PAPUA NEW GUINEA:

Paradise Untamed

Ribbon-tailed Astrapia did not so much creep into the top five birds of the tour list, but smashed it’s way into contention with views like this at Kumul!

29th September – 16th October 2013

Tour Leader: Sam Woods

Thanks to participant Chris Sloan for the use of his photos in this report.
Birders are drawn to New Guinea for one simple reason: **birds-of-paradise**, the bird family that can rightly lay claim to holding some of the world’s most spectacular birds. David Attenborough showcased them in his infamous “Attenborough in Paradise” BBC documentary during the 1980s and an exodus of birders to this island has been occurring ever since.

Papua New Guinea’s national slogan is “Expect the Unexpected”, which is apt, as being a vastly underdeveloped country, things often go awry, where many unexpected things do occur on every single tour. This can range from canceled flights, which have dogged many recent tours; flooded airport runways, which caused chaos to bird tours earlier this year; to broken down vehicles and frequent delayed departures due to late drivers or fuel shortages; all of which have been experienced in recent times. However, I am relieved to say, that we were very fortunate to have little of these unwelcome and increasingly expected occurrences. Our flights largely left on time, and the worst we had thrown at us was a slight delay to our departure from the hotel one morning, a flat tire, and some roadwork-related delays. We were lucky indeed, with little birding affected at all.

**Papuan Lorikeet, Kumul Lodge**

The other challenge in PNG is the birding itself. While the birds-of-paradise are generally well staked-out, and relatively easy to see; many of New Guinea’s birds are not, due to a long (and recent) history of hunting, from the very largest species to the very smallest, leaving the birds extremely shy and difficult to see in an already tough environment, deep forest. The rule concerning the birds-of-paradise bore itself out, with **23 birds-of-paradise** species seen by ALL. Among this illustrious group were some of the world’s most desired
birds: the blood-and-snow colored King Bird-of-paradise that filled our scope for five whole minutes near Kwatu Lodge; an excited male Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise doing some intricate pole-dancing for an attendant female by Kwatu Lodge; several white-streamered male Ribbon-tailed Astrapias in the highlands; a male Blue Bird-of-paradise seen downslope from Kumul Lodge did a good job of convincing us that the species is truly one of the world’s best birds, as many have suggested before; a phenomenal showpiece from a handful of displaying male Greater Birds-of-paradise were a great 40th birthday present for Chris. The birds fluffed out their display plumes, wiped their bills excitedly on their display perches, and even mated with a female present; and I could not, not mention PNG’s national bird, the flamboyant Raggiana Bird-of-paradise, which also put on a great show in Varirata National Park (photo below) with excited displays nearly at eye level which proved a great close to the tour.
Aside from the birds-of-paradise there were many other trickier species to find, and we found a goodly number of them. This included all three jewel-babblers, with at least one person getting great looks at all of them, and even a photographing one of the Chestnut-backed Jewel-Babblers seen, which performed exceptionally well at Varirata on our final day. Typically, there were some birds that only revealed themselves to some (e.g. Painted Quail-Thrush to a few, Buff-tailed Sicklebill to one lucky observer who stayed back at Ambua Lodge, and New Guinea (Harpy) Eagle which could only be seen by the lead vehicle at Tabubil); while less expected was a Forest Bittern seen by all, and even photographed, along the Ketu River in Western province. More memorable experiences included great looks at all three available species of paradise-kingfisher (Buff-breasted and Brown-headed Paradise-Kingfishers in Varirata, and Little Paradise-Kingfisher in the Kwatu area); great looks at two fiery male Crested Satinbirds in the highlands; such super looks at a deep blue male Emperor Fairywren which led to this species into contention for the top five birds of the trip for the very first time; an enormous Southern Crowned Pigeon roosting beside the river near Kwatu; and two separate good looks at Pheasant Pigeon near Port Moresby. As usual, we worked very hard for some of these birds, but the resulting rewards were more than worthwhile; some of the very best birds on Earth.

The tour had begun with a stint in the well-manicured gardens of PAU (Pacific Adventist’s University campus) in Port Moresby, from where we then visited two areas in the highlands: Kumul Lodge and Ambua Lodge. From there we moved to lower elevations, visiting the depressingly deforested forest patches near the mining town of Tabubil, before moving to the rich wet, lowland jungles surrounding Kiunga and along the Fly River. Finally, we day-tripped Varirata National Park near Port Moresby, where this whirlwind tour of Papua New Guinea’s most accessible birding sites, came to a close. A special note should be made of Tabubil, which, due to continuing and rampant deforestation is now a mere shadow of its former self, and which will probably be dropped off birding itineraries for coming years, unless new sites open up.
The group and guide assembled, from different corners of the globe, at Australia’s Brisbane airport. As it was the first time Chris and Shannon at least, had set foot within the biological region of Australasia we set about getting them a flurry of lifebirds right from the departure lounge, which included Laughing Kookaburra, Magpie-Lark, Australian Magpie, Welcome Swallow, Noisy Miner and Blue-faced Honeyeater, all of which would not feature on the “official tour” in PNG. After arrival in PNG’s capital, and with the promise of considerably tougher birding to come, we visited PAU, which provided a great start to the tour: easy birding, right on the doorstep of Port Moresby. Before we reached the tranquil uni campus we were forced to make a roadside stop for a Black-backed Butcherbird, one of our afternoon targets, which was hunting by the roadside (photo next page). Moving onto the campus itself, the first of many Fawn-breasted Bowerbirds revealed itself, and we soon also took a trip to see its bower that was decorated with green items to entice any passing female to check it out. A couple of raptors passed by in the clear blue skies overhead; first a Whistling Kite, then a Collared Sparrowhawk, followed by the first (of many) Brahminy Kites. Nearby our first Rainbow (Coconut) Lorikeets allopreened together in a tree. Checking out the ponds we lapped up the many waterbirds present: red-shielded Comb-crested Jacanas walked across the lilies; Pied Herons and Intermediate Egrets lurked at the fringes; a migrant Sharp-tailed Sandpiper foraged along the edge of one pond; a Latham’s Snipe and several Pacific Golden Plovers fed on the freshly cut lawns; and Plumed and Wandering Whistling-Ducks drifted just offshore. Trees by the ponds held a handful of roosting Rufous (Nankeen) Night-Herons, and a Brown Oriole became the first endemic of the tour closeby; while Singing Starlings and Metallic Starlings regularly roamed around the campus. Finding a fruiting tree with half a dozen or so Yellow-faced Mynas led us and our local guide Daniel to wonder whether any of the local fruit-doves would be in attendance. Thankfully, Chris answered this question rather quickly, pointing out an Orange-fronted Fruit-Dove perched above the mynas. Moving into an area of massive Rain Trees, despite a humdrum of noise emanating from a local rugby match, a pair of Papuan Frogmouths were found roosting, unconcernedly overhead by our guide Daniel, an expert in such things. A final stop by a hidden pond, led
us to three Spotted Whistling-Ducks dozing in the trees nearby, and our sole sighting of Forest Kingfisher of the tour. We returned to our safe city hotel, and some of us downed our first Export lager, the can of which comes, appropriately decorated with a displaying bird-of-paradise.

![Image of bird](image)

*The group enjoying a Black-backed Butcherbird at PAU (Chris Sloan)*

**30th September**  
**Port Moresby to Kumul Lodge**

In the morning we took a flight, which left atypically *promptly*, from PNG’s capital, Port Moresby, to Mount Hagen in the Western Highlands. After landing we met with our crew from Kumul Lodge who drove us an hour or so into neighboring Enga province, where the lodge is located.

Since the discovery of this mountain lodge by birders, within the last decade, it has become a must-visit venue, for it can boast the only bird table in the world that regularly attracts birds-of-paradise. Thus, as we arrived the group quickly hurried up to view their centerpiece. The afternoon was dominated with many of the regulars of the Kumul Lodge garden and surrounds: Brown Sicklebills dropped in, dramatically, on the table regularly, as did a healthy number of Ribbon-tailed Astrapias; our first two birds-of-the-paradise were in the bag just a short time after arriving. White-winged Robins regularly foraged in the garden, visible through the lodge windows; Island Thrush would appear regularly in the garden; and the occasional Rufous-naped Whistler would rasp from the undergrowth, then coming hopping by on the ground; while the more striking, and arboreal, Regent Whistler fed in the trees above the bird table. In the highlands, two honeyeater species dominate, Smoky Honeyeater and Belford’s
Melidectes, both of which were bird table regulars during our entire stay at Kumul \((\text{photo below})\). The bushes alongside also held a Black-backed Honeyater too, another garden regular at Kumul. Another table favorite was the **Brehm’s Tiger-Parrot**, at least two of which came in during the afternoon. Less expected was the vision in red, which was a super **Papuan Lorikeet** which was foraging in a fruiting tree within the garden too \((\text{photo page 2})\); and it was good to see the now regular female **Sanford’s Bowerbird** came in to the table too \((\text{photo below})\); a species which is very hard to see ordinarily were it not for this particular individual which has become a bird table regular.

