanao endemic.

Monarch Flycatchers Monarchidae

Black-naped Monarch*Hypothymis azurea*

This widespread Asian species was seen and especially heard throughout the tour in forested areas with our best views of up to three daily at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies azurea.

Short-crested Monarch (E)*Hypothymis helenae*

After an extensive search we were finally rewarded with good views of two pairs in the lowland rainforest of PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies agusanae.

Blue Paradise Flycatcher (E)*Terpsiphone cyanescens*

This magnificent Palawan endemic was encountered daily on Palawan where we found up to three birds daily in forested areas.

Rufous Paradise Flycatcher (NE)*Terpsiphone cinnamomea*

One bird was very well at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies cinnamomea.

Crows Corvidae**Slender-billed Crow***Corvus enca*

Up to six were seen daily on the island of Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies pusillus.

Large-billed Crow*Corvus macrorhynchos*

Fairly common throughout the tour with sightings almost daily on Negros, Bohol, Luzon and Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies philippinus

Tits Paridae**Elegant Tit (E)***Periparus elegans*

We found four on Mt.Kanlaon, Negros with further sightings on Cebu as well as small numbers at Subic, Luzon and finally up to six daily on Mt.Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Nine subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded four, the subspecies albescens on Negros, subspecies visayanus on Cebu, subspecies elegans on Luzon and subspecies mindanensis on Mindanao.

Palawan Tit (E)*Periparus amabilis*

After an extensive search we were finally rewarded with good views of two on Palawan.

Martins & Swallows Hirundinidae**Sand Martin (Bank Swallow)***Riparia riparia*

Two were seen well in the Iwahig rice fields, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies ijimae.

Barn Swallow*Hirundo rustica*

We found small numbers of these winter migrants throughout the trip.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies gutturalis.

Pacific Swallow*Hirundo tahitica*

Common throughout the tour and seen almost daily in good numbers.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies javanica.

Striated Swallow*Cecropis striolata*

First seen at the Los Banos University Campus in good numbers, followed by a few scattered sightings during the tour on Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies striolata.

Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae**Zitting Cisticola***Cisticola juncidis*

We found three at Candaba Marsh, Luzon and a further two at Iwahig, Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *tinnabulans* on Luzon and subspecies *nigrostriata* on Palawan.

Family uncertain Incertae sedis

Mountain Tailorbird

Orthotomus cucullatus

One of these delightful birds was seen exceptionally well at Mt. Polis, Luzon and later we observed up to four daily on Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *philippinus* on Luzon and subspecies *heterolaemus* on Mindanao. Clements splits the latter as Rufous-headed Tailorbird, *O. heterolaemus*.

Philippine Tailorbird (E)

Orthotomus castaneiceps

One was heard on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros and another seen near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *rabori* on Negros and subspecies *frontalis* on Bohol. Clements splits the latter as Rufous-fronted Tailorbird, *O. frontalis*.

Grey-backed Tailorbird (E)

Orthotomus derbianus

Two of these skulking birds were seen briefly on Mt. Makiling, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *derbianus*.

Rufous-tailed Tailorbird

Orthotomus sericeus

Heard daily on the island of Palawan and seen on several occasions with our first sighting of a cooperative individual at a mangrove site near Puerto Princesa.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *nuntius*.

Black-headed (White-browed) Tailorbird (E)

Orthotomus nigriceps

Another skulker, with persistence we all saw this species very well at PICOP, Mindanao.

Yellow-breasted Tailorbird (E)

Orthotomus samarensis

After several brief glimpses, we all managed simply spectacular views of this beautiful songster in Rajah Sikatuna National Park on Bohol.

Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

Black-headed Bulbul

Pycnonotus atriceps

Another widespread species, we found up to eight daily on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *atriceps*.

Yellow-wattled Bulbul (E)

Pycnonotus urostictus

A vocal but often retiring species we found two at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol a further one on Mount Makiling, Luzon and finally several at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies *atricaudatus* on Bohol, subspecies *urostictus* on Luzon and subspecies *philippensis* on Mindanao.

