



Rockjumper Birding Tours

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Malaysia & Borneo Trip Report

Rainforest Birds & Mammals

9th to 27th March 2010



Tour Leaders: Frank Lambert and Dennis Yong

Tour Summary

On our first morning in peninsular Malaysia, we birded near the airport before heading towards the coastal town of Kuala Selangor. Around the airport we found a few open country species, such as Pink-necked Green Pigeon, Asian Koel, Black-naped Oriole, White-breasted Waterhen and three species of winter visitors; Black Baza, Brown Shrike and Purple-backed Starling. Along our route we saw a few interesting species, including a magnificent Red Jungle Fowl, one of the very few forest species that has adapted to the sea of oil palms along our route. We also glimpsed our first Black-shouldered Kite. Reaching our hotel in Kuala Selangor, we were soon watching our first primate of the trip, Silvered Leaf Monkey. The hotel grounds also produced our first Crested Serpent Eagles, Coppersmith Barbet, Golden-bellied Gerygone, Common Iora and our second primate, Long-tailed Macaque.



After an excellent lunch and some time out in the heat, we headed to an area of rice paddies known as Sekinchang. Here we found a variety of waterbirds including Chinese Pond-heron, Striated Heron, four species of egret, White-winged Black Tern and myriads of Germain's (Edible-nest) Swiftlets, most of which are probably breeding in the swiftlet houses in the vicinity where the nests are collected for consumption. From Sekinchang we headed back to the Kuala Selangor nature reserve. The reserve protects an area of regenerating mangroves and associated brackish habitats, and here we saw a few species largely confined to this type of habitat in Malaysia, such as Mangrove Blue Flycatcher, Grey Tit, Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker, Laced Woodpecker and Common Flameback. We also had spectacular views of Greater Flameback, male Brown-throated Sunbird, Pied Fantail, but only heard the elusive Mangrove Whistler. Pied Triller also gave us the run around and was only seen by a few people.

Before breakfast, while it was still dark, we searched the hotel grounds for Large-tailed Nightjar, which had been heard in the area the previous evening. After only a short walk we had great views of this widespread species just outside of the hotel grounds. Leaving after breakfast, a roadside stop produced a group of Long-tailed Parakeets and Thick-billed Pigeon. From here we headed to Ulu Yam, an old tin mining area, where we found Blue-breasted Quail and Barred Button-quail very easily, though only in flight. Pintail Snipes and Pacific Golden Plover fed amongst the neat rows of vegetables. Around one of the flooded mining pools we found Banded Bay Cuckoo, Yellow-vented Flowerpecker, whilst a Yellow Bittern showed itself to a few of us. Further down the road a couple of us saw a White-headed Munia in flight, whilst everyone saw a pair of perched Chestnut Munias. Heading on we had another great lunch in a pleasant Chinese restaurant before heading up to Fraser's Hill, our base for the next three nights. Before we reached the gate at the one-way road to this hill resort we managed to see a stunning Red-bearded Bee-eater and the colorful Black-and-Yellow Broadbill.



Birding along the roadside on our first afternoon produced one good bird after another in quick succession, including Long-tailed Sibia, Black-throated Sunbird, Blue-winged Minla, Silver-eared Mesia, Blue Nuthatch, Spectacled Laughingthrush, Orange-bellied Leafbird, Fire-tufted and Black-browed Barbet, Large Niltava, Mountain Tailorbird and Arctic Warbler. During the next two days we birded various roads and trails on the hill itself, as well as along the road near The Gap. Birding was slow at times, but we saw plenty more memorable species, including a Silver-breasted Broadbill building a nest, Green Magpies, Black and Malayan Laughingthrush, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Everett's White-eye, Rufous-browed Flycatcher and, on our first evening, several Malaysian Eared Nightjars. Another evening we visited an army camp to see a superb Grey Nightjar perched atop a pole just outside the buildings, but the nearby Mountain Scops-owls proved impossible to locate.



From Fraser's Hill we travelled by road to Taman Negara, passing through endless plantations of oil palm and rubber in the lowlands. A Black Eagle and several Crested Serpent-Eagles gave us some nice views as we left the montane forests, and a stop at a gas station produced some nice Ashy Minivets. Almost as soon as we had checked into our chalets in the national park in the late afternoon, it started raining. Fortunately, however, a couple of fruiting *Ficus benjamina* trees planted between the cabins were in fruit, and attracting plenty of birds. Several species of bulbul, including the beautiful Scaly-breasted Bulbul and Puff-backed Bubbles, were frequenting the trees, along with both Thick-billed and Little Green Pigeons, all of which gave us marvelous views. Nearby we found several Blue-rumped Parrots, and feeding around the cabins, a small group of stunning Crested Fireback Pheasants. Superb!! Later, from a nearby blind, we were treated to our first views of Black-and-Red Broadbill, male Asian Fairy Bluebird and White-rumped Shama. Jungle Fowls fed in front of the hide, along with Javan Mynas – these introduced mynas have now apparently displaced the Jungle Mynas from this area. Our final act of the day was a short walk into the forest after dinner to see a roosting Blue-winged Pitta, which obligingly sat on its perch a few meters away.

We started our first full day in Taman Negara with a night walk before breakfast. Almost no night birds were calling, though we heard two species of frogmouth in the distance, but we did manage to get incredible looks at a tame Lesser Mouse Deer. After breakfast, along the Tahan Trail, we had great looks at a number of species including a singing Black-throated Babbler, a male Black Hornbill, Grey-and-Buff Woodpecker, several Rufous-winged Philentomas and a close pair of Orange-backed Woodpeckers. Dennis whistled in a Malaysian Rail Babbler that came in very close, but after a grueling half an hour of us standing motionless in the forest, the babbler finally moved away without us even glimpsing it. Very frustrating! The following morning, half the group set off for the top of a nearby hill to see a calling male Great Argus, which gave an amazing performance on



its display arena – certainly one of the highlights of the trip for those who made the effort. On our last afternoon, we took a boat trip up the scenic but now heavily disturbed Tahan River where we

encountered a number of good species, including some beautiful Malaysian Blue Flycatchers, close Straw-headed Bulbuls, Finch's Bulbul, Lesser Fish Eagle and what were likely Smooth Otters.

After a full day travel from Taman Negara to KL to Kota Kinabalu, we drove up to our hotel overlooking the impressive slopes of Southeast Asia's tallest peak, Mount Kinabalu. During the next three days we explored the trails and birded the roads of the park. We were unfortunate in that the region was in the throes of a severe drought (as was Taman Negara) associated with an El Nino event. This meant that bird activity was lower than we would have expected for a visit at this time of year, but we nevertheless managed to see a host of great birds. On our first day the highlight was undoubtedly a very close Mountain Serpent-Eagle, in good light, seen by virtually everyone. We also had wonderful views of specialties such as Short-tailed Green Magpie, Chestnut-hooded and Sunda Laughingthrushes, Bornean Treepie, Bornean Forktail, Bornean Whistler, Black-capped White-eye, Sunda Cuckoo, Sunda Cuckooshrike, Golden-naped Barbet, Black-sided Flowerpecker, Eye-browed Jungle Flycatcher, Blyth's Hawk-Eagle, Indigo Flycatcher and a superbly plumaged wintering male Blue-and-White Flycatcher. We also managed to secure reasonable views of a number of the poorly-known Bornean Swiftlets, while a couple of us briefly saw Crimson-headed Partridge.



On our second day we ventured down towards the Liwagu River, which produced a number of great birds, including Bornean Whistling Thrush and further views of Bornean Forktail. However, the birds of the morning for most of us were a pair Whiteheads Trogon which performed very well, and an amazingly close Bornean Stubtail. Later, a lucky few saw a male Whiteheads Broadbill feeding in a fruiting tree, but although we waited over an hour at the tree, the broadbill never returned. At Poring the same afternoon we picked up a few more new birds, including Crested Jay, White-crowned Shama, Dusky Munia and Asian Palm Swift,

On our last morning, several fitter members of the group ascended the Summit Trail but failed to find the Kinabalu Friendly Warbler. They did, however, see a few Mountain Blackeyes and small numbers of Pale-faced Bulbuls. Meanwhile, the group that opted not to climb the mountain saw Red-breasted Partridge, a roosting Mountain Scops-Owl and Mountain Wren-Babbler. Later in the day, about half of us saw a superb Crimson-headed Partridge incubating a single egg on its nest near the base of a split tree trunk, and we also revisited the roosting owl, where two birds were seen perched together.