A walk along a forest trail on the edge of the lodge property was generally quiet, (as afternoons often are), aside from the odd **Friendly Fantail** greeting us, although we did pick up another “bird-of-paradise”-if you accept current taxonomy-with a glossy-black **Lesser Melampitta** which bounded along the forest floor, quite unlike any bird-of-paradise I know!

![Melampitta](https://www.tropicalbirding.com/images/melampitta.png)

**1st October**  
**Kumul Lodge & surrounds**

A pre-dawn start was required on this day, as we made our way downhill from the lodge to the tiny hamlet of Kopia, which can boast a very special bird indeed on the hillsides below the village. As we made our way down the steep slope the harsh cries of **Lesser Bird-of-paradise** alerted us to them in the *casuarina* trees far below, but it would take us some time to get there. After thirty minutes or so we were on site (having picked up **Black-headed Whistler** and **New Guinea White-eye** on the way down), with their harsh display calls still reaching our ears regularly. However, getting a sight of the birds themselves...
was proving tricky; due to a long and recent history of hunting birds in PNG have become skilled in hiding behind the smallest areas of cover! Our first few views were a little disappointing before we turned our attention to a calling male Magnificent Bird-of-paradise, which, remarkably rocketed in to the top of a tree when a little playback was used. Typically, though, it did not settle for long. We all saw it, but he never let us get the ‘scope on him as we would have liked. It was, however, a good view for this species, of a male, in the open. After picking up a gorgeous Ornate Melidectes, and female Superb Bird-of-paradise, which also both visited the same fruiting tree that had attracted the “Mag. BOP”, one of our local crew, Wilson gestured for us to join him downhill. We hurried down there and were ecstatic when he pointed out a resplendent male Lesser Bird-of-Paradise, which, unlike the earlier, shyer bird, was only too happy to sit in full view for a long, long time. While the rest of us were chasing another lifer closeby, Shannon was also treated to several males and female dancing in a near tree, which, for her, justifiably proved one of the standout moments of the entire tour! The same area also held our first White-shouldered Fairywrens, Brown-breasted Gerygone, Island Leaf-Warbler, and Marbled Honeyeater; and our only Brown Falcon of the tour. On the return journey to the car we also picked up our first Great Woodswallows gliding over the hillside, and had several good flight views of a Great Cuckoo-Dove. On the journey back to the lodge a riverside stop yielded the hoped for Torrent Flycatchers hopping around on the rocks mid-river, as well as a Brown Goshawk passing overhead. Our final stop of the morning was for the scarce Yellow-breasted Bowerbird, which proved challenging to find during this hot part of the day, but eventually we walked into a muddy area which broadened our view, and produced good views of the bird.
Over lunch at the lodge we admired the “usual crowd” in the garden, which included a splendid male Red-collared Myzomela, (photo page 4), the regular female Sanford’s Bowerbird again, a spanking male Brown Sicklebill with the usual females too (photo above), a gorgeous male Regent Whistler, (photo previous page), and a co-operative Mountain Firetail which fed I the garden and this time allowed all to see it.

We lunched back at the lodge, musing over our heady list of birds-of-paradise already, but yearning for more, decided to take another uphill hike for one of the most highly desired of them all: King-of-Saxony bird-of-Paradise. Shannon stayed back, after our morning excursions, and enjoyed being stalked by the regular male Ribbon-tailed Astrapia with his “white lightning” tail trailing behind him (photo next page).

Our afternoon on the appropriately named “King-of-Saxony Trail”, was simply fantastic. Afternoon birding is usually, typically, slow and challenging; not on this day though. The walk up the hill was initially quiet and then the deadlock was broken with a fantastic male Garnet Robin, part of a pair rare Rufescent Imperial-Pigeon seen by the group, then a White-breasted Fruit-Dove burst in to a recording of another bird, which then made us realize that this species was calling in the background of the recording. And, then the floodgates opened: next up was a super male King-of-Saxony Bird-of-paradise displaying his most famous, and odd feature, the serated antennae-like feathers which protrude from the head, and adorn so many tribal head dresses through the country. We mopped up views of several super individuals, while we stood in a small clearing. The clearing proved a great base of operations for the next
few hours when species after species came through and were added to our trip list. Next up, the soft whistles of a Wattled Ploughbill reached our ears, and soon after a male foraged at eye level for top-notch views of this oft-difficult species. We barely had time to catch our breath and we were looking at another smart endemic, this time a pair of Tit Berrypeckers; a short time later a flock of Papuan Mountain Pigeons flew over the clearly, which were quickly eclipsed by a spritely Black-breasted Boatbill calling in the close trees, which was then followed shortly after by a jet-black male Loria’s Satinbird that visited a nearby fruiting tree. The return walk back along the trail also produced some “nuthatching” Blue-capped Ifritas (one of a handful of poisonous birds in PNG), a female Sclater’s Whistler, and our first Stephanie’s Astrapias of the tour. And so ended one of the best afternoon birding sessions I had experienced in PNG’s mountains, by adding another bird-of-paradise to the list.

2nd October Kumul Lodge & surrounds

Another morning in PNG, and another in which we hoped for a different bird-of-paradise to be “lined up in our cross hairs”; although this time, with no disrespect to the perfectly beautiful Lesser Bird-of-paradise, we were going to be searching for one of the world’s very best birds: Blue Bird-of-paradise. From previous experience at this site I knew that sightings were anything but guaranteed, with the likelihood of seeing it largely dependent on presence of fruiting trees in the area. So you can imagine the mood when we discovered that one of the most regular fruit-bearing trees which is know to visit was
found to be completely devoid of fruit! By that time we had already done the difficult bit, hike several hundred meters up a mountain to get off the road and in sight of its regular feeding areas; and so we stayed put anyhow. Thankfully, a short time later we heard the classic “reverse signal” call of a male Blue bird-of-paradise calling upslope. We waited rather impatiently it has to be said, hoping the sound might come closer. In the meantime, we observed a male Superb Bird-of-paradise calling from an exposed perch; a Crinkle-collared Manucode ghosted in for a short time; and our lower elevation brought us into range for Yellow-browed Melidectes that replaces Belford’s Melidectes at this altitude. After some time being taunted by its distinctive beeping call, we decided to try moving upslope, which meant a rather slippery steep hike, although as we did so Sam got a cracking look at a male “Blue BOP” flying downslope, although frustratingly, due to his elevated position at the front of the group, was the only one who saw it! We quickly backtracked, and moments later, we all had a beautiful male in the ‘scope where we spoke about its extraordinary beauty and stood in complete awe of one of the world’s great birds. Several BOP views later, we were all satisfied, and so began our climb down from the mountain, noting a Tawny (Papuan) Grassbird, Buff-faced Scrubwren, and a rusty female Black Fantail on the way down. On the way back to the lodge we made the hike back up the “Saxony Trail”, to pick Shannon up her very own “Sax BOP”, as she was not present for that show the day before; and on the way down we had close looks at a typically furtive Orange-crowned Fairywren.

Over lunch back at Kumul Lodge we surveyed the garden for the usual eclectic mix of birds, which included the following regulars: Brown Sicklebills, Sanford’s Bowerbird, a spiffing male Red-collared Myzomela, Brehm’s Tiger-Parrot, (photo left), and Papuan Lorikeet. Much less expected was the polka-dotted female Chestnut Forest-Rail that walked across the edge of the flower beds, and a bold Speckled Dasyure which hopped up on to the open bird table to feed at length (photo, next page). After taking in these sights we headed off with our local guide Max to check out his mountain garden, just beyond the property of the lodge, where a large forest-fringed clearing promised many cool birds we were still looking for. Unfortunately, as we headed out there rain began falling steadily, which had developed into a...
significant downpour accompanied by very poor visibility, aided by dense, low, cloud cover, by the time we arrived at the site. We sheltered under the eaves of Max’s traditional hut located within the clearing, and silently cursed the rain which had out paid to any chance of finding these birds. Knowing how unpredictable mountain weather can be, I suggested waiting this out for as long as possible, as even late afternoons can produce great birds, especially when there is a known fruiting tree bearing fruit in the area. However, after a substantial period of time most of the group headed back to the lodge and the warmth and dry that it would offer. And who could blame them; it was cold, wet and miserable, with little promise of a change in the weather from the look of the sky at the time. However, late in the afternoon the clouds lifted, so that we could once more, at least see the fruiting tree that peaked our interest, and so Chris and Sam left the sanctuary of the hut and approached the tree with Max, who, soon after picked up the movements of a pair of Crested Berrypeckers braving the rain and foraging within its dense canopy. Views were initially poor, until the rain eased further and the birds fed in an open section of the tree. Not long later a female Crested Satinbird appeared suddenly in the same tree, and our hopes were being raised further that an afternoon, which had appeared so bleak, might end up being one of the more memorable ones of the tour after all. Moments later movements in some white blooms led us to one of the rarer residents in the area: Sooty Melidectes, three of which were seen in the garden over this heady ten minute period. This species was only relatively recently discovered in the area with regular sightings only coming this year. Then the scratchy calls of a MALE Crested Satinbird reached our ears, and our nerves were heightened at the mere sound of this mega-looking bird. We knew that they like to feed in same tree as the berrypeckers we had just seen, and so avidly combed the tree for any sign of movement. Then, there it was, a firebrand male Crested Satinbird sitting out in plain sight, before jumping up on to the crown of the tree so not a branch obscured our view of another of the world’s top birds. Chris and I were flabbergasted; how could an afternoon which had started so badly, turn around to be one of the standout days of the entire tour! Pumped with our success, and with dusk only minutes away, we lingered in the clearing until the half light of dusky cloaked the clearing, and soon after some low calls had us scanning the skies, where Max pointed to a Dusky Woodcock passing over on a roding flight!
3rd October Kumul to Ambua Lodge (Tari)