Yellow-vented Bulbul

Pycnonotus goiavier

A common bird of secondary scrub and seen virtually every day of the tour other than on the island of Palawan. We recorded it on Cebu, Luzon and Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies *samarensis* on Cebu, subspecies *goiavier* on Luzon and subspecies *suluensis* on Mindanao.

Olive-winged Bulbul

Pycnonotus plumosus

Another widespread Asian species, we had daily sightings in forest edge on Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies *cinereifrons*.

Gray-cheeked Bulbul

Criniger bres

Another widespread Asian species found in the Philippines only on the island of Palawan where we enjoyed daily sightings of up to six birds.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies *frater*.

Sulphur-bellied Bulbul (E)

Iole palawanensis

We found this Palawan endemic almost daily in forested sites with up to three daily including excellent sightings near Sabang.

Philippine Bulbul (E)

Ixos philippinus

The most common endemic throughout the Philippines, we encountered this species virtually every day of the tour other than on the island of Palawan where it does not occur. We recorded it on Negros, Bohol, Cebu, Luzon and Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies guimarasensis on Negros, subspecies saturator on Bohol, Cebu & Mindanao and subspecies philippinus on Luzon.

Yellowish Bulbul (E) *Ixos everetti*

We had good sightings of two at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies everetti.

Old World Warblers Sylviidae

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*

One seen on the island of Cebu, one on Luzon and another at Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies alopex on Cebu, subspecies tweeddalei on Luzon and subspecies crex on Mindanao.

Striated Grassbird *Megalurus palustris*

Seen in good numbers throughout the tour with up to twenty birds in a single day at the Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies forbesi.

Philippine Bush Warbler (E) *Cettia seebohmi*

Several seen and many more heard from the dense undergrowth on Mt. Polis, Luzon.

Benguet (Russet) Bush Warbler *Bradypterus seebohmi*

We heard this species singing from a grassland clearing in pine forest on Mount Polis, Luzon.

Notes: Clements considers this species a subspecies of Russet Bush Warbler, B. seebohmi.

Long-tailed Bush Warbler (E) *Bradypterus caudatus*

Several birds were heard calling on Mt. Polis, Luzon and later one was finally seen on Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies unicolor on Mindanao.

Middendorff's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella ochotensis*

We heard one calling in the waterlogged thickets at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Oriental Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis*

We had great views of up to eight birds at Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

Clamorous Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus*

Three birds were seen and heard displaying in the reeds at the Candaba Marsh, Luzon and a further two at Bislig airport, Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies harterti.

Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis*

This migrant was found in small numbers throughout the trip.

Notes: At least two subspecies occur in the Philippines, very difficult to separate outside of the breeding period.

Philippine Leaf Warbler (E) *Phylloscopus olivaceus*

One was seen in a mixed species flock at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol.

Lemon-throated Leaf Warbler (E) *Phylloscopus cebuensis*

Two were seen at Mt. Kanlaon, Negros.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies cebuensis on Negros.

Mountain Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus trivirgatus*

We had great views of three on Mt. Polis, Luzon and a further six on Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Seven subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies benguetensis on Luzon and subspecies flavostriatus on Mindanao.

Babblers Timaliidae

Ashy-headed Babbler (E) *Malacocincla cinereiceps*

We had good views of one in St.Paul's NP and later superb views of a further two on the Zigzag road, Palawan.

Melodious (Palawan) Babbler (E) *Malacopteron palawanense*

This Palawan endemic was encountered only at Iwahig Penal Colony where two vocal birds showed well coming out of a dense bamboo thicket.

Striated Wren-Babbler (E) *Ptilocichla mindanensis*

We had good views of two at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. It was also heard at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies fortichi on Bohol and subspecies mindanensis on Mindanao.

Falcated Wren-Babbler (E) *Ptilocichla falcata*

A shy species, we only heard one calling on the island of Palawan.

Pygmy Babbler (E) *Stachyris plateni*

We recorded up to four daily in lowland rainforest at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies plateni.

Black-crowned Babbler (E) *Stachyris nigrocapitata*

Three birds were seen on the forested trails of Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies boholensis.

Rusty-crowned Babbler (E) *Stachyris capitalis*

Up to five birds were seen daily in the forest at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies euroaustralis.