Prior to our early morning departure, we had a couple of hours birding again in Kinabalu Park, which produced some stunning views of a number of the commoner species and of the impressive but tiny Whitehead's Pygmy Squirrel. After our early afternoon flight to Sandakan, we drove to the famous Gomantong Caves to witness the spectacular exodus of bats near dusk, and the massing of huge numbers of swiftlets that breed and roost inside these caves. One of the first birds we saw, before we had even left our bus, was a superb Bat Hawk perched on an open branch waiting for the bats to emerge. Despite the intense heat and

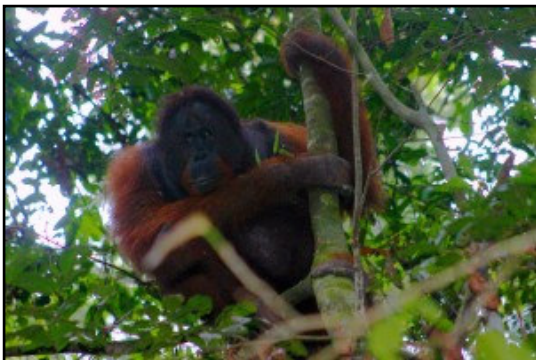
relative silence in the forest, we also saw a few new species along the entrance road, including Banded Woodpecker and Bold-striped Tit-Babbler. As dusk approached we watched Bat Hawks, Rufous-bellied Eagle and Brahminy Kites attacking the waves of bats leaving the caves. Within the caves themselves Dennis showed us the distinctive nests of Mossy Nest, Black Nest and Edible Nest Swiftlets, and we could hear thousands of these birds echo-locating way above our heads. From Gomantong we drove to the Kinabatangan River and, after a short boat ride, checked into our luxurious hotel.



Our early morning boat ride up the Kinabatangan river was spectacular, with amazingly good views of five species of hornbill, including a very close calling Helmeted Hornbill and several species of raptor. These included a Peregrine plucking a green pigeon, Jerdon's Baza, Wallace's Hawk Eagle and Crested Goshawk. After several hours, we finally found our main quarry and one of the regions most threatened species, a Storm's Stork perched close to the river. Not long afterwards we saw two more circling nearby, along with Lesser Adjutant Storks and several Oriental Darters. During our journey we also saw three fairly large Saltwater Crocodiles and a small group of Smooth Otters.

Now on the last leg of our tour, we headed to the world famous lowland rainforests at Danum Valley, first with a short flight to Lahad Datu, and then by bus along about 75km of logging roads. En route we picked up a few birds, including the little-known Pygmy White-eye and more widespread Grey capped Pygmy Woodpecker.

Over the next two days, we explored various trails near the rainforest lodge, as well as the canopy walkway and entrance road. Although a number of species were unusually quiet, we found plenty of new birds, with awesome views of our main target species, the Bornean Bristlehead (in its own family) during the first afternoon. Other endemics included White-fronted Falconet, Bornean Wren-babbler, Bornean Blue Flycatcher, Black-and-Crimson Pitta and Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker. Many other species seen were also mainly Sundaic endemics, confined to the Thai-Malay peninsula, Borneo, Sumatra and Java. We had memorable views of birds such as Wrinkled Hornbill, Banded Broadbill, Striped Wren Babbler and Grey-breasted Jungle Flycatcher, as well as three species of trogon and six species of spiderhunter.



Mammals too, provided us with some great memories. On our second morning we were privileged to have the most incredible views of a huge male Orang Utan that was feeding on what appeared to be bark in a giant emergent tree, but then descended to the ground, giving us the most amazing views before he walked off into the forest. During optional evening night drives we had spectacular views of a number of mammals, including Thomas's Flying Squirrel at close range, a Red Giant Flying Squirrel that glided over

the vehicle, two Leopard Cats, Smooth-toothed Civit, Sambar Deer and Greater Mouse Deer.

It was with some reluctance that we left our beautiful forest lodge and its surroundings on our last day to head back to Kota Kinabalu, where a brief visit to the coast netted us a few additional species such as Blue-naped Parrot, Grey-tailed Tattler, Pacific Reef Egret, Whimbrel and Turnstone. After a night in KK, we flew back to KL and onto our final destination – home. It had been a wonderful trip, with many memorable birds, great food and a nice group of people. Special thanks are due to Dennis Yong for his great handling of our tour logistics, expertise and knowledge on the wildlife we encountered, not to mention his excellent taste in food and unusual whistling habits!

Photo credits: Crested Fireback (J. Rossouw), Mangrove Blue Flycatcher and Red-bearded Bee-eater (Choi Wai Mun), Silver-eared Leiothrix (D. Shackelford), Great Argus (K. Valentine), Sunda Cuckooshrike (C. Valentine), Whitehead's Trogon and Storm's Stork (K. Valentine), and Orangutan (D. Shackelford).

Annotated List of Birds recorded

Total species recorded: 390

Pheasants, Fowls and Allies Phasianidae

King Quail

Excalfactoria chinensis

Two seen well on our second day near the flooded tin mines at Ulu Yam.

Crimson-headed Partridge (BE)

Haematortyx sanguiniceps

Nice views of a female on the nest in a crack in a tree, low to the ground, at Mt. Kinabalu. A stunning endemic!

Red-breasted Partridge (BE)

Arborophila hyperythra

This species was heard calling at Mt. Kinabalu on several occasions and one was seen close by on the trail by about half the group.

Chestnut-necklaced Partridge

Arborophila charltonii

Heard calling along the Kinabatangan near Sukau.

Red Junglefowl

Gallus gallus

We enjoyed excellent looks of both sexes near Kuala Lumpur and in Taman Negara.

Crested Fireback

Lophura ignita

We had outstanding views of a both males and females at Taman Negara and also at Borneo Rainforest Lodge. The two subspecies involved are very different and the Bornean birds are likely to be recognized as an endemic species in the future.

Malayan Peacock-Pheasant (ME)

Polyplectron malacense

We had one very close at Taman Negara but it never showed itself.

Great Argus

Argusianus argus

The resounding cries of this pheasant were often heard in the lowland rainforest at Taman Negara and Danum. A highlight for those who made the effort was the long and unbeatable views of a male near his dancing grounds – one of the most spectacular and most sought after of all Asia's birds!

Storks Ciconiidae

Storm's Stork

Ciconia stormi

We had good views of a perched bird and two others in flight along the Kinabatangan River.

Lesser Adjutant

Leptoptilos javanicus

We saw at least eight of this increasingly rare species along the Kinabatangan River.

Bitterns and Herons Ardeidae

Yellow Bittern

Ixobrychus sinensis

Reasonable views were obtained by some of us at the mining pools.

Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

Brief views were obtained by some of us near Kuala Selangor and at the mining pools.

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

A couple seen near Kuala Selangor.

Little [Striated] Heron *Butorides striata*

Observed in small numbers on seven dates, with up to three in a day.

NOTE: A polytypic and cosmopolitan superspecies with over 30 recognized forms. Clements recognizes two full species, the North American Green Heron B. virescens and the widespread nominate form which we recorded in Malaysia. This split is not recognized by the now out-dated early volume of Handbook of Birds of the World (del Hoyo et al) who lump both these forms under the nominate.

Chinese Pond-Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

A total of about seven were encountered near Kuala Selangor and on our trip to Frasers Hill.

[Eastern] Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus ibis*

A cosmopolitan species encountered at many sites, recently split by some authors into two species.

Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Several were seen on the first two days of the tour.

Great-billed Heron *Ardea sumatrana*

A single bird was seen very well on our way out of Danum Valley.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Observed on five dates with up to 30 a day.

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

Small numbers encountered at most wetland sites.

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia*

One seen on our first day.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Small numbers were encountered at several sites during the tour.

Pacific Reef Egret *Egretta sacra*

Two seen in Likas Bay, Kota Kinabalu on our last day.

Anhingas Anhingidae

[Oriental] Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

Up to 40 a day along the Kinabatangan and a few at Danum Valley.

