



# ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## Taiwan

### The Best of Taiwan

### Trip Report

*25<sup>th</sup> May to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016*



**Taiwan Rosefinch**

Taiwan Rosefinch by Rich Lindie

**Trip report compiled by Tour Leader: Rich Lindie**



## Tour Summary



Malayan Night Heron

This year's spring tour of Taiwan was not only a very successful one from a birding perspective - seeing a complete haul of the island's endemics, and almost fifty of its endemic subspecies - it was also a thoroughly fun-filled one to boot. 7-Elevens featured heavily too, as did a wide range of culinary delights, some superb mammals, mobile snack vans and even a temple visit, or two.

Most of us began our exploration of the island with some leisurely birding around the Taipei Botanical Gardens - a perfect spot to begin any trip to Taiwan. There, amidst the lovely gardens and a splash of colorful Taiwanese architecture, we took little time in finding our main target species, Malayan Night Heron, as well as our first Taiwan Blue Magpies, some very cooperative Taiwan Scimitar Babblers, Japanese White-eyes, our only Oriental Magpie Robins of the trip, superb Taiwan Barbets and a couple of gorgeous White-rumped Shamans. A stop at some riverside vegetation on the outskirts of Longtan then provided us with an introduction to just how warm the Taiwanese lowlands can be, though we were thrilled with scope views of a Crested Goshawk of the endemic *formosae* race, followed by our first lessons in the local scribbles/Mandarin. A delicious dinner that evening followed suit and was yet another precedence of things to come.

Making our way directly to the Shihmen Reservoir the following morning, we soon found ourselves in humid lowland forest once again, though we didn't have long to wait for distraction, when a pair of Taiwan Bamboo Partridge was spotted in a drainage canal just meters from the car. What a start! From there, we went on to see more gorgeous Taiwan Barbets, another pair of partridges - one of which was watched calling at the forest edge, followed shortly after by our only Black-throated Laughingthrush of the trip, and a cooperative Taiwan Whistling Thrush not long after that. To compliment this, we then found our major target bird for the morning, Black-necklaced Scimitar-Babbler, just a little further along the road, allowing us plenty of time for an ice-cream break and more Mandarin lessons. The morning thereafter wasn't particularly productive but we did thoroughly enjoy further sightings of the very attractive Taiwan Blue Magpie.

At the end of it all, another break at our favourite local ice-cream shop was followed by our first of many stops at a 7-Eleven, before hitting the highway and heading further south.

After devouring yet another great meal for lunch, accompanied by several bottles of local brew, we set off for the lower reaches of the road to Dasyuesan. Along the verdantly forested edges of the road, we first stopped to admire a singing Vivid Niltava, where our first Taiwan Sibia also put in an appearance. Further up the road, the show-stopper was a male Swinhoe's Pheasant, followed shortly by a few White-tailed Robins in the dark understorey. Not long after that, we had our first satisfying looks at Grey-cheeked Fulvettas (several dozen, at that), before the second show-stopper of the afternoon - heavy rain! Forced to retreat to Foster's Mobile Cafe, we sat out the rain with a cup of coffee but soon called it quits, still immensely pleased with our first day in the mountains.





For our full day on Dasyuesan we made our way all the way to the end of the road, stopping to bird at various spots along the way, including the park headquarters and the visitor's center at the top. Mist came into play during the latter half of the day but it did nothing to dampen our spirits or ruin our day. Not only did we score such tricky species as Rufous-crowned Laughingthrush, the endemic races of White-backed Woodpecker and Island Thrush, we very rapidly picked up Taiwan Wren-Babbler, Rusty Laughingthrush and Taiwan Bush Warbler. We also enjoyed long periods of time with flocks of unconcerned Taiwan Rosefinch and Grey-headed Bullfinch, close encounters with Spotted Nutcracker and Collared Bush Robin, as well as our first Flamecrests. All, of course, with regular breaks for coffee and a variety of fuelling snacks. We ended the day with a wet and misty vigil for Mikado Pheasant that wasn't meant to be but with more chances to come, we were little deterred.

