A Tropical Birding Tours Set Departure Tour

BHUTAN
Includes pre-tour Kaziranga Extension (Northeast India)

28th March – 24th April 2018

Himalayan Monals *were seen on several memorable occasions in the high Himalayas and (after views like these) were unsurprisingly voted as one of the BIRDS OF THE TOUR*

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INTRODUCTION

*Our trip began in the lowlands of **Assam in Northeast India**, at World famous **Kaziranga National Park**. A bounty of species came our way, including some scarce species like **Pallas's Fish-Eagle, Blossom-headed Parakeet, Swamp Francolin, Pied Harrier, Greater Adjutant** (near **Guwahati**), **Ferruginous Duck, Spot-billed Pelican, Northern Lapwing** and a day-roosting **Brown Fish-Owl**. Besides the birds this park was excellent for large animals, and we also observed many **Indian Rhinoceros** during our jeep drives in the park.*

*Our next stop was **Manas National Park** another beautiful reserve, which held some rare grassland specialties, which have all suffered significant declines in recent years, like **Black-breasted Parrotbill, Indian Grassbird, Slender-billed and Jerdon´s Babblers, and Bengal Florican**. **Blue-bearded Bee-eater** and **Silver-breasted Broadbills** were further highlights in the wooded areas of **Manas**, while large fauna also featured there too, with conspicuous **Asian Elephants**.*

*Our birding in **Bhutan** started just across the border from India, at **Samdrup Jongkhar**, where we got **Black-backed Forktail**. On the way to **Narphung La** we were able to add some real crackers like **Beautiful Nuthatch** and **Silver-eared Mesia**. On the longest drive from **Narphung La to Lingmethang** we found **Himalayan Cutia, Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, and Ward´s Trogon.** Our four day stay in this **Lingmethang Valley** based at **Yongkha La** we birded in the surroundings areas including **Phrumsengla National Park**, where the road cuts through the forest and gave us the chance to pick up **Rufous-necked Hornbill, Black-tailed Crake** and a suite of laughingthrushes, including **White-crested, Rufous-chinned and Rufous-necked Laughingthrushes** (below); we also saw **Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler** in this area too.*

*Higher up, in **Sengor** one of the birds of the tour was found in **Satyr Tragopan**, and **Blood Pheasant** was found on the way to **Jakar** too. Heading to **Trongsa** from there, we found **Ibisbill** along the way, and **Himalayan Monals** also featured at **Trongsa** too, as did **Mrs. Gould's Sunbird**.*

*Our stay in the **Tingtibi Valley** produced **Red-headed Trogon, Blue-winged Laughingthrush, Red-faced Liocichla, Chestnut-winged Cuckoo, White-browed Piculet, Slaty-backed Forktail**, and the rare vulnerable species **White-bellied Heron** along the River.*