NOTE: The resident African form A. rufa is sometimes lumped with the Asian A. melanogaster and the enlarged species called Darter. Clements uses the latter treatment of lumping these forms.

Kites, Hawks & Eagles Accipitridae

Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni*

We had fantastic views of a number of birds along the Kinabatangan River.

Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes*

We had great looks of one in flight near the Concorde Hotel.

Crested Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

One seen at Kinabalu Park.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

One on our first day.

Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus*

We had superb views of one perched near Gomantong Caves, and later saw at least two hunting the bats near the caves at dusk. We also saw one at Frasers Hill and another at Danum Valley.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

A couple seen by the roadside during the first two days of the tour.

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

Observed on six dates.

White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Two were seen along the Kinabatangan.

Lesser Fish-Eagle *Ichthyophaga humilis*

We had good views of one in Taman Negara, perched above the river as we floated past.

Grey-headed Fish-Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*

Martin saw one from his cabin at Danum whilst the rest of us were birding in the forest.

Crested Serpent-Eagle *Spilornis cheela*

This was the commonest raptor during the trip (8 dates) and we enjoyed some great views of this impressive raptor.

Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*

This widespread raptor was seen on three dates.

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis*

One seen very well below Fraser's Hill, thanks to Cathy's sharp spotting, and another in Kinabalu Park.

Rufous-bellied Eagle *Hieraaetus kienerii*

Jim G found us one near Gomantong Caves and it was later seen pursuing bats.

Blyth's Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus alboniger*

We were treated to a fabulous sighting in Kinabalu Park.

Wallace's Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus nanus*

One, possibly two along the Kinabatangan River and another seen perched near the canopy walkway at Danum Valley.

Falcons and Caracaras Falconidae

Black-thighed Falconet *Microhierax fringillarius*

We were lucky to have several good views at Fraser's Hill and on our way to Taman Negara.

White-fronted Falconet (BE) *Microhierax latifrons*

Spectacular views of one on snags at Danum Valley on two days.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

We saw the migrant race *calidus* along the Kinabatangan and the dark resident race *ernesti* from the Borneo Rainforest Lodge.

Buttonquails Turnicidae

Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator*

At least six seen at Ulu Yam on our second day.

Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

A fairly common species at most wetlands, we had great views on a number of occasions.

Plovers Charadriidae

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

Three at Ulu Yam and another one near Kota Kinabalu

Snipes and Sandpipers Scolopacidae

Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura*

We had a many sightings as birds flushed all around us at Ulu Yam.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

One near Kota Kinabalu on our last day.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

One heard at Kuala Selangor.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

A total of five on two dates. A common migrant to the region.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Small numbers were seen at several sites.

Grey-tailed Tattler *Heteroscelus brevipes*

Nine roosting along a drainage canal at high tide near Kota Kinabalu.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

One with the former species near KK

Gulls, Terns and Skimmers Laridae

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*

One along the beach at Kota Kinabalu

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

At least 50 seen near Kuala Selangor and others seen by Elaine on a lake near the Kinabatangan.

Pigeons and Doves Columbidae

[**Common Pigeon**] *Columba livia*

This plastic was common – I'm not sure why bird tours have to always include it on the list!

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

Small numbers seen on at least five dates.

Little Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia ruficeps*

A few at Fraser's Hill and one on Mount Kinabalu.

Zebra Dove *Geopelia striata*

Up to 20 near Kuala Selangor and a few at other sites.

Little Green-Pigeon *Treron olax*

Seen exceedingly well at Taman Negara, with up to 10 per day, and further views of small numbers along the Kinabatangan.

Pink-necked Green-Pigeon *Treron vernans*

Seen on our first and our last days.

Thick-billed Pigeon *Treron curvirostra*

One near Kuala Selangor and many at Taman Negara, where we had fantastic views.

Green Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula aenea*

Good numbers were seen on Borneo.

Mountain Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula badia*

Seen daily at Fraser's Hill and heard in Kinabalu Park

Parrots and Cockatoos Psittacidae

Blue-rumped Parrot *Psittinus cyanurus*

We had superb views of up to eight birds in Taman Negara.

Long-tailed Parakeet *Psittacula longicauda*

Six were seen en route to Frasers Hill.

Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot *Loriculus galgulus*

Common by voice in lowland forest areas and seen very well on a few occasions.

Blue-naped Parrot*Tanygnathus lucionensis*

Seen at Likas Bay on the last day. Probably introduced from the Philippines, but this is not certain.

Cuckoos Cuculidae**Short-toed Coucal***Centropus rectunguis*

The distinctive calls were heard from the canopy walkway at Danum.

Greater Coucal*Centropus sinensis*

Seen on seven dates.

Bornean Ground-Cuckoo*Carpococcyx radiatus*

Our only encounter was a bird heard in the far distance at Danum Valley.

Raffles' Malkoha*Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus*

A common lowland forest bird encountered on six dates.

Chestnut-breasted Malkoha*Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*

Seen daily at Taman Negara with up to three a day.

Black-bellied Malkoha*Phaenicophaeus diardi*

Individuals on two dates in Taman Negara

Green-billed Malkoha*Phaenicophaeus tristis*

Two seen well at Fraser's Hill.

Chestnut-winged Cuckoo*Clamator coromandus*

This beautiful cuckoo was seen by Lia along the Kinabatangan.

Asian Koel*Eudynamys scolopacea*

At least five seen on our first day.

Violet Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*

Fantastic views of a female or young male at Poring and another in flight at Danum Valley.

Banded Bay Cuckoo*Cacomantis sonneratii*

One at Ulu Yam and another in Taman Negara.

Plaintive Cuckoo*Cacomantis merulinus*

Heard on several dates but only seen along the Kinabatangan River.

Rusty-breasted Cuckoo*Cacomantis sepulcralis*

Heard on our second day.

[Square-tailed] Asian Drongo-Cuckoo*Surniculus lugubris*

The mournful notes of this cuckoo were a dominant sound of lowland rainforests and we sighted this species on several occasions.

Moustached Hawk-Cuckoo*Hierococcyx vagens*

Heard in Taman Negara.

Dark Hawk-Cuckoo*Hierococcyx bocki*

Heard on three dates but never seen.

Indian Cuckoo*Cuculus micropterus*

Heard calling regularly but only seen at Danum Valley.

Sunda Cuckoo*Cuculus lepidus*

Heard regularly at Fraser's Hill and in Kinabalu Park where two were seen well.

Barn Owls Tytonidae**Oriental Bay Owl***Phodilus badius*

Heard at Taman Negara on one of our pre-dawn birding sessions.

Owls Strigidae

Reddish Scops-Owl*Otus rufescens*

This species was heard calling in Taman Negara on our night excursion.

Mountain Scops-Owl*Otus spilocephalus*

Heard calling very close at Fraser's Hill but not seen. However, we later saw two roosting in some dense understory palms in Kinabalu Park. This is the endemic Bornean form *luciae*.

Buffy Fish-Owl*Ketupa ketupu*

We were treated to superb views of two close individuals along the Kinabatangan River.

Brown Wood Owl*Strix leptogrammica*

Three seen at Danum Valley.

Collared Owlet*Glaucidium brodiei*

One seen at Fraser's Hill and others heard there.

Brown Hawk-Owl*Ninox scutulata*

Heard at a couple of sites on the trip but unfortunately never seen.

Collared Owlet*Glaucidium brodiei*

We had incredible scope views of an individual located by its diurnal call at Fraser's Hill.

Frogmouths Podargidae**Large Frogmouth***Batrachostomus auritus*

Those who made the effort to climb over a small hill in Taman Negara were rewarded with what was surely one of the highlights of the trip – the rarely seen Large Frogmouth, on a nest! Superb!

Gould's Frogmouth*Batrachostomus stellatus*

We heard this species call a couple of times at Taman Negara but they were unresponsive to tape.

Nightjars Caprimulga**Malaysian Eared Nightjar***Eurostopodus temminckii*

We had good views of three individuals of this distinctive species in flight one evening at Fraser's Hill and one was heard at Taman Negara.

Grey Nightjar*Caprimulgus indicus*

Single bird observed at close range at Fraser's Hill.

