



# ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

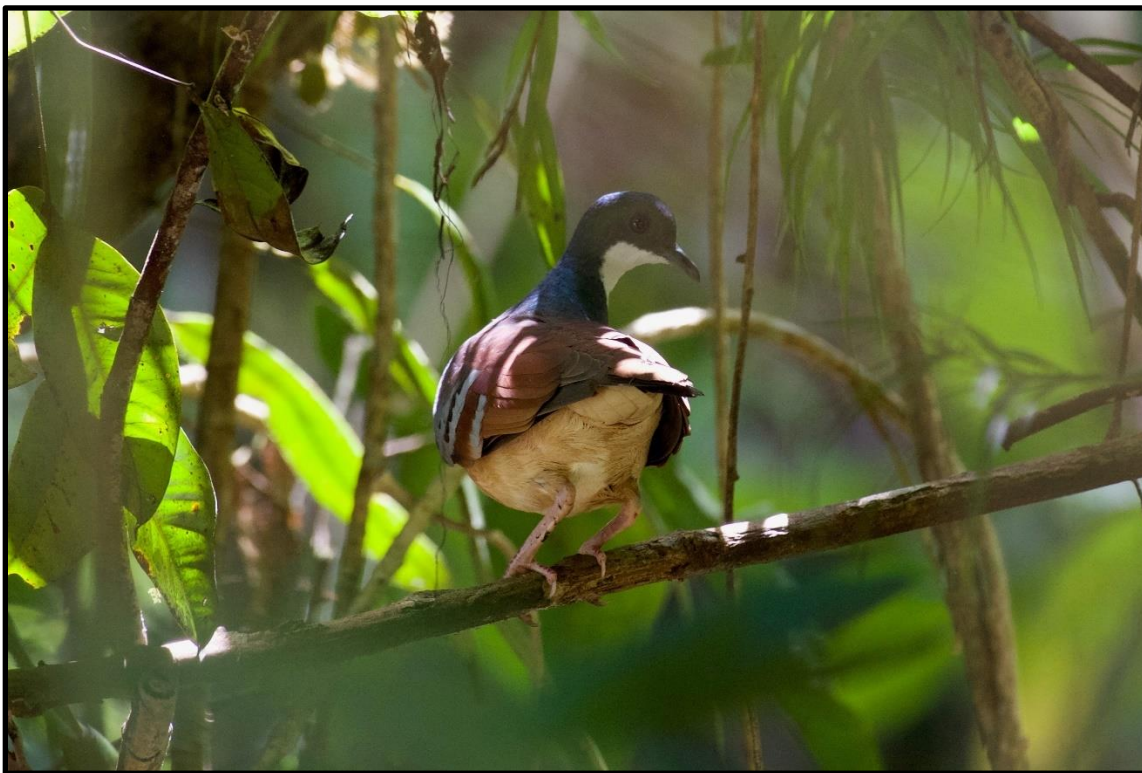
## **The Philippines**

### **Endangered Endemics**

*12<sup>th</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 (18 days)*

### **Visayan Islands Extension**

*31<sup>st</sup> May to 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 (6 days)*



The very rare Mindanao Bleeding-heart at PICOP by Shailesh Pinto

**Trip Report compiled by Erik Forsyth**

## Tour Summary

Our journey through the Philippines got off to a great start. After arrival, we headed to a patch of mangroves near the airport, where our first birds included Philippine Pied Fantails and the *aurora* subspecies of Olive-backed Sunbird. In the scrub, we saw our first Ashy-fronted Bulbuls, Collared Kingfisher, Rufous-tailed Tailorbird and Pied Trillers. After a bit of playback, we had excellent fly-by views of the impressive Stork-billed Kingfisher.

After lunch, we began our drive to Sabang, birding at a few stops along the way. Highlights of these stops included: Palawan Flowerpeckers, a pair of Copper-throated Sunbird, Lovely Sunbird, Yellow-throated Leafbird, Asian Fairy-bluebird, noisy Blue-naped Parrots, Dark-throated Orioles, Sulphur-bellied and Palawan Bulbuls, Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo and Fiery Minivets. In the late afternoon, we had reached the Cockatoo Lookout Point where a Barred Buttonquail was seen briefly. Here, we had our first Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Palawan Hornbills and at least seven of the highly endangered Red-vented Cockatoo flew past and landed a few hundred metres away. Bird of the day, undoubtedly, went to the Falcated Wren-Babbler that commenced to sing in full view not 10 metres away and slowly came closer! As it was late, and the weather was good, we decided on trying for nocturnal birds. This proved successful, and we eventually had excellent looks at Palawan Scops Owl and the bizarre looking Palawan Frogmouth. A delighted group then headed to our hotel for dinner and bed.



Collared Kingfisher by Markus Lilje

For the morning of our first full day of birding, we started with breakfast at our well-appointed beach hotel in Sabang, before taking the short drive to the boat dock in town. From there, we boarded a small boat and undertook the 20-minute journey to the headquarters of St Paul's Underground River National Park. Timing our arrival to precede the hordes of tourists to come, we had enough time to wander around in relative peace, and it wasn't long before we had found our main target, the spectacular Palawan Peacock-Pheasant. We enjoyed ten minutes with this beauty before it sneaked off back into the forest. *Wow!* In addition to this, we had at least two pairs of Philippine Megapodes, territorial White-vented Shama, a showy pair of Palawan Blue Flycatchers, a wonderfully obliging pair of Ashy-headed Babblers, gaudy Hooded Pitta were showing well, a brief encounter with a striking Ruddy Kingfisher and close encounters with Long-tailed Macaques and Monitor Lizards.



Palawan Peacock-Pheasant by Erik Forsyth

With the crowds arriving and birds in the bag, we journeyed into the caves that give this area its name. Highlights of the cave tour included: Germaine's Swiftlet on nests and at least three species of bat. After a fabulous morning, we



headed back to our hotel in Sabang for lunch before heading out again to do some more forest birding. We made use of a trail on the outskirts of town, where we managed views of Blue Paradise Flycatchers, Philippine Cuckoo-Doves, and several stunning Philippine Pittas. The following morning, we packed up and headed to Peurta Princessa, birding en route. Stopping first at the ATV trails, we again found Philippine Pitta and Ashy-headed Bulbuls, and a lone Palawan Tit. At another patch of woodland, we had good flight views of Blue-headed Racket-tails and Spot-throated Woodpeckers before arriving at the harbour to take our boat over to Cowrie Island for the afternoon.

It was a pleasant journey with calm seas. On arrival on the picturesque island, we met a local guide and walked a mere 100m to a large tree to view the Mantanani Scops Owl – our reason for visiting this island. We also took a walk around the island, and at a small beach we enjoyed great scope looks at Grey-tailed Tattler, Grey Plover and Terek Sandpiper. Best of all was a lone Chinese Egret perched at the top of a mangrove tree. *This was a great find, as most birds had left for their breeding grounds on the Chinese mainland.* In the late afternoon, we headed back to our hotel for a relaxing evening.



**Mantanani Scops Owl by Erik Forsyth**

Our final morning on the island of Palawan saw us plying the roads and trail of the Irawan. The site is well-known for Melodious Babbler and Palawan Flycatcher – both of which we encountered. We also had close encounters with Red-headed Flameback, Asian Fairy-bluebird, Philippine Cuckoo-Dove, Hooded Pitta, Ruddy Kingfisher and more Blue-headed Racket-tails. After this success, we headed back to our hotel, first stopping at some rice paddies, where I ran between the fields flushing a Greater Painted-snipe, Yellow and Cinnamon Bitterns, and at least three Watercock! We then flew to Manila and fought traffic back to the Heritage Hotel, ready for our next adventure.



**Asian Fairy-bluebird by Forrest Rowland**

Having spent the night in Manila once again, we had a fairly long journey ahead of us to the slopes of Mt Kitanglad. We began with a flight to Cagayan de Oro, on Mindanao's northern shores, where we commenced our journey to the base of the mountain – stopping along the way for lunch. Upon reaching our local guides' homes near the base of the mountain, we reorganised into a truck – *of sorts* – that we could all fit in.

After a 20-minute ride through farm areas, with the skies threatening heavy rain, we began our hike up the mighty Mt Kitinglad (just as the skies opened up) with porters, mules, and an entourage to assist us during our stay at Del Monte Lodge, our home for the next three nights. We followed a trail, up and up, which turned into a river! We did

see our first views of both Tawny and Striated Grassbirds before reaching our destination. Drenched to the skin, we proceeded to change and choose our sleeping areas. We arrived with enough time to enjoy the waking flights of Philippine Nightjars, and excellent flight views of a Bukidnon Woodcock around our camp. Later that night, we heard the calls of Philippine Frogmouth and Giant Scops Owl, but both could not be found.

The following morning, after breakfast, we hiked up to the “Eagle Viewpoint”. A clear sunny day and lots of birds. It was here that we encountered our first montane mixed flock of the tour! Sulphur-bellied Nuthatches, Negros Leaf Warblers, Elegant Tits, Mountain White-eyes, Little Pied Flycatcher, and Black and Cinnamon Fantails! We also found Short-tailed Starlings attending nest holes, though we also added many more specials to the list. Most significant of these – *for some* – of course, was the Philippine Eagle seen within the first few hours of our arrival at the viewpoint on our first morning. At first, it was far away, flying on a hillside, and later perched on a distant tree. We were elated and enjoyed scope views of its crest blowing in the breeze!



