



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Bhutan

Private

19th February to 1st March 2017 (12days)

Trip Report



Ibisbill by Markus Lilje

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader, André Bernon



Tour Summary

One of the main focuses of this tour was to target two new bird families: Wallcreeper and Ibisbill. Judging by the quality and quantity of sightings we had of both species, we can sit back and say the tour was a great success, which it was, but it does not end there. Our 12-day tour of this mountain Kingdom was highly successful in all other aspects of birding, as well as some great cultural experiences too. We had some great Bhutanese specials, such as Rufous-necked Hornbill, Beautiful Nuthatch, Satyr Tragopan, Himalayan Monal, Blood Pheasant and 4 species of Parrotbill! We managed to find 260 species of bird and 10 mammalian species too.

We all met this morning in the Indian city of New Delhi, where we were transferred to the airport for our domestic flight. Our two-hour flight to the largest city in the Assam Province of India, Guwahati, went by fairly quickly as we chatted away, learning about each other and talking about our excitement for the trip to follow. Upon arrival, we were greeted with the friendly smile of one of our local leaders. We were showed to our vehicles that were to transport us to the border town of Samdrup Jongkhar. This roughly two-and-a-half hour trip had us experiencing some organised Indian traffic procedures, as well as a few stops that produced some birds we would not find in Bhutan. These included White-throated Kingfisher, Black-necked Stork, Spotted Dove, Yellow-footed Green Pigeon, Asian Openbill and Lesser Adjutant. A quick stop at a marsh gave us Grey-headed and Red-wattled Lapwings, Indian Pond Heron, Black-headed Ibis and Little, Intermediate and Great Egrets. We also managed to spot a Little Cormorant over a large river and even spotted a perched Shikra. Black Kites and Eastern Cattle Egrets were abundant.



Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher by Keith Valentine



Asian Barred Owlet by Glen Valentine

Nearing the border with Bhutan, we had some time to walk around and found our first Oriental Magpie-Robin, Black-winged Cuckooshrike, Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher, Blue-throated and Lineated Barbets and Common Tailorbird. Pushing on to Samdrup Jongkhar, we were met by our second local leader and showed to the customs office. While we waited, we found some Cinereous Tit, Eurasian Tree Sparrow and Oriental White-eye. A quick check-in to our accommodation for the next two nights and we were out again. We took a leisurely walk through the impressive town and managed to see some good birds too. First up, we had Red-rumped Swallow,



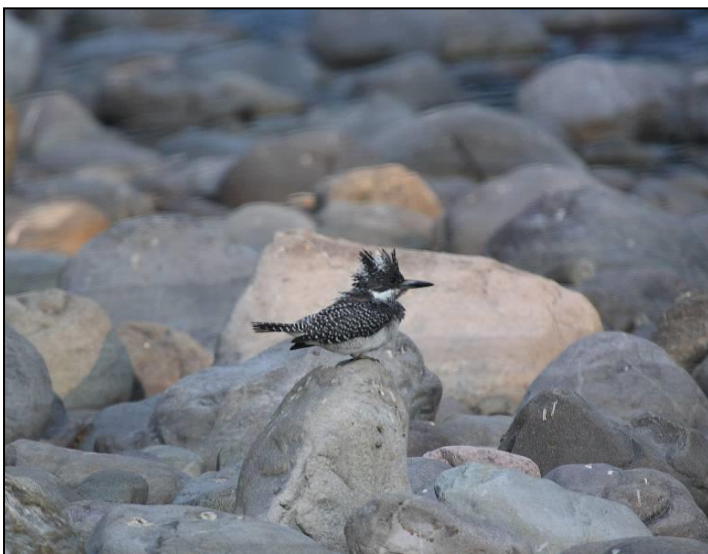
Eastern Jungle Crow, many Cinereous Tits, Red-vented Bulbul and also a pair of Asian Koel. On our way back, we heard the distinctive call of the Asian Barred Owlet and after some intense searching, we found our quarry on the top of the tree, peering down at us! We called it a day as the sun disappeared and settled to our lodge for a great home-style cooked meal in preparation for our briefing on the plans for tomorrow.

Today we set out to explore the low-altitude areas of Bhutan and the direct vicinity of Samdrup Jongkhar and went as far as about 20 kilometres along the main East-West highway. Our first stop near some flowering *Erythrina* gave us a whole host of birds feeding. These included the loud Common Hill, Jungle, Common and Pied Mynas, as well as some Chestnut-tailed Starlings. A small group of Rufescent Prinias showed nearby, whilst a Little Pied Flycatcher watched from above. A huge flock of mixed species surrounded us and we managed to pick out Maroon Oriole, Common Iora, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, Orange-bellied and Gold-fronted Leafbirds, Asian Fairy-bluebird, Pin-striped Tit-Babbler, Scarlet Minivet Streaked Spiderhunter, Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo and a group of Himalayan Flamebacks.



Blue-throated Barbet by David Shackelford

We pushed on, ticking off Crested Honey Buzzard, Black-naped Monarch, Blue-winged Minla, White-browed Piculet, Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker, Lesser Yellownape, Ashy, Bronzed and Black Drongos, Buff-barred, Yellow-vented, Grey-hooded and Chestnut-crowned Warblers. We reached a river and found our first Black-backed Forktail and our only Slaty-backed Forktail here too. There were many White-capped and Plumbeous Water Redstarts hopping about in the riverbed. A single Blue Whistling Thrush showed briefly whilst we were watching a Green Sandpiper feeding on the riverside. We found our only Blue Rock Thrush and Common Kingfisher here and on our way back down, we were lucky as this same spot produced our only Crested Kingfisher.



Crested Kingfisher by Keith Valentine

After a great lunch, we continued and found a tree full of Short-billed Minivets with some Aberrant Bush Warblers and Grey Bush Chats around for good measure. We also found our first Yellow-bellied Fantail nearby, as well as Red-whiskered, Ashy, Black-crested and Black Buleuls. A beautiful walk down a river gave us our only White-throated Bulbul and Scaly Thrush. Other notable species for today were the stunning Crimson Sunbird and strange Brown Dipper. On our way down, we managed to have fantastic views of a Great Hornbill, perched and then flying directly overhead. *What a spectacle!*



We woke this morning to find that it was His Majesty of Bhutan's 37th Birthday celebration and that the following three days were set aside as a holiday for His people. We left Samdrup Jongkhar and found a huge mixed flock of species that definitely warranted some time spent scouring through the insane amount of birds present. The hillside above the road gave us our only looks at Common Green Magpie, Grey-throated Babbler and White-browed Scimitar Babbler. Other notable species seen here included Greater Flameback, Golden-throated Barbet, Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker and Speckled Piculet.