Large-tailed Nightjar*Caprimulgus macrurus*

Observed at close range near our hotel in Kuala Selangor.

Treeswifts Hemiprocnidae**Gray-rumped Treeswift***Hemiproctus longipennis*

Seen in flight on two dates with about ten along the Tahan River at Taman Negara.

Whiskered Treeswift*Hemiproctus longipennis*

A few birds perched close around the Borneo Rainforest Lodge walkway at Danum Valley.

Swifts Apodidae**Glossy Swiftlet***Aerodramus esculenta*

This species was encountered in good numbers at most sites.

Bornean [Cave] Swiftlet (BE)*Aerodramus linchi*

This recently recognized Bornean endemic was seen in the upper parts of Kinabalu Park.

Mossy-nest Swiftlet*Aerodramus salangana*

Although a few of their distinctive nests were seen in the Gomontong Caves there were no birds present.

Black-nest Swiftlet*Aerodramus maximus*

Large numbers seen at their nests in the Gomontong Caves.

Edible-nest Swiftlet*Aerodramus fuciphagus*

Seen on its distinctive nest at the Gomontong Caves.

Silver-rumped Needletail *Rhaphidura leucopygialis*

A common forest bird, seen on ten dates.

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

One on the coast on our first day, several at Poring and one on our last day.

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

This migrant was seen on all five first days of the trip.

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*

Small numbers were seen during the first few days of the trip and again in Kota Kinabalu.

Trogons Trogonidae

Red-naped Trogon *Harpactes kasumba*

A lucky few had good scope views of this attractive species at Danum Valley before it flew off and disappeared.

Whitehead's Trogon (BE) *Harpactes whiteheadi*

We had excellent views of up to three birds a day in Kinabalu Park

Diard's Trogon *Harpactes diardii*

We found a single bird at Taman Negara and another male at Danum Valley.

Scarlet-rumped Trogon *Harpactes duvaucelii*

Some of us had good views in Taman Negara and another was later seen at Danum Valley.

Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus*

Two gave us good views at Fraser's Hill.

Rollers Coraciidae

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

A widespread species that we encountered regularly throughout the tour.

Kingfishers Alcedinidae

Rufous-collared Kingfisher *Actenoides concretus*

This bird is rarely observed and nearly every one missed it when one perched at close range briefly in Taman Negara (and it was not heard calling anywhere on the trip).

Banded Kingfisher *Lacedo pulchella*

One heard on our way from Fraser's Hill to Taman Negara was only seen in flight. Another distantly calling bird in Taman Negara.

Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*

This magnificent bird was seen on six dates with up to four a day at Kinabatangan.

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*

This urban kingfisher was seen many times in Peninsula Malaysia.

Black-capped Kingfisher *Halcyon pileata*

One seen in flight at Taman Negara but only a few of the group saw it.

Collared Kingfisher *Todirhamphus chloris*

This widespread species was encountered on four dates.

Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca*

The Rufous-backed form of this species was seen at Danum Valley by Frank when one flew past the group when they were looking the other way. Very unfortunate!

Blue-banded Kingfisher *Alecedo euryzona*

This rare forest stream species was seen twice in flight in the Tahan River area.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

A couple seen briefly in Taman Negara.

Blue-eared Kingfisher

Alcedo meninting

Only seen along the Kinabatangan and Tenanggang Rivers, but we all got amazing views eventually.

Bee-eaters Meropidae

Red-bearded Bee-eater

Nyctornis amictus

We had some excellent views on our way up to Frasers Hill, and some had a brief view in Taman Negara. Heard only at Danum Valley.

Blue-tailed Bee-eater

Merops philippinus

We found this good looking species near Kuala Lumpur and near Ulu Yam.

Blue-throated Bee-eater

Merops viridis

This widespread species seen on ten dates.

Hornbills Bucerotidae

Bushy-crested Hornbill

Anorrhinus galeritus

About ten seen along the Kinabatangan River. This usually vocal species was not heard elsewhere.

Oriental Pied-Hornbill

Anthracoceros albirostris

Encountered on six dates.

Black Hornbill

Anthracoceros malayanus

A smart hornbill with significant sexual dimorphism, we had a great sighting on six dates.

Rhinoceros Hornbill

Buceros rhinoceros

Only heard at Taman Negara, where large hornbills now seem to be increasingly rare, we went on to see many very well in Borneo, with encounters on six dates and at least ten along the Kinabatangan River.

Helmeted Hornbill

Buceros vigil

This truly spectacular hornbill was seen extremely well along the Kinabatangan River by all and later only heard at Danum Valley.

Wrinkled Hornbill

Aceros corrugatus

This impressive but now rare lowland specialist was seen in small numbers along the Kinabatangan and two were later scoped from the walkway at Danum Valley.

Wreathed Hornbill

Aceros undulatus

Seen by several of the group below Fraser's Hill and on the Kinabatangan River.

Barbets and Toucans Capitonidae

Fire-tufted Barbet

Psilopogon pyrolophus

These unusual barbets, confined to Sumatra and the Malay Peninsular, were seen daily at Fraser's Hill.

Lineated Barbet

Megalaima lineata

Heard only, in the mangrove area at Kuala Selangor.

Gold-whiskered Barbet

Megalaima chrysopogon

Heard regularly and seen in small numbers in the peninsular and in Borneo.

Red-throated Barbet

Megalaima mystacophanos

Heard fairly regularly in the peninsular but only seen in flight there. Later we all had good views of a perched bird at Poring.

Black-browed Barbet

Megalaima oorti

Very common in the highlands of Peninsular Malaysia where seen regularly at Fraser's Hill.

Golden-naped Barbet (BE)

Megalaima pulcherrima

We enjoyed great views on Mt. Kinabalu, a beautiful species.

Mountain Barbet (BE)

Megalaima monticola

This is a mid montane species that is now very difficult to see in Kinabalu Park near the headquarters and we only heard it at lower levels along the Liwagu River trail.

Yellow-crowned Barbet *Megalaima henricii*

Seen well by some of the group from the canopy walkway at Danum Valley.

Blue-eared Barbet *Megalaima australis*

After hearing this species many times we managed some views very good views at Poring.

Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala*

We enjoyed fantastic views at Kuala Selangor.

Brown Barbet *Calorhamphus fuliginosus*

Seen along the Kinabatangan River and at Danum Valley.

Woodpeckers Picidae

Rufous Piculet *Sasia abnormis*

Seen by most of the group in Taman Negara.

Sunda (Brown-capped) [Pygmy] Woodpecker *Dendrocopos moluccensis*

A pair performed well in the mangroves at Kuala Selangor.

Grey-capped) [Pygmy] Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus*

A pair seen on our way into Danum Valley and another seen there.

Rufous Woodpecker *Celeus brachyurus*

Individuals seen on three dates.

White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis*

This huge woodpecker seen on two dates in Taman Negara, and also heard at Taman Negara.

Banded Woodpecker *Picus miniaceus*

One seen well near Gomantong Caves and another observed at Danum Valley.

Crimson-winged Woodpecker *Picus puniceus*

Individuals seen in Taman Negara and at Danum Valley.

Lesser Yellownape *Picus chlorolophus*

Heard a few times at Frasers Hill where we eventually got reasonable views of one.

Greater Yellownape *Picus flavinucha*

We enjoyed good views at Fraser's Hill.

Checker-throated Woodpecker *Picus mentalis*

Good views at Fraser's Hill were followed by incredible views (two by a nest) in Kinabalu Park.

Laced Woodpecker *Picus vittatus*

At least four seen at Kuala Selangor Nature Park.

Common Goldenback (Flameback) *Dinopium javanense*

Brief views for some of the group at Kuala Selangor.

Greater Goldenback (Flameback) *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*

One seen well in the mangroves on our first day.

(Note that Philippine forms and others of this widespread species are about to be split)

Maroon Woodpecker *Blythipicus rubiginosus*

Two seen in Taman Negara and another flew under the walkway at Danum Valley.

Orange-backed Woodpecker *Reinwardtipicus validus*

Fantastic views in Taman Negara and another in Danum Valley.

Buff-rumped Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tristis*

Seen at Taman Negara but leader only.

Buff-necked Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tukki*

Pairs seen on two days in Danum Valley.