A spot of birding along the lower reaches of the Dasyuesan road once again produced a few goodies, albeit after some serious effort for Dusky Fulvetta. Included in the bounty were our first Brown-flanked Bush Warblers, two White-bellied Pigeons, the *oberholseri* race of Black-naped Monarch, Collared Finchbills, a single Brown Dipper, the *affinis* race of Plumbeous Water Redstart and a Striated Prinia - also of an endemic subspecies.

We then left the mountain and our accommodation behind, trying briefly for Chestnut-bellied Tit but having to console ourselves with Taiwan Hwamei instead. Super humid conditions then spurred us to retreat once again to a familiar restaurant for more scrumptious food – accompanied with some great Kimchi, failed discussions about the origin of the name Lazy Susan and a few kilograms meat.

Having missed Chestnut-bellied Tit in the morning, we decided to drive directly to another site, where we spent several hours in the heat but nailed the tit for our efforts, much to everyone's delight and relief. Retreating to a snazzy hotel in town, we celebrated with a buffet of pizzas and yet more great local favorites.

We began the fifth day of our tour with a spot of birding at some mudflats and ponds near Hanbao, seeing Great Knot, among a small selection of other migratory and resident waders. Then, in case you haven't already guessed, we stopped in at one of Taiwan's over 5000 (literally!) 7-Elevens, where we hid in the air-conditioning, making maps with cupcakes, and catching up with some much-needed mandarin lessons.

Refreshed and properly oriented, we then drove to the so-called Blue Gate Track for the afternoon, where muddy and misty conditions provided us with a pair of Taiwan Partridge and some very entertaining puddle-crossing but little else of interest. Elated nonetheless, we were perhaps being greedy when we set out to look for Mountain Scops Owl around our lodge that evening, though brilliant sightings of this tricky species were not taken for granted.



Grey-headed Bullfinch



Fairy Pitta





We started the following day with another visit to the Blue Gate area, scoring a flashy Yellow Tit for our efforts, as well as more Vivid Niltavas, Yellow-bellied Bush Warbler, Black-throated Bushtit, Lesser Cuckoo (heard calling) and a close-up Taiwan Fulvetta picked up by Erika, before driving up to the high point along the road through Hehuansan NP. There, in the busy little parking lot, we accompanied an Alpine Accentor on one of his feeding rounds before travelling a short way further along the road for our first coffee break of the day.

Nearby, we worked on a few White-browed Bush Robins until everyone had had their fill, bagged Ferruginous Flycatcher as a bonus and photographed a couple of Flamecrests for good measure.

Our encounter with Golden Parrotbill proved far more frustrating but we had done very well nonetheless and dropped down the hill to the Blue Gate Track for one final visit. There, once again navigating slick pipelines and muddy puddles, a slow-motion sighting of a small herd of Beagles alerted us to the near-loss of one of our team members but I'm glad to say that all who entered the forest left alive, via a second encounter with the often tricky Rufous-crowned Laughingthrush. We tried adding a visit to the highest Ele7veN in Taiwan to our list but the mist had apparently put the coffee machines out of commission. An attempt for Collared Scops Owl that evening was equally unsuccessful due most likely to the same culprit.

We relaxed a little the following morning, and then drove to Huben via the Puli valley for Maroon Oriole and a spectacular temple that didn't harbour any hoped-for Collared Scops Owls, unfortunately. In Huben, we began our vigil for Fairy Pitta in the early hours of the afternoon, deciding a while later to shift to another position, and lucking upon magnificent sightings just a few moments later. Seen carrying food to a nearby nest, the pitta easily convinced some of us into waiting around for more views and disappointed we were not! During these various vigils, most of us may also remember some great sightings of Bronzed Drongo and White-bellied Erpornis too - a lovely afternoon.

Budai's famous mudflats hosted our next early morning birding session, and didn't disappoint, providing us with our main target - Black-faced Spoonbil, as well as a nice selection of waders and a White-winged Black Tern in breeding plumage. Plain Prinia, Cinnamon Bittern, Eurasian Wigeon and even a few flamingo also put in an appearance.





Later that morning, things didn't go according to plan but a cancelled ferry wasn't about to stop us from birding so we paid a visit to the Kenting Peninsula, where Styan's Bulbuls gave up within minutes, followed by the southern-most point of Taiwan, where a few turtles and a dark Pacific Reef Heron were spotted nearby. That evening and the following night were spent in Fenggan.