After some brief birding around Kumul, which produced a small flock of we undertook a long, painful drive to Ambua Lodge. Traveling between the two is difficult as no scheduled flights currently exist between Hagen and Tari, and the only alternative being to fly back to Port Moresby for the night, then fly to Tari from there. Thus we opted for the lesser of two evils, although this drive was long, and largely birdless, save for a couple of Australasian Pipits and, a rather more appreciated, stunning male Papuan Harrier that cruised past us as we crossed the Tari Gap near the journey’s end. With some relief, we arrived at the tranquil surrounds of Ambua Lodge, waved goodbye to our crew from Kumul and met without experienced local guide from our next lodge. There was precious little time for birding on arrival, although thankfully good birds can often be seen from the picturesque grounds of this mountain lodge, and so we had a short time birding from their helipad, which led us to a great view of a pair of Papuan Lorikeets feeding in a fruiting tree, which involved a dark morph and scarlet morph bird feeding together; several male Stephanie’s Astrapias were found form our viewpoint, where we marveled at their impressive tail shapes; a distant male Lawe’s Parotia left us wanting more; and another male Superb Bird-of-paradise was seen calling from an exposed snag. The lodge’s resident group of Great Woodswallows passed overhead regularly (photo below), as did numerous Yellow-billed Lorikeets, some of which were seen perched in trees within he grounds.
4th October  
Tari
Tari has become long established as one of the great birding areas within PNG, with many cool mountain birds found in the area. We decided to start our day right in the grounds of the lodge. Our best-laid plans though were messed with, when dawn rose wet and gray, with low visibility and heavy rain. This did not really change our plans much, as we’d intended to spend time checking a fruiting tree in the lodge grounds anyway, and as it turned out the gloomy weather encouraged the birds to come as hoped. Over several hours we enjoyed visits from multiple Stephanie’s Astrapias giving us our best views yet; several female Lawe’s Parotias (sightings of males are sadly quite rare; making our distant male the evening before all the more frustrating!); a female Superb Bird-of-paradise; and an excellent Short-tailed Paradigalla, which posed for some time in the rain. After we soaked up the stream of BOPs coming in to this fruiting tree, which is something of a PNG legend among birders; picked up the local Black Butcherbird in the garden; and admired a pair of Mountain Peltops hawking for insects from exposed perches at length; we were keen to set off on the trail of the many other quality birds available outside the lodge, in the higher reaches of the Tari Valley. Unfortunately, the rain prevented us from leaving for a while, but finally it relented, and we eagerly boarded the bus in anticipation of some higher elevation birds. The joy of birding the Tari Valley is the variety of elevations that can be birded with a road running from the lodge at 1700m up to the Tari Gap at around, with many species being quite specific in their altitudinal distributions. However, we begun by checking a stakeout for Mountain Kingfisher only a short distance from the lodge. The bird was heard very quickly, although the bird itself was predictably much harder to see. However, through some sterling work of our local guide, we managed to set the scope up on it sitting quietly within the canopy, affording excellent views of one of the toughest of the kingfishers to see on this tour. Across the road from the kingfisher a Blue-gray Robin made its first appearance of the tour. Higher up the valley, we visited the beautiful “7 Corners” area, and walked some windy, narrow trails for a while, which finally paid off when our local guide pointed us towards a pair of very close Chestnut Forest-Rails scratching around in the leaf litter, allowing close views for all. Otherwise our mid-morning visit there was largely quiet, save for an inconspicuous Gray (Mountain) Gerygone foraging in a canopy, which was upstaged by a super party of Black Sitellas feeding by the roadside. A Black-mantled Goshawk also flew low down the road in front of us a short time later, before we returned to Ambua for lunch. After lunch Chris enjoyed taking photos of the handful of Mountain Swiftlets circling the lodge at eye level (photo above).
In the afternoon we moved downhill from Ambua to an area of sparser trees where, over the years, Sooty Owls have been regular. However, in this year, and on this day too unfortunately, there was no sign of the Sooty Owls at their favored hollow. While in the area though we did see several large parties of Capped White-eyes, our sole sighting of the tour; a pair of dozing Papuan Frogmouths; the distinctive Long-billed Honeyeater; and a male Superb Bird-of-paradise which frustrated us by not remaining in the open for long. Late in the afternoon we tried, very successfully, for Spotted Jewel-Babbler around the lodge, which came in really close and well on several occasions, with all present getting views of this notoriously slippery customer! With the evening approaching, and a rare moment where the rain had held off at this time of day, we decided to take full advantage and head uphill again to a large quarry at dusk. We listened for any sound from the hoped-for Archbold’s (Mountain) Nightjar, but no sounds of nightbirds reached our ears. So, we walked into the quarry, played the call and were stunned when one of these scarce nightjars almost took Sam’s head off in a particularly fierce and dramatic reaction to a short burst of playback! It was a standout moment. Unfortunately, but rather expectedly, our wretched run with owlet-nightjars continued with no calls from the rare Feline Owlet-nightjar heard at a couple of spots for the bird, and so we retired for dinner. Post dinner, a survey of the grounds initially produced no sound from the usual Jungle Hawk-Owl, although just after everyone had retired to their cabins, one began calling earnest; the “troops” were quickly re-assembled and we enjoyed great looks as it called incessantly from an open limb near our cabins.

5th – 7th October Tari

Two further days were spent in the Tari Valley, exploring the area around the lodge and various points up from there. On one morning the lone member of the group stayed back at the lodge and was fortunate to have one of the sightings of the tour; when a Buff-tailed Sicklebill came to feed in the garden. Unfortunately, this rare bird-of-paradise would remain elusive for the rest of us, in spite of further searching, and regularly checking of the fruiting tree within the grounds for any sign of it. We made several attempts over these days to track down a male Black Sicklebill, which sometimes emerge on to dead snags early in the morning to display. On the second morning, after our initial scans could not located several calling birds, a male as finally picked up, typically at some distance, which was even seen doing his strange “surfboard display” by some of the group before he dropped out of sight. The same area also produced our first Hooded Cuckoo-shrike of the tour, which were later seen again right from the well-manicured grounds of Ambua Lodge. During these early morning searches we were very lucky too to find a perched Meyer’s Goshawk during our fevered scans of the treetops too. Lawe’s Parotias, always involving females, were also seen intermittently within the garden of Ambua also. We went in pursuit of a calling Papuan Treecreeper just above Ambua but were always thwarted with no sighting ever coming in spite of much effort put in for it. The same area though did yield a superb Black Pitohui, another of PNG’s many infamous skulkers, which was seen extraordinarily well while walking a trail, which also held high numbers of nectar feeding birds, due to some canopy flowers being in bloom at the time. Some of the best birds seen dropping in on the blooms were some spectacular Fairy Lorikeets, several elusive Black-throated Honeyeaters and multiple Red-collared Myzomelas. Many other
lorikeets were active in the area but **Goldie’s Lorikeets** were only seen in flight, while a few **Orange-billed Lorikeets** at least let us get them perched. We went in pursuit of our fair share of some of the more difficult Tari residents, with, as usual, success with some, like **Ashy and Lesser Ground Robins**, both of which gave us some great looks; while others like Papuan Logrunner were only ever seen by the guide unfortunately. A number of whistlers were seen during our daily birding in including some gorgeous male **Regent and Sclater’s Whistlers** (the former generally occurring at the higher elevations relative to the latter); the subdued **Brown-backed Whistler**, and the rare **Mottled Whistler** which had a knack of staying out of view for the majority of our time, but we did eventually get some brief clear views with perseverance. At the upper end of the valley one particular day closed with some great birds when, first **Crested Berypeckers** were found feeding in a fruiting tree, then a number of **Crested Satinbirds** dropped into this rich fruiting area too. This mostly involved females, though did involve one fiery male too on one memorable occasion which brought cheers all round! We also reacquainted ourselves with the spectacular **Ribbon-tailed Astrapia** in that area, several of which chased each other around conspicuously for a time on that same memorable afternoon. The Tari Gap also revealed a further male **King-of-Saxony Bird-of-paradise** standing sentry on an open snag with his bizarre “headgear” waving in the wind at the time. Some great looks too came of several **Black-throated Robins** in the upper valley. While **Mid-mountain (Lemon-bellied) Berrypeckers**, part of an endemic New Guinea bird family, were found at the lower altitudes in the valley, several **Fan-tailed Berrypeckers** were found at the higher elevations. The birds may have been the stars for some, although we also made a special trip down from the lodge one afternoon to see a short “sing-sing” of the **Huli Wigmen**, *(photo, next page)*, dressed in their full regalia which is usually only worn on special occasions, but was set up for us specially by Ambua. The Huli are especially famous for the use of the color yellow in their face paints, which is also the meaning of the name of the lodge, Ambua (which means “yellow”). On the final of these three days, we flew back to Port Moresby from Tari, with relatively little fuss, and, once again, were fortunate to have no significant delays, (which are frustratingly commonplace in this country).
8th October  Port Moresby to Tabubil