Grey-and-buff Woodpecker *Hemicircus concretus*

One seen high in the canopy at Taman Negara.

Great Slaty Woodpecker

Mulleripicus pulverulentus

Unfortunately only heard at Taman Negara

Broadbills Eurylaimidae

Green Broadbill

Calyptomena viridis

We had an excellent sighting in Taman Negara where a bird was feeding in a fruiting tree.

Whitehead's Broadbill (BE)

Calyptomena whiteheadi

Those of us who were lucky enough to see this in Kinabalu Park had great views of a feeding male.

Black-and-red Broadbill

Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos

Observed on six dates.

Banded Broadbill

Eurylaimus javanicus

Heard in Taman Negara but only seen at Danum Valley.

Black-and-yellow Broadbill

Eurylaimus ochromalus

We enjoyed incredible close views on our way up to Fraser's Hill and at Danum Valley. Another spectacular denizen of Malaysian forests.

Dusky Broadbill

Corydon sumatranus

Heard only below Fraser's Hill but later seen very well at Danum Valley.

Pittas Pittidae

Blue-headed Pitta (BE)

Pitta baudii

Though usually quite vocal at Danum Valley, only one was heard and we had no sightings.

Black-crowned Pitta (NE)

Pitta ussheri

We had superb views of this reclusive species initially briefly in the Danum Valley and again for some at Gomantong Caves.

(Malayan) Banded Pitta

Pitta guajana

We all enjoyed great views of a female at Taman Negara and Cathy and Frank saw a male the next day. This is another superb looking species. There is a paper in press splitting this into three species – the form we saw is only found in Peninsular Malaysia and Sumatra.

Garnet Pitta

Pitta granatina

We heard this species calling at Taman Negara on only one occasion but failed to see it. It is usually much more vocal.

Black-and-Crimson Pitta (BE)

Pitta ussheri

This beautiful Pitta was seen exceedingly well due to the efforts of our local guide at Danum Valley.

Hooded Pitta

Pitta sordida

Elaine saw the migratory form of this species in Taman Negara (the chestnut-crowned *cucullata*) on one of her walkabouts, whilst all of us saw one of the resident black-headed forms (*mulleri*) at Danum Valley.

Blue-winged Pitta

Pitta moluccensis

Most of us saw this species roosting on a vine in Taman Negara, whilst Jim G was rewarded with one feeding nearby whilst he rested along a trail there.

Australasian Warblers Acanthizidae

Golden-bellied Gerygone [Flyeater]

Gerygone sulphurea

At least five seen at Kuala Selangor and heard later at Danum Valley.

Whipbirds and Jewel-Babblers Eupetidae

Malaysian Rail-babbler

Eupetes macrocerus

We regularly heard this species calling at Taman Negara in response to Dennis's deceptively similar whistles and about half the group managed to see one creeping past. Unfortunately a very large tree blocked the rest of the group from getting a view.

Family Uncertain Incertae sedis

- Large Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis virgatus*
Observed twice in Taman Negara
- Rufous-winged Philentoma** *Philentoma pyrhopterum*
Small numbers seen in Taman Negara and at Danum Valley
- Maroon-breasted Philentoma** *Philentoma velatum*
We had brilliant views of this beautiful species at Danum Valley.

Butcherbirds and Allies Cractiidae

- Bornean Bristlehead (BE)** *Pityriasis gymnocephala*
Note that his species is usually placed in its own monotypic family, Pityriaseidae, but IOC has yet to accept this. We had amazing views of several along the road at Danum Valley and later saw them in the forest. Unbelievable!

Woodswallows Artamidae

- White-breasted Woodswallow** *Artamus leucorynchus*
Seen in small numbers sporadically through the tour.

Ioras Aegithinidae

- Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia*
We had good views on our first day near Kuala Selangor.
- Green Iora** *Aegithina viridissima*
Small numbers were seen at Poring and in the canopy at Danum Valley.

Cuckoo-shrikes Campephagidae

- Javan Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina javensis*
Up to eight a day at Fraser's Hill.
- Sunda Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina larvata*
We enjoyed great views on a couple of occasions in the Kinabalu Park.
- Lesser Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina fimbriata*
Dennis heard this species near the Gomantong Caves.
- Pied Triller** *Lalage nigra*
One seen briefly near Kuala Selangor and another seen well in Kota Kinabalu town.
- Ashy Minivet** *Pericrocotus divaricatus*
Four on our way to Taman Negara and others in the compound there.
- Fiery Minivet** *Pericrocotus igneus*
One seen by Frank from the restaurant at Danum Valley.
- Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus flammeus*
A few sightings at Fraser's Hill and two at Danum Valley.
- Gray-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris*
We enjoyed great views on a number of occasions at Fraser's Hill and again in the Kinabalu Park.
- Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus*
A few seen at Fraser's Hill and at Taman Negara and another near Park HQ in Kinabalu Park.

Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike*Hemipus hirundinaceus*

Two seen well at Danum Valley.

Whistlers Pachycephalidae**Mangrove Whistler***Pachycephala cinerea (grisola)*

Heard by the group in the mangroves at Kuala Selangor but only seen very briefly by Frank.

Bornean Whistler (BE)*Pachycephala hypoxantha*

We enjoyed close sightings of several per day on Mt Kinabalu.

Shrikes Laniidae**Tiger Shrike***Lanius tigrinus*

Two different birds seen at Fraser's Hill. A migrant that winters in forest edge.

Brown Shrike*Lanius cristatus*

We had good views of small numbers in the Kuala Selangor area and near the airport in KL.

Long-tailed Shrike*Lanius schach*

Three were observed near the mining pools.

Orioles and Figbirds Oriolidae**Dark-throated Oriole***Oriolus xanthonotus*

We had great views of this species at Taman Negara and in Danum Valley.

Black-naped Oriole*Oriolus chinensis*

Good numbers were seen during our first two days.

Black-and-Crimson Oriole*Oriolus cruentus*

A few seen well at Fraser's Hill and one in Kinabalu Park.

Drongos Dicruridae**Black Drongo***Dicrurus macrocercus*

We found a single bird near Kuala Selangor.

Ashy Drongo*Dicrurus leucophaeus*We found three in the mangroves at Kuala Selangor – the dark resident race *nigrescens* - and many of the very different looking pale endemic Bornean race, *stigmatops* in Kinabalu Park.**Bronzed Drongo***Dicrurus aeneus*

Seen on six dates.

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo*Dicrurus remifer*

Seen daily at Fraser's Hill.

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo*Dicrurus paradiseus*Good numbers were seen daily at Taman Negara but only one (of the endemic Bornean race *brachyphorus*) was found at Danum Valley.**Fantails Rhipiduridae****White-throated Fantail***Rhipidura albicollis*

Small numbers were seen daily at both Fraser's Hill and in Kinabalu Park.

Pied Fantail*Rhipidura javanica*

We had good numbers near Kuala Selangor, some along the Kinabatangan and a few at Danum Valley.

Spotted Fantail*Rhipidura perlata*

We enjoyed some fabulous views at Taman Negara.

Monarch Flycatchers Monarchidae**Black-naped Monarch***Hypothymis azurea*

We enjoyed several sightings in Taman Negara and heard it at Danum Valley.

Asian Paradise-Flycatcher*Terpsiphone paradisi*

Small numbers were seen in Taman Negara and at Danum Valley where we had spectacular views of a fully-tailed white male – stunning!

Jays and Crows Corvidae**Black Magpie***Platysmurus leucopterus*

Seen briefly on a number of occasions in Taman Negara but would never settle down near us.

Green Magpie*Cissa chinensis*

A gorgeous bird, seen well at Fraser's Hill on both days.

Short-tailed Magpie*Cissa thalassina*

This stunner was seen on several occasions in the Kinabalu Park. Note that the population on Java probably represents a different species and this is likely to become a Bornean endemic in the future.

Bornean Treepie (BE)*Dendrocitta cinerascens*

We had superb views of this impressive endemic at Mt. Kinabalu.

House Crow*Corvus splendens*

Many were seen on the first two days. A common urban bird.

Slender-billed Crow*Corvus enca*

Seen regularly in the lowland forests of Sabah.

Large-billed [Southern Jungle] Crow*Corvus macrorhynchos*

Seen regularly in small numbers in the peninsular.