Our two-hour ferry ride to Lanyu for the day went by without trouble or much excitement but we were anxious to get birding in the much-shortened time we had been left with on the island. We needn't have worried however, because we somehow managed to find all of our targets in just 42 mins! In no particular order, they were: Whistling Green Pigeon, Lanyu Scops Owl, Northern Boobook, Japanese Paradise Flycatcher, the endemic race of Brown-eared Bulbul, Pacific Swift and Whistling Green Pigeon. With all of them found in such rapid succession, we then retreated to an air-conditioned restaurant for several hours until popping into town for a spot of shopping, via a stakeout for Blue Rock Thrush. The return ferry trip produced more sightings of Streaked Shearwater and Bulwer's Petrel, while our late afternoon drive back from Kenting to our hotel wasn't too shabby either - Stopping for great views of Oriental Pratincole, we lucked upon several other goodies, including a pair of Barred Buttonquail (also of an endemic subspecies) and displaying Skylarks.

An early morning walk along the river near our accommodation was eventually successful in a search for Greater Painted-Snipe. After that, a final visit to some mudflats in Dapeng Bay produced only a white Pacific Egret for our efforts. The Pheasant-tailed Jacana reserve thereafter held much more of interest, including several showy individuals of the reserve's namesake and Ruddy-breasted Crake for some.

Lunch was once again enjoyed at our favourite restaurant at the start of the Dasyuesan road, before we continued straight to the other end, for another attempt at finding our final endemic. A couple of hours and lot of tomfoolery later, a magnificent male Mikado Pheasant walked right in and afforded us very prolonged close-ups. Our final endemic in the bag, we cracked open several more bottles of liquid celebration and settled in for a long night's rest.

The following morning was pleasantly very relaxed as we strolled about the lower sections of the Dasyuesan road, seeing a few familiar feathers before driving back to Longtan where it all began. A



Japanese Paradise Flycatcher



brilliant tour by any standards and one of the best groups I've ever had the pleasure of tagging along with!

*Image credits: All photos taken by Rich Lindie, on tour.*

## Annotated List of species recorded

### BIRDS

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2016. IOC World Bird List (v 6.3).  
**(H)** = Heard Only; **(E)** = Endemic to Taiwan; **(ES)** = Subspecies endemic to Taiwan; **CR** = Critically Endangered; **EN** = Endangered; **VU** = Vulnerable; **NT** = Near Threatened; **I** = Introduced; **NP** = National Park

#### Ducks, Geese & Swans *Anatidae*

**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

A few dozen at Budai.

**Eastern Spot-billed Duck** *Anas zonorhyncha*

One near Shih-men Reservoir, several in the Budai area, and a handful near Fenggang.

#### Pheasants & Allies *Phasianidae*

**Taiwan Partridge (E)** *Arborophila crudigularis*

One pair seen on the Blue Gate Track.

**Taiwan Bamboo Partridge (E)** *Bambusicola sonorivox*

Great views of a handful in the Shih-men Reservoir area. More than a handful eaten later in the trip.

**Swinhoe's Pheasant (E)** *Lophura swinhoii*

Fantastic views in the Dasyuesan area.

**Mikado Pheasant (E)** *Syrnaticus Mikado*

Fabulous close-ups in the Dasyuesan area.

#### Petrels, Shearwaters *Procellariidae*

**Streaked Shearwater** *Calonectris leucomelas*

Several sighted *en route* to/from Lanyu.

**Bulwer's Petrel** *Bulweria bulwerii*

Several sighted between Kenting and Lanyu.

#### Grebes *Podicipedidae*

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

First sighted in the Hanbao area.

#### Ibises, Spoonbills *Threskiornithidae*

**African Sacred Ibis** *Threskiornis aethiopicus*

First sighted around Taipei.

**Black-faced Spoonbill** *Platalea minor*

Sighted skulking behind rocks at Budai.



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### Herons, Egrets & Bitterns *Ardeidae*

**Yellow Bittern** *Ixobrychus sinensis*

Great looks in the Budai area.

**Cinnamon Bittern** *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

Hanbao (for some) and Budai.