Flame-templed Babbler (E) *Stachyris speciosa*

After a couple of hours climbing the trail up Mt. Kanlaon we finally saw two representatives of this most wanted bird, a magnificent and uncommon bird only found on the two small islands of Negros and Panay and now considered an endangered species.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies speciosa.

Chestnut-faced Babbler (E) *Stachyris whiteheadi*

We found up to six birds on the slopes of Mt. Polis in the Cordilleran Mountains of Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies whiteheadi.

Striped Tit-Babbler *Macronous gularis*

Up to six individuals were found daily on the island of Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies woodi.

Brown Tit-Babbler (E) *Macronous striaticeps*

A couple were seen daily at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and small numbers daily on Mt.Kitanglad and PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the endemic subspecies mindanensis.

White-eyes Zosteropidae

Lowland White-eye (E) *Zosterops meyeri*

We had excellent views of five on the Los Banos University Campus, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies meyeri.

Everett's White-eye *Zosterops everetti*

We first found two in Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol with further sightings of five on Cebu and a couple at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies boholensis on Bohol, subspecies everetti on Cebu and subspecies basilanicus on Mindanao.

Yellowish White-eye (E) *Zosterops nigrorum*

We found five birds associating with a mixed feeding flock on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros and two near Mt.Polis, Luzon.

Notes: Eight subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies nigrorum on Negros and subspecies luzonicus on Luzon.

Mountain White-eye *Zosterops montanus*

Up to twenty were seen on Mt. Polis, Luzon with further sightings of up to one hundred on Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Seven subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies whiteheadi on Luzon and subspecies vulcani on Mindanao.

Mindanao Ibon (Mindanao White-eye) (E) *Lophozosterops goodfellowi*

Up to three were seen daily in mossy mountain forest on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies goodfellowi.

Cinnamon Ibon (White-eye) (E) *Hypocryptadius cinnamomeus*

Up to five were seen daily in the mountain forest of Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Fairy-bluebirds Irenidae

Asian Fairy-bluebird *Irena puella*

Common on the island of Palawan where we enjoyed daily sightings including extended scope views at the Iwahig Penal Colony.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies tweeddalei.

Philippine Fairy-Bluebird (E) *Irena cyanogastra*

We encountered two in the forest of Subic Bay, Luzon.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies cyanogastra.

Nuthatches Sittidae

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*

Seen only at the Iwahig Penal Colony on Palawan associating with a mixed feeding flock.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies palawana.

Sulphur-billed Nuthatch (E) *Sitta oenochlamys*

We enjoyed good views of three on Mt. Makiling and two near Mt. Polis, Luzon with further sightings at Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Six subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies mesoleuca & isarog on Luzon and subspecies apo on Mindanao.

Rhabdornis Rhabdornithidae

Stripe-headed Creeper (Stripe-sided Rhabdornis) (E) *Rhabdornis mystacalis*

We had good views of eight on Mt. Makiling, a further four at Subic, Luzon and finally a couple at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies mystacalis on Luzon and subspecies minor on Mindanao.

Stripe-breasted Creeper (Rhabdornis) (E) *Rhabdornis inornatus*

We had wonderful scope views of two on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros and a further couple at Mt. Kitinglad on Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies rabori on Negros and subspecies alaris on Mindanao.

Mynas & Starlings Sturnidae

Asian Glossy Starling *Aplonis panayensis*

A widespread Asian species seen in good numbers especially near towns and cities with our largest numbers of more than fifty birds daily on Mindanao.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies panayensis.

Short-tailed Glossy Starling *Aplonis minor*

Only seen on Mt. Kitanglad where we had brief views of one.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies todayensis.

Apo Myna (E) *Basilornis mirandus*

We enjoyed wonderful scope views of several on Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Coletto (NE)*Sarcops calvus*

A peculiar bald-headed endemic with the strange call, we found this species to be pleasantly common including birds at Mt.Kanlaon, Negros, a couple at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, several at Subic, Luzon and finally daily sightings at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies melanotus on Bohol, Negros & Mindanao and subspecies calvus on Luzon.

Common Hill Myna*Gracula religiosa*

Up to six were found near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the endemic subspecies palawanensis.

Crested Myna*Acridotheres cristatellus*

We had great views of two during the drive from Mt.Polis to Subic Bay, Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies cristatellus.