Philippine Eagle by Forrest Rowland

We ate lunch here while watching the eagle, and then slowly headed down, birding en route. The skies were dark behind us, and half-way back we found shelter under a building on stilts as the skies opened up, again. Torrential rain fell, and we were happy to be undercover. After an hour, the rain subsided and we headed back down the mountain to our lodge. Night birding again produced Philippine Nightjar and the Bukidnon Woodcock showed well, flying past the camp a few times. Later, the Giant Scops Owl was heard calling but again failed to show.



Fire-breasted Flowerpecker by Markus Lilje

The following morning, we headed back up the mountain, past the “Eagle Viewpoint” to a higher elevation to look for montane species. On the walk up, we found Stripe-breasted Rhabdornis, Mindanao Racket-tails, Tawny Grassbirds, and bizarre-looking Apo Myna, and more. At the right altitude, we bumped into McGregor's Cuckooshrike and Mindanao White-eyes in the process. It was our only visit to the upper reaches of the mountain, so we were very happy to encounter more Apo Myna, several mixed flocks with Black-and-cinnamon Fantails, Yellow-bellied Whistlers, Philippine Hawk-Cuckoo, Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Philippine Hanging

Parrot, Buff-spotted Woodpecker, Olive-capped Flowerpecker, Grey-hooded Sunbird, Rufous-headed Tailorbird, Turquoise Flycatchers, White-eared Brown Doves, and White-browed Shortwing was heard close by. A few of the group had stellar views of a Yellow-breasted Fruit Dove which landed at eye-level. A little further up, our main target was then heard singing, and it wasn't long before we had the



Apo Sunbird in view. We enjoyed excellent views of a pair of these montane species before a decision was made to head down, as dark clouds were building up above us! We barely made it back to camp before a torrential downpour hit.

On our last morning, we searched near the camp for Yellow-breasted Fruit Dove and Rufous-headed Tailorbird. We hiked a small trail near our camp and, soon after, heard the dove calling nearby. After a search, we located the bird and enjoyed fabulous scope views of this highly colourful bird. We then hiked back down the mountain, picking up the tailorbird en route. From here, we travelled to Eden Mountain Resort – *a 3.5-hour drive away from the base of Kitinglad*. We arrived at this foothill site in time to get rained out of afternoon birding. After an early dinner, the hot water and amenities were welcomed – *especially after three nights of camping*.



**Yellow-breasted Fruit Dove by Forrest Rowland**

The following morning, we awoke early to track down our targets here: Cryptic Flycatcher and Whiskered Flowerpecker. The flycatcher was seen close to our rooms, and a bonus was a beautiful Southern Silvery Kingfisher on a boulder-strewn stream. The hike up to the flowerpecker spot was steep but worth it, as we had very close looks at Philippine Falconet, Philippine Spine-tailed Swift, and great scope looks at the rare Whiskered Flowerpecker feeding in a fruiting tree here. Bicolored, Red-keeled and Orange-bellied Flowerpeckers were also noted, amongst other previously seen species. From here, we returned to the resort to grab our gear and drive to Bislig, 4 hours away. After a brilliant day, we retired for an early meal, as we had a very early start planned for the lowland forest of PICOP.



**Steere's Pitta by Shailesh Pinto**

Three full days to explore the PICOP area and surrounds proved enough to bag nearly all of the endemics and specials possible there. Visiting the upper forests on the first and third days, one remaining lower forest on the second, and the “dirty PICOP ponds” (as it is on eBird) allowed us plenty of time to enjoy our traditional Filipino jeepney rides! Highlights abounded, which included gorgeous Azure-breasted (Steere's) Pitta, three Philippine Honey Buzzards, Pinsker's Hawk-Eagle, Philippine Serpent Eagle, Rufous Paradise Flycatcher, Philippine Green Pigeon, Philippine Falconets, a wonderfully obliging Pink-bellied Imperial Pigeon, Blue-

crowned Racket-tail, spectacular and huge Rufous and Writhed Hornbills, and the smaller Mindanao Hornbill, views for some of Short-crested and the very rare Celestial Monarchs, Naked-faced Spiderhunter for Nigel, Black-and-white Triller, Brown Tit-Babbler, Mindanao Pygmy Babblers, Rusty-crowned Babblers, Handsome and Metallic-winged Sunbirds, Rufous-tailed Jungle Flycatchers, Philippine Drongo, Rusty-breasted and Violet Cuckoos, Black-faced and Philippine Coucals, White-

throated, smart Southern Silvery, Collared and Hombron's Kingfishers, Philippine Trogon, Philippine Leafbird, the tiny Slaty Flycatcher for Shailesh, Handsome and Olive-backed Sunbirds, and Buff-spotted and the huge White-bellied Woodpecker.

It was towards the end of our third full day in PICOP that we saw one of the rarest and shyest forest birds. We were listening to a call of the Streaked Wren-Babbler and peering into the forest understorey for a view, when the rustling of leaves not far from us suddenly materialised into a bird flushing and landing on a horizontal branch nearby. We were all looking at a Mindanao Bleeding-heart! *A species heard more often than seen.* Although the forest of PICOP was heavily logged, there was still good birding to be had.



**Hombron's Kingfisher by Erik Forsyth**

In the late afternoons, we visited the Bislig Airport wetlands. *It was awesome!* Yellow, Cinnamon, and Black Bitterns, Greater Painted-snipe and White-browed Crake in the canals, Wandering Whistling Duck and the endemic Philippine Duck flying over the marsh, Golden-headed Cisticola, Lesser Coucal, our only Pink-necked Green Pigeons, Little Ringed Plover, and great flight views of King Quail as they flushed ahead of us were all noted. Eastern Grass Owl was picked up before dark and this rounded off a fabulous day's birding. Night birding at PICOP was very difficult due to the 4:45 AM sunrise (requiring a 3:00 AM departure from Hotel); and even then, we had travelled only an hour to the nearest patch of forest. Although we did not see any owls, only hearing Mindanao Hawk-Owl and Giant Scops Owl, we pulled back the Philippine Frogmouth (missed on Mt Kitinglad), which landed on a branch nearby, showing really well.



**Blue-tailed Bee-eater by Keith Valentine**

On our last morning at PICOP, we departed early for Davao and our flight back to Luzon. We managed to arrive at Mt Makiling, Luzon, with more than enough time to have a quick rest, and then spent time near the agricultural department of the University nearby. The fields there are well-known for being the most reliable place to see buttonquail in the Philippines. Once again, the birds delivered a show. We had two Barred Buttonquails, Barred Rails, White-breasted Waterhens, Blue-tailed Bee-eaters, Philippine Pygmy Woodpeckers, and Coppersmith Barbets. Several species of swift entertained us while we waited for the buttonquails.

The following morning started exceptionally well! As the morning went along, we tracked down an excitable Grey-backed Tailorbird, two marvellous Scale-feathered Malkohas, a family group of Luzon Flamebacks, Balicassiao, Philippine Hanging Parrot and, best of all, a smart Black-chinned Fruit Dove found by



Mavis. We barely played a few seconds of the recording when a Spotted Wood Kingfisher came screeching in and perched openly for great views. After this success, we walked down the paved road of Mt Makiling, picking up Amethyst and White-eared Brown Doves and a further two Spotted Wood Kingfishers, and listened to the haunting call of the White-browed Shama. After lunch, at the Botanic Gardens, we had brief looks at the smart Red-crested Malkoha. We returned to the farm for more buttonquail views, picking up the endemic Spotted Buttonquail in the scope as it crossed the track. In the surrounding fields, we saw many Striated Grassbirds, Glossy Swiftlets, Coppersmith Barbets, Golden-headed Cisticola, Lesser Coucal, Stripe-headed Rhabdornis and Blue-tailed Bee-eaters.



**Spotted Wood Kingfisher by Erik Forsyth**

We had a very long drive ahead of us on our departure from Mt Makiling to Mt Polis. Our first stop was Candaba Marsh Sanctuary. Here we saw the largest concentration of Purple Herons and Black-crowned Night Herons imaginable. We estimated more than 200 herons in total, in the only remaining wet spot of the sanctuary. Other good birds included Oriental Pratincole, Golden-bellied Gerygone, Barred and Buff-banded Rails, and best of all a Philippine Swamphen, found by Nigel and then flushed by some fishermen, where it flew over the reedbed for all to see! We had a very limited amount of time, given the 12 hours of driving time required to reach our hotel in the town of Banahue at the foothills of Mt Polis, so only one more stop was made before arriving in the evening.

We arose early the next morning with House Swifts and Striated Swallows active outside the hotel windows. After a quick breakfast, we loaded up and headed to the summit of Mt Polis. One of the first species to show was a Philippine Bush Warbler, followed by a few of the more common species, including Chestnut-faced Babbler, Negros Leaf Warbler, Mountain White-eye, Luzon Sunbird and Turquoise Flycatcher. We also had brief looks at Tawny-breasted Parrotfinches, a scarce bird throughout the Philippines. Overall, the morning was fairly productive. The afternoon was slow, but we



**Philippine Serpent Eagle by Erik Forsyth**

did find Luzon Water Redstart. It was distant, but we had fair views through the scope. We also found Mountain Shrike. Returning to the hotel, we enjoyed the enchanting views of the Banahue rice terraces, and Yellowish White-eye and Blue-headed Fantail were seen in a flowering tree alongside the hotel pool. In the evening, we travelled a short distance to a wooded area where after a bit of a search we located a calling Luzon Scops Owl.