Tits and Chickadees Paridae**Great [Grey] Tit***Parus major (cinereus)*

We found a pair in the mangroves at Kuala Selangor. Some authors treat this as a separate species, Grey Tit, which in Malaysia is confined to mangroves.

Sultan Tit*Melanochlora sultanea*

Several sightings at Fraser's Hill.

Martins and Swallows Hirundinidae**Barn Swallow***Hirundo rustica*

Good numbers were seen on ten days.

Pacific [House] Swallow*Hirundo tahitica*

Good numbers seen almost daily throughout the tour.

Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae**Yellow-bellied Prinia***Prinia flaviventris*

Seen or heard on five dates.

Rufescent Prinia*Prinia rufescens*

One seen at Fraser's Hill.

Family Uncertain Incertae sedis**Mountain Tailorbird***Phyllergates (Orthotomus) cucullatus*

Seen regularly at Fraser's Hill and on Mt Kinabalu.

Rufous-tailed Tailorbird*Phyllergates (Orthotomus) sericeus*

Heard regularly and seen on four dates.

Common Tailorbird

Orthotomus sutorius

This species was only sighted near Kuala Selangor.

Dark-necked Tailorbird

Orthotomus atrogularis

A couple in the peninsular and others in Sabah.

Ashy Tailorbird

Orthotomus ruficeps

This common species was heard or seen on at least six dates.

Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

Straw-headed Bulbul

Pycnonotus zeylanicus

This species was found at Taman Negara where we enjoyed several riverside sightings.

Black-headed Bulbul

Pycnonotus atriceps

This widespread species was seen on nine dates.

Black-crested Bulbul

Pycnonotus melanicterus

We found these smart looking birds at Fraser's Hill.

Scaly-breasted Bulbul

Pycnonotus squamatus

These beautiful bulbuls were seen visiting figs at Taman Negara on all three days there, with up to six in a day.

Grey-bellied Bulbul

Pycnonotus cyaniventris

One seen in Taman Negara by a few of the group.

Puff-backed Bulbul

Pycnonotus eutilotus

Several sightings at Taman Negara and one in Sabah.

Stripe-throated Bulbul

Pycnonotus finlaysoni

Small numbers were seen daily near our lodge in Taman Negara and another at Gomantong.

Pale-faced Bulbul (BE)

Pycnonotus leucops

Those who hiked up the summit trail in Kinabalu Park saw about six of these endemic bulbuls.

Yellow-vented Bulbul

Pycnonotus goiavier

The commonest bulbul in non-forest habitats and seen in good numbers throughout the tour.

Olive-winged Bulbul

Pycnonotus plumosus

We had our first sighting at Taman Negara and others were seen at Gomantong and at Danum Valley.

Cream-vented Bulbul

Pycnonotus simplex

Quite commonly seen in Taman Negara.

[Asian] Red-eyed Bulbul

Pycnonotus brunneus

We had several sightings at Taman Negara and further views below Fraser's Hill and at Danum Valley.

Spectacled Bulbul

Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos

This common forest bird was seen on seven dates.

Finsch's Bulbul

Alophoixus finschii

One or two were seen at Danum Valley.

Ochraceous Bulbul

Alophoixus ochraceus

Seen daily at Fraser's Hill and in the Kinabalu Park with maximum of about six in a day.

Gray-cheeked Bulbul

Alophoixus bres

Seen in Taman Negara and at Danum.

Yellow-bellied Bulbul

Alophoixus phaeocephalus

Small numbers of this attractive species were found at Taman Negara and Danum Valley.

Hairy-backed Bulbul

Tricholestes criniger

Several were seen at Taman Negara and another pair at Danum Valley.

Buff-vented Bulbul

Iole olivacea

A few were observed at Taman Negara, and again at Poring and in Danum Valley.

Streaked Bulbul	<i>Ixos malaccensis</i>
Four were seen in Taman Negara.	
Mountain Bulbul	<i>Ixos mcclllandii</i>
Several seen at Fraser's Hill.	
Ashy Bulbul	<i>Hemixos flavala</i>
Seen daily in the Fraser's Hill area with up to four per day.	

Old World Warblers Sylviidae

Bornean Stubtail (BE)	<i>Urosphena whiteheadi</i>
We had superb views of this inconspicuous species in Kinabalu Park.	
Sunda Bush-Warbler	<i>Cettia vulcania</i>
We had great views of several very obliging birds on Mt. Kinabalu.	
Oriental Reed-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>
Small numbers along the Kinabatangan River.	
Arctic Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>
Small numbers of were seen at Fraser's Hill and at Danum Valley.	
Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i>
Seen only at Fraser's Hill.	
Eastern Crowned (Leaf) Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i>
One at Fraser's Hill was the only sighting.	
Mountain (Leaf) Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trivirgatus</i>
Several seen at Fraser's Hill and others on Mt Kinabalu where represented by the endemic race <i>kinabaluensis</i> .	
Chestnut-crowned Warbler	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>
We had good views of two at Fraser's Hill.	
Yellow-breasted Warbler	<i>Seicercus montis</i>
We had daily sightings of this beautiful bird at Mt. Kinabalu.	
Yellow-bellied Warbler	<i>Abroscopus superciliaris</i>
We enjoyed good views of several at Fraser's Hill and one at Poring.	

Babblers and Parrotbills Timaliidae

Buff-breasted Babbler	<i>Pellorneum tickelli</i>
Seen along one of the forest trails at Fraser's Hill.	
Temminck's Babbler	<i>Pellorneum pyrrogenys</i>
We had great views of at least three birds on Mt. Kinabalu.	
Black-capped Babbler	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>
This common forest floor species proved to be unusually elusive and was only seen on a couple of occasions at Taman Negara. Heard also at Danum Valley.	
White-chested Babbler	<i>Trichastoma rostratum</i>
We enjoyed superb views of this riverine forest specialist in Taman Negara and again near Sukau.	
Ferruginous Babbler	<i>Trichastoma bicolor</i>
Seen only at Danum Valley where two gave good views.	
Abbott's Babbler	<i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>
Seen well at Taman Negara.	
Horsefield's Babbler	<i>Malacocincla sepiaria</i>
One seen well at Danum Valley and another heard there.	
Short-tailed Babbler	<i>Malacocincla malaccensis</i>
Single birds seen at Taman Negara and Danum Valley.	

- Moustached Babbler** *Malacopteron magnirostre*
Two at Taman Negara.
- Sooty-capped Babbler** *Malacopteron affine*
First seen well at Taman Negara and later at Danum Valley where we encountered the distinctive brown-crowned endemic race *phoeniceum*, a possible future split.
- Scaly-crowned Babbler** *Malacopteron cinereum*
Two seen at Taman Negara and others heard at Danum Valley.
- Rufous-crowned Babbler** *Malacopteron magnum*
Only seen in Taman Negara on one date.
- Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler** *Pomatorhinus montanus*
One seen very well at Fraser's Hill. The population on Java is about to be split off as a separate species.
- Striped Wren-Babbler** *Kenopia striata*
We all had wonderful views at Danum Valley. A superb little bird!
- Large Wren-Babbler** *Napothera macrodactyla*
The entire group, including Dennis, managed to walk past a scolding pair of this species near a trail at Danum Valley and only the last person in the line, Frank, got a glimpse.
- Streaked Wren-Babbler** *Napothera brevicaudata*
Excellent views of a pair along a forest trail at Fraser's Hill for all and another view for a few people elsewhere at the same site.
- Mountain Wren-Babbler (BE)** *Napothera crassa*
On Mt. Kinabalu those who had not opted to climb the summit trail had amazing views of two groups in the undergrowth allowing us to observe them at a very close distance.
- Pygmy Wren-Babbler** *Pnoepyga pusilla*
Several were heard at Fraser's Hill but we only got brief views of one bird.
- Rufous-fronted Babbler** *Stachyris rufifrons*
One in Taman Negara and multiple sightings at Danum Valley.
- Golden Babbler** *Stachyris chrysaea*
Small numbers were seen at Fraser's Hill.
- Gray-throated Babbler** *Stachyris nigriceps*
Small numbers at Fraser's Hill and daily sightings along the trails in Kinabalu Park.
- Gray-headed Babbler** *Stachyris poliocephala*
One seen at Taman Negara was the only sighting. Heard at Danum Valley.
- Chestnut-rumped Babbler** *Stachyris maculata*
Seen or heard daily at Danum Valley.
- Black-throated Babbler** *Stachyris nigricollis*
Everyone saw this species well at Taman Negara, a beautiful bird.
- Chestnut-winged Babbler** *Stachyris erythroptera*
Several sightings in Taman Negara and a few Danum Valley.
- Pin-Striped Tit-Babbler** *Macronous gularis*
Seen at the Gap, Fraser's Hill and around Taman Negara.
- Bold-Striped Tit-Babbler (BE)** *Macronous bornensis*
Seen well at Gomantong and heard at Poring and Danum.
- Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler** *Macronous ptilosus*
This striking species gave us sensational views at Taman Negara and one was seen by Cathy at Danum Valley.
- Sunda Laughingthrush** *Garrulax palliates*
We enjoyed excellent views at Mt. Kinabalu on a couple of occasions.
- Black Laughingthrush** *Garrulax lugubris*

We enjoyed great views at Fraser's Hill of a flock of this fairly localised montane endemic.