Wandering on, we stopped for some tea along the roadside but kept getting distracted by some awesome birding. Highlights included Russet Sparrow, Rufous-breasted Accentor, Bhutan Laughingthrush, Green-backed Tit, Black-throated Bushtit, and Whiskered Yuhina. We reached some pristine lowland subtropical forest soon after and went in search for more species. We managed to find a huge mixed flock of species and enjoyed views of the gorgeous Himalayan Cutia, Yellow-cheeked Tit, Black-faced, Blyth's and Lemon-rumped Warblers, White-tailed Nuthatch and Red-tailed Minla. We then reached an area with over-hanging bee-hives on the side of a cliff. Here we managed to find a hiding Yellow-rumped Honeyguide! In some heavy wind, we almost lost some hats but also managed to find some Rufous-vented Yuhinas. Soon after, we reached prime habitat for one of our main targets of the tour – Wallcreeper. Not long after, a Wallcreeper was spotted. We alighted from our luxurious and spacious bus to enjoy great views of this odd bird, clambering up the cliff-face. Pushing on, we spotted some Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush, Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, as well as a big flock of mesmerising Scarlet Finches! We settled down at a beautiful lodge overlooking the Trashigang Valley below.



Himalayan Cutia by Paul Ellis

Today saw us juggling with the road works and blasting schedules that proved quite frustrating, to say the least. Nonetheless, we carried on and made the most of our 'stop and goes'. New birds included the handsome Crested Bunting, Eurasian Crag Martin, Nepal House Martin, Himalayan Bulbul, Hodgson's Redstart, Common Kestrel, Himalayan Buzzard and Long-tailed Minivet.



Wallcreeper by Ignacio Yuferra

After some lunch, we proceeded to move closer towards the Kirla Pass and continued to tick off Barred Cuckoo-Dove and Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon in flight before we spotted a flock of Bar-throated Minlas. Another stop produced our first Plain-backed Thrush, Olive-backed Pipit, Speckled Wood Pigeon, Black-throated Thrush, Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler, our only Mountain Bulbul, Striated and Bhutan Laughingthrushes, Grey Treepie, Yellow-billed Blue Magpie and a quick Mrs Gould's Sunbird.



Breakfast this morning on the patio was perfect, as we could spot some birds too! We found our first Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrikes here and a walk out of town after breakfast gave us the exquisite Red-faced Liocichla, some over-wintering Barn Swallows in town, a pair of Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler and a single Grey Wagtail feeding on the road. We continued for a short while before stopping yet again when we saw some activity. We added many species fairly quickly and these included more Great Hornbills feeding in a *Ficus* tree down in the valley, a large flock of Striated, White-naped and Black-chinned Yuhinas, Grey-headed Woodpecker, as well as a good sighting of a Green-billed Malkoha.

We were warmed by a great lunch and continued to our next birding stop in the Yongkhola area. We stopped at a small marsh after ticking off our first Nepal Fulvetta and went in search for the localised Black-tailed Crake. We found a single bird as it appeared out of the moist vegetation and continued to feed out in the open for a few minutes! Nearing our lodge, we spotted a



Large Niltava by Markus Lilje

beautiful Black Eagle that flew really low and gave us great looks. Entering a patch of forest, we were lucky to spot a Crested Serpent Eagle sitting right above the road! We managed to creep up and get superb views. After making ourselves at home, we headed to the Phrumsengla National Park for some forest birding. We spotted a soaring Himalayan Vulture disappearing over the ridge. We found a mixed flock of birds and quickly picked up on Fire-breasted and Yellow-bellied Flowerpeckers, Black-eared Shrike-babbler, Rusty-flanked Treecreeper, Long-tailed Thrush, White-throated Fantail, Blue-fronted Redstart, Large Niltava, Orange-bellied Leafbird, Green-tailed Sunbird and a confiding Rufous-throated Wren-babbler. On our way back, we were extremely lucky to find a flock of the sought-after Grey-sided Laughingthrushes!

An early start saw us venturing further into the Phrumsengla National Park, and mixed flocks were the order of the day again. We quickly found a huge flock and managed to find Blyth's Shrike-babbler and Rusty-fronted Barwing. The next excitement came in the form of a huge target with only a limited range and its main stronghold being in Bhutan. Beautiful Nuthatch! We witnessed a pair of these magnificent birds feeding on a dead tree before moving off. The same mixed flock



Beautiful Nuthatch by Markus Lilje

produced our first Sikkim Treecreeper and nearby we found a Rufous-breasted Bush Robin, feeding off the edge of a little waterfall.

After a great lunch, we ventured further into this forest reserve and were well-rewarded. En route we managed to stumble across a Collared Owlet sitting exposed in a leafless tree! We managed to find yet another Yellow-rumped Honeyguide and saw a huge flock of Grey-chinned Minivets, followed closely by a Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo. We honed in on the call of a



Bay Woodpecker and were rewarded with great scope views of this bird before being distracted by the loud sound of wing beats. We followed up and found a pair of Rufous-necked Hornbills! We viewed this Bhutanese special right next to the road as the female proceeded to feed the male some berries, *typical courtship behaviour of Hornbills*. A short night drive after dinner didn't give us any birds, but we managed to find a special mammal: Hodgson's Giant Flying Squirrel!