The next morning we drove to Subic Bay, first stopping at a river where we caught up with a pair of the beautiful Indigo Banded Kingfisher. After enjoying these smart birds for a good twenty

minutes, we continued our journey. Scanning several rice fields, we stopped where many Whiskered Terns were actively hawking insects. This proved to be a lucky stop, as we picked up Philippine Swamphen, a stunning male Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Black-winged Stilts and Gull-billed Tern. We arrived in Subic Bay in the early evening.

The Subic Bay area provides some of the easiest and most enjoyable birding on our tour, and we thoroughly enjoyed our morning there – *not to mention a little time off!* We found a host of target endemics and specials, but we were also able to get numerous better looks at previously seldom-seen species, such as the bizarre Coleto. During our walks here, we had excellent looks at several Green Racket-tail, a flock of Rufous Coucal, Sooty and the huge White-bellied Woodpeckers, Luzon Flameback, Philippine Hanging Parrot, Philippine Coucal and Trilling Tailorbird. A clear highlight was a perched Philippine Hawk-Eagle, which stayed long enough for exceptional views.



**Coleto by Dubi Shapiro**

Our transfer and flight to Negros was only somewhat delayed, and we arrived in time to relax and enjoy a shower before dinner.

Our day up Kanla-on was action-packed. We drove up the mountain in 4x4s; and at a good elevation, we hopped out and started birding. First off, we had excellent looks at Blue-crowned Racket-tails and a



**Glossy Swiftlet by Keith Valentine**

Visayan Rhabdornis in the scope. From here, we walked through the forest where mixed flocks held Visayan Fantail, Sulphur-bellied Nuthatch, Elegant Tit and Visayan Bulbul. Notables that we enjoyed great views of included the highly sought-after Flame-templed Babbler, a handful of cooperative Lemon-throated Warblers, a lone White-winged Cuckooshrike, Balicassio, Philippine Tailorbird, and Nigel had good views of the scarce Yellow-faced Flameback. After lunch, we made our way downhill to a nearby resort for an impressive Flying Fox colony, nesting Glossy Swiftlet and the local endemic Black-belted Flowerpecker.

In the late afternoon, we flew to Cebu City and settled into our hotel for the night. The following morning, we drove to Tabunan, which is one of only two patches of forest left on the entire island. Our drive to the area was looking positive, with both Barred Rail and Plain Bush Hen seen well. Unfortunately, a tropical front moved in while we were heading into the forest, and the rain began to fall. Over the next hour or so, the rain was constant, and it appeared to be the pattern for the day. With



safety a concern, we headed back to our vehicles with help from several locals. The path became a torrential river and very slippery, and we were all very lucky to make it back without any injuries. With the rain not abating while we sat in the local guide's house, we decided to call it a day to head to our hotel.

Our final stop on the tour was to the touristy, forested island of Bohol. We caught the ferry from Cebu and arrived in Bohol three hours later. The crossing was fairly uneventful, apart from a Common Tern, and Cindy picked up a Bulwer's Petrel which I saw briefly as it headed off. After lunch at our lodge, we were shown a roosting Everett's Scops Owl, which took a while to spot as it was camouflaged perfectly within branches. We then headed to the Raj Sikutuna NP. Shortly after arrival, our driver pointed out two Philippine Flying Lemurs. *Amazing creatures!* Also known as Colugo, this rare species is best found right here on Bohol. On the bird front, we were also shown a Philippine Frogmouth on the nest, and a few Green Imperial Pigeons.



**Philippine Frogmouth on nest by Erik Forsyth**

We started our full day on Bohol back at the Rajah Sikatuna NP, and went on to visit nearby rivers, roads and even the Chocolate Hills for lunch. Birding was slow for the most part, but we did end up with a respectable list containing most of the special endemics we had come for. On our walk this morning, Samar Hornbill, Philippine Hanging Parrot in the scope, Bohol Sunbird, Philippine Drongo-



**Northern Silvery Kingfisher, Bohol, by Erik Forsyth**

Cuckoo, Philippine Trogon, Black-faced and Philippine Coucals, Rusty-breasted Cuckoo, Bicolored, Red-keeled, Buzzing and Pygmy Flowerpeckers, Stripe-headed Rhabdornis and Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike on a nest were all great pickups! Jean found us a very confiding Azure-breasted (Steere's) Pitta; and although we heard the Yellow-breasted Tailorbird calling, only Nigel was lucky enough to get a good view. The bird of the day was found calling in the dense bush down a slope: a Striated Wren-Babbler, in the open and calling away! This is a bird we had heard at PICOP but failed to see, so this was a good pickup! We headed off to the Chocolate Hills and enjoyed panoramic views of this unique habitat.

And so, this brought an end to our Visayan Island extension, and for most the end of an amazing tour of the Philippines. Many of the Philippines endemics were found, making this a very successful adventure.

## Annotated List of Bird Species recorded

**Total species recorded (including extension): 285 (278 seen, 7 Heard only)**

\*Does not include “Leader Only” species

**An impressive 170 endemics were recorded, with another 7 Near Endemics!**

### Key to Abbreviations:

**E:** endemic species found only in the Philippines

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

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). 2014. IOC World Bird List (v 6.2).

### Ducks, Geese & Swans - Anatidae

#### **Wandering Whistling Duck**

*Dendrocygna arcuata*

This species was encountered at the Bislig airstrip in Mindanao, as well as the Candaba Marsh, Luzon.

*Note: We observed the subspecies arcuata.*

#### **Philippine Duck (E)**

*Anas luzonica*

Seven birds were seen at the Bislig airstrip, while single birds were seen in flight over forest at Subic Bay.

### Megapodes - Megapodiidae

#### **Philippine Megapode (Tabon Scrubfowl) (NE)**

*Megapodius cumingii*

Up to four birds were seen at very close range in St Paul's Underground River National Park, Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies cumingii.*

### Pheasants, Fowl & Allies - Phasianidae

#### **King Quail**

*Excalfactoria chinensis*

We had good flight views of several birds at Bislig Airstrip.

#### **Red Junglefowl**

*Gallus gallus*

We saw this species at Subic Bay.

#### **Palawan Peacock-Pheasant (E)**

*Polyplectron napoleonis*

We enjoyed stellar views of the lovely, long-lived male at Underground River National Park, Palawan.

### Shearwaters and Petrels - Procellariidae

#### **Bulwer's Petrel**

*Bulweria bulwerii*

Seen well by Cinda and briefly by Erik on the crossing between Cebu and Bohol.

### Hérons & Bitterns - Ardeidae

#### **Yellow Bittern**

*Ixobrychus sinensis*

Several birds were seen very well on Palawan, Mindanao, and Luzon and on our Visayan Islands extension to Bohol.

#### **Cinnamon Bittern**

*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

This species was also seen on all three of the islands on the main tour.

#### **Black Bittern**

*Dupitor flavicollis*

We enjoyed good looks at birds flying low over the marshes at the Bislig airstrip.



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

Recorded near Manila and around 100+ at Candaba Marshes!

*Note: We observed the subspecies nycticorax.***Striated Heron***Butorides striata*

Only recorded in Manila and on Cowrie Island, Palawan.

**Javan Pond Heron***Ardeola speciosa*

Our only sighting was of a bird in full breeding plumage, while driving from PICOP to Davao.

*Note: We observed the subspecies speciosa.***Eastern Cattle Egret***Bubulcus coromandus*

A fairly, common species, found in good numbers throughout the tour.

**Purple Heron***Ardea purpurea*

A few at Bislig airstrip, but more than 200 individuals estimated at Candaba Marshes. Incredible!!!

*Note: We observed the subspecies manilensis.***Great Egret***Ardea alba*

We encountered individuals and small groups of this species, on the islands of Luzon and Palawan.

*Note: We observed the modesta ssp.***Intermediate Egret***Egretta intermedia*

This species was also seen at numerous wetlands, throughout the tour

**Little Egret***Egretta garzetta*

Our initial sightings of this species were on Palawan, seen frequently throughout.

*Note: We observed the subspecies garzetta.***Pacific Reef Heron***Egretta sacra*

A few of these handsome egrets was seen in Sabang, Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies sacra.***Chinese Egret***Egretta eulophotes*

We were very lucky to find a late individual on Cowrie Island, Palawan. This migrant migrates back to mainland China to breed.

**Kites, Hawks & Eagles - Accipitridae****Black-winged Kite***Elanus ceruleus*

Our only sighting was of a single bird on our drive through the farmlands en route to Mt. Kitinglad.

*Note: We observed the hypoleuca ssp.***Crested (Oriental) Honey Buzzard***Pernis ptilorhynchus*

We had two encounters with this species on Mt Kitinglad and three on Mt. Eden.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies palawanensis on Palawan and philippensis on Mindanao.***Philippine Honey Buzzard (E)***Pernis steerei*

We had fantastic views of two birds at PICOP.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies steerei. This species was split from Barred Honey Buzzard.***Philippine Serpent Eagle (E)***Spilornis holospilus*

We enjoyed scattered sightings of this attractive raptor on the islands of Mindanao, Luzon and Bohol.

Our best sightings came from Subic Bay.

**Philippine Eagle (E)***Pithecophaga jefferyi*

We enjoyed flight views of this impressive beast and then scope views of a perched bird at Mt.

Kitinglad. We could even see the loose feathering on the head blowing in the wind! A tour, highlight.

**Philippine Hawk-Eagle (E)***Nisaetus philippensis*

We found a perched bird, very close to the road at Subic Bay.