Thrushes Turdidae**Island Thrush***Turdus poliocephalus*

A total of five birds seen very well on Mt. Polis, Luzon and a further one on Mt.Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Seven subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies thomassoni on Luzon and subspecies katanglad on Mindanao.

Eyebrowed Thrush*Turdus obscurus*

We had great views of three at Subic, Luzon and a further one at Mt.Kitanglad, Mindanao.

White-browed Shortwing*Brachypteryx montana*

We heard one at Mt.Polis, Luzon and heard several on Mt.Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Seven subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies poliogyna on Luzon and subspecies mindanensis on Mindanao.

Chats, Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae**Oriental Magpie-Robin***Copsychus saularis*

This widespread songster of Asia was first seen near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol with further sightings at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two endemic subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies deuteronymus on Luzon and mindanensis on Mindanao.

White-browed Shama (E)*Copsychus luzoniensis*

We had great views of one on Mt.Kanlaon, Negros and another on Mt.Makiling, Luzon.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies superciliaris on Negros and subspecies luzoniensis on Luzon.

White-vented Shama (E)*Copsychus niger*

Our first encounter with this fine Palawan endemic was near Sabang, where we enjoyed superb sightings of one. We enjoyed several other sightings in St.Paul's NP.

Black Shama (E)*Copsychus cebuensis*

A rare and endangered bird on Cebu, we had brief views of two.

Luzon Water Redstart (E)*Rhyacornis bicolor*

We had good scope views of one on the river near Mt.Polis.

Pied Bush Chat*Saxicola caprata*

This widespread Asian species was first seen at Bacolod airport, Negros with further sightings at Candaba Marsh, Luzon

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies randi on Negros and subspecies caprata on Luzon.

Blue Rock Thrush*Monticola solitarius*

We saw one at Bacolod airport, Negros and another near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies philippensis.

Rufous-tailed (Chestnut-tailed) Jungle-Flycatcher *Rhinomyias ruficauda*

We had incredible views of one bird in the forest of Rajah Sikatuna NP in the Chocolate Hills of Bohol and a further pair at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Five endemic subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies *boholensis* on Bohol and subspecies *samarensis* on Mindanao.

Grey-streaked Flycatcher *Muscicapa griseisticta*

Seen virtually daily in small numbers throughout the trip.

Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica*

One was seen on the island of Cebu.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies *dauurica*.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra*

Heard singing in the early morning on Mt. Kitanglad.

Notes: Eight subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *montigena*.

Little Slaty Flycatcher (E) *Ficedula basilanica*

After an extensive search we finally had great views of a male of this attractive and scarce Philippine endemic at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *basilanica*.

Palawan Flycatcher (E) *Ficedula platenae*

This small elusive Palawan endemic was encountered on the Zigzag road, Palawan.

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni*

At Mt. Polis in the Cordilleran Mountains, Luzon, we found a stunning male with further daily sightings on Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the endemic subspecies *rabori* on Luzon and subspecies *westermanni* on Mindanao.

Turquoise (Island) Flycatcher *Eumyias panayensis*

Our first sighting was great views of one on Mt. Kanlaon, Negros with further sightings at Mount Polis, Luzon followed by daily sightings on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded all three, the subspecies *panayensis* on Negros, subspecies *negrimentalis* on Luzon and subspecies *nigriloris* on Mindanao.

Palawan Blue Flycatcher (E) *Cyornis lemprieri*

We enjoyed simply cracking views of this furtive species in St. Paul's NP, Palawan.

Mangrove Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis rufigastra*

In Central Cebu National Park we encountered a pair.

Notes: Four endemic subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *philippinensis*.

Leafbirds Chloropseidae**Philippine Leafbird (E)** *Chloropsis flavipennis*

After some diligent searching we found three birds in the lowland rainforest of PICOP logging concession on Mindanao.

Yellow-throated Leafbird (E) *Chloropsis palawanensis*

We enjoyed daily sightings of this attractive Palawan endemic with up to four seen daily near Sabang.

Flowerpeckers Dicaeidae**Olive-backed Flowerpecker (E)** *Prionochilus olivaceus*

One bird was found in the lowland rainforest of PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *olivaceus*.