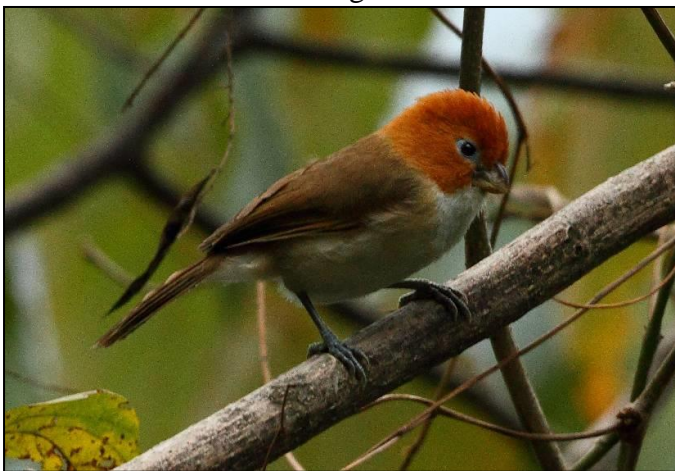


Rufous-necked Hornbill by Markus Lilje

The next morning, we had to leave the Yongkhola area and gain altitude before arriving in the Alpine zone around Sengor. We had a lot of birding in store and it was evident that the birds were out in full force. A short walk near our accommodation produced our only Striated Prinia before we ventured into the forest. We stopped at a spot where the birds were just dripping off of the trees. An *Accipiter* flew by low over the forest, Northern Goshawk. The passerine birding ensued and we got both Greater and Lesser Yellownapes for comparison, Blyth's Shrike-Babbler, White-bellied Erpornis,

Yellow-browed Tit, the stunning Sultan Tit and even the rare Grey-headed Parrotbill! This was clearly a good day for Woodpeckers and we found two more species: Darjeeling and Crimson-breasted in quick succession. An open area gave us a beautiful Himalayan Bluetail to admire and shortly thereafter, we got a handful of Rufous-gorgeted Flycatchers. Walking slowly up the road, we were lucky to pick up on the call of our next target and spotted them soon afterwards, a group of White-breasted Parrotbills!

We reached a big river that plummeted down the valley and found an absolutely magnificent flock of species that headed right our way. We managed to filter through the hundreds of birds and ticked off Green and Black-eared Shrike-Babblers, Grey-cheeked Warbler and Yellow-browed Tit. A waterfall nearby gave us our only Little Forktail, which posed with a beautiful backdrop. We sat down for a warm lunch (*in the middle of the forest*) and were disrupted by yet another flock of species moving through. We let our lunch get cold as we enjoyed Golden and Rufous-capped Babblers and the stunning Golden-breasted Fulvetta! After lunch, we neared the top of the



White-breasted Parrotbill by Markus Lilje

Lathongla Pass and stopped at more activity enjoying a single Fire-capped Tit, Rufous-winged Fulvetta, Hoary-throated Barwing and Stripe-throated Yuhina. We rounded the pass and immediately saw a change in vegetation and temperature. We managed a flock of Black-faced Laughingthrush and some flocks of Red Crossbills flew overhead. As the light faded, we strained our eyes on our next target and were rewarded with good views of a female Satyr Tragopan. We were treated to a local drink called 'Dragon warmer' around the wood oven before retiring after a successful day.



This morning saw us heading out earlier than usual before breakfast to try our luck at finding a male Satyr Tragopan. We didn't have any luck on that front, but came up trumps with many Red-billed Choughs, a nice flock of Red-headed Bullfinches and on our way back, we bumped into a flock of Snow Pigeons! After some breakfast, we headed to the vicinity of the Tromshingla Pass and en route we found a flock of White-winged Grosbeak, some Red Crossbills and also a single Himalayan Buzzard. The next bit of excitement came when we spotted a covey of Blood Pheasant crossing the road.

On our way down, yet again, we had a lot of activity near a large river course and found Rufous-vented, Coal and Grey-crested Tits, Goldcrest, Hodgson's Treecreeper, Rufous-breasted Bush Robin and White-throated Redstart. Further along, we got great views of the large Great Parrotbill, as well as Eurasian Wren, and Common and Himalayan White-browed Rosefinches. On our way back for lunch, we saw many Black-throated Thrushes in an open field and a single White-collared Blackbird. The afternoon's excursion saw us trying, yet again, for the male Satyr Tragopan, *and boy, were we rewarded.* We managed to have superb views of two males, one sitting on a bush right next to our bus and another carefully striding across the road in front of us! We also managed to see Chestnut-crowned and Black-faced Laughingthrushes, Speckled Wood Pigeon and a group of Alpine Thrushes.



Golden-breasted Fulvetta by Markus Lilje

The next morning saw us heading to the Bumthang Valley. Once again, we headed for the Tromshingla Pass and managed to find Alpine Accentor and many more Blood Pheasants. We rounded the pass with its hoar-frost covered trees. Heading down, we found more Goldcrest, White-throated Redstart, Large-billed Crow, Hodgson's Treecreeper, White-collared Blackbird, White-winged Grosbeak, Spotted Nutcracker and a small group of Rufous-fronted Bush tits. Next up were a few raptors in flight and new was a Bearded Vulture and also a Long-legged Buzzard. As we reached Ura for a fantastic lunch, we spotted hundreds of Plain Mountain Finches about and a short stroll afterwards gave us some Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinches! We saw our first Yak soon after lunch and the next bit of excitement came when we spotted Himalayan Monal! A very shy bird, but



Satyr Tragopan by Markus Lilje

a great sighting nonetheless. Nearing Bumthang, we stopped along the Bumthang Chhu River and spotted our first Ibisbill! We enjoyed lengthy views of this bird, as well as Mallard and Eurasian Teal. Checking into our hotel, we were treated to a stiff drink by the owner as it was Losar (*New Year*).

This morning, we had to catch our domestic flight to the city of Paro, but first had a target to find. We went in search and eventually found a large group of Brown Parrotbills! We were rewarded with extended views before our flight. Upon arrival in Paro, we were mesmerised by the beautiful airport building, but had to claim our luggage before moving on to our next adventure. We had decided to go and see the



world famous Tiger's Nest Temple outside of town. Nestled high up on a cliff-face, we had quite a hike to do, but it was well worth it. We entered the Temple and were fascinated by all the explanations and stories this great culture and religion had to show. We even saw some birds on this hiking day and these included Chestnut-crowned and White-throated Laughingthrushes and Rufous-fronted Bushitts.



Tiger's Nest by Andre Bernon

more Black-tailed Crane, Ruddy and Common Shelducks, vagrant Red-crested Pochard, vagrant Mandarin, Common Merganser, more Ibisbill, Rosy and Richard's Pipits, and Peregrine and River Lapwing. *Some great birding on a cultural day.*

We meandered along the river toward the airport on our flight out. We said our goodbyes to Brown Dipper, Black-throated Thrush, Plumbeous Water Redstart, Shikra, River Lapwing, Eurasian Teal and more Ibisbill. A fantastic ending to a marvellous trip to the mountainous Kingdom of Bhutan.