**Pinsker's Hawk-Eagle (E)***Nisaetus pinskeri*

This species was seen very well, at PICOP.

*Note: This species was split from Philippine Hawk-Eagle.***Besra***Accipiter virgatus*

We had one sighting at Mt Makiling.

*Note: We observed the subspecies confusus on Luzon and quagga elsewhere.*

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*

We had several sightings of this beauty at Subic Bay and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies intermedius.*

### **Rails, Crakes & Coots - Rallidae**

**Slaty-legged Crake** *Rallina eurizinoides*

Shailesh had a good look at a bird in forest at Subic Bay.

*Note: The nominate eurizinoides ssp. was seen*

**Barred Rail** *Gallirallus torquatus*

We had excellent views of this species, at PICOP, Mt Makiling and at Subic Bay. Also recorded on the Visayan Islands on the islands of Cebu and Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies torquatus.*

**Buff-banded Rail** *Gallirallus philippensis*

A few of these birds were seen on our visit to Candaba Marsh on Luzon.

*Note: We recorded the subspecies philippensis.*

**Plain Bush-hen (E)** *Amaurornis olivacea*

Heard calling at Mt. Kitinglad and then seen well at Subic Bay and on the island of Cebu.

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

Several seen on various islands.

*Note: We observed the subspecies phoenicurus.*

**White-browed Crake** *Porzana cinerea*

Good views were had along a drainage canal at Bislig airstrip.

**Watercock** *Gallicrex cinerea*

Another species that we saw well, flushed in rice-fields on Palawan.

**Philippine Swamphen (E)** *Porphyrio porphyrio*

This recently split species was seen surprisingly tough to find and only one bird was seen in flight at Candaba Marsh. Another bird was scoped in a rice field between Candaba and Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies pulverulentus.*

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

Seen well at various rice fields near Candaba Marsh and en route to Subic Bay.

*Note: Orientalis subspecies seen.*

### **Buttonquail - Turnicidae**

**Spotted Buttonquail (E)** *Turnix ocellatus*

We had brief views of this endemic as a bird wandered across the grassland trail near Mt. Makiling!

**Barred Buttonquail** *Turnix suscitator*

Seen briefly when flushed on Palawan, but a pair were seen well near Mt. Makiling.

### **Avocets and Stilts - Recurvirostridae**

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

We found a small flock in rice fields on our drive from Mt Polis to Subic Bay.

### **Plovers - Charadriidae**

**Grey Plover** *Pluvialis squatorola*

A single bird was found on Cowrie Island, Palawan.

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*

We single bird was found at Bislig airport.



*Note: We observed the subspecies dubius.*

### **Painted-snipes - *Rostratulidae***

#### **Greater Painted-snipe**

*Rostratula benghalensis*

A pair flushed and were seen well near Iwahig, Palawan, and another pair at Bislig Airstrip and lastly in rice fields near Subic Bay.

### **Jacanas - *Jacanidae***

#### **Pheasant-tailed Jacana**

*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*

A stunning male was found in a flooded rice field on our drive from Mt Polis to Subic Bay!

### **Sandpipers & Snipes - *Scolopacidae***

#### **Common Greenshank**

*Tringa nebularia*

A single bird on Cowrie Island, Palawan.

#### **Grey-tailed Tattler**

*Tringa brevipes*

Four birds were scoped on Cowrie Island, Palawan.

#### **Terek Sandpiper**

*Xenus cinereus*

Great scope looks at Cowrie Island, Palawan.

### **Pratincoles - *Glareolidae***

#### **Oriental Pratincole**

*Glareola maldivarum*

We saw dozens of these beauties at a few sites during the tour including Candaba Marsh.

### **Gulls, Terns & Skimmers - *Laridae***

#### **Gull-billed Terns**

*Gelochelidon nilotica*

A single bird was found by Nigel at a wetland near Subic Bay.

#### **Common Tern**

*Sterna Hirundo*

A couple of birds were seen on our ferry crossing between Cebu and Bohol.

#### **Whiskered Tern**

*Chlidonias hybrida*

Seen at several wetlands throughout the tour

### **Pigeons & Doves - *Columbidae***

#### **Common (Rock) Pigeon**

*Columba livia*

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

#### **Red Turtle Dove**

*Streptopelia tranquebarica*

Dozens observed at Candaba Marshes, Luzon. An attractive little dove!

*Note: We observed the subspecies humilis.*

#### **Spotted Dove**

*Streptopelia chinensis*

This widespread Asian species was found at various sites, throughout the tour.

*Note: We observed the subspecies tigrina.*

#### **Philippine Cuckoo-Dove (E)**

*Macropygia tenuirostris*

We first saw this species on Mt. Kitanglad and at Subic Bay as well as Bohol.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies tenuirostris. The history of splits from which this species came is a little complex. To simplify, it came from the same splitting line as Brown, Slender-billed and Ruddy Cuckoo-Doves, which at one point were all a part of Reddish Cuckoo-Dove.*

#### **Common Emerald Dove**

*Chalcophaps indica*

Recorded on Palawan, PICOP, Subic Bay and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies indica.*

#### **Zebra Dove**

*Geopelia striata*

One of a few species that is regularly seen in association with humans in the Philippines and are quite numerous.

**Mindanao Bleeding-heart (E)***Gallicolumba crinigera*

We had brief but close looks at a bird that flushed and landed on a branch nearby, allowing fabulous views! A rare sighting of this endangered species.

*Note: We recorded the leytensis subspecies*

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

Seen on a number of occasions during our tour, including observations on the Visayan Islands of Negros and Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies leucotis on Luzon, brevirostris on Mindanao and Bohol, and nigrorum on Negros.*

**Amethyst Brown Dove (E)***Phapitreron amethystinus*

This often, difficult species was first heard at PICOP on Mindanao, then seen well at Mt Makaling.

*Note: We observed the subspecies maculpectis on Negros, amethystinus on the other islands.*

**Pink-necked Green Pigeon***Treron vernans*

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

**Philippine Green Pigeon (E)***Treron axillaris*

We saw these beauties at PICOP and at Subic Bay.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies axillaris on Luzon and canescens on Mindanao.*

**Thick-billed Green Pigeon***Treron curvirostra*

Four birds were seen on Palawan.

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

We were very lucky to get great scope views on Mt. Kitinglad.

*Note: We observed the subspecies incognitus on Mindanao and occipitalis elsewhere.*

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

Mavis found us this beauty on Mt Makiling, our only sighting of the tour. Later seen in flight on Bohol

*Note: We observed the subspecies leclancheri on other islands, gironieri was seen on Palawan.*

**Green Imperial Pigeon***Ducula aenea*

Seen at numerous sites but most commonly encountered at Subic Bay and on Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies palawanensis on Palawan and aenea elsewhere.*

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

We had fabulous scope views of two birds at PICOP, Mindanao. A rare species.

**Cuckoos - Cuculidae****Rufous Coucal (E)***Centropus melanops*

Great views, eventually, at Subic Bay!

**Black-faced Coucal (E)***Centropus melanops*

We had a few encounters with this distinctive species at PICOP and on Bohol.

**Greater Coucal***Centropus sinensis*

Seen once on Palawan.

*Note: We recorded the subspecies bubutus.*

**Philippine Coucal (E)***Centropus viridis*

We heard this attractive bird calling at almost all forest sites and had sightings at Mt. Kitinglad, Bislig, Subic Bay, and Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies viridis.*

**Lesser Coucal***Centropus bengalensis*

We had a couple of sightings of this retiring species at the Bislig airstrip, and the farming areas around Mt Makaling.

*Note: We observed the subspecies philippinensis.*

**Chestnut-breasted Malkoha (E)***Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*



We had good views of this retiring, though beautiful, species on two occasions at Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies harringtoni.*

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

*Dasylophus superciliosus*

Seen well at Mt. Makiling Botanical Gardens.

*Note: We observed the subspecies superciliosus.*

**Scale-feathered Malkoha (E)**

*Dasylophus cumingi*

We had brilliant views of this truly spectacular bird on Mt. Makiling and at Mt. Polis – definitely one of the tour highlights.

*Note: We observed the subspecies cagayanensis*

**Asian Koel**

*Eudynamis scolopaceus*

We heard it often and had great views eventually Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies mindanensis.*

**Violet Cuckoo**

*Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*

Excellent scope looks at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies xanthorhynchus.*

**Plaintive Cuckoo**

*Cacomantis merulinus*

We had great views of a calling bird at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies merulinus.*

**Rusty-breasted (Brush) Cuckoo**

*Cacomantis sepulcralis*

We had good views of a calling bird, finally, on Negros having heard at many other sights.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies sepulcralis. This species was split from Brush Cuckoo, C. variolosus.*

**Philippine Drongo-Cuckoo (E)**

*Surniculus velutinus*

We had great views at PICOP.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies velutinus. This species was split from Asian Drongo-Cuckoo.*

**Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo**

*Surniculus lugubris*

This widespread Asian bird, here represented by subspecies *brachyurus*, was heard calling and seen on several occasions in forested areas on Palawan.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies brachyurus. This species underwent a name change from Asian Drongo-Cuckoo, following the splitting of the species.*

**Philippine Hawk-Cuckoo (E)**

*Hierococcyx pectoralis*

Our first encounter with this species was two scoped birds on Mt. Kitinglad. *Note: This species was split from Hodgson's Hawk Cuckoo, C. nasicolor.*

### **Barn Owls - Tytonidae**

**Eastern Grass Owl**

*Tyto longimembris*

We enjoyed flight views at the Bislig Airport,

*Note: We observed the subspecies amaurotona.*

### **Owls - Strigidae**

**(H) Giant Scops Owl (E)**

*Otus gurneyi*

We heard this species on Mt. Kitanglad, Mt. Eden and at PICOP and as hard as we tried, no sighting. Frustrating!