**Malayan Night Heron** *Gorsachius melanolophus*

Superlative views in the Taipei Gardens.

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Several sightings, throughout the trip.

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*

Almost daily sightings.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

First seen around Taipei.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

Seen on five days.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

Present at most suitable wetland sites.

**Intermediate Egret** *Egretta intermedia*

First seen at Hanbao.

**Pacific Reef Heron** *Egretta sacra*

Both colour phases sighted in the south of the country

### Hawks, Kites, Eagles & Vultures *Accipitridae*

**Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*

Shih-men Reservoir area and south of Fenggang.

**Crested Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

Shih-men Reservoir area, Kenting and Dasyuesan.

**Crested Serpent Eagle (ES)** *Spilornis cheela hoya*

Several great sightings.

**Mountain Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus nipalensis*

One sighting at Hehuansan

**Crested Goshawk (ES)** *Accipiter trivirgatus formosae*

Eight individuals seen.

**Chinese Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter soloensis*

One seen kettling at Shih-men Reservoir.

**Besra (ES)** *Accipiter virgatus fuscipectus*

One very brief sighting near Fengyuan.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*

A few during our morning at the Shih-men Reservoir.

### Rails, Crakes & Coots *Rallidae*

**White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

First seen in the Taipei Gardens.

**Ruddy-breasted Crake** *Porzana fusca*

A handful of us saw this species at the jacana reserve.



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**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*  
Also first seen in the Taipei Botanical Gardens.

**Buttonquails Turnicidae**

**Barred Buttonquail (ES)** *Turnix suscitator rostratus*  
One sighting near Fenggang.

**Stilts, Avocets Recurvirostridae**

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*  
First seen at Hanbao.

**Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta*  
Just the one sighting, at Budai.

**Plovers & Lapwings Charadriidae**

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*  
Hanbao, near Fenggan, and Dapeng Bay.

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus*  
Hanbao, Budai and Dapeng Bay.

**Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii*  
Hanbao and Budai.

**Painted Snipes Rostratulidae**

**Greater Painted-snipe** *Rostratula benghalensis*  
One sighting near our accommodation in Fenggang.

**Jacanas Jacanidae**

**Pheasant-tailed Jacana** *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*  
Great views at the jacana reserve.

**Sandpipers, Snipes Scolopacidae**

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*  
Hanbao.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaepus*  
Budai.

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata*  
Budai

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*  
Budai and Dapeng Bay.

**Grey-tailed Tattler** *Tringa brevipes*  
A handful at Hanbao.

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus*  
One distant individual at Hanbao.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*  
Fenggang.





**Great Knot** *Calidris ruficollis*

A small flock at Hanbao.

**Coursers, Pratincoles Glareolidae**

**Oriental Pratincole** *Glareola maldivarum*

Great views of a few, south of Fenggang.

**Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae**

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*

A few sighted at the Budai wetlands.

**Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons*

Hanbao, Budai and at sea between Kenting and Lanyu.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida*

Budai only.

**White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Good looks, at Budai and south of Fenggang.

**Doves, Pigeons Columbidae**

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia*

**Ashy Wood Pigeon** *Columba pulchricollis*

Several sites, including Dasyuesan and the Blue Gate Track.

**Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis orii*

Small numbers sighted almost daily.

**Red Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia tranquebarica*

Seen almost daily.

**Spotted Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*

Also sighted almost daily.

**Philippine Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia tenuirostris*

A handful Lanyu Island.

**Common Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica*

A few sighted in the Huben.

**White-bellied Green Pigeon (ES)** *Treron sieboldii sororius*

First sighted near our accommodation on Dasyuesan.

**Whistling Green Pigeon (ES)** *Treron formosae*

Excellent views, on Lanyu.

**Cuckoos Cuculidae**

**Lesser Coucal** *Centropus bengalensis*

One sighting in Huben.

**Large Hawk-Cuckoo** *Hierococcyx sparverioides*

Sighted on Dasyuesan only.

**(H) Lesser Cuckoo** *Cuculus poliocephalus*

Heard on Hehuensan.

**Oriental Cuckoo** *Cuculus optatus*

First sighted on Dasyuesan.