We had done extremely well on our birding trip to Bhutan, so we opted for a cultural day and visited the capital city of Bhutan instead, Thimphu. Our first stop was the world's largest statue of Buddha Dordenma. We even managed to find a Wallcreeper on the side of the statue! We also saw a Black Eagle soaring about and a pair of Besra too.

Other venues visited included an art school, paper factory, and textile museum, followed by a walk down the main market. As the light subsided, we had a great little birding spot in store for us – Papesa Wastewater Treatment Works. We had fantastic birds here, including



Black-tailed Crane by Markus Lilje

Annotated List of species recorded

Note: Number in brackets () indicate number of days on the tour the species was recorded.

List powered through the report generator of our partner iGoTerra.

Birds – seen in India only on the 19th February 2017
(16 in total: 16 seen)



Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2016. IOC World Bird List (v 6.4).

Status codes: E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced

IUCN codes: CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient

Storks Ciconiidae

Asian Openbill

Anastomus oscitans

3 Observed on the drive from Guwahati to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Black-necked Stork

Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus

1 Observed on the drive from Guwahati to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Lesser Adjutant

Leptoptilos javanicus

2 Observed on the drive from Guwahati to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Ibises and Spoonbills Threskiornithidae

Black-headed Ibis

Threskiornis melanocephalus

4 Seen feeding in a small marsh *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns Ardeidae

Indian Pond Heron

Ardeola grayii

6 Seen feeding in a small marsh *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Eastern Cattle Egret

Bubulcus coromandus

Large flocks observed *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Great Egret

Ardea alba

1 Bird seen amongst other Egrets *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Intermediate Egret

Ardea intermedia

1 Bird seen feeding in a small marsh *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Little Egret

Egretta garzetta

Observed *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Cormorants and Shags Phalacrocoracidae

Little Cormorant

Microcarbo niger

1 Bird seen sitting on a rock in a large river, *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Plovers and Lapwings Charadriidae

Grey-headed Lapwing

Vanellus cinereus

A flock of 15 birds were seen feeding in a marsh *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Red-wattled Lapwing

Vanellus indicus

A few individuals were observed amongst the larger Grey-headed Lapwings, *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Pigeons and Doves Columbidae

Laughing Dove

Spilopelia senegalensis

1 Bird seen sitting on a rock in a large river *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Yellow-footed Green Pigeon

Treron phoenicopterus

A small flock of 5 birds were seen feeding in an *Erythrina* tree *en route* to Samdrup Jongkhar.

Kingfishers Alcedinidae



White-throated Kingfisher*Halcyon smyrnensis*

Many birds were seen sitting on the wires whilst driving.

Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae**Jungle Babbler***Turdoides striata*

A few individuals were seen upon leaving our accommodations in New Delhi.

Birds – seen in Bhutan only

(244 in total: 239 seen, 5 heard)

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Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl Anatidae**Common Shelduck***Tadorna tadorna*

(1) 12 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Ruddy Shelduck*Tadorna ferruginea*

(2) 2 Bumthang 28.2 and 20 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Mandarin Duck*Aix galericulata*

(1) 1 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Eurasian Wigeon*Anas penelope*

(1) 2 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Mallard*Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*

(1) 10 Bumthang 27.2.

Eurasian Teal*Anas crecca crecca*

(3) 5 Bumthang 27.2, 10 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3 and 1 Paro 2.3.

Red-crested Pochard*Netta rufina*

(1) 2 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Common Merganser*Mergus merganser orientalis*

(2) 4 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3 and 2 Paro 2.3.

Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies Phasianidae**Hill Partridge***Arborophila torqueola torqueola*

(1) 1 heard Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

Rufous-throated Partridge*Arborophila rufogularis rufogularis*

Heard 2 days in total.

Blood Pheasant*Ithaginis cruentus*

(2) 25 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 30 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

We saw good amounts of these birds and had close views.

Satyr Tragopan (NT)*Tragopan satyra*

(2) 1 Sengor 25.2 and 2 Sengor 26.2.

We had to work hard for sightings of some males. We eventually found two separate birds, the last of which casually strolled across the road in front of us!



Himalayan Monal*Lophophorus impejanus*

(1) 5 Ura Valley 27.2.

We were very lucky to find a covey, including one male.

Cormorants and Shags *Phalacrocoracidae***Great Cormorant***Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*

Observed 3 days in total.

Hawks, Eagles, and Kites *Accipitridae***Bearded Vulture (NT)***Gypaetus barbatus barbatus*

(1) 1 Ura Valley 27.2.

Crested Honey Buzzard*Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis*

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

Himalayan Vulture (NT)*Gyps himalayensis*

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 23.2.

Crested Serpent Eagle*Spilornis cheela cheela*

(1) 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

We had superb views of a single bird sitting on a perch above the road!

Black Eagle*Ictinaetus malaiensis perniger*

(3) 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 1 Thimpu 1.3.

The best views were on the 23rd when a bird came down, soaring close to our bus.

Shikra*Accipiter badius poliopsis*

(2) 1 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3 and 1 Paro 2.3.

Besra*Accipiter virgatus affinis*

(1) 2 Thimpu 1.3.

Northern Goshawk*Accipiter gentilis schvedowi*

(3) 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2 and 1 Thimpu 1.3.

Black Kite*Milvus migrans*

(1) 1 Paro 2.3.

Himalayan Buzzard*Buteo burmanicus*

Observed 1 day in total.

Long-legged Buzzard*Buteo rufinus rufinus*

(1) 1 Ura Valley 27.2.

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots *Rallidae***Black-tailed Crake***Porzana bicolor*

(2) 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 2 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Ibisbill *Ibidorhynchidae***Ibisbill***Ibidorhyncha struthersii*

(4) 2 Bumthang 27.2, 1 Bumthang 28.2, 4 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3 and 1 Paro 2.3.

Plovers and Lapwings *Charadriidae***River Lapwing (NT)***Vanellus duvaucelii*

(3) 1 Bumthang 27.2, 3 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3 and 2 Paro 2.3.

Sandpipers and Allies *Scolopacidae***Green Sandpiper***Tringa ochropus*

(2) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2 and 2 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Common Sandpiper*Actitis hypoleucos*

(1) 1 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Pigeons and Doves *Columbidae*

Rock Dove

Columba livia

Observed 4 days in total.

Snow Pigeon

Columba leuconota

(1) 19 Sengor 26.2.