**Palawan Scops Owl (E)**

*Otus fuliginosus*

We had lengthy, great looks at Sabang, Palawan.

**Everett's Scops Owl (E)**

*Otus everetti*

We had great looks at one of these owls at a roost site on Bohol.

*Note: This species was split from Philippine Scops Owl.*

**Mantanani Scops Owl (E)**

*Otus mantananai*

A family group of three were enjoyed on Cowrie Island, Palawan!!!

**Luzon Scops Owl (E)**

*Otus longicornis*

We had an uncharacteristically easy time with this special bird, which perched up beautifully near Banahue, Luzon.

**Chocolate Boobook (Hawk-Owl) (E)** *Ninox randi*

We had good views of a bird on the telephone line at Subic Bay.

*Note: This species was split from Brown Hawk-Owl.*

**(H) Mindanao Hawk-Owl (E)** *Ninox spilocephala*

Many responding birds just didn't perch in the open for us.

*Note: This species was split from Philippine Hawk-Owl.*

**(H) Luzon Hawk-Owl (E)** *Ninox philippensis*

Heard calling close by at Subic Bay and on Bohol. Frustrating!

*Notes: We observed the subspecies philippensis. This species was split from Philippine Hawk-Owl.*

### **Frogmouths - Podargidae**

**Philippine Frogmouth (E)** *Batrachostomus septimus*

Excellent views of this nocturnal oddity were had at PICOP after hearing it nightly at Mt. Kitanglad.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies septimus.*

**Palawan Frogmouth (E)** *Batrachostomus chaseni*

We had fine views on Palawan.

*Note: This species was split from Javan Frogmouth.*

### **Nightjars - Caprimulgidae**

**Great Eared Nightjar** *Eurostopodus macrotis*

This large nightjar was seen in small numbers at dawn and dusk at PICOP and Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies macrotis.*

**Philippine Nightjar (E)** *Caprimulgus manillensis*

We had good views on Mt Kitinglad and on Negros.

### **Treeswifts - Hemiprocnidae**

**Whiskered Treeswift** *Hemiproctus comata*

We enjoyed great scope views on the island of Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies major.*

### **Swifts - Apodidae**

**Glossy Swiftlet** *Collocalia esculenta*

We found this bird to be ubiquitous in the Philippines.

*Note: We observed the subspecies marginata on Luzon and bagobo on other islands. Further taxonomic reviews have split this species into Grey-rumped and Ridgetop Swiftlets. Grey-rumped Swiftlet occurs on the Visayan Islands and Central and Southern Luzon and the birds on Palawan are possibly this species but still under review. We observed this species on Mt Makiling, Subic Bay, on Negros, Bohol and on Cebu. Ridgetop Swiftlet occurs in Northern Luzon and Mindanao. We observed this species at Mt Polis, PICOP, Davao, Bislig and Mt Kitinglad. More taxonomic work is required to find out their full distributions.*

**Pygmy Swiftlet (E)** *Collocalia troglodytes*

Only recorded at PICOP and on Bohol but easily picked out due to its "white rump".

**Philippine Swiftlet (E)** *Aerodramus mearnsi*

We saw a few individuals of this species at high-elevation sites on Mindanao and Luzon.

**Ameline Swiftlet (E)** *Aerodramus amelis*

This species was relatively common on Palawan, at PICOP and on Bohol.

*Note: This species was split from Uniform Swiftlet.*

**Germain's Swiftlet** *Aerodramus germane*



We saw this species only at the St Paul's Underground River NP, when we took the boatride through the vast cave complex.

*Note: This species was split from Edible-nest Swiftlet.*

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

Small groups of these distinctive birds were seen at Mt Eden and at PICOP.

**Brown-backed Needletail** *Hirundapus giganteus*

A few of the large, speedy swifts was seen during our visit to Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies giganteus.*

**House Swift** *Apus nipalensis*

Recorded in Manila and breeding under the roof at our hotel at Mt Polis.

### **Trogon - Trogonidae**

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

We enjoyed several, fine, encounters with this species at PICOP and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies linea on Bohol and ardens on Mindanao.*

### **Rollers - Coraciidae**

**Oriental Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis*

Only two sightings on Palawan and at Subic Bay.

### **Kingfishers - Alcedinidae**

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

We had two splendid encounters with this ornate species on Mt. Makiling. We also heard it at Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies lindsayi on Luzon.*

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

Another splendid bird that came as a reward for our persistence. We were lucky to find a cooperative male that called long enough for me to track down its perch and put it in the scope at PICOP.

**Stork-billed Kingfisher** *Pelargopsis capensis*

We enjoyed great flybys by this stunning beast!

**Ruddy Kingfisher** *Halcyon coromanda*

Two good sightings at Sabang, Palawan.

**White-throated (Brown-breasted) Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis*

We found good numbers of this species at Mt Kitinglad, PICOP, Mt Makiling and Subic Bay, among other sites.

*Note: We observed the subspecies gularis.*

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

We had excellent looks at a pair attending a nest in a tree on Bohol. A great bird!

*Note: We observed the subspecies mindanensis.*

**Collared Kingfisher** *Todirhamphus chloris*

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

*Note: We observed the subspecies collaris.*

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

We had several brief views of this quick little species as it darted passed us, and one perched view for some at Irawan, Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies motleyi.*

**Indigo-banded Kingfisher (E)** *Alcedo cyanopectus*

Another beautiful kingfisher, and another one we had to work hard for! After a runaround at Mt. Makiling, we were very relieved to find a pair near Banaue and enjoyed brilliant looks.

*Note: We observed the subspecies cyanopectus.*

**Northern Silvery Kingfisher (E)**

*Alcedo flumenicola*

We found this stunner with the help of a local guide on Bohol, at a tucked-away little waterway.

*Note: This was split from the following species.*

**Southern Silvery Kingfisher (E)**

*Alcedo argentata*

Almost as gorgeous as its Northern counterpart, we had equally good views at a stakeout near PICOP.

**Bee-eaters - Meropidae**

**Rufous-crowned Bee-eater (E)**

*Merops americanus*

We had wonderful views of this species at a breeding colony in Subic Bay.

*Note: This was a recent split from Blue-throated Bee-eater.*

**Blue-tailed Bee-eater**

*Merops philippinus*

This species was seen well in grasslands at Mt Makiling.

*Note: We observed the endemic subspecies philippinus.*

**Hornbills - Bucerotidae**

**Rufous Hornbill (E)**

*Buceros hydrocorax*

After two days of hearing their calls, it was a huge relief to finally find a small flock of five birds.

*Note: We observed the subspecies mindanensis.*

**Palawan Hornbill (E)**

*Anthracoceros marchei*

We had daily sightings near Sabang, Palawan.

**Wreathed Hornbill (E)**

*Aceros leucocephalus*

We enjoyed great views of this species, in flight and perched, in lowland rainforest at PICOP.

**Luzon Hornbill (E)**

*Penelopides manillae*

Fabulous looks at Mt Makiling and at Subic Bay.

*Note: This species was split from Tarictic Hornbill.*

**Mindanao Hornbill (E)**

*Penelopides affinis*

Small numbers were seen on Mt. Kitinglad, and several more in the PICOP area.

*Note: This species was split from Tarictic Hornbill.*

**Samar Hornbill (E)**

*Penelopides samarensis*

We had splendid views of this species at Raja Sikatuna NP, Bohol.

*Note: This species was split from Tarictic Hornbill.*

**Barbets - Capitonidae**

**Coppersmith Barbet**

*Megalaima haemacephala*

We had numerous sightings throughout.

*Note: We observed the subspecies haemacephala.*

**Woodpeckers - Picidae**

**Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker (E)**

*Dendrocopos maculatus*

We all had good looks at this species in several locations.

*Note: We observed the ssp. validirostris, fulvifaciatus, and maculatus.*

**White-bellied Woodpecker**

*Dryocopus javensis*

Heard calling at PICOP and then seen well at Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies confusus on Luzon and multilunatus on Mindanao.*

**Spot-throated Flameback (E)**

*Dinopium everetti*

We had great views of several individuals during our time on Palawan.

*Note: This species was split from Common Flameback (Goldenback).*

**Buff-spotted Flameback (E)**

*Chrysocolaptes lucidus*

Good looks daily on Mt. Kitanglad.



*Notes: We observed the subspecies montanus on Mindanao and rufopunctatus on Bohol. This species was split from Greater Flameback.*

**Luzon Flameback (E)** *Chrysocolaptes haematribon*

A striking species and pleasantly common at Subic Bay.

*Note: This species was split from Greater Flameback.*

**Yellow-faced Flameback (E)** *Chrysocolaptes xanthocephalus*

Nigel saw this species well on Negros.

*Note: This species was split from Greater Flameback.*

**Red-headed Flameback (E)** *Chrysocolaptes erythrocephalus*

We had great looks at the bird in the forest at Irawan, Palawan.