Typical Owls *Strigidae***Mountain Scops Owl (ES)** *Otus spilocephalus hambroeki*

Great views, in Wushe.

**(H) Collared Scops Owl (ES)** *Otus lettia glabripes*

Heard near our accommodation in Wushe.

**Ryukyu Scops Owl (ES)** *Otus elegans botelensis*

Fabulous views, on Lanyu Island.

**Northern Bookook** *Ninox japonica*

Great (scope) views, on Lanyu Island.

Nightjars & Allies *Caprimulgidae***Savanna Nightjar (ES)** *Caprimulgus affinis strictonus*

Dasyuesan and Fenggang.

Swifts *Apodidae***Silver-backed Needletail** *Hirundapus cochinchinensis formosanus*

One brief sighting on Dasyuesan.

**Pacific Swift** *Apus pacificus*

A few sighted on Lanyu Island.

**House Swift (ES)** *Apus nipalensis kuntzi*

Seen on most days.

Kingfishers *Alcedinidae***Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*

Several sightings, following our first at the Taipei Gardens.

Barbets *Capitonidae***Taiwan Barbet (E)** *Psilopogon nuchalis*

Almost daily sightings.

Woodpeckers *Picidae***Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos canicapillus*

First seen near Guguan.

**White-backed Woodpecker (ES)** *Dendrocopos leucotos insularis*

One sighting, on Dasyuesan.

Falcons and Caracaras *Falconidae***Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

One sighting, at Shih-men Reservoir.

Pittas *Pittidae***Fairy Pitta** *Pitta nympha*

Unforgettable views during our afternoon in Huben.



Cuckooshrikes *Campephagidae***Grey-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris*

First sighted on Dasyuesan.

Shrikes *Laniidae***Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach*

One at Hanbao, followed by a few in the Budai area.

Vireos, Greenlets *Vireonidae***White-bellied Erpornis** *Erpornis zantholeuca*

Several, mostly on Dasyuesan and around Huben.

Figbirds, Orioles *Oriolidae***Maroon Oriole (ES)** *Oriolus traillii ardens*

Successfully 'twitched' in the Puli Valley.

Drongos *Dicruridae***Black Drongo (ES)** *Dicrurus macrocercus harterti*

Sighted almost daily.

**Bronzed Drongo (ES)** *Dicrurus aeneus braunianus*

Best views in the Huben area.

Monarchs *Monarchidae***Black-naped Monarch (ES)** *Hypothymis azurea oberholseri*

A few good looks, on Dasyuesan and in Huben.

**Japanese Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone atrocaudata periophthalmica*

Excellent views of a pair feeding young, on Lanyu Island.

Crows, Jays *Corvidae***Eurasian Jay (ES)** *Garrulus glandarius taivanus*

Great views of a few, around Wushe.

**Taiwan Blue Magpie (E)** *Urocissa caerulea*

Wonderful views, at several sites, including Shih-men.

**Grey Treepie (ES)** *Dendrocitta formosae formosae*

Good numbers were seen on most days.

**Eurasian Magpie** *Pica pica*

A brief sighting, and only for some, in Taipei.

**Spotted Nutcracker (ES)** *Nucifraga caryocatactes owstoni*

Another regular around the Dasyuesan visitor's centre.

**Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*

Regular encounters in the highlands and foothills.

Chickadees, Tits *Paridae***Coal Tit (ES)** *Periparus ater ptilosus*

Sighted by some, on both Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.





**Chestnut-bellied Tit (E)** *Sittiparus castaneiventris*

Found, after much effort, near Guguan.

**Green-backed Tit (ES)** *Parus monticolus insperatus*

Several great views on both Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

**Yellow Tit (E)** *Machlolophus holsti*

Eventually tracked down near the Blue Gate Track.

**Larks *Alaudidae*****Oriental Skylark (ES)** *Alauda gulgula wattersi*

Great views, near Fenggang.

**Bulbuls *Pycnonotidae*****Collared Finchbill (ES)** *Spizixos semitorques cinereicapillus*

First sighted on lower Dasyuesan.

**Light-vented Bulbul (ES)** *Pycnonotus sinensis formosae*

Abundant throughout the lowlands.