Speckled Wood Pigeon

Columba hodgsonii

(2) 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 1 Sengor 26.2.

Oriental Turtle Dove

Streptopelia orientalis agricola

Observed 9 days in total.

Spotted Dove

Spilopelia chinensis

(3) 20 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2, 25 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2 and 20 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Barred Cuckoo-Dove

Macropygia unchall tusalia

(1) 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

A single bird was seen in flight over the forest.

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon

Treron sphenurus sphenurus

(1) 4 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

A small flock was seen flying directly overhead.

Cuckoos *Cuculidae*

Green-billed Malkoha

Phaenicophaeus tristis tristis

(2) 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 2 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Owls *Strigidae*

Collared Owlet

Glaucidium brodiei brodiei

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

We were lucky to find a bird out in the open.

Asian Barred Owlet

Glaucidium cuculoides austerum

(2) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2 and 1 heard Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

We managed to find a calling bird on our first day in Bhutan.

Swifts *Apodidae*

Asian Palm Swift

Cypsiurus balasiensis balasiensis

(1) 20 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2.

Blyth's Swift

Apus leuconyx

(1) 5 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

House Swift

Apus nipalensis nipalensis

(2) 20 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2 and 30 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Kingfishers *Alcedinidae*

Common Kingfisher

Alcedo atthis bengalensis

(1) 3 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Seen well on a river outside of Samdrup Jongkhar.

Crested Kingfisher

Megaceryle lugubris

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Seen well on a river outside of Samdrup Jongkhar.

Hornbills *Bucerotidae*



Great Hornbill (NT)*Buceros bicornis*

(2) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and 2 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Rufous-necked Hornbill (VU)*Aceros nipalensis*

(2) 2 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

We had superb views of a pair courting.

Asian Barbets *Megalaimidae***Great Barbet***Psilopogon virens magnificus*

Observed 5 days in total.

Lineated Barbet*Psilopogon lineatus hodgsoni*

(2) 4 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2 and 2 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

Golden-throated Barbet*Psilopogon franklinii franklinii*

(1) 3 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Blue-throated Barbet*Psilopogon asiaticus asiaticus*

(3) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2, 1 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2 and 3 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Honeyguides *Indicatoridae***Yellow-rumped Honeyguide (NT)***Indicator xanthonotus*

(2) 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 1 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Two sightings, always near beehives.

Woodpeckers *Picidae***Speckled Piculet***Picumnus innominatus innominatus*

(1) 3 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

White-browed Piculet*Sasia ochracea ochracea*

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker*Yungipicus canicapillus semicoronatus*

(2) 2 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

Crimson-breasted Woodpecker*Dryobates cathpharius cathpharius*

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker*Dendrocopos macei macei*

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Darjeeling Woodpecker*Dendrocopos darjellensis darjellensis*

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Greater Yellownape*Chrysophlegma flavinucha flavinucha*

(2) 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 4 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Lesser Yellownape*Picus chlorolophus chlorolophus*

(3) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2, 2 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 2 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Grey-headed Woodpecker*Picus canus hessei*

(1) 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Himalayan Flameback*Dinopium shorii*

(1) 5 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Bay Woodpecker*Blythipicus pyrrhotis pyrrhotis*

(3) Up to 1 Phrumsengla NP 23-25.2.

Falcons and Caracaras *Falconidae***Common Kestrel***Falco tinnunculus*

(4) 5 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 3 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Peregrine Falcon*Falco peregrinus peregrinator*

(1) 1 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.



Woodshrikes and allies Tephrodornithidae**Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus*

(2) 15 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 10 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Ioras Aegithinidae**Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia tiphia*

(2) 5 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2 and 12 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Cuckoo-shrikes Campephagidae**Black-winged Cuckooshrike** *Coracina melaschistos melaschistos*

(2) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2 and 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris solaris*

(4) 3 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 1 Phrumsengla NP 23.2 and 30 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus laetus*

(1) 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

Short-billed Minivet *Pericrocotus brevirostris brevirostris*

(1) 10 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

A large flock was seen feeding in a leafless tree after our lunch.

Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus speciosus speciosus*

(2) 5 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

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

Observed 1 day in total.

Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus tephronotus*

Observed 3 days in total.

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

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Blyth's Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius aeralatus validirostris*

(2) 30 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 8 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Green Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius xanthochlorus xanthochlorus*

(2) 12 Phrumsengla NP 25.2 and 5 Phrumsengla NP 26.2.

Black-eared Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius melanotis melanotis*

(2) 3 Phrumsengla NP 23.2 and 6 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Old World Orioles Oriolidae**Maroon Oriole** *Oriolus traillii traillii*

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

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

(2) 12 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2 and 1 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus hopwoodi*

(2) 6 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2 and 2 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus aeneus*

(4) 10 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 8 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 5 Phrumsengla



NP 23.2 and 3 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo

Dicrurus remifer tectirostris

(3) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 2 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo

Dicrurus paradiseus grandis

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

We had a great view of a bird just outside the town.

Fantails Rhipiduridae

White-throated Fantail

Rhipidura albicollis stanleyi

(1) 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Monarch Flycatchers Monarchidae

Black-naped Monarch

Hypothymis azurea styani

(1) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

We had two separate sightings of a male first, then a female on our way down.

Crows, Jays, and Magpies Corvidae

Yellow-billed Blue Magpie

Urocissa flavirostris flavirostris

(4) 3 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 4 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 2 Sengor 25.2 and 10 Thrumingla pass 26.2.

Common Green Magpie

Cissa chinensis chinensis

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

We only had a single sighting of this colourful bird.

Grey Treepie

Dendrocitta formosae himalayana

(4) 6 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 2 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2, 10 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 4 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Eurasian Magpie

Pica pica bottanensis

(1) 20 Ura Valley 27.2.

Many birds were seen around the settlements.

Spotted Nutcracker

Nucifraga caryocatactes macella

(2) 6 Ura Valley 27.2, 1 Thrumingla pass 27.2 and 1 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

Red-billed Chough

Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax himalayanus

(3) 30 Sengor 26.2, 12 Sengor 27.2 and 3 Bumthang 28.2.

House Crow

Corvus splendens splendens

(2) 2 Bumthang 28.2 and 15 Thimpu 1.3.

Large-billed Crow

Corvus macrorhynchos tibetosinensis

Observed 10 days in total.