Chestnut-capped (Spect.) Laughingthrush (ME) *Garrulax mitrata*

We enjoyed superb sightings of many flocks at Fraser's Hill. A recently recognized endemic.

Chestnut-hooded Laughingthrush (BE) *Garrulax treacheri*

Common in the Kinabalu Park.

Malayan Laughingthrush (ME) *Garrulax treacheri*

This skulking understory endemic was seen well at Fraser's Hill.

Silver-eared Leiothrix (Mesia) *Leiothrix argentauris*

Small flocks of this stunning gem were seen daily at Fraser's Hill.

White-browed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis*

We had views of several of the subspecies *cameronani* at Fraser's Hill and small numbers of the endemic Bornean race (soon to be split and become an endemic) *robinsoni* in the Kinabalu Park.

Black-eared Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius melanotus*

We enjoyed repeated good views of this intricately patterned bird at Fraser's Hill.

Blue-winged Minla *Minla cyanouroptera*

Seen regularly at Fraser's Hill.

Brown Fulvetta *Alcippe brunneicauda*

We had several sightings at Danum Valley.

Mountain Fulvetta *Alcippe peracensis*

Seen daily at Fraser's Hill associating with mixed species flocks.

Long-tailed Sibia *Heterophasia picaoides*

Common and conspicuous at Fraser's Hill.

Chestnut-crested Yuhina (BE) *Yuhina everetti*

This lovely Bornean endemic was common and seen daily at Mt. Kinabalu.

White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis zantholeuca*

Small numbers seen at Danum Valley.

White-eyes Zosteropidae

Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus*

Seen near Kuala Selangor on our first day.

Black-capped White-eye *Zosterops atricapillus*

Seen daily in Kinabalu Park where common.

Everett's White-eye *Zosterops everetti*

Several observed at Fraser's Hill on the "new road".

Mountain Black-eye (BE) *Chlorocharis emiliae*

We all had superb views of a couple at Mt. Kinabalu; those who walked the summit trail saw more.

Fairy-Bluebirds Irenidae

Asian Fairy-bluebird *Irena puella*

Found daily in Taman Negara and below Fraser's Hill. Only one seen in Sabah, at Danum Valley.

Nuthatches and Wallcreeper Sittidae

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*

A couple seen at Fraser's Hill and sightings on two days at Danum Valley.

Blue Nuthatch *Sitta azurea*

We had superb views of this stunning nuthatch at Fraser's Hill.

Starlings Sturnidae

Asian Glossy Starling*Aplonis panayensis*

Seen regularly at scattered sites throughout.

Common Hill Myna*Gracula religiosa*

Four flew over the Concorde Hotel on our first day, after which we saw this species on three other dates in the Peninsular. This used to be a common forest bird but seems to have declined markedly.

Javan Myna*Acridotheres javanicus*

Seen on five dates – this species seems to have displaced Jungle Myna from many sites, including Taman Negara.

Common Myna*Acridotheres tristis*

Small numbers were seen around Kuala Selangor.

Daurian Starling*Agropsar (Sturnus) sturninus*

A couple of sightings of this non-breeding visitor on our first day, totaling about 12 birds.

Thrushes Turdidae**Bornean Whistling-Thrush (BE)***Myophonus borneensis*

We enjoyed several sightings of this retiring species at Mt. Kinabalu.

Eye-browed Thrush*Zoothera obscurus*

One seen by Cathy on Mt Kinabalu.

Fruithunter (BE)*Chlamydochaera jefferyi*

Heard on the Bukit Ular trail in Kinabalu Park but not seen.

Lesser Shortwing*Brachypteryx leucophrys*

Two were seen well responding to playback at Fraser's Hill.

White-browed Shortwing*Brachypteryx montana*

At least two seen by those who did the summit trail in Kinabalu Park. Heard elsewhere in the park but not seen.

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

Common and widespread, seen on most days of the trip.

White-crowned Shama (BE)*Copsychus stricklandii*

We all enjoyed superb views of this stunning species at lowland sites in Sabah.

White-rumped Shama*Copsychus malabaricus*

Seen well and regularly at Taman Negara while we heard many more.

Rufous-tailed Shama*Trichixos pyrropygus*

Heard at Danum Valley.

White-crowned Forktail*Enicurus leschenaulti*

A few of us saw this species well at Danum Valley.

Bornean Forktail (BE)*Enicurus borneensis*

We enjoyed some great sightings of this newly recognized endemic species at Kinabalu.

Grey-chested Jungle-Flycatcher*Rhinomyias umbratilis*

Fantastic view of this understory species at Danum Valley.

Eyebrowed Jungle-Flycatcher (NE)*Rhinomyias gularis*

We had good views of several on Mt. Kinabalu.

Dark-sided Flycatcher*Muscicapa sibirica*

One seen from the walkway at Danum Valley

Asian Brown Flycatcher*Muscicapa dauurica*

Individuals seen on three separate dates.

Yellow-rumped Flycatcher*Ficedula zanthopygia*

Excellent views of a male and female in Taman Negara. A truly stunning flycatcher!

Mugimaki Flycatcher *Ficedula mugimaki*

This common winter visitor and migrant was encountered on five dates.

Rufous-chested Flycatcher *Ficedula dumetoria*

Heard at Danum Valley but not seen.

Rufous-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula solitaries*

Seen well at Fraser's Hill, a very attractive but shy forest flycatcher.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra*

Up to six a day were seen along the trails in Kinabalu Park.

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni*

Small numbers were seen daily at both Fraser's Hill and in Kinabalu Park.

Blue-and-white Flycatcher *Cyanoptila cyanomelana*

This large flycatcher was seen a couple of times in Kinabalu Park, including at Poring.

Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassina*

Several observed at Fraser's Hill.

Indigo Flycatcher *Eumyias indigo*

Up to three were seen daily in Kinabalu Park.

Hill Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis banyumas*

At least four seen at Fraser's Hill.

Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis tickelliae*

Individuals seen on two dates in Taman Negara.

Sunda (Long-billed) Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis caerulatus*

Our local guide showed one to Elaine at Danum Valley.

Malaysian Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis turcosus*

First seen on the Tahan River during our boat trip, and later along the Kinabatangan.

Bornean Blue-Flycatcher (BE) *Cyornis superbus*

Seen well at Danum Valley.

Mangrove Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis rufigastra*

A couple seen at close range in the mangroves on our first day.

Large Niltava *Niltava grandis*

This good looking bird was well seen on the forested trails on Fraser's Hill on a few occasions.

Gray-headed Canary-flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*

One seen by a couple of us at Danum Valley.

Leafbirds Chloropseidae

Greater Green Leafbird *Chloropsis sonnerati*

Only one seen at Taman Negara NP, but fairly common at Danum Valley.

Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*

A couple at Fraser's Hill and small numbers were seen at Taman Negara.

Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii*

Seen daily in small numbers.

Flowerpeckers Dicaeidae

Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker *Prionochilus maculates*

This widespread flowerpecker was seen on five dates.

Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker (BE) *Prionochilus xanthopygius*

Most of us enjoyed views at Danum Valley.