On this day we flew from Port Moresby to Kiunga, then drove to Tabubil, after connecting with our guide Samuel. Tabubil is a mining town that serves the local OK Tedi, mine. While there is plentiful forest in the area, there is precious little of it than can be easily accessed. Sadly, deforestation has continued apace within the few accessible areas, and there is a real feeling that this site may soon be wiped from trip itineraries, unless an alternative site becomes available. The number of birds seen on this section of the trip has dramatically fallen in recent years as a consequence of the much-reduced habitat available. We left the site within the itinerary this year, as Tabubil is a mid-elevation site without alternative, and therefore potentially offered some birds not possible anywhere else on the tour. It also happens to be one of the wettest sites in PNG, which therefore means, one of the wettest sites in the world too! As expected, therefore, we were not surprised when, on approach to the town rain began falling, which turned into heavy constant rain. The only thing to do in such challenging weather was visit the OK Menga Hyrdoplant in the hope of picking up a major target in the form of the rare Salvadori's Teal, as this is one species that might just be active in the rain. Furthermore, Tabubil, and this site in particular were the only site on the entire tour which offered the species. On scanning the river on arrival it was clear that no teals were in attendance, though knowing they could appear at any time we braved the rain, and continued our search. With the poor conditions for birding, and recent clearance of trees in the area, we saw precious few birds there save for some typically high-flying Dusky Lorys overhead, a few Rainbow Lorikeets, and then, finally, Melinda announced she had the teal. Nervous moments passed but then we...
all had it, and could view it through the scope, before it took off and left, leaving us with the feeling of elation at getting what may have proved a difficult customer over the coming days.

9th October
Tabubil

A full day was spent in several areas around Tabubil. Our first stop, Dablin Creek, had, like OK Menga too undergone some recent clearance of habitat making for the most challenging birding of the tour, and it is fair to say that this was the least favorite site on the tour by virtue of the precious little habitat available, meaning the birding comprised of standing along a short section of road, often in the hot sun waiting for the occasional bird to pass by. This, sadly, is the reality of birding this area currently! We were lucky in that we had 4WD vehicles available meaning by splitting between two cars we could be driven up to the top of this steep road to bird where the best habitat remains. The unfortunate consequence of this was that the first landcruiser got one of the sightings of the tour when a massive New Guinea Eagle flew low past them, but had disappeared by the time the follow-up vehicle arrived with Sam and Chris. Still, it’s better that at least some people got to see this incredibly scarce raptor! During a hard fought morning of few birds, we did manage to squeeze out some new additions such as a super male Golden Cuckooshrike among a trio of them, and a well-behaved White-rumped Robin, (photo above), which was one of the standout performers of the morning, once it had hopped onto an open branch. Long periods of inactivity were punctuated with birds like a flyover pair of Pesquet’s (Vulturine) Parrots, which were sadly all too brief just passing by at high speed, through a narrow gap in the forest; a flyover Carola’s Parotia was equally frustrating and landed out of sight; a brief view of a Goldenface (Dwarf Whistler) continued this theme; and a Greater Melampitta approached close but also gave only very brief views; however Papuan Cicadabirds (Black-shouldered Cuckooshrike) passing by regularly were much more cooperative. One of the best performers of the morning came late, after a hot sunny wait, when a White-eared Bronze-cuckoo suddenly began calling close by and gave us some good looks. Just before we returned to town for lunch a Pygmy Eagle rose up on a thermal, and later still one of the vehicles had a low view of a Long-tailed Honey-Buzzard. In the afternoon we switched venue and were toyed with by several calling Rufous-tailed Bush-hens, one of which showed to a couple of people at least, including Melinda who got the best views as she was the first to clap eyes on it as it ghosted in. Some roadside Little Ringed Plovers were straightforward, here possessing a distinctive call, and pale base to the bill unlike most other races.
In the late afternoon we returned to OK Menga, where another Salvadori’s Teal flew past us; a Lesser Black Coucal hopped up onto the top of a bush; Streak-headed Honeyeater was scoped up for some time; further Mountain Peltops were seen at length as they hunted insects from the casuarina trees; and several flocks of Gray Crows were seen in both flight and perched. Some of us lingered in an area to try for the extremely difficult Shovel-billed Kookaburra, which used to be regularly seen prior to the closure of OK Ma (due to a broken bridge rendering it inaccessible for the past few years), and continuing deforestation at OK Menga, which has now made this a very rarely seen bird indeed. Just the one, very distant call was heard despite our efforts and we agreed to try another spot at dawn.

10th October Tabubil

This was Chris’s 40th birthday, and so we hoped, for his sake that we could get him something extra special for the day. Unfortunately, Tabubil would not be the first choice of places to look for cool birds with the limited birding options available. We tried early morning for Shovel-billed Kookaburra and even got a flyover look at a bird, which never called back and never landed in sight! Not the best of birthday starts. We again bumped into presumably the same White-eared Bronze-Cuckoo, which gave storming looks, and posed for photos in the few scraps of habitat remaining. (photo right). That was most definitely the best sighting of the morning, which was again slow going birding the few patches of remaining forest: Double-eyed Fig-Parrot came in and perched for a time; Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo revealed itself for a short period to just one person; the same Papuan Cicadabirds made sure we saw them again; another Carola’s Parotia, once again only gave flight views; a pair of Mountain Peltops hung around the roadside for almost the entire morning; a Spotted Honeyeater flew in and graced a bare tree along the road; and two female Magnificent Birds-of-paradise lingered in view for some time in a low fruiting tree.

After lunch we were moving on to Kiunga, and knowing we had some very special birds to be seen there, had planned an early lunch and scheduled plenty of time to get there. Through one thing after another, we had a much-delayed arrival, meaning that we arrived with only a short time to bird just outside of Kiunga before darkness fell. On arrival we quickly admired a Black-capped Lory and an Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove perched by the roadside. Then we hurried through the forest to a very special spot, where the harsh cries could be heard, and the excited frolics of the male Greater Birds-of-paradise could be seen overhead (photo, next page). We were simply ecstatic to see them, but craved better views still, we tried
re-positioning to another spot, then returned to the same spot, when amazingly two particular males flew directly in, and landed in the open overhead where they remained for a long time for extended ‘scope views. After the trails and tribulations of birding in Tabubil this was like a release valve, and just what the doctor ordered: great views of one of the New Guinea’s most spectacular birds. The birthday celebrations, complete with a specially made cake and healthy dose of wine, were perhaps that little bit more animated with this special bird in the bag just before celebrations began in Kiunga that night.

11th October Kiunga to Kwatu

Just after dawn we left our guesthouse with nervous excitement; we were to be traveling into one of the most pristine, spectacular lowland forests in the world, along the Ketu and Elevala Rivers, a three-hour boat ride away from Kiunga. This was to be our first serious foray into lowland jungle, which therefore produced an avalanche of new birds. Initially, we made our way along the Fly River before taking the Elevala River. The journey was packed with birds as usual, with many species passing over the boat, or perched alongside the rivers, which are flanked with beautiful forest. Up to half a dozen or so Papuan Needletails hawked around the boat at various points during the trip. Good numbers of parrots and pigeons typically dominate on this journey upriver, and this time was no different: 4 species of imperial-pigeon were seen; Collared, Pinon, Zoe, and Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeons (in order of abundance). Some fruiting trees en-route attracted Orange-bellied, Pink-spotted and Dwarf Fruit-Doves, although the latter were only seen in flight. Parrots were well represented on the journey too, with Eclectus Parrots passing over regularly (with some seen perched too), and other species recorded on the journey too, including Yellow-streaked, Dusky, and Black-capped Lorys; Red-flanked Lorikeet, typically brief Pesquet’s Parrots, Double-eyed Fig-Parrot, and Red-cheeked Parrot. While we moved upriver, we would make stops for birds calling by the river or its tributaries, like White-bellied Thicket-Fantail which gave some great looks alongside a narrow creek; and a rowdy group of New Guinea Babblers were tempted to cross the river and drop into a tree above the boat. We did not need to leave the boat either to add some typically noisy White-bellied Pitohuis to the list, or a riverside male Black Cicadabird, or a super pair of gilded Golden Mynas. There was also no need to get out of the boat for our first Frilled Monarch, which was found nesting along the banks; and regular Shining Flycatchers, a riparian species, were seen in the bankside vegetation. Several rainforest “giants” were
also picked up on the journey, and were typically much anticipated; the slow, loud wingbeats of Blyth’s Hornbills were often what alerted us to their nearby presence (photo, right); and several Palm Cockatoos shared the journey with us too. The latter involved one particular bird that landed in full view by the river, and accompanied its performance by flaring up its conspicuous crest right in front of us. The majority of PNG’s kingfishers in the area are restricted to the forest interior, although we did see a single Azure Kingfisher on the “cruise”, which allowed us to sidle up close to it; and also spotted our first Rufous-bellied Kookaburra calling loudly from an exposed perch. At the end of the morning we struggled our way through the deep mud, and visited a short trail, where Common Paradise-Kingfishers were quick to react to a little playback, several birds both calling back and flying into view. The same trail also held a typically elusive Black-sided Robin, which was seen well by all in the end; and a glittering Hooded Pitta which bounced past us a couple of times. Some small flocks were also heard in the area, which led us to views of Yellow-bellied Gerygones, more Frilled Monarchs, (photo page 23), and our first Spot-winged and Hooded Monarchs.