Very common at higher altitudes.

Eastern Jungle Crow

Corvus levaillantii

(2) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2 and 8 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

Seen well in town, a rare bird for Bhutan.

Fairy Flycatchers Stenostiridae

Yellow-bellied Fantail

Chelidorhynchus hypoxanthus

(4) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 6 Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 3 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 12 Sengor 25.2.

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher

Culicicapa ceylonensis calochrysea

Observed 3 days in total.

Chickadees and Tits Paridae



Fire-capped Tit*Cephalopyrus flammiceps olivaceus*

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

A single male was seen briefly by some of the group.

Yellow-browed Tit*Sylviparus modestus modestus*

(1) 12 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Sultan Tit*Melanochlora sultanea sultanea*

(1) 4 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Two separate sightings, always in mixed flocks.

Rufous-vented Tit*Periparus rubidiventris beavani*

(3) 1 Thrumssingla pass 26.2, 20 Thrumssingla pass 27.2 and 2 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

Coal Tit*Periparus ater aemodius*

(3) 15 Thrumssingla pass 26.2, 50 Thrumssingla pass 27.2 and 10 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

Grey Crested Tit*Lophophanes dichrous dichrous*

(2) 20 Thrumssingla pass 26.2 and 20 Thrumssingla pass 27.2.

Cinereous Tit*Parus cinereus planorum*

(3) 8 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2, 10 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2 and 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

An extremely rare bird in Bhutan, obviously an influx.

Green-backed Tit*Parus monticolus yunnanensis*

Observed 1 day in total.

Yellow-cheeked Tit*Machlolophus spilonotus spilonotus*

(3) 5 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 4 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 5 Sengor 25.2.

Bulbuls Pycnonotidae**Black-crested Bulbul***Pycnonotus flaviventris flaviventris*

(3) 20 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 4 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 2 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Red-whiskered Bulbul*Pycnonotus jocosus monticola*

(1) 15 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Himalayan Bulbul*Pycnonotus leucogenys*

(2) 50 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 20 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Red-vented Bulbul*Pycnonotus cafer bengalensis*

Observed 7 days in total.

White-throated Bulbul*Alophoixus flaveolus flaveolus*

(1) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Only a pair was seen near a river on an old cattle farm.

Mountain Bulbul*Ixos mcclellandii mcclellandii*

(1) 10 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

Ashy Bulbul*Hemixos flavela flavela*

(2) 4 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and 6 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Black Bulbul*Hypsipetes leucocephalus psaroides*

Observed 1 day in total.

Swallows Hirundinidae**Barn Swallow***Hirundo rustica*

(1) 4 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

A seasonal sighting in the town of Mongar.

Eurasian Crag Martin*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

(1) 12 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

A small flock was seen whilst viewing a Himalayan Buzzard in flight.



Nepal House Martin*Delichon nipalense nipalense*

(3) 50 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 70 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 100 Sengor 25.2.

Red-rumped Swallow*Cecropis daurica nipalensis*

(1) 50 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2.

Large numbers were seen flying overhead in the town.

Bush-Warblers and Allies Cettiidae**Black-faced Warbler***Abroscopus schisticeps flavimentalis*

Observed 5 days in total.

Aberrant Bush Warbler*Horornis flavolivaceus flavolivaceus*

(2) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and 2 Sengor 25.2.

Long-tailed Tits Aegithalidae**Black-throated Bushtit***Aegithalos concinnus iredalei*

(3) 12 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 15 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 8 Sengor 25.2.

Rufous-fronted Bushtit*Aegithalos iouschistos*

(2) 7 Thrumbsingla pass 27.2 and 12 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

Leaf-Warblers Phylloscopidae**Buff-barred Warbler***Phylloscopus pulcher pulcher*

(1) 3 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Ashy-throated Warbler*Phylloscopus maculipennis maculipennis*

Observed 3 days in total.

Lemon-rumped Warbler*Phylloscopus chloronotus chloronotus*

(3) 4 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 8 Sengor 25.2.

Blyth's Leaf Warbler*Phylloscopus reguloides reguloides*

(2) 8 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Yellow-vented Warbler*Phylloscopus cantator cantator*

(2) 3 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and 2 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Grey-hooded Warbler*Phylloscopus xanthoschistos jerdoni*

Observed 6 days in total.

Grey-cheeked Warbler*Seicercus poliogenys*

(2) 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 1 Sengor 25.2.

Chestnut-crowned Warbler*Seicercus castaniceps castaniceps*

(3) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 2 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Cisticolas and Allies Cisticolidae**Striated Prinia***Prinia crinigera crinigera*

(1) 2 Sengor 25.2.

A pair was seen near our accommodation in Yongkhola.

Rufescent Prinia*Prinia rufescens rufescens*

(3) 10 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2, 10 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 5 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Common Tailorbird*Orthotomus sutorius patia*

Observed 7 days in total.

Babblers Timaliidae**Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler***Pomatorhinus erythrogenys*

(2) 2 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 4 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

White-browed Scimitar Babbler*Pomatorhinus schisticeps schisticeps*

(1) 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

A single bird perched up long enough for us all to get scope views.

Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis godwini*

(2) 2 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 3 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler (NT) *Spelaeornis caudatus*

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 23.2.

Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps nigriceps*

(1) 3 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Rufous-capped Babbler *Stachyridopsis ruficeps ruficeps*

(1) 12 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Golden Babbler *Stachyridopsis chrysaea chrysaea*

(1) 6 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Pin-striped Tit-Babbler *Macronus gularis rubicapilla*

(1) 7 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Fulvettas and Ground Babblers *Pellorneidae*

Yellow-throated Fulvetta *Alcippe cinerea*

(1) 20 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Rufous-winged Fulvetta *Alcippe castaneiceps castaneiceps*

(1) 15 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Nepal Fulvetta *Alcippe nipalensis nipalensis*

(3) 40 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2, 20 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 10 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Long-billed Wren-Babbler *Rimator malacoptilus*

(1) 1 heard Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Laughingthrushes *Leiothrichidae*

Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush *Garrulax rufogularis rufogularis*

(1) 4 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

A group of birds came out to feed on the side of the road, alongside Red-faced Liocichla.