Scarlet-breasted Flowerpecker *Prionochilus thoracicus*

Some of us saw this rarely seen species in Taman Negara.

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum*

Amazing views of an adult at Ulu Yam were followed by other sightings at Fraser's Hill and Poring.

Black-sided Flowerpecker (BE) *Dicaeum monticolum*

Regularly observed in Kinabalu Park.

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker *Dicaeum trigonostigma*

This common species was seen on five dates, being most common in Sabah.

Thick-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum agile*

One seen in Taman Negara by half the group.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus*

Seen very well at Fraser's Hill on several occasions.

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum*

One seen by Frank at a petrol station on the way to Fraser's Hill – everyone else was busy buying snacks!

Sunbirds Nectariniidae

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis*

One or two at Taman Negara and others seen at Danum Valley.

Plain Sunbird *Anthreptes simplex*

This common sunbird was seen in lowland forest on five dates.

Brown-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes malacensis*

We encountered this forest-edge and urban species regularly.

Red-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes malacensis*

One seen in Taman Negara and another at Danum Valley was photographed by Yuzuru-san (Joe).

Purple-naped Sunbird *Hypogramma hypogrammicum*

A common forest sunbird that was seen on at least eight dates with up to four a day.

Olive-backed Sunbird *Cinnyris jugularis*

At least 25 seen on the coast on our first day and one seen in Kota Kinabalu.

Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga saturata*

We found quite a number at Fraser's Hill including several stunning males.

Temminck's Sunbird *Aethopyga temminckii*

This is another beautiful species which we saw daily in Kinabalu Park.

(Eastern) Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*

Two seen in the hotel garden at Bilit.

Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra*

We had regular sightings of this quick species at most forest sites.

Thick-billed Spiderhunter *Arachnothera flavigaster*

One seen drinking at a canopy pool at Danum Valley.

Long-billed Spiderhunter *Arachnothera robusta*

Seen in Taman Negara and also visiting flowers in Danum Valley.

Spectacled Spiderhunter *Arachnothera flavigaster*

Several defending flowers outside the restaurant in Danum Valley.

Yellow-eared Spiderhunter *Arachnothera chrysogenys*

At least four a day in Danum Valley, often with the previous species.

Gray-breasted Spiderhunter *Arachnothera modesta*

One in Taman Negara seen by a few of us briefly.

Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter *Arachnothera affinis*

Seen by several of us feeding on introduced flowers around the cabins at Danum Valley.

Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna*
 Seen daily at Fraser's Hill and we enjoyed several very close views.

Old World Sparrows Passeridae

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*
 This species was recorded in small numbers at virtually all towns throughout the tour and occasionally along the roadside.

Weavers and Widowbirds Ploceidae

Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus*
 Wonderful views of several males building nests at Ulu Gam.

Waxbills, Munias and Allies Estrildidae

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*
 About 15 seen on our first day.

Dusky Munia (BE) *Lonchura fuscans*
 Common in Sabah were seen most days, with a maximum of about 15 at Poring and ten at Danum Valley.

Scaly-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata*
 We found this species on our way to Fraser's Hill.

Black-headed Munia *Lonchura malacca*
 Chuck found us two very cooperative perched birds at a roadside stop on the way to Fraser's Hill

White-headed Munia *Lonchura maja*
 A male seen flying alongside the bus by several of us on our way to Fraser's Hill – unfortunately it could not be relocated after stopping.

Wagtails & Pipits Motacillidae

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*
 We had sightings (mostly from vehicles) on six dates.

Oriental [Paddyfield] Pipit *Anthus rufulus*
 Several seen on our first two days and another in Sabah.

Annotated List of Mammals recorded

Total species recorded: 37

Treeshrews Tupaiidae

Lesser/Common Tree-Shrew *Tupaia minor/glis*
 One seen in Taman Negara, probably the former species but not confirmed.

Mountain Tree-Shrew *Tupaia montana*
 We found these endearing creatures in Kinabalu Park on several occasions.

Great Apes Pongidae

Orang-utan *Pongo pygmaeus*

We found a huge male feeding half way up an emergent tree at Danum Valley- after about ten minutes it descended to the ground within meters of the group and wandered off into the forest! A truly incredible experience!

Monkeys Cercopithecidae

Red Leaf Monkey

Presbytis rubicunda

We spent some time watching a large group of this impressive monkey at close range at Gomantong and later saw several around Danum Valley.

Silvered Leaf Monkey

Presbytis cristata

This was commonly seen at Kuala Selangor and a few were along the Kinabatangan River.

Proboscis Monkey

Nasalis larvatus

Several troops including several huge, pendulous-nosed males were seen along the Kinabatangan.

Long-tailed Macaque

Macaca fascicularis

Commonly seen throughout the tour.

Pig-tailed Macaque

Macaca nemestrina

A group seen very well along the river at Kinabatangan and one on the roadside near Danum Valley.

Gibbons Hylobatidae

White-handed Gibbon

Hylobates lar

Heard at Fraser's Hill and in Taman Negara but never very close

Bornean Gibbon

Hylobates muelleri

Heard fairly close at Danum Valley but always remained obscured.

Siamang

Hylobates syndactylu

Great views, though brief, at Fraser's Hill.

Squirrels Sciuridae

Black Giant Flying Squirrel

Ratufa bicolor

One seen in Taman Negara

Cream-coloured Giant Squirrel

Ratufa affinis

One seen on our way into Danum Valley.

Gray-bellied Squirrel

Callosciurus caniceps

A few sightings in Taman Negara.

Plantain Squirrel

Callosciurus notatus

Observed on our first day and in Taman Negara.

Bornean Black-banded Squirrel

Callosciurus orestes

A few seen on Mt. Kinabalu.

Mountain Red-bellied Squirrel

Callosciurus erythraeus

One seen on our way up to Fraser's Hill

Prevost's Squirrel

Callosciurus prevostii

We had superb views of this striking mammal at Danum Valley.

Himalayan Striped Squirrel

Tamiops maccllellandi

Seen daily at Fraser's Hill in small numbers.

Slender Squirrel

Sundasciurus tenuis

One at Fraser's Hill.

Bornean Mountain Ground Squirrel

Dremomys everetti

Tame and conspicuous on Mt Kinabalu.

Red Giant Flying Squirrel

Petaurista petaurista

Two seen on one of the night drives at Danum Valley

Thomas's Flying Squirrel*Aeromys thomasi*

One seen exceptionally well on our first night drives at Danum Valley and two on another night.

Least (Common) Pygmy Squirrel*Exilisciurus exilis*

This tiny squirrel was seen at Danum Valley on a number of occasions.

Tufted Pygmy Squirrel*Exilisciurus whiteheadi*

This delightful creature was seen very well on Mt Kinabalu on our last day.

Martins, Weasels, Badgers and Otters Mustelidae**Smooth-coated Otter***Lutrogale perspicillata*

At least ten on our first day along the Kinabatangan and four the next day. Delightful!

Oriental Small-clawed Otter*Amblonyx cinereus*

Three along the Tahan River seen by part of the group.

Fruit-eating Bats Pteropididae**Wrinkle-lipped Bat***Charrephon plicata*

We witnessed the mass exodus of about two million bats from the Gomantong Caves the majority of which were this species.

Civets & Mongooses Viverridae**Malayan Civet***Viverra tangalunga*

Seen at night by some around the cabins at Danum Valley.

Asian Palm Civet*Paradoxurus hermaphroditus*

One seen in Taman Negara.

Small-toothed Palm Civet*Arctogalidia trivirgata*

Seen by some on a night excursion at Sukau.

Cats Felidae**Leopard Cat***Prionailurus bengalensis*

Two seen on one of the night drives at Danum Valley.

Pigs Suidae**Wild Boar***Sus scrofa*

We enjoyed good views of several in Taman Negara NP.

Bearded Pig*Sus barbatus*

A single large male was observed at length along the Kinabatangan.

Deer Cervidae**Sambar***Cervus unicolor*

We had views in Taman Negara and later in the Danum Valley.

Lesser Mouse-Deer*Tragulus napu*

One seen well at night in Taman Negara

Greater Mouse-Deer*Tragulus javanicus*

Several seen at Danum Valley.

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