**Styan's Bulbul (E)** *Pycnonotus taivanus*

Pleasantly common in the Kenting area.

**Black Bulbul (ES)** *Hypsipetes leucocephalus nigerimus*

Flocks were seen on almost every day.

**Brown-eared Bulbul (ES)** *Hypsipetes amaurotis harterti*

A handful of great views on Lanyu Island.

**Swallows *Hirundinidae*****Grey-throated Martin** *Riparia chinensis*

Small numbers around the Budai wetlands.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

Sighted almost daily.

**Pacific Swallow** *Hirundo tahitica*

Even more common than the species listed above.

**Asian House Martin** *Delichon dasypus*

Several large flocks.

**Striated Swallow** *Cecropis striolata*

Several sightings, though mostly in the south.

**Wren-Babblers *Pnoepyidae*****Taiwan Wren-babbler (E)** *Pnoepyga formosana*

Unbeatable (scope!) views, on Dasyuesan.

**Cettia bush Warblers & allies *Cettidae*****Rufous-faced Warbler** *Abroscopus albogularis*

First seen on Dasyuesan.

**Brown-flanked Bush Warbler (ES)** *Horornis fortipes robustipes*

Lower Dasyuesan only.



**Yellow-bellied Bush Warbler (ES)** *Horornis acanthizoides concolor*  
Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

### Bushtits Aegithalidae

**Black-throated Bushtit** *Aegithalos concinnus*  
Several flocks on Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

### Grassbirds & Allies Megaluridae

**Taiwan Bush Warbler (E)** *Locustella alishanensis*  
Great views, on Dasyuesan.

### Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*  
A few seen displaying in fields south of Fenggang.

**Striated Prinia (ES)** *Prinia crinigera striata*  
A handful seen well in the lower Dasyuesan area.

**Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris*  
A couple, near our accommodation in Fenggang.

**Plain Prinia (ES)** *Prinia inornata flavirostris*  
First seen well in the Budai area.

### Babblers, Parrotbills Timaliidae

**Black-necklaced Scimitar Babbler (E)** *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis*  
One sighting, in the Shih-men Reservoir area.

**Taiwan Scimitar Babbler (E)** *Pomatorhinus musicus*  
Commonly seen and heard throughout low-and mid-elevation forests.

**Rufous-capped Babbler (ES)** *Stachyridopsis ruficeps praecognita*  
First seen along the lower section of the Dasyuesan road.

### Fulvettas, Ground Babblers Pellorneidae

**Dusky Fulvetta (ES)** *Alcippe brunnea brunnea*  
Two sightings along the lower reaches of the Dasyuesan road.

**Grey-cheeked Fulvetta (E)** *Alcippe morrisonia*  
Large flocks regularly sighted.

### Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae

**Taiwan Hwamei (E)** *Garrulax taewanus*  
First seen near Guguan.

**Black-throated Laughingthrush** *Garrulax chinensis*  
One sighting at Shih-men Reservoir.

**Rufous-crowned Laughingthrush (E)** *Garrulax ruficeps*  
Dasyuesan and the Blue Gate Track.

**Rusty Laughingthrush (E)** *Garrulax poecilorhynchus*  
Great views on Dasyuesan.

**White-whiskered Laughingthrush (E)** *Trochalopteron morrisonianum*  
Regular and very confiding at both high-elevation sites visited.



**Steere's Liocichla (E)** *Liocichla steerii*

Several great sightings.

**Taiwan Barwing (E)** *Actinodura morrisoniana*

Dasyuesan and the Blue Gate Track.

**White-eared Sibia (E)** *Heterophasia auricularis*

An abundant and very local character.

**Sylviid Babblers Sylviidae****Taiwan Fulvetta (E)** *Fulvetta formosana*

Great views near the Blue Gate Track.

**Vinous-throated Parrotbill (ES)** *Sinothusora webbiana bolomacha*

A Great views in the Taipei Botanical Gardens.

**Golden Parrotbill (ES)** *Suthora verreauxi morrisoniana*

One frustrating encounter on Hehuensan.

**White-eyes Zosteropidae****Taiwan Yuhina (E)** *Yuhina brunneiceps*

Another pleasantly common endemic.

**Japanese White-eye** *Zosterops japonicus*

Sighted on most days.