After stopping off at our humble lodge where we would overnight, and noting a passing Channel-billed Cuckoo flying by, we were ready to wade through some mud and hit the trails again. Our target was the blood-and-snow colored King Bird-of-paradise, which proved extremely elusive, at this regular site for it. However, after several brief glimpses we managed to find it sitting quietly when it allowed us to peer back at its immaculate plumage through the scope for some time. The same area held our first Wompoo Fruit-Dove, a fantastic perched Beautiful Fruit-Dove, and some large, recent tracks of Southern Cassowary. We began to leave the area, with the afternoon wearing on, and our best chance of Southern Crowned Pigeons being found roosting in the trees along the riverbanks approaching. However, the loud, close, calls of a Hook-billed Kingfisher distracted us for while, and we weaved our way through the forest to the calls of the bird, when the local guides skillfully found the bird sitting on an open perch! Then we were quickly back on the boats, and on patrol for the largest pigeon in the world. One of the local guides, Edward, though spotted something he could not quite name, and so the boat was swung around, at which point a Forest Bittern flew up and perched in full view beside the boat! A clear view of one of the area’s rarest birds! Moments later, with precious little light remaining the boat was moved into a position where we could see a Southern Crowned Pigeon sitting nervously in the trees along the river,
for a superb close to a day, which had brought many new birds, and many spectacular species among them! Our wretched luck with both late afternoon/rains and owlet-nightjars continued that when we were rained out from even trying for the rare Wallace’s and Starry Owlet-Nightjars that occur near the lodge.

12th October Kwatu to Kiunga

After our bumper crop the day before our avian targets for the next day were becoming clear, and so we started with a pre-dawn walk for a few of the group to try for the owlet-nightjars now the weather had cleared. Many Marbled Frogmouths were heard, which would not come in to any overtures we tried, and no owlet-nightjars were heard either, making it a rather futile walk, before we returned to the lodge for breakfast. Before we had started to eat though the sounds of a near male Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise was heard close by, and despite some distant, misty views through the scope, we left the lodge and boarded the boat to try for better views along the riverside. Just a few minutes later and we were in full view of a prominent snag poking up through the treetops, where dramatically both a gold-and-black male, and a rusty female came in. The presence of the female sent the male into an excited bout of pole dancing, shifting up and down the pole, his wispy twelve wires turned up behind him, and has body feathers pumped out for maximum effect. He certainly had an effect on the group who were reveling in the moment. After ten minutes of gaping at the “BOP”, (in which we also added a Large-billed Gerygone from the boat and another couple of Golden Mynas for good measure); and the departure of the birds, we returned for a welcome breakfast. Once breakfast was dealt with (and another calling Rufous-bellied Kookaburra was noted from the lodge), we were back in the boats, and transferred to another trail
running through the forest just off the river. We had many targets in mind as we set off down the trail, and we quickly retraced our steps when a Red-bellied Pitta began calling behind us. A little off trail was required before we reached the spot, and then some craning of necks and re-angling of scopes was required before we could get the whole bird in our sights, while hiding well behind a small clump of well-placed leaves. Working back along the trail we treated ourselves to another Common Paradise-Kingfisher, after a close calling bird was hard to resist; and continued to hope for the rarer Little Paradise-Kingfisher too. While we listened for that birds and walked through areas for it we ran into a super pair of Emperor Fairywrens, the glossy blue male of which put in a standout performance, which led it to enter the top five birds of the tour list. We checked the blind locally, where in recent times some Flightless Rails had visited, but unfortunately the area had been flooded in the last few days, and no sign of any recent visits were in evidence. Around the blind though we did have the chance to go after one of Papua New Guinea’s legendary skulkers: Blue Jewel-Babbler. It high pitched whistles reached our ears, and the bird played with us over the next 45 minutes, coming in on numerous occasions, giving some great views in the process to most of the group. We were set to leave the site, when one of our local guides, who’d wandered uptrail called us over; as he’d just seen a Little Paradise-kingfisher! In our hurry to get there we probably inadvertently flushed the bird. Our local guide Edward though crept his way forward betraying his life as a local hunter, and soon after gestured towards a young Little Paradise-Kingfisher sitting perfectly still in the understory, where it remained for over five minutes. On the way back towards the boat, with lunch beckoning, we bumped into our first Yellow-bellied Longbill, and Melinda saw a gorgeous male Golden Monarch that was blocked from the rest of us. Lunchtime was typically sticky and hot with seemingly little activity around the lodge, until a Long-billed Cuckoo responded to my overtures and landed in a tree next to the lodge! Moments after another movement in the tiny lodge garden turned out to be a Lowland Peltops! Not bad for the quiet time of day.

In the afternoon we cruised back along the river, finally getting our first decent looks at Glossy-mantled Manucode, after many brief sightings over the past few days; picked up more Yellow-eyed Starlings flying around in several small parties low past the boat; enjoyed further flybys by some of the Fly River’s “giants”, Blyth’s Hornbill and Palm Cockatoo; and once again took in a healthy bunch of pigeons and parrots on the return journey such as Pink-spotted Fruit-Dove, and Collared and Pinon Imperial Pigeons;
as well as many Oriental Cuckoos, a single fly past from a Gray-headed Goshawk; another Pacific Baza, Channel-billed Cuckoo, and White-bellied Sea-Eagle. The final part of the journey saw the sun sinking and bathing the forest in that beautiful afternoon glow, making for a great clos to two very enjoyable days within one of the world’s great forests.

13th October Boystown Road, Kiunga

As we were due to fight out in the afternoon we had a much of the morning free to bird the Boystown Road, a short distance outside the town. This forest-fringed road has become infamous as the site for Flame Bowerbird. However, in spite of intense concentration from the group, just one, very, very brief sighting of a male was had by our local guide, unfortunately as the rest of us were looking the other way at some birds. Ordinarily, several birds pass over during this period of time, though, perhaps due to the regular mist and drizzle, this was not the best day for them, and so we left without this one. We spent the morning on a raised mound/grassy knoll, and in spite of little walking we saw many birds from our viewpoint. The morning produced our first views of a displaying Trumpet Manucode, and further views of Glossy-mantled Manucode too. One of the highlights of the morning was several Palm Cockatoos that landed close to our knoll and were observed allopreening and “spraying” their crest erect, (photo left).

Our elevated position also allowed us some great views of Rufous-bellied Kookaburra calling from the canopy; and a myriad of pigeons and doves, including Orange-bellied, Beautiful, Dwarf, and Pink-spotted Fruit-Doves; and our best views yet of a Zoe Imperial Pigeon, which remained in full view of the knoll for some time. Several of the areas smaller parrots passed overhead, like Papuan Hanging-Parrot, and Yellow-capped Pygmy-Parrot, though were, typically, little more than tiny calling dots in the sky! Two Variable Goshawks were seen flying past our position; some trip-exclusive Varied Trillers were pointed out from our knoll; and, finally, Tawny-breasted Honeyeater came in and gave us all the good view we deserved. Other birds we saw during the morning included several male Black Sunbirds, Australian Koels, another Lowland Peltops, our best looks yet of Red-cheeked Parrot, Brown Oriole, another Black Cicadabird, and some soaring Moustached Treeswift. After lunch back in Kiunga we
checked the local airfield for any buttonquails but our walk was cut short when our plane for Port Moresby flew in early and we departed for the capital, for our final few days based out of there.

14th – 15th October Varirata

Two days were spent in this beautiful national park a short distance from the chaotic capital, Port Moresby. The drive up was, as always interesting, passing first through dry open savanna woodland, in a deep canyon where huge black boulders belied the dramatic volcanic activity of its past. Once we arrived on the plateau at the top, we emerged out of the savanna and into the rainforest that tops the hill. The undoubted star of our visits to Varirata was PNG’s national bird, Raggiana Bird-of-paradise, which was seen in full dramatic display at a comfortable height for a ream of superb photos to be taken. A fair amount of trail walking was undertaken at the site to go after many of the shyer interior species, of which Varirata can boast a substantial collection. Some superb views were had of Brown-headed Paradise-Kingfisher, a local endemic, of which a handful was seen. Varirata also proved itself, once again, the best site on the tour for Yellow-billed Kingfisher with several individuals seen very well, including one that favored a tree right in the middle of the park clearing, where it posed for unbeatable photos over our lunches in the field on both days, (photo above). By checking some tree hollows over our two days in the park we found another of Varirata’s celebrity birds, with two separate, daytime, Barred Owlet-Nightjars peering out at us.