Palawan Flowerpecker (E) *Prionochilus plateni*

This fine Palawan endemic was seen daily including several outstanding scope views.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies *plateni*.

Striped Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum aeruginosum*

We had great scope views of one on Mt. Makiling, Luzon and superb views of another near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies striatissimum on Luzon and subspecies affine on Palawan.

Olive-capped Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum nigrilore*

At least two were seen daily in the mossy forest on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies nigrilore.

Flame-crowned Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum anthonyi*

We had excellent views of several birds including a stunning pair on Mt. Polis, Luzon.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies anthonyi.

Bicoloured Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum bicolor*

We first recorded several at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol followed by sightings at Mt. Makiling, Luzon and PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies bicolor on Bohol and subspecies inexpectatum on Mindanao.

Red-keeled (Red-striped) Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum australe*

We enjoyed regular sightings of this endemic throughout the tour in good numbers with a high of up to ten on Cebu and small numbers daily at PICOP, Mindanao.

Black-belted (Red-keeled/Visayan) Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum haematostictum*

We had excellent views of two attractive male birds at separate locations on Negros. Found only on Panay, Negros and Guimaras, and now a vulnerable species.

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker *Dicaeum trigonostigma*

We first found several of this widespread species near Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol with further sightings at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies bicolor on Bohol and subspecies inexpectatum on Mindanao.

Buzzing (White-bellied) Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum hypoleucum*

We recorded one near Mt. Makiling, Luzon and a further two at Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies obscurum on Luzon and subspecies pontifex on Mindanao.

Pygmy Flowerpecker (E) *Dicaeum pygmaeum*

We had superb views of three in the Botanical Gardens, Luzon and several more near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies pygmaeum on Luzon and subspecies palawanorum on Palawan.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus*

We enjoyed fantastic views of two males on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies apo.

Sunbirds Nectariniidae

Brown-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes malacensis*

An attractive pair first seen near Mt. Makiling on Luzon, later one was seen at PICOP, Mindanao and finally several near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Eight endemic subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded three, the subspecies birgitae on Luzon, subspecies griseigularis on Mindanao and subspecies paraguae on Palawan.

Purple-throated Sunbird *Leptocoma sperata*

First seen at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, with further sightings at Mount Makiling, Luzon and finally small numbers daily at PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Five subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies trochilus on Bohol & Mindanao and subspecies sperata on Luzon.

Copper-throated Sunbird *Leptocoma calcostetha*

We found two of these mangrove-loving birds on the island of Palawan.

Olive-backed Sunbird*Cinnyris jugularis*

This widespread Asian species was found in good numbers throughout the tour in secondary habitat including sightings at Rajah Sikatuna NP - Bohol, on Cebu, Mt. Makiling - Luzon, Mt. Kitanglad - Mindanao and several daily near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies aurora on Palawan and subspecies jugularis elsewhere.

Gray-hooded Sunbird (E)*Aethopyga primigenia*

This montane Mindanao endemic was found daily in the forest of Mt. Kitanglad in Bukidnon Province.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies primigenia.

(Mount) Apo Sunbird (E)*Aethopyga boltoni*

We had good views of several calling males in the high mossy cloud forest of Mt. Kitanglad.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies malindangensis.

Flaming Sunbird (E)*Aethopyga flagrans*

We had great views of one male feeding in the Botanical Gardens, Luzon.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies flagrans.

Metallic-winged Sunbird (E)*Aethopyga pulcherrima*

Six of these attractive birds were first enjoyed at Mount Polis, Luzon followed by a further two in PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies jefferyi on Luzon and subspecies pulcherrima on Mindanao.

Lovely Sunbird (E)*Aethopyga shelleyi*

Small numbers of these attractive birds were seen daily on the island of Palawan.

Handsome Sunbird (E)*Aethopyga bella*

We found one male in the Botanical Gardens, Luzon followed by several at PICOP, Mindanao – including one stunning male at its nest.

Notes: Six subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies minuta on Luzon and subspecies bella on Mindanao.

(Eastern) Crimson Sunbird*Aethopyga siparaja*

We had good views of two males on Cebu.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies magnifica.