White-throated Laughingthrush *Garrulax albogularis albogularis*

(3) 50 Phrumsengla NP 24.2, 15 Phrumsengla NP 25.2 and 40 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax monileger monileger*

(1) 8 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Grey-sided Laughingthrush *Garrulax caerulatus caerulatus*

(2) 20 Phrumsengla NP 23.2 and 1 heard Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Striated Laughingthrush *Garrulax striatus*

(4) 4 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and up to 20 Phrumsengla NP 23-25.2.

Bhutan Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron imbricatum*

(4) 4 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 2 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 2 Phrumsengla NP 23.2 and 4 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Blue-winged Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron squamatum*

(1) 2 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Scaly Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron subunicolor subunicolor*

(1) 3 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Black-faced Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron affine*

(3) 20 Sengor 25.2, 20 Thrumssingla pass 26.2 and 3 Thrumssingla pass 27.2.

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron erythrocephalum nigrimentum*

(3) 1 heard Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 2 Sengor 26.2 and 1 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

Himalayan Cutia *Cutia nipalensis nipalensis*

(3) 6 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 2 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 10 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.



Blue-winged Minla*Minla cyanouroptera cyanouroptera*

(3) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 3 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Bar-throated Minla*Minla strigula strigula*

(4) 20 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 15 Phrumsengla NP 24.2, 20 Phrumsengla NP 25.2 and 15 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

Red-tailed Minla*Minla ignotincta ignotincta*

(3) 4 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 20 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 10 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Red-faced Liocichla*Liocichla phoenicea phoenicea*

(2) 2 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 2 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Good sightings of this skulker. One without a tail.

Rusty-fronted Barwing*Actinodura egertoni egertoni*

(1) 10 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Hoary-throated Barwing*Actinodura nipalensis*

(1) 12 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Rufous Sibia*Heterophasia capistrata bayleyi*

(4) 2 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 10 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 30 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 20 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Old World Warblers Sylviidae**Golden-breasted Fulvetta***Lioparus chrysotis chrysotis*

(1) 20 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

White-browed Fulvetta*Fulvetta vinipectus chumbiensis*

(3) 10 Phrumsengla NP 25.2, 12 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 12 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

Great Parrotbill*Conostoma aemodium*

(1) 2 Thrumsingla pass 26.2.

Brown Parrotbill*Cholornis unicolor*

(1) 12 Bumthang 28.2.

White-breasted Parrotbill*Psittiparus ruficeps*

(1) 6 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Grey-headed Parrotbill*Psittiparus gularis gularis*

(1) 2 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Yuhinas, White-eyes, and Allies Zosteropidae**Striated Yuhina***Yuhina castaniceps*

(1) 30 Phrumsengla NP 23.2.

White-naped Yuhina*Yuhina bakeri*

(3) 20 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2, 30 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 15 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Whiskered Yuhina*Yuhina flavicollis flavicollis*

(1) 30 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Stripe-throated Yuhina*Yuhina gularis gularis*

(2) 25 Phrumsengla NP 25.2 and 2 Sengor 26.2.

Rufous-vented Yuhina*Yuhina occipitalis occipitalis*

(3) 40 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 30 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 5 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Oriental White-eye*Zosterops palpebrosus palpebrosus*

Observed 6 days in total.

Fairy-bluebirds Irenidae

Asian Fairy-bluebird*Irena puella puella*

(1) 12 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

A good number of males and females were seen well.

Kinglets Regulidae**Goldcrest***Regulus regulus sikkimensis*

(2) 12 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 3 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

Wrens Troglodytidae**Eurasian Wren***Troglodytes troglodytes nipalensis*

(2) 1 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 1 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

Nuthatches Sittidae**Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch***Sitta cinnamoventris cinnamoventris*

(3) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

White-tailed Nuthatch*Sitta himalayensis*

Observed 2 days in total.

Beautiful Nuthatch (VU)*Sitta formosa*

(3) 1 heard Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 2 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 2 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

This rare bird was seen twice!

Wallcreeper Tichodromidae**Wallcreeper***Tichodroma muraria nepalensis*

(4) 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 1 Ura Valley 27.2 and 1 Thimpu 1.3.

We saw this target many times, including one on the Buddha Point statue in Thimphu!

Treecreepers Certhiidae**Hodgson's Treecreeper***Certhia hodgsoni*

(2) 1 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 3 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

Also known as Eurasian Treecreeper.

Rusty-flanked Treecreeper*Certhia nipalensis*

(3) 1 Phrumsengla NP 23.2, 4 Phrumsengla NP 25.2 and 1 Sengor 26.2.

Sikkim Treecreeper*Certhia discolor*

(1) 4 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Also known as Brown-throated Treecreeper.

Starlings Sturnidae**Common Hill Myna***Gracula religiosa intermedia*

(1) 20 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

Jungle Myna*Acridotheres fuscus fuscus*

(2) 5 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2 and 15 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

Common Myna*Acridotheres tristis tristis*

(3) Up to 50 Samdrup Jongkhar 19-21.2.

Pied Myna*Gracupica contra contra*

(1) 6 Samdrup Jongkhar 20.2.

Chestnut-tailed Starling*Sturnia malabarica malabarica*

(3) Up to 12 Samdrup Jongkhar 19-21.2.



Thrushes and Allies *Turdidae***Long-tailed Thrush***Zoothera dixonii*

(1) 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Scaly Thrush*Zoothera dauma dauma*

(1) 6 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

A group of these migrants were seen along a river near an old cattle ranch.

White-collared Blackbird*Turdus albocinctus*

(3) 1 Thrumsingla pass 26.2, 4 Thrumsingla pass 27.2 and 3 Bumthang 28.2.

Black-throated Thrush*Turdus atrogularis*

(5) 2 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 8 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Abundant, luckily the right time of the year for them.

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

Observed 4 days in total.

White-rumped Shama*Copsychus malabaricus*

(1) 1 heard Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Large Niltava*Niltava grandis grandis*

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 23.2.

We were lucky to find one feeding in a tree next to the road, giving us great views.

Small Niltava*Niltava macgrigoriae signata*

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Rufous-breasted Bush Robin*Tarsiger hyperythrus*

(2) 1 Phrumsengla NP 24.2 and 1 Thrumsingla pass 26.2.

Himalayan Bluetail*Tarsiger rufilatus rufilatus*

(1) 2 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Little Forktail*Enicurus scouleri*

(1) 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Seen well at a waterfall.