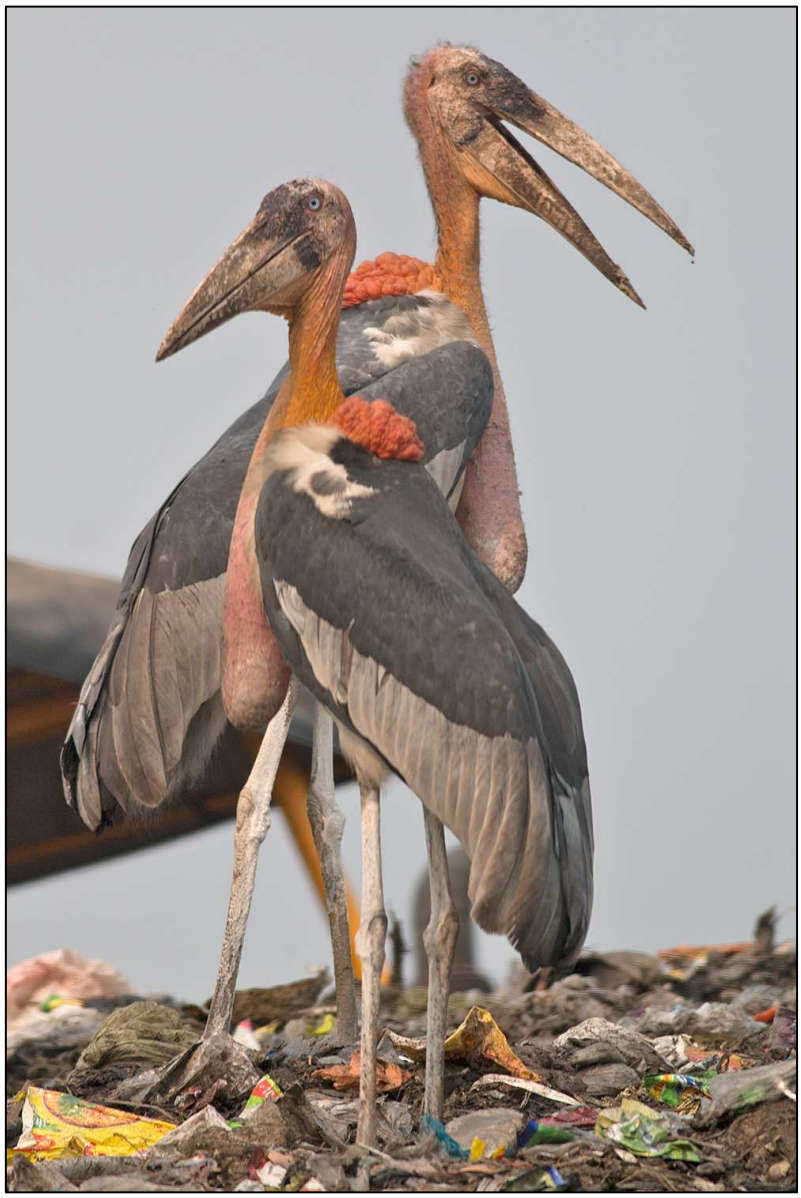
*On our next journey, to **Probjikha**, we added yet more interesting birds like **Black-browed Tit**, and **Spotted Laughingthrush**. After a last night camping in the mountains, we birded the **Probjikha Valley**, and saw **Brown Parrotbill**, and **Dark-rumped Rosefinch**. On the way down from there to **Punakha** we managed to find the scarce **Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker** too. Next up, we visited the subtropical forests in **Jigme Dorji National Park** giving us **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler, Slaty-bellied Tesia, and Slender-billed Oriole.** After our stay in a lovely hotel at **Punakha** we headed towards **Thimphu** with some quick birding at the Botanical Garden along the main highway, where we found **Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, Brown Bullfinch, Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush, and Darjeeling Woodpecker.** On the same day we also visited **Dochu La Pass**, where we noticed not only an abundance of **Rhododendron** flowers, but also the outstanding **Fire-tailed Myzornis** feeding among them.*

*Once in **Thimphu** we visited another entrance to **Jigme Dorji National Park**, which brought us **Fire-capped Tit, Green Shrike Babbler, Rufous-bellied Woodpecker and Spotted Forktail.** The following day we drove to **Chele La Pass**, where we saw both **Collared and White-winged Grosbeaks** and another beautiful view of **Himalayan Monal**. Based in **Paro** on our final day, this was a more relaxing, "cultural day", as we visited the world-famous **Tiger's Nest Monastery**, however we did find a **Solitary Snipe** (below) on the trail beside the monastery for a memorable finish to an exciting tour in a country like absolutely no other.*

*Solitary Snipe was found in the impressive shadow of the **Tiger's Nest Monastery** on the final day of the tour*

TOUR SUMMARY

March 29: Guwahati to Kaziranga (INDIA).
We all met up at a hotel in *Guwahati* the night before, and started by visiting the local rubbish dump! This was entirely strategic though, as we were able to observe the massive **Greater Adjutant** (*right*) stork competing with people and **Black Kites** for the prize garbage. The stork is critically endangered and this is the best site in the world to see them.



After such an experience, we headed up towards *Kaziranga National Park*, taking an afternoon jeep drive into the *Western Ranges* of the park after lunch. We quickly picked up species like our first **"Indochinese" Indian Roller** (an imminent split), **Red-breasted and Alexandrine Parakeets, Rufous Treepie, Chinese (White-tailed) Rubythroat, Yellow-footed Green Pigeon, Chestnut-tailed and Asian Pied Starlings, Black-hooded Oriole**; most significantly we also found our first **Pallas's Fish-Eagle** a declining species that was a major target in the park. Of course, *Kaziranga* is more than just birds, *as it is home to many large mammals too*, and we tucked into **Indian Rhinoceros, Wild Boar,** and both **Hog and Swamp Deer** during the afternoon.

March 30: Kaziranga (INDIA).
We started the day by birding *outside Kazirahga National Park*, where a *tea plantation* provides good birding in its own right. This was extremely productive with **Long-tailed and Scarlet Minivets**, **Jungle, Common Hill and Great Mynas**, **Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker,** and **Crimson Sunbird;** we also had great looks of **Oriental Pied and Great Hornbills** calling and displaying, **Green-billed Malkoha**, **Black-winged Cuckooshrike**, a bunch of **Verditer Flycatchers**, **Greater Racket-tailed Drongo**, **Golden-fronted Leafbird**, **Jerdon's