**Lowland White-eye** *Zosterops meyeri*

Several sighted on Lanyu Island.

**Goldcrests, Kinglets Regulidae****Flamecrest (E)** *Regulus goodfellowi*

Dasyuesan and Hehuensan. Great little bird!

**Wrens Troglodytidae****Eurasian Wren (ES)** *Troglodytes troglodytes taivanus*

Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

**Nuthatches Sittidae****Eurasian Nuthatch** *Sitta europaea*

Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

**Starlings Sturnidae****Crested Myna (ES)** *Acridotheres cristatellus formosanus*

One sighting, along the highway between Wushe and Huben.

**Javan Myna** *Acridotheres javanicus*

A common sight in the lowlands.

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*

As with the above species.

**Black-collared Starling** *Sturnus nigricollis***Chestnut-tailed Starling** *Sturnia malabarica*

One sighting in Fenggang.





**Thrushes & Allies Turdidae****Island Thrush (ES)** *Turdus poliocephalus*

One sighting (for some) on Dasyuesan.

**Chats & Old World Flycatchers Sylviidae****Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*

Taipei Botanical Gardens only.

**White-rumped Shama** *Copsychus malabaricus*

Taipei Botanical Gardens and Huben.

**Ferruginous Flycatcher** *Muscicapa ferruginea*

A pair, on Hehuensan.

**Vivid Niltava (ES)** *Niltava vivida*

Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

**White-tailed Robin (ES)** *Myiomela leucura*

Excellent views, along the Dasyueshan Road.

**White-browed Bush Robin (ES)** *Tarsiger indicus*

Eventually seen well, on Hehuensan.

**Collared Bush Robin (E)** *Tarsiger johnstoniae*

Great looks, at Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

**Little Forktail** *Enicurus scouleri*

Great looks, on Dasyuesan.

**Taiwan Whistling Thrush (E)** *Myophonus insularis*

Shih-men Reservoir and Dasyuesan.

**Snowy-browed Flycatcher (ES)** *Ficedula hyperythra innexa*

A male, scoped, on Dasyuesan.

**Plumbeous Water Redstart (ES)** *Phoenicurus fuliginosus affinis*

Lower Dasyuesan.

**Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius*

Good views, on Lanyu Island.

**Dippers Cinclidae****Brown Dipper** *Cinclus pallasii*

Lower Dasyuesan.

**Flowerpeckers Dicaeidae****Fire-breasted Flowerpecker (ES)** *Dicaeum ignipectus formosum*

Dasyuesan only.

**Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches Passeridae****Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus***Waxbills, Munias & Allies Estrildidae****White-rumped Munia** *Lonchura striata*

First seen well in the Dasyuesan area.

**Scaly-breasted Munia** *Lonchura punctulata*

Several, near our accommodation in Fenggang.



Accentors *Prunellidae*

**Alpine Accentor (ES)** *Prunella collaris fennelli*  
Great close-ups on Dasyuesan.

Wagtails & Pipits *Motacillidae*

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*  
Three sightings.

Finches *Fringillidae*

**Grey-headed Bullfinch (ES)** *Pyrrhula erythaca owstoni*  
Seen feeding with the species below.

**Taiwan Rosefinch (E)** *Carpodacus formosanus*  
One of the regulars around the Dasyuesan visitor's center.

MAMMALSCattle, Antelope, Sheep & Goats *Bovidae*

**Domestic Goat** *Capra hircus* A couple of feral herds on Lanyu Island.  
**Formosan Serow** *Capricornis swinhoei* Two great sightings on Dasyuesan.

Deer *Cervidae*

(H) **Reeve's Muntjac** *Muntiacus reevesi* Dasyuesan

Monkeys *Cercopithecidae*

**Formosan Rock Macaque (E)** *Macaca cyclops* Best views in Kenting NP.

Squirrels *Sciuridae*

**Pallas's Squirrel** *Calliosciurus erythraeus* First sighted in Taipei Botanical Gardens.  
**Perny's Long-nosed Squirrel** *Dremomys pernyi* A handful on Dasyuesan.  
**Maritime Striped Squirrel** *Tamiops rodolphii* Dasyuesan and Hehuensan.

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