Black-backed Forktail*Enicurus immaculatus*

(1) 4 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Slaty-backed Forktail*Enicurus schistaceus*

(1) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Blue Whistling Thrush*Myophonus caeruleus temminckii*

Observed 6 days in total.

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher*Ficedula strophiiata strophiiata*

(1) 4 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Little Pied Flycatcher*Ficedula westermanni australorientis*

(1) 3 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Pygmy Flycatcher*Muscicapella hodgsoni hodgsoni*

(1) 1 heard Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Hodgson's Redstart*Phoenicurus hodgsoni*

(4) 5 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 4 Phrumsengla NP 23.2, 1 Thimpu 1.3 and 4 Paro 2.3.

White-throated Redstart*Phoenicurus schisticeps*

(2) 1 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 20 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

Blue-fronted Redstart*Phoenicurus frontalis*

Observed 6 days in total.

Plumbeous Water Redstart*Phoenicurus fuliginosus fuliginosus*

Observed 3 days in total.



Common along all the rivers.

White-capped Redstart*Phoenicurus leucocephalus*

Observed 1 day in total.

Common along all the rivers.

Blue Rock Thrush*Monticola solitarius pandoo*

(1) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2.

Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush*Monticola rufiventris*

Observed 5 days in total.

Grey Bush Chat*Saxicola ferreus ferreus*

(3) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 4 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2 and 1 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

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

(4) 2 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 2 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2, 3 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3 and 2 Paro 2.3.

Leafbirds Chloropseidae**Golden-fronted Leafbird***Chloropsis aurifrons aurifrons*

(2) 6 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Orange-bellied Leafbird*Chloropsis hardwickii hardwickii*

(4) 1 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and up to 3 Phrumsengla NP 23-25.2.

Flowerpeckers Dicaeidae**Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker***Dicaeum melanoxanthum*

(2) 10 Phrumsengla NP 23.2 and 5 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Extremely difficult to find other times of the year.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker*Dicaeum ignipectus ignipectus*

(4) Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, Phrumsengla NP 23.2 and Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Sunbirds and Spiderhunters Nectariniidae**Mrs. Gould's Sunbird***Aethopyga gouldiae gouldiae*

(1) 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.

A single male briefly popped into view.

Green-tailed Sunbird*Aethopyga nipalensis koelzi*

(4) 2 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and up to 10 Phrumsengla NP 23-25.2.

Crimson Sunbird*Aethopyga siparaja*

(2) 25 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2 and 12 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Streaked Spiderhunter*Arachnothera magna magna*

(3) 12 Samdrup Jongkhar to Morong 20.2, 1 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2 and 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Old World Sparrows Passeridae**House Sparrow***Passer domesticus indicus*

(1) 3 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2.

Russet Sparrow*Passer rutilans cinnamomeus*

Observed 2 days in total.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow*Passer montanus malaccensis*

Observed 3 days in total.



Accentors *Prunellidae***Alpine Accentor***Prunella collaris nipalensis*

(2) 3 Thrumsingla pass 27.2 and 1 Taktsang Monastery 28.2.

We managed to get within metres of a pair at the top of the pass.

Rufous-breasted Accentor*Prunella strophiatea strophiatea*

(4) Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2, Sengor 26.2, Sengor 27.2 and Bumthang 28.2.

Maroon-backed Accentor*Prunella immaculata*

(1) 1 Ura Valley 27.2.

We were very lucky to find a single bird drinking from a little puddle on the side of the road.

Wagtails and Pipits *Motacillidae***Grey Wagtail***Motacilla cinerea cinerea*

(1) 1 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

One bird seen near the town of Mongar, feeding on the road.

White Wagtail*Motacilla alba*

Observed 4 days in total.

Richard's Pipit*Anthus richardi*

(1) 2 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Olive-backed Pipit*Anthus hodgsoni*

Observed 1 day in total.

Rosy Pipit*Anthus roseatus*

(1) 2 Babesa Wastewater Treatment Works 1.3.

Finches, Euphonias *Fringillidae***White-winged Grosbeak***Mycerobas carnipes carnipes*

(2) 15 Sengor 26.2 and 6 Ura Valley 27.2.

Red-headed Bullfinch*Pyrrhula erythrocephala*

(1) 15 Sengor 26.2.

A good bird to find, right season.

Plain Mountain Finch*Leucosticte nemoricola nemoricola*

(1) 800 Ura Valley 27.2.

Large flocks were seen only in the Ura Valley.

Common Rosefinch*Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus*

(2) 20 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 25 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

Scarlet Finch*Carpodacus sipahi*

(1) 20 Samdrup Jonkhar to Trashigang 21.2.

Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch*Carpodacus pulcherrimus pulcherrimus*

(1) 10 Ura Valley 27.2.

Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch*Carpodacus thura thura*

(2) 2 Thrumsingla pass 26.2 and 10 Thrumsingla pass 27.2.

Red Crossbill*Loxia curvirostra himalayensis*

(2) 40 Sengor 25.2 and 30 Thrumsingla pass 26.2.

Buntings, Sparrows and Allies *Emberizidae***Crested Bunting***Emberiza lathami*

(1) 20 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2.



Mammals (10 in total: 10 seen)

Status codes: E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced

IUCN codes: CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient

Old World monkeys Cercopithecidae

Assam Macaque

Macaca assamensis

Observed 1 day in total.

Capped Langur

Trachypithecus pileatus

Observed 6 days in total.

Pikas Ochotonidae

Large-eared Pika

Ochotona macrotis

(1) 2 Ura Valley 27.2.

Squirrels Sciuridae

Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel

Dremomys lokriah

Observed 4 days in total.

Hodgson's Giant Flying Squirrel

Petaurista magnificus

(1) 3 Phrumsengla NP 24.2.

Seen on a night drive!

Black Giant Squirrel

Ratufa bicolor

(1) 2 Mongar to Yongkhola 23.2.

Himalayan Striped Squirrel

Tamiops macclellandii

Observed 5 days in total.

Cattle, Antelopes, Sheep, Goats Bovidae

Serow

Capricornis sumatraensis

(1) 1 Sengor 26.2.

Himalayan Goral

Naemorhedus goral

(2) 1 Trashigang to Mongar 22.2 and 1 Phrumsengla NP 25.2.

Common Bats Vespertilionidae

Coromandel Pipistrelle

Pipistrellus coromandra

(1) 5 Samdrup Jongkhar 19.2.

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