Little Spiderhunter*Arachnothera longirostra*

This widespread Asian species was found daily in small numbers at PICOP, Mindanao and seen again almost daily on the island of Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies flammifera on Mindanao and subspecies dilutior on Palawan.

Naked-faced Spiderhunter (E)*Arachnothera clarae*

We enjoyed simply brilliant views of an individual perched in the sunlight at the top of a nearby snag in PICOP, Mindanao.

Notes: Four subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies clarae.

Old World Sparrows Ploceidae**Eurasian Tree Sparrow***Passer montanus*

This introduced species was common in all towns and cities.

Parrotfinches & Munias Estrilidae**Red-eared Parrotfinch (E)***Erythrura coloria*

A total of three of this skulking and shy, beautiful Mindanao endemics were scoped along a trail on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

Scaly-breasted Munia (Nutmeg Mannakin)*Lonchura punctulata*

This widespread Asian species was seen in most open habitats throughout the tour including small numbers daily on the island of Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies cabanisi.

White-bellied Munia *Lonchura leucogastra*

Small numbers were seen daily at Mt.Kitinglad, Mindanao with further sightings near Sabang, Palawan.

Notes: Three subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded two, the subspecies manueli on Mindanao and subspecies palawana on Palawan.

Black-headed (Chestnut) Munia *Lonchura malacca*

We found this widespread species virtually daily with peak numbers of one hundred on Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies jagori.

Pipits & Wagtails Motacillidae

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

Small numbers were seen in Luzon and peak numbers of fifty in Mindanao and Palawan.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded both, the subspecies simillima on Mindanao and subspecies taivana on Palawan.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

We found small numbers at several sites including daily sightings on Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies robusta.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

One was heard calling at some flooded rice fields in Northern Luzon.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies ocularis.

Paddyfield (Oriental) Pipit *Anthus rufulus*

First seen at the University of the Philippines Campus, Luzon with further sightings of two at Mt.Kitinglad, Mindanao and five at Iwahig, Palawan.

Notes: One subspecies occurs in the Philippines, the subspecies lugubris.

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*

We had great scope views of two at Mt.Polis, Luzon.

Notes: Two subspecies occur in the Philippines, we recorded one, the subspecies yunnanensis.

Annotated List of Mammal Species recorded

Philippine Flying Fox *Pteropus speciosus*

We found more than one hundred individuals at the day roost at Subic Bay, Luzon and smaller numbers at Mt.Kanlaon, Negros.

Golden-crowned Flying Fox *Acerodon jubatus*

At least one thousand roosting in trees near Subic Bay, Luzon. A very impressive sight.

Philippine Flying Lemur (Colugo) *Cynocephalus volans*

Excellent views of one individual scoped at length as it slowly moved on a thick trunk near the headquarters of Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol followed by impressive flight views of another on Mt.Kitinglad, Mindanao.

Philippine Tarsier *Tarsius philippensis*

Simply unbelievable daytime views of this tiny prosimian in a small reserve on the island of Bohol. A tiny nocturnal primate most closely related to the galagos and bushbabies of Africa.

Brown Rat *Rattus norvegicus*

One was seen near Subic Bay, Luzon.

Long-tailed Macaque

Macaca fascicularis

Scattered sightings of this widespread Asian primate were had on the islands of Luzon, Bohol, Palawan, and Mindanao.

Philippine Pygmy Squirrel

Exilisciurus concinnus

Two were seen very well in Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol.

Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel

Sundasciurus juvenus

Seen both at St. Paul's Underground River NP and again along the Iwahig Penal Colony on the island of Palawan.

Mindanao Tree Squirrel

Sundasciurus mindanensis

One was seen in the forest of PICOP, Mindanao.

Bohol Squirrel

Sundasciurus sp.

We found two scurrying through the trees in Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol.

Oriental Small Clawed Otter

Aonyx cinerea

Three were seen in the river at Iwahig Penal Colony.

Rockjumper Birding Tours
Worldwide Birding Adventures
PO Box 13972, Cascades, 3202, South Africa
Tel: +27 33 394 0225
Fax: +27 88 033 394 0225
Email: info@rockjumper.co.za
Alternative Email: rockjumperbirding@yahoo.com
Website: www.rockjumper.co.za