*Note: This species was split from Greater Flameback*

**Sooty Woodpecker (E)** *Mulleripicus funebris*

This lovely endemic woodpecker was seen in the beautiful forested areas near Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies funebris. This species is up for a split as Northern Sooty Woodpecker.*

**(H) Great Slaty Woodpecker** *Mulleripicus pulverulentus*

Heard calling near Sabang, Palawan.

### **Falcons - Falconidae**

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

This species was seen well at Mt Eden, at PICOP and at Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies erythrogenys on Luzon and meridionalis on Mindanao.*

### **Cockatoos - Cacatuidae**

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

Amazing views of 10 individuals at the lookout point, Palawan! Perched and flying.

### **Parrots - Psittacidae**

**Mindanao Racket-tail (E)** *Prioniturus waterstradti*

We had great views of this species at Mt. Kitinglad.

*Note: This species was split from Montane Racket-tail.*

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

A few of these attractive parrots were seen at various points on Palawan!

**Green Racket-tail (E)** *Prioniturus luconensis*

We had fantastic views of this species at Subic Bay.

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

We managed to see this species at PICOP and on Negros, where it is a potential split.

*Note: We observed the subspecies whiteheadi.*

**Blue-naped Parrot (NE)** *Tanygnathus lucionensis*

We saw this species on Palawan and at Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies lucionensis on Luzon and salvadorii on Palawan.*

**Guaiabero (E)** *Bolbopsittacus lunulatus*

An attractive and distinctive parrot, seen at numerous sites, including Subic Bay, PICOP and Mt. Makiling.

*Note: We observed the subspecies lunulatus on Luzon and mindanensis on Mindanao.*

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

We found this small noisy parrot on a number of islands, including Mindanao, Luzon and Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies philippensis on Luzon, worcesteri on Bohol and apicalis on Mindanao.*

### **Pittas - Pittidae**

**Philippine Pitta (NE)** *Pitta erythrogaster*

Good views were had at Sabang, Palawan. Heard at PICOP, Mt Makiling and Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies erythrogaster. This ssp is a likely split as Philippine Pitta.*

**Hooded Pitta** *Pitta sordida*

Palawan on the trail at St Paul's Underground River and on the ATV Trail near Sabang.

*Note: We observed the subspecies palawanensis.*

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

This gorgeous bird was seen well at PICOP, and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies steerii.*

### **Australasian Warblers - Acanthizidae**

**Golden-bellied Gerygone** *Gerygone sulphurea*

We had great views of this species at Candaba Marshes on Luzon.

*Note: We observed the subspecies simplex.*

### **Woodswallow - Artamidae**

**White-breasted Woodswallow** *Artamus leucorhynchus*

A widespread species seen on many days of the tour.

*Note: We observed the subspecies leucorhynchus.*

### **Ioras - Aegithinidae**

**Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia*

Seen on the first two days of the tour, on Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies aequanimis.*

### **Cuckooshrikes & Trillers - Campephagidae**

**Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike** *Coracina striata*

We had great views on Palawan, Subic Bay and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies difficilis on Palawan, striata on Luzon, boholensis on Bohol, cebuensis on Cebu, and kochii on Mindanao.*

**Blackish Cuckooshrike (E)** *Coracina coerulescens*

We had two good views at Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies coerulescens.*

**White-winged Cuckooshrike (E)** *Coracina ostenta*

We all ended up having stellar views of this handsome species on Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

**McGregor's Cuckooshrike (E)** *Coracina mcgregori*

We had several sightings on our hike up Mt. Kitinglad, Mindanao!

**Black-and-white Triller** *Lalage melanoleuca*

This often, tricky species was encountered on our last day at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies minor.*

**Pied Triller** *Lalage nigra*

This was one of the first species seen on the tour, on Palawan. Thereafter it was seen again on Mt Makiling and Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies nigra.*

**Fiery Minivet (NE)** *Pericrocotus igneus*

A great find on Palawan.

*Note: Relatively recent split from Small Minivet.*

**Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus flammeus*

A single bird was seen on Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies novus.*

**Whistlers - Pachycephalidae****Green-backed Whistler (E)***Pachycephala albiventris*

We had surprisingly few encounters during our time on Mt Polis, managing brief looks only.

**White-vented Whistler (NE)***Pachycephala homeyeri*

Brief looks at Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies major on Cebu and winchelli on Negros.*

**Yellow-bellied Whistler (E)***Pachycephala philippinensis*

Small numbers of this species were seen on Mt. Kitanglad, PICOP, Mt Makaling and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies boholensis on Bohol and apoensis on Mindanao.*

**Shrikes - Laniidae****Brown Shrike***Lanius cristatus*

Good scope looks at Mt Polis.

**Long-tailed Shrike***Lanius schach*

This widespread species was first seen on Mt. Kitanglad, Mt Polis and Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies nasutus.*

**Mountain Shrike (E)***Lanius validirostris*

We had distant scope views on Mt. Polis.

*Note: We observed the subspecies validirostris. Leaders noted the hachisuka ssp on Mindanao.*

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

We saw two of these beauties on Palawan.

*Note: We observed the ssp persuasus.*

**Philippine Oriole (E)***Oriolus steerii*

Excellent scope views for most at PICOP, Mindanao.

*Note: We observed the subspecies samarensis.*

**Black-naped Oriole***Oriolus chinensis*

First seen on Palawan and later at PICOP, Subic Bay, on Cebu and Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies chinensis.*

**Drongos - Dicruridae****Ashy Drongo***Dicrurus leucophaeus*

Seen well on two days on Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies leucophaeus.*

**Balicassiao (E)***Dicrurus balicassius*

We had great views of birds at Mt. Makiling, Subic Bay and Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies mirabilis on Negros and balicassius on Luzon.*

**Hair-crested Drongo (E)***Dicrurus bracteatus*

We found this species on the island of Palawan, at PICOP and on Bohol.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies samarensis on Bohol, striatus on Mindanao and palawanensis on Palawan. This species was split from Spangled Drongo.*

**Fantails - Rhipidurae****(H) Mindanao Blue Fantail (E)***Rhipidura superciliaris*

Heard daily at PICOP, Mindanao.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies apo. This species was split from Blue Fantail.*

**Blue-headed Fantail (E)***Rhipidura cyaniceps*

Seen briefly on Mt. Polis.



**Visayan Fantail (E)***Rhipidura albiventris*

We had excellent looks at four birds during our time on Mt. Kanla-on. A great little bird!

*Note: This species was split from Blue-headed Fantail*

**Philippine Pied Fantail (E)***Rhipidura nigritorquis*

Seen on several days of the tour, a fairly common species in disturbed habitats.

*Note: This species was split from Pied Fantail.*

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

Fairly common in forest on Mt. Kitanglad, an attractive species.

*Note: We observed the subspecies hutchinsoni.*

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

This widespread Asian species was seen on a handful of occasions, throughout the tour.

*Note: We observed the subspecies azurea.*

**Short-crested Monarch (E)***Hypothymis helenae*

This species was seen by Alistair and Mark in a large mixed bird party, on our second day at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies agusanae.*

**Celestial Monarch (E)***Hypothymis coelestis*

The group only had reasonable views of a pair and then a male. This species is becoming, sadly, exceptionally rare and hard to find.

**Blue Paradise Flycatcher (E)***Terpsiphone cyanescens*

This magnificent Palawan endemic was seen on two days.

**Rufous Paradise Flycatcher (NE)***Terpsiphone cinnamomea*

A few individuals of these attractive birds were seen very well at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies cinnamomea.*

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

Seen daily on the island of Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies pusillus.*

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

Fairly common throughout the tour.

*Note: We observed the subspecies philippinus.*

**Fairy Flycatchers - Stenostiridae****Citrine Canary-flycatcher***Culicicapa helianthea*

Good views at Kanla-on Negros

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

We encountered this pretty little species on Mt. Kitanglad, Mt. Polis, Cebu and Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies albescens on Negros, visayanus on Cebu, elegans on Luzon and mindanensis on Mindanao.*

**Palawan Tit (E)***Periparus amabilis*

We had great views of this species near Sabang.

**Larks - Alaudidae****Oriental Skylark***Alauda gulgula*

Good views were had at Candaba Marsh and at a rice field en route to Subic Bay.

**Bulbuls - Pycnonotidae****Black-headed Bulbul***Pycnonotus atriceps*

Another widespread species found almost daily on Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies atriceps.*

**Yellow-wattled Bulbul (E)***Pycnonotus urostictus*

A vocal but often retiring species that we found on all three days in the PICOP area, as well as on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies atricaudatus on Bohol and philippensis on Mindanao.*

**Yellow-vented Bulbul***Pycnonotus goiavier*

A common bird of secondary scrub, seen regularly throughout the tour.

*Note: We observed the subspecies samarensis on Bohol, goiavier on Luzon and Negros, and suluensis on Mindanao.*

**Olive-winged (Ashy-fronted) Bulbul (E)***Pycnonotus cinereifrons*

One of the very first species seen on the tour and one that we saw regularly on Palawan.

*Note: This species was split from Olive-winged Bulbul.*

**Palawan (Gray-throated) Bulbul (E)***Alophoixus frater*

Fairly common and encountered almost every day while on Palawan.

*Note: This species was split from Grey-cheeked Bulbul.*

**Sulphur-bellied Bulbul (E)***Iole palawanensis*

A rather inconspicuous bulbul but seen well in the Sabang area of Palawan.

**Philippine Bulbul (E)***Hypsipetes philippinus*

This very common and vocal species was seen on almost every day of the tour after Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies saturator on Bohol, Cebu and Mindanao, and subspecies philippinus on Luzon.*

**Visayan Bulbul (E)***Hypsipetes guimarensis*

Good views on Negros.