Varirata holds some rare and super-shy species, which need a lot of work to see them. On this list are such thrillers as Chestnut-backed Jewel-Babbler, Painted Quail-Thrush, and Pheasant Pigeon. We managed to see all of these species, and all of these species were seen well by some of the group, though
none were seen well by all. This is rather typical for this set, as it is almost inevitable that as this birds creep through the forest, someone is blocked from their position. That being said, we enjoyed the best views of Pheasant Pigeon I had experienced, though only one of the group, Melinda, were present for that moment. Thus we tried again for this bird and got two further views, with Chris having some great, close looks on the final afternoon too. For the Chestnut-backed Jewel-Babbler a similar scenario occurred: some brief views were had by all; with three different individuals seen in several attempts. However, the knockout views came when only Chris and Sam were present, when truly unbeatable views of a bird were enjoyed for over ten minutes, (photo below), while the rest of the group were searching elsewhere for other species! The Painted Quail-Thrush walked past us close, but its position only allowed one of the group to have good views before it slinked back into the undergrowth, in spite of all but one in the group managing to get on the bird. By searching the mixed flocks on site we found Pale-billed Scrubwren, Chestnut-bellied Fantail, Fairy Gerygone, Gray Whistler, Black Cicadabird, Hooded Pitohui, Spot-winged and Frilled Monarchs, and, on one occasion, a superb Goldenface (Dwarf Whistler). The distinctive buzzing calls of a Yellow-breasted Boatbill also led us to finding a pair of these spritely birds that completed a brace of boatbills for the tour. Close by, the raucous calls of White-crowned Koel initiated a scramble through the undergrowth that ended with a clear view of the culprit calling, full-frame, in the scope. Walking the forest produced some furtive understory species like Rusty Mouse-Warbler, which gave atypically good views in the open; a couple of great views of White-faced Robins clapsed to the side of vertical tree trunks (photo, next page); as well as a handful of obliging Black Berrypeckers. Our local guide did some sterling work on our second day by finding a mute Buff-breasted Paradise-kingsfisher sitting silently in the understory. Walking along one narrow forest stream also led us to another cool kingfisher, of which Varirata yielded four new species for the tour, with a fine pair of Variable Dwarf-Kingfishers that were scoped at length. Birding the main clearing in the park proved productive, in periods, as it led us to the great photos of the aforementioned Yellow-billed Kingfisher; Red-cheeked Parrots regularly dropped in for regular ‘scope looks; Pink-spotted Fruit-Doves gave their best views yet; a female Eastern Riflebird was seen, strangely, fly-catching early one morning from there; a Black Myzomela seen from there was our sole sighting of the tour; Boyer’s and Yellow-eyed Cuckooshrikes came into the trees along the edge of the clearing on several occasions, where a long look at a Stout-billed Cuckooshrike was achieved too. Outside of the rainforest, we birded the savanna on the slopes leading up to the park where we found the key endemic of this habitat one afternoon, White-bellied Whistler; in addition to Lemon-bellied and Leaden Flycatchers, White-throated Honeyeater, and many obliging Pheasant Coucals.
The tour closed after a short final birding stop outside the park, where we quickly found several groups of **Gray-headed Munias**, our final endemic of the tour, (some groups of which also held a few **Chestnut-breasted Munias**). A perched **Oriental Hobby**, a short time later, proved our final trip addition, before we headed back to Port Moresby to reflect on having seen some of the world’s most spectacular birds, well illustrated by our top five birds of the tour list...

**TOP FIVE BIRDS OF THE TOUR:**

1. **Raggiana Bird-of-paradise** (Varirata National Park)
2. **Ribbon-tailed Astrapia** (Kumul Lodge)
3. **Crested Satinbird** (Kumul Lodge & Tari Valley)
4. **Lesser Bird-of-paradise** (near Kumul Lodge)
5. **King-of-Saxony Bird-of-paradise** (near Kumul Lodge & Tari Valley)
5. **Chestnut-backed Jewel-Babbler** (Varirata National Park)
Raggiana Bird-of-paradise

Brown Sicklebill, female
BIRD & MAMMAL LISTS:

BIRDS

The taxonomy of the bird list follows: Clements, James F., White, Anthony W., and Fitzpatrick, John W. *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World*. Cornell, 2007. *This list is up to date with the major changes published by Cornell up until 2012.*

**H** indicates a species that was *HEARD* only;

**GO** indicates a species recorded by the *GUIDE ONLY*;

**New Guinea Endemics** are indicated by an *

**DUCKS, GEESE AND WATERFOWL: ANATIDAE**

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<tr>
<th>Species</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spotted Whistling-Duck</td>
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<td>Wandering Whistling-Duck</td>
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<td>Salvadori’s Teal</td>
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<td>Pacific Black Duck</td>
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<td>White-eyed Duck</td>
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*Also known as Hardhead.*

**MEGAPODES: MEGAPODIIDAE**

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<td>Black-billed Brush-turkey</td>
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**PHEASANTS, GROUSE & ALLIES: PHASIANIDAE**

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**GREBES: PODICIPEDIDAE**

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**CORMORANTS AND SHAGS: PHALACROCORACIDAE**

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**ANHINGAS: ANHINGIDAE**

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**HERONS, EGRETS AND BITTERNS: ARDEIDAE**

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<td>Ardea alba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Egret</td>
<td>Mesophoyx intermedia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Egret</td>
<td>Egretia garzetta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pied Heron</td>
<td>Egretia picata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle Egret</td>
<td>Bubulcus ibis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.tropicalbirding.com +1-409-515-0514 info@tropicalbirding.com
Striated Heron          *Butorides striata
Rufous Night-Heron      *Nycticorax caledonicus
*Also known as Nankeen Night-Heron.

**IBISES AND SPOONBILLS: THRESKIORNITHIDAE**
Glossy Ibis             *Plegadis falcinellus
Australian Ibis         *Threskiornis molucca
(Seen at Brisbane Airport in Australia, while waiting for our flight to PNG).
Straw-necked Ibis       *Threskiornis spinicollis
(Seen at Brisbane Airport in Australia, while waiting for our flight to PNG).

**OSPREYS: PANDIONIDAE**
Osprey                   *Pandion haliaetus cristatus
*The populations of Sulawesi and Australasia have been split on the IOC checklist as Eastern Osprey, *P. cristatus.*

**HAWKS, EAGLES & KITES: ACCIPITRIDAE**
Long-tailed Honey-buzzard *Heni copernis longicauda*
Pacific Baza             *A viceda subcrista 
New Guinea Eagle         *Harpyopsis novaeguineae*
*Also known as New Guinea Harpy-Eagle.
Pygmy Eagle              *H iraaetus weiskei*
*This is a recent split from Little Eagle, *H. morphnoides.*
Eastern Marsh-Harrier     *C ircus spilonotus spilothorax*
*This has been split as Papuan Harrier, *C. spilothorax on the IOC checklist.
Variable Goshawk         *A ccipiter hiogaster
Brown Goshawk            *A ccipiter fasciatus
Black-mantled Goshawk    *A ccipiter melanochlamys*
Collared Sparrowhawk     *A ccipiter cirrocephalus
Gray-headed Goshawk      *A ccipiter poliocephalus*
Meyer’s Goshawk          *A ccipiter meyerianus
Black Kite               *M ilvus migrans
Whistling Kite           *H aliastur sphenurus
Brahminy kite            *H aliastur indus
White-bellied Sea-Eagle  *H ali aeetus leucogaster

**RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS: RALLIDAE**
Chestnut Forest-Rail     *R allina rubra*
Rufous-tailed Bush-hen   *A mauornis moluccana
Purple Swamphen          *Porphyrio porphyrio
Dusky Moorhen            *G allinula tenebrosa

**PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: CHARADRIIDAE**
Pacific Golden-Plover    *Pluvialis fulva
Masked Lapwing           *Vanellus miles
Little Ringed Plover     *Charadrius dubius dubius

**JACANAS: JACANIDAE**
Comb-crested Jacana      *I rediparra gallinacea
### SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: SCOLOPACIDAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Sandpiper</th>
<th>Actitis hypoleucos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red-necked Stint</td>
<td>Calidris ruficollis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharp-tailed Sandpiper</td>
<td>Calidris acuminata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latham's Snipe</td>
<td>Gallinago hardwickii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky Woodcock</td>
<td>Scolopax saturata rosenbergii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PIGEONS AND DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rock Pigeon</th>
<th>Columba livia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slender-billed Cuckoo-Dove</td>
<td>Macropygia amboinensis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-billed Cuckoo-Dove</td>
<td>Macropygia nigrostris*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Cuckoo-Dove</td>
<td>Reinwardtoena reinwardtii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephan's Dove</td>
<td>Chalcophaps stephani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peaceful Dove</td>
<td>Geopelia placida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar-shouldered Dove</td>
<td>Geopelia humeralis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pheasant Pigeon</td>
<td>Otidiphaps nobilis*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Crowned-Pigeon</td>
<td>Goura scheepmakeri*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wompoo Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus magnificus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink-spotted Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus perlatus*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange-fronted Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus aurantifrons*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus superbus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beautiful Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus puchellus*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-breasted Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus rivoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus iozonus*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwarf Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus nanus*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purple-tailed Imperial-Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula rufigaster*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufescent Imperial-Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula chalconota*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinon Imperial-Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula pinon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collared Imperial-Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula mulleri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe Imperial-Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula zoeae*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torresian Imperial-Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula spilorrhoa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papuan Mountain-Pigeon</td>
<td>Gymnophaps albertisii</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CUCKOOS: CUCULIDAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oriental Cuckoo</th>
<th>Cuculus optatus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White-crowned Koel</td>
<td>Cacomantis leucocephalus*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brush Cuckoo</td>
<td>Cacomantis variolosus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo</td>
<td>Cacomantis castaneiventris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fan-tailed Cuckoo</td>
<td>Cacomantis flabelliformis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-throated Bronze-Cuckoo</td>
<td>Chrysococcyx ruficollis*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-eared Bronze-Cuckoo</td>
<td>Chrysococcyx meyeri*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Bronze-Cuckoo</td>
<td>Chrysococcyx minutilius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-billed Cuckoo</td>
<td>Rhamphomantis megarhynchus*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwarf Koel</td>
<td>Microdynamis parva*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Koel</td>
<td>Eudynamys cyanopeplus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel-billed Cuckoo</td>
<td>Scythrops novaehollandiae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Black Coucal</td>
<td>Centropus menbeki*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pheasant Coucal  
*Centropus phasianus*
Lesser Black Coucal  
*Centropus bernsteini*

**OWLS: STRIGIDAE**

Jungle Hawk-Owl  
*Ninox theomacha*  
*(Also known as Papuan Boobook.)*

**OWLET-NIGHTJARS: AEGOTHELIDAE**

Feline Owlet-Nightjar  
*Aegotheles insignis*  
*H*
Mountain Owlet-Nightjar  
*Aegotheles albertisi*  
*H*
Barred Owlet-Nightjar  
*Aegotheles bennetti*

**FROGMOUTHS: PODARGIDAE**

Marbled Frogmouth  
*Podargus ocellatus*  
*H*
Papuan Frogmouth  
*Podargus papuensis*

**NIGHTJARS & ALLIES: CAPRIMULGIDAE**

Archbold's (Mountain) Nightjar  
*Eurostopodus archboldi*
Large-tailed Nightjar  
*Caprimulgus macrurus*

**SWIFTS: APODIDAE**

Papuan Needletail  
*Earnsia novaeguineae*
Glossy Swiftlet  
*Collocalia esculenta*
Mountain Swiftlet  
*Aerodramus hirundinaceus*  
*H*
Uniform Swiftlet  
*Aerodramus vanikorensis*

**TREESWIFTS: HEMIPROCINIDAE**

Moustached Treeswift  
*Hemiprocne mystacea*

**KINGFISHERS: ALCEDINIDAE**

Azure Kingfisher  
*Alcedo azurea*
Variable Dwarf-Kingfisher  
*Ceyx Lepidus*
Laughing Kookaburra  
*Dacelo novaeguineae*  
*(Seen at Brisbane Airport in Australia, while waiting for our flight to PNG.)*
Blue-winged Kookaburra  
*Dacelo leachii*  
*H*
Rufous-bellied Kookaburra  
*Dacelo gaudichaud*  
*H*
Shovel-billed Kookaburra  
*Clytoceyx rex*
Forest Kingfisher  
*Todiramphus macleayii*
Sacred Kingfisher  
*Todiramphus sanctus*
Hook-billed Kingfisher  
*Melidora macrorrhina*  
*H*
Yellow-billed Kingfisher  
*Syma torotoro*
Mountain Kingfisher  
*Syma megarhyncha*  
*H*
Little Paradise-Kingfisher  
*Tanysiptera hydrocharis*  
*H*
Common Paradise-Kingfisher  
*Tanysiptera galatea*
Brown-headed Paradise-Kingfisher  
*Tanysiptera danae*  
*H*
Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher  
*Tanysiptera Sylvia*

**ROLLERS: CORACIIDAE**

Dollarbird  
*Eurystomus orientalis*
### HORNBILLS: BUCEROTIDAE

| Blyth's Hornbill | Aceros plicatus |

### FALCONS & CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE

| Oriental Hobby | Falco severus |
| Brown Falcon   | Falco berigora |

### COCKATOOS: CACATUIDAE

| Palm Cockatoo | Probosciger aterrimus |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | Cacatua galerita |

### PARROTS: PSITTACIDAE

**HORNED:**

| Blyth's Cockatoo | Cacatua leucomelas |

**BUCEROTIDAE:**

| Blyth's Hornbill | Aceros plicatus |

**FALCONIDAE:**

| Oriental Hobby | Falco severus |
| Brown Falcon   | Falco berigora |

**CACATUIDAE:**

| Palm Cockatoo | Probosciger aterrimus |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | Cacatua galerita |

### PITTAS: PITTIDAE

| Hooded Pitta | Pitta sordida |
| Red-bellied Pitta | Pitta erythrogaster |

### BOWERBIRDS: PTILONORHYNCHIDAE

| White-eared Catbird | Ailuroedus buccoides*  |
| Sanford's Bowerbird | Archboldia sanfordi* |
| Yellow-breasted Bowerbird | Chlamydera lauterbachi* |
| Fawn-breasted Bowerbird | Chlamydera cerviniventris |

### AUSTRALASIAN TREECREEPERS: CLIMACTERIDAE

| Papuan Treecreeper | Cormobates placens*  |

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*Also known as Greater Streaked Lory.

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*Also known as Little Red Lory.
FAIRYWRENS: MALURIDAE
Orange-crowned Fairywren  Clytomyias insignis*
Emperor Fairywren  Malurus cyanocephalus*
White-shouldered Fairywren  Malurus alboscapulatus*

HONEYEATERS: MELIPHAGIDAE
Marbled Honeyeater  Pycnopygius cinereus*
Streak-headed Honeyeater  Pycnopygius stictocephalus*
Mountain Meliphaga  Meliphaga orientalis*
Scrub Honeyeater  Meliphaga albonotata*
Mimic Honeyeater  Meliphaga analoga*
Black-throated Honeyeater  Lichenostomus subfrenatus*
Obscure Honeyeater  Lichenostomus obscurus*
Noisy Miner  Manorina melanocephala
(Seen at Brisbane Airport in Australia, while waiting for our flight to PNG).

Rufous-banded Honeyeater  Conopophila albogularis
Black Myzomela  Myzomela nigrita*
Mountain Myzomela  Myzomela adolphinae*
Red-collared Myzomela  Myzomela rosenbergii*
White-throated Honeyeater  Melithreptus albogularis
Blue-faced Honeyeater  Entomyzon cyanotis
(Seen at Brisbane Airport in Australia, while waiting for our flight to PNG).

Meyer’s Friarbird  Philemon meyeri*
Helmeted Friarbird  Philemon buceroides
Tawny-breasted Honeyeater  Xanthotis flaviventer
Spotted Honeyeater  Xanthotis polygrammus*
Tawny Straightbill  Timeliopsis griseigula*
Long-billed Honeyeater  Melilestes megarrhynchus*
Smoky Honeyeater  Melipotes fumigatus*
Sooty Melidectes  Melidectes fuscus*
Belford’s Melidectes  Melidectes belfordi*
Yellow-browed Melidectes  Melidectes rufocrissalis*
Ornate Melidectes  Melidectes torquatus*
Rufous-backed Honeyeater  Ptilopora guisei*
Black-backed Honeyeater  Ptilopora perstriata*

THORNBILLS & ALLIES: ACANTHIZIDAE
Goldenface  Pachycare flavogriseum*
*R *Previously classified as a whistler, and known as Dwarf Whistler.

Rusty Mouse-Warbler  Crateroscelis murina*
Mountain Mouse-Warbler  Crateroscelis robusta*
Large Scrubwren  Sericornis nouhuysi*
Buff-faced Scrubwren  Sericornis perspicillatus*
Papuan Scrubwren  Sericornis papiensis*
Pale-billed Scrubwren  Sericornis spilodera*
Mountain Gerygone  Gerygone cinerea*
Green-backed Gerygone  Gerygone chloronota
Fairy Gerygone  Gerygone palpebrosa
Yellow-bellied Gerygone  Gerygone chrysogaster*
Large-billed Gerygone  Gerygone magnirostris
Brown-breasted Gerygone  Gerygone ruficollis*

PSEUDO-BABBLERS: POMATOSTOMIDAE
New Guinea Babbler  Pomatostomus isidorei*

LOGRUNNERS: ORTHONYCHIDAE
Northern Logrunner  Orthonyx novaeguineae*  GO

SATINBIRDS: CNEMOPHILIDAE
Loria’s Satinbird  Cnemophilus loriae*
*Crested Satinbird  Cnemophilus macgregorii*
*Formerly classified as a bird-of-paradise.