*Note: This species was split from Philippine Bulbul.*

**Yellowish Bulbul (E)***Ixos everetti*

We saw several daily at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies everetti.*

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

Two birds were seen on a river while watching Indigo-banded Kingfisher.

**Barn Swallow***Hirundo rustica*

We saw several groups of these winter migrants on Luzon.

**Pacific Swallow***Hirundo tahitica*

We first encountered this species near Sabang and seen regularly thereafter.

*Note: We observed the subspecies javanica.*

**Striated Swallow***Cecropis striolata*

Firstly, recorded at Mt Makiling and later at Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies striolata.*

**Cettia Bush Warblers & Allies - Cettidae****Mountain Tailorbird***Orthotomus cucullatus*

Heard often and glimpsed in the Mt. Polis area.

*Note: We observed the subspecies philippinus.*

**Rufous-headed Tailorbird (E)***Phylloscopus heterolaemus*

Another little skulker that often takes a little work to see! In the end, however, we all managed to see at least one, during time on Mt. Kitanglad.

*Note: This species was split from Mountain Tailorbird.*

**Philippine Bush Warbler (E)***Cettia seebohmi*

This was one of the first species we saw in the Mt. Polis area. Hearing numerous calling birds throughout the rest of the day.

### **Leaf Warblers & Allies - *Phylloscopidae***

**Phylloscopus species\*** An individual, belonging to the Arctic/Kamchatka Leaf/Japanese Leaf Warbler complex was observed at PICOP. This individual was not vocalising, and was therefore left as *Phylloscopus* sp.

**Philippine Leaf Warbler (E)** *Phylloscopus olivaceus*

A couple of birds were seen in the PICOP area.

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

We had good views of an obliging individual on Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies cebuensis.*

**Negros Leaf Warbler (E)** *Phylloscopus nigrorum*

We had great views on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao and on Mt. Polis, Luzon.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies benguetensis on Luzon and flavostriatus on Mindanao. This species was split from Mountain Leaf Warbler.*

### **Reed Warblers & Allies - *Acrocephalidae***

**Clamorous Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus stentoreus*

Numerous individuals were seen and heard at Bislig Airstrip, and at Candaba Marsh Sanctuary.

*Note: We observed the subspecies harterti.*

### **Grassbirds & Allies - *Megaluridae***

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

We heard this ridiculously difficult species on Mt Polis.

*Note: We observed the subspecies caudata.*

**Tawny Grassbird** *Megalurus timoriensis*

Heard frequently and seen only occasionally at various locations.

*Note: We observed the subspecies crex.*

**Striated Grassbird** *Megalurus palustris*

A common and conspicuous grassland species seen at several sites on the tour.

*Note: We observed the subspecies forbesi.*

### **Cisticolas & Allies - *Cisticolidae***

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*

Seen well displaying over the rice paddies at Iwahig, Palawan, and near Candaba Marshes and Bislig airstrip.

*Note: We observed the subspecies tinnabulans.*

**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis*

Great views by all at Bislig airstrip and near Mt. Makiling.

*Note: We observed the subspecies semirufus.*

**Philippine Tailorbird (E)** *Orthotomus castaneiceps*

Fair views at Subic Bay and heard on Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies rabori..*

**Rufous-fronted Tailorbird (E)** *Orthotomus frontalis*

Seen very well at PICOP and on Bohol.

*Notes: This species was split from Philippine Tailorbird.*

**Grey-backed Tailorbird (E)** *Orthotomus derbianus*

A pair were seen on Mt. Makiling.

*Note: We observed the subspecies derbianus.*



**Rufous-tailed Tailorbird***Orthotomus sericeus*

Seen daily on the island of Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies sericeus.*

**Black-headed (White-browed) Tailorbird (E)***Orthotomus nigriceps*

Most of us managed to get onto this species at PICOP.

**Yellow-breasted Tailorbird (E)***Orthotomus samarensis*

Heard by all but only seen by Nigel on Bohol.

**Babblers - Timaliidae****Pin-striped Tit-Babbler***Macronous gularis*

Found daily on the island of Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies woodi.*

**Brown Tit-Babbler (E)***Macronous striaticeps*

Noisy flocks of these birds were encountered on Mt Kitinglad, at PICOP, where we had good looks.

*Note: We observed the subspecies mindanensis.*

**Fulvettas and Ground Babblers****Striated Wren-Babbler (E)***Ptilocichla mindanensis*

We heard this shy species at PICOP every day, but it wasn't until our sighting on Bohol that we were afforded fabulous views of a wonderfully cooperative individual that sang from a log.

*Note: We observed the subspecies fortichi on Bohol and heard mindanensis on Mindanao.*

**Falcated Wren-Babbler (E)***Ptilocichla falcata*

We had excellent looks at this typically elusive bird near Sabang on Palawan. A good find!

**Ashy-headed Babbler (E)***Malacocincla cinereiceps*

We had great luck with this species luring a pair into view on a trail at St Paul's Underground River, and at the ATV trail, Palawan.

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

Really good looks at a duetting pair at Irawan, Palawan.

**White-eyes - Zosteropidae****Chestnut-faced Babbler (E)***Zosterornis whiteheadi*

We enjoyed great views of this species during our time in the Mt. Polis area.

*Note: We observed the subspecies whiteheadi.*

**Flame-templed Babbler (E)***Dasycrotapha speciosa*

We ended up with amazing views of this colourful babbler during our hike up Mt. Kanla-on, Negros.

**Mindanao Pygmy Babbler (E)***Dasycrotapha plateni*

Great views of at least 3 family groups of this species at PICOP.

*Note: This species was split from Pygmy Babbler.*

**Rusty-crowned Babbler (E)***Sterrhoptilus capitalis*

A pair of these handsome birds were seen, in association with mixed-bird parties during our time at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies euroaustralis.*

**Everett's White-eye***Zosterops everetti*

A handful of individuals was seen at PICOP, Mindanao, and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies basilanicus.*

**Yellowish White-eye (E)***Zosterops nigrorum*

We had our first few near Banahue, Luzon, and many more up Mt. Kanla-On, Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies nigrorum on Negros, and aureiloris on Luzon.*

**Mountain White-eye***Zosterops montanus*

Very numerous on Mt. Kitanglad, several on Mt. Polis, Mt. Kanla-On, Negros.

*Note: We observed the subspecies vulcani on Mindanao and whiteheadi on Luzon.*

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

We had good views of this species the day we hiked higher up Mt. Kitinglad. Several were encountered, in pairs or small groups, amongst more numerous mixed-flock species.

*Notes: This species was previously known as Black-masked White-eye.*

### **Fairy-bluebirds - Irenidae**

**Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella*

This stunning bird was seen well on Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies tweeddalei.*

### **Nuthatches - Sittidae**

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis*

Good looks at this widespread species on Palawan.

**Sulphur-billed Nuthatch (E)** *Sitta oenochlamys*

We had multiple sightings on Mt. Kitanglad and again on Mt. Kanla-on.

*Note: We observed the subspecies oenochlamys on Negros and apo on Mindanao.*

### **Mynas, Starlings & Rhabdorni - Sturnidae**

**Asian Glossy Starling** *Aplonis panayensis*

A widespread Asian species, seen in good numbers, especially near towns and cities in the lowlands.

*Note: We observed the subspecies panayensis.*

**Short-tailed Glossy Starling** *Aplonis minor*

Only seen on Mt. Kitanglad, where we had scope views of several at nest holes.

*Note: We observed the subspecies todayensis.*

**Apo Myna (E)** *Basilornis mirandus*

We enjoyed wonderful views of several of these bizarre-looking birds on Mount Kitanglad.

**Coleto (NE)** *Sarcops calvus*

This peculiar endemic was seen at numerous sites, including PICOP, Subic Bay and Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies melanotus on Mindanao and Bohol, and calvus on Luzon.*

**Chestnut-cheeked Starling** *Agropsar philippensis*

Two were observed in flight at the Bislig airport. They did not perch, but most of our group caught up with them for decent flight views.

**Common Hill Myna** *Gracula religiosa*

Fairly common during two of the days on Palawan.

*Note: We observed the subspecies palawanensis.*

**Crested Myna** *Acridothores cristatellus*

Commonly seen around, Manila and Subic Bay.

*Note: We observed the subspecies cristatellus.*

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

We had good views at Subic Bay and PICOP and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies mystacalis on Luzon and minor on Mindanao.*

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

We had great looks at several birds on Mt. Kitanglad.

*Note: We observed the subspecies alaris on Mindanao.*

**Visayan Rhabdornis (E)** *Rhabdornis panayensis*

Excellent scope looks on Kanla-on Negros.

*Note: This is a recent split from Stripe-breasted Rhabdornis.*

**Chats, Old World Flycatchers - Muscicapidae****Philippine Magpie-Robin (E)***Copsychus saularis*

Only seen by Alistair and Erik at our hotel and on a drive into PICOP one morning.

*Note: This species was split from Oriental Magpie-Robin.*

**(H) White-browed Shama (E)***Copsychus luzoniensis*

Unfortunately, this ghost songster was never seen!

**White-vented Shama (E)***Copsychus niger*

We had great experiences with this, the only, cooperative shama on Palawan.

**Palawan Blue Flycatcher (E)***Cyornis lemprieri*

We enjoyed great views of this furtive species in St Paul's NP, Palawan!

**Mangrove Blue Flycatcher***Cyornis rufigastra*

One individual gave crippling views in mangroves on Palawan. What a beauty!

*Note: We observed the subspecies philippensis.*

**Rufous-tailed Jungle Flycatcher***Cyornis ruficauda*

We had great views of three at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the samarensis ssp on Mindanao, and boholensis on Bohol.*

**Turquoise Flycatcher (NE)***Eumyias panayensis*

Recorded regularly on Mt. Kitanglad, on Mt. Polis and Mt Kanla-on.

*Note: We observed the subspecies negrimentalis on Luzon and nigriloris on Mindanao.*

**(H) White-browed Shortwing***Brachypteryx montana*

We heard this shy species on Mt. Kitanglad and Mt. Polis. *Note: We observed the ssp. malindangensis.*

**Little Slaty Flycatcher***Ficedula basilanica*

Unfortunately, only two participants saw this bird at PICOP, where uncommon at best.

**Palawan Flycatcher (E)***Ficedula plateneia*

Great views after a bit of persistence at Irawan. A cute, charismatic species.

**Cryptic Flycatcher (E)***Ficedula crypta*

Three birds were seen well at Eden Mountain Resort. Tiny birds!

**Little Pied Flycatcher***Ficedula westermanni*

We encountered a few pairs during our time on Mt. Kitanglad and in the Mt. Polis area.

*Note: We observed the subspecies rabori on Luzon and westermanni on Mindanao.*

**Luzon Water Redstart (E)***Rhyacornis bicolor*

Fabulous, if what distant views of a pair near Banahue, Mt Polis!

**Pied Bush Chat***Saxicola caprata*

This widespread Asian species was first seen during our ascent to the Mt. Kitanglad camp. Thereafter it was encountered in Luzon.

*Note: We observed the subspecies caprata on Luzon and anderseni on Mindanao.*

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

We saw but two of these during our time at PICOP.

**Yellow-throated Leafbird (E)***Chloropsis palawanensis*

An attractive species that we saw every day on Palawan, often with mixed flocks.

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

Seen daily during our time at PICOP.

*Note: We observed the subspecies olivaceus.*

**Palawan Flowerpecker (E)***Prionochilus plateni*

This fine Palawan endemic was one of the first species seen on the tour. What a beauty!



*Note: We observed the subspecies plateni.*

**Whiskered Flowerpecker (E)**

*Dicaeum proprium*

We had good scope looks at Mt Eden, Mindanao.

**Olive-capped Flowerpecker (E)**

*Dicaeum nigrilore*

Pleasantly common during our time on Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.

*Note: We observed the subspecies nigrilore.*

**Bicolored Flowerpecker (E)**

*Dicaeum bicolor*

This species was first encountered near Eden Mountain Resort, again at PICOP, and finally on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies bicolor.*

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

*Dicaeum australe*

We enjoyed many sightings of this striking bird at PICOP, Mt. Makiling and Bohol.

**Black-belted (Red-keeled) Flowerpecker (E)**

*Dicaeum haematostictum*

We had one individual perched up very nicely at a resort near Mt. Kanla-On, Negros!

*Note: This species was split from Red-keeled/Red-striped Flowerpecker.*

**Orange-bellied Flowerpecker**

*Dicaeum trigonostigma*

We found several of these beauties at PICOP, Dalton Pass, on Cebu, and Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies cinereigulare.*

**Buzzing Flowerpecker (E)**

*Dicaeum hypoleuca*

We had great views on Mt Kitinglad, Mt. Makiling and at PICOP.

*Note: Obscurum and Pontifex ssp observed.*

**Pygmy Flowerpecker (E)**

*Dicaeum pygmaeum*

We had superb views of a few birds on Palawan, PICOP and below Mt Polis.

*Note: We observed the subspecies palawanorum, pygmaeum, and davao, respectively.*

**Fire-breasted Flowerpecker**

*Dicaeum ignipectus*

Another gorgeously striking flowerpecker, seen on Mt. Kitinglad, Mt Eden and Mt. Polis.

*Note: On Mindanao we observed the subspecies apo, luzoniense was seen on Luzon.*

### **Sunbirds - Nectariniidae**

**Brown-throated Sunbird**

*Anthreptes malacensis*

Good views on Palawan, PICOP, Subic Bay and on Bohol.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies paraguayae. This species was split from Plain-throated Sunbird*

**Purple-throated Sunbird (E)**

*Leptocoma sperata*

This flashy sunbird was first seen on Palawan and further enjoyed near PICOP and on Bohol.

*Note: We observed the subspecies sperata, trochilus, and juliae, respectively. Van Hasselt's Sunbird was recently split from this species, making this species an endemic, now!*

**Copper-throated Sunbird**

*Leptocoma calcostetha*

We managed great looks at a pair in the mangroves near Sabang, Palawan.

**Olive-backed Sunbird**

*Cinnyris jugularis*

This widespread Asian species was found in good numbers on Palawan and on various islands thereafter.

*Note: We observed the subspecies aurora on Palawan and jugularis elsewhere.*

**Gray-hooded Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga primigenia*

This montane Mindanao endemic was seen regularly on Mt. Kitinglad.

*Note: We observed the subspecies primigenia.*

**Apo Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga boltoni*

Who can forget our efforts to see this species on Mt. Kitanglad, what a trek!

*Note: We observed the subspecies malindangensis.*

**Flaming Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga flagrans*

We had great views of a few feeding at a blossoming tree on Mt. Makiling.

*Note: We observed the subspecies flagrans.*

**Metallic-winged Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga pulcherrima*

Good looks at one pair at PICOP.

**Luzon Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga jefferyi*

A pair were seen really well at Mt. Polis.

*Note: This species was split from Metallic-winged Sunbird.*

**Bohol Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga decorosa*

Just a couple of sightings on Bohol. Found feeding in the flowers of Palm trees.

*Note: This species was split from Metallic-winged Sunbird.*

**Lovely Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga shelleyi*

Good numbers of these stunningly beautiful birds were seen on Palawan.

**Handsome Sunbird (E)**

*Aethopyga bella*

Both males and females of this species were seen well at PICOP.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies bella. This species was split from Lovely Sunbird.*

**Orange-tufted Spiderhunter (E)**

*Arachnothera flammifera*

Seen briefly by most of our group at PICOP, Mindanao.

*Notes: Notes: We observed the subspecies flammifera. This species was split from Little Spiderhunter.*

**Pale Spiderhunter (E)**

*Arachnothera dilutior*

We ended up with brief views at Sabang, Palawan.

*Note: This species was split from Little Spiderhunter.*

**Naked-faced Spiderhunter (E)**

*Arachnothera clarae*

Only Nigel saw this species at PICOP.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies clarae.*

### **Old World Sparrows - Ploceidae**

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow**

*Passer montanus*

This introduced species was common in all towns and cities.

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

*Hypocryptadius cinnamomeus*

We enjoyed excellent looks at several pairs and small groups and mixed flocks on Mt. Kitanglad.

### **Parrotfinches & Munias - Estrilidae**

**Tawny-breasted Parrotfinch**

*Erythrura hyperythra*

Most of the group saw a pair flying back and forth on Mt. Polis. A scarce species!

**(H) Red-eared Parrotfinch (E)**

*Erythrura coloria*

Heard calling but unfortunately could not be seen in thick bush on Mt. Kitinglad.

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

*Lonchura punctulata*

This widespread Asian species was seen on Palawan and on Mt. Polis.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies cabanisi.*

**White-bellied Munia**

*Lonchura leucogastra*

We all had great views on Palawan and on Mt. Kitinglad.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies everetti on Luzon and manueli elsewhere.*

**Chestnut Munia**

*Lonchura malacca*

Regularly encountered in all grassland/rice paddy habitats throughout the tour.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies jagori.*

### **Pipits & Wagtails - Motacillidae**

**Paddyfield Pipit**

*Anthus rufulus*

Fairly common in grassy habitats on Palawan, Mindanao, and Luzon.

*Notes: We observed the subspecies lugubris.*

**Finches - *Fringillidae*****White-cheeked Bullfinch (E)***Pyrrhulla leucogenis*

We enjoyed simply brilliant views on several occasions on Mt Polis. A star bird!

**Annotated List of Mammal Species recorded****Large Flying Fox***Pteropus vampyrus*

We saw thousands of these impressive creatures at Subic Bay and a few less on Negros.

**Island Flying Fox***Pteropus hypomelanus*

This was the most abundant species at the resort on Negros.

**Golden-crowned Flying Fox***Acerodon jubatus*

A large number of individuals were seen together with the Large Flying Foxes, in Subic Bay.

**Philippine Flying Lemur (Colugo)***Cynocephalus volans*

We had excellent views of four individuals at Rajah Sikatuna NP on Bohol. What a great mammal!

**Philippine Tarsier***Tarsius philippensis*

Always a delight to see, we made a special stop to admire these cute gremlins of the mammal world.

**Long-tailed Macaque***Macaca fascicularis*

Seen at very close range on Palawan and at Subic Bay.

**Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel***Sundasciurus juvencus*

Seen at both St Paul's Underground River NP and again at Irawan on the island of Palawan.

**Reptiles and Amphibians****Philippine Monitor****Common House Gecko****Philippine Sailfin Lizard****Philippine Flying Dragon****Cane Toad****Philippine Forest Toad****Tokay Gecko****Mindanao Flying Dragon****Rockjumper Birding Ltd**

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