BERRYPECKERS & LONGBILLS: MELANOCHARITIDAE
Obscure Berrypecker  Melanocharis arfakiana*  H
Black Berrypecker  Melanocharis nigra*
Lemon-breasted Berrypecker  Melanocharis longicauda*
Fan-tailed Berrypecker  Melanocharis versteri*
Streaked Berrypecker  Melanocharis striativentris*
Yellow-bellied Longbill  Toxorhamphus novaeguineae*

TIT BERRYPECKER, CRESTED BERRYPECKER: PARAMYTHIIDAE
Tit Berrypecker  Oreocharis arfaki*
Crested Berrypecker  Paramythia montium*

QUAIL-THRUSHES & JEWEL-BABBLERS: CINCLOSOMATIDAE
Painted Quail-Thrush  Cinclosoma ajax*
Spotted Jewel-Babbler  Ptilorrhoa leucosticte*
Blue Jewel-Babbler  Ptilorrhoa caerulescens*
Chestnut-backed Jewel-Babbler  Ptilorrhoa castanonota*

BOATBILLS: MACHAERIRYNCHIDAE
Black-breasted Boatbill  Machaerirynchus nigripectus*
Yellow-breasted Boatbill  Machaerirynchus flaviventer

WOODSWALLOWS: ARTAMIDAE
Great Woodswallow  Artamus maximus*
White-breasted Woodswallow  Artamus leucorynchus

BELLMAGPIES & ALLIES: CRACTIDAE
Mountain Peltops  Peltops montanus*
Lowland Peltops  Peltops blainvillii*
Black-backed Butcherbird  Cracticus mentalis
Hooded Butcherbird  Cracticus cassinus*
Black Butcherbird  Cracticus quoyi
Australasian Magpie  Gymnorhina tibicen
(Seen at Brisbane Airport in Australia, while waiting for our flight to PNG).

**CUCKOOSHRIKES: CAMPEPHAGIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike</td>
<td><em>Coracina novaehollandiae</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stout-billed Cuckoo-Shrike</td>
<td><em>Coracina caeruleogrisea</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hooded Cuckoo-Shrike</td>
<td><em>Coracina longicauda</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barred Cuckoo-Shrike</td>
<td><em>Coracina lineata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boyer's Cuckoo-Shrike</td>
<td><em>Coracina boyeri</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike</td>
<td><em>Coracina papuensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Cuckooshrike</td>
<td><em>Campochaera sloetii</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varied Triller</td>
<td><em>Lalage leucomea</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-bellied Cicadabird</td>
<td><em>Edolisoma montanum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papuan Cicadabird</td>
<td><em>Edolisoma incertum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Cicadabird</td>
<td><em>Edolisoma tenuirostre</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray-headed Cicadabird</td>
<td><em>Coracina schisticeps</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-bellied Cicadabird</td>
<td>*Formerly known as Black-bellied Cuckooshrike.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papuan Cicadabird</td>
<td>*Formerly known as Black-shouldered Cuckooshrike.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Cicadabird</td>
<td>*Formerly known as Gray-headed Cuckooshrike.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SITELLAS: NEOSITTIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Sitella</td>
<td><em>Neositta Miranda</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHISTLERS & ALLIES: PACHYCEPHALIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wattled Ploughbill</td>
<td><em>Eulacestoma nigropectus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rusty Pitohui</td>
<td><em>Colluricincla ferruginea</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-bellied Pitohui</td>
<td><em>Colluricincla incertus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous (Little) Shrike-Thrush</td>
<td><em>Colluricinla megarhyncha</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Pitohui</td>
<td><em>Melanorectes nigrescens</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regent Whistler</td>
<td><em>Pachycephala schlegelii</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sclater’s Whistler</td>
<td><em>Pachycephala soror</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown-backed Whistler</td>
<td><em>Pachycephala modesta</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray Whistler</td>
<td><em>Pachycephala griseiceps</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-bellied Whistler</td>
<td><em>Recently lumped under this species, although previously split as Gray-headed Whistler.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-headed Whistler</td>
<td><em>Pachycephala monacha</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mottled Whistler</td>
<td><em>Ragalogus leucostigma</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-naped Whistler</td>
<td><em>Aleadryas rufinucha</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crested Pitohui</td>
<td><em>Omorectes cristatus</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SHRIKES: LANIIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-tailed Shrike</td>
<td><em>Lanius schach</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OLD WORLD ORIOLES: ORIOLIDAE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hooded Pitohui</td>
<td><em>Pitohui dichrous</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Recently re-classified as an oriole; previously listed under the whistler family.*
Brown Oriole  
*Oriolus szalayi*

Australian Figbird  
*Sphecotheres vielloti*

**DRONGOS: DICURIDAE**

Spangled Drongo  
*Dicrurus bracteatus*

**FANTAILS: RHIPIDURIDAE**

Willie-wagtail  
*Rhipidura leucophrys*

Friendly Fantail  
*Rhipidura albolimbata*

Chestnut-bellied Fantail  
*Rhipidura hyperythra*

Sooty Thicket-Fantail  
*Rhipidura threnothorax*

White-bellied Thicket-Fantail  
*Rhipidura leucothorax*

Black Fantail  
*Rhipidura atra*

Dimorphic Fantail  
*Rhipidura brachyrhyncha*

Rufous-backed Fantail  
*Rhipidura rufidorsa*

**MONARCH FLYCATCHERS: MONARCHIDAE**

Blue-capped Ifrita  
*Ifrita kowaldi*
*Recently re-classified as a monarch flycatcher; previously classified as a whistler.*

Golden Monarch  
*Carterornis chrysomela*

Black Monarch  
*Symposiachrus axillaris*

Hooded Monarch  
*Symposiachrus manadensis*

Spot-winged Monarch  
*Symposiachrus guttula*

Frilled Monarch  
*Arses telescophthalmus*

Magpie-lark  
*Grallina cyanoleuca*
*(Seen at Brisbane Airport in Australia, while waiting for our flight to PNG).*

Leaden Flycatcher  
*Myiagra rubecula*

Shining Flycatcher  
*Myiagra alecto*

**CROWS, JAYS & MAGPIES: CORVIDAE**

Gray Crow  
*Corvus tristis*

Torresian Crow  
*Corvus orru*

**BIRDS-OF-PARADISE: PARADISAEIDAE**

Trumpet Manucode  
*Phonygammus keraudrenii*

Crinkle-collared Manucode  
*Manucodia chalybatus*

Glossy-mantled Manucode  
*Manucodia ater*

King-of-Saxon Bird-of-Paradise  
*Pteridophora alberti*

Carola’s Parotia  
*Parotia carolae*

Lawe’s Parotia  
*Parotia lawesi*

Twelve-wired Bird-of-Paradise  
*Seleucidis melanoleucus*

Black-billed Sicklebill  
*Drepanornis albertsi*
*Also known as Buff-tailed Sicklebill.*

Superb Bird-of-Paradise  
*Lophorina superba*

Magnificent Riflebird  
*Ptiloris magnificus intercedens*
*This subspecies is split on the IOC checklist, as Growling Riflebird, *P. intercedens*.*

Black Sicklebill  
*Epimachus fastuosus*

Brown Sicklebill  
*Epimachus meyeri*

Short-tailed Paradigalla  
*Paradigalla brevicauda*
Stephanie's Astrapia  
Ribbon-tailed Astrapia  
King Bird-of-Paradise  
Magnificent Bird-of-Paradise  
Blue Bird-of-Paradise  
Lesser Bird-of-paradise  
Raggiana Bird-of-Paradise  
Greater Bird-of-Paradise  
Lesser Melampitta  
Greater Melampitta

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| Lemon-bellied Flycatcher  
| Garnet Robin  
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| Black-sided Robin  
| Black-throated Robin  
| White-winged Robin  
| White-rumped Robin  
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*Also known as Western Mountain White-eye.
New Guinea White-eye        Zosterops novaeguineae*

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS: MUSCICAPIDAE
Pied Bushchat           Saxicola caprata

THRUSHES & ALLIES: TURDIDAE
Island Thrush           Turdus poliocephalus

STARLINGS: STURNIDAE
Metallic Starling          Aplonis metallica
Yellow-eyed Starling        Aplonis mystacea*
Singing Starling           Aplonis cantoroides
Yellow-faced Myna         Mino dumontii*
Golden Myna                Mino anais*

FLOWERPECKERS: DICAEIDAE
Red-capped Flowerpecker    Dicaeum geelvinkianum*
*Also known as Papuan Flowerpecker.

SUNBIRDS & SPIDERHUNTERS: NECTARINIDAE
Black Sunbird            Leptocoma sericea

WAGTAILS & PIPITS: MOTACILLIDAE
Australasian Pipit        Anthus novaeseelandiae

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: PASSERIDAE
House Sparrow            Passer domesticus
Eurasian Tree Sparrow    Passer montanus

WAXBILLS & ALLIES: ESTRILDIDAE
Mountain Firetail         Oreostruthus fuliginosus*
Blue-faced Parrotfinch   Erythrura trichoa
Hooded Munia             Lonchura spectabilis*
Gray-headed Munia        Lonchura caniceps*
Chestnut-breasted Munia  Lonchura castaneothorax

OTHER WILDLIFE
Speckled Dasyure          Neophascogale lorentzii
Greater Flying-Fox        Pteropus neohibernicus
Freshwater Crocodile      Crocodylus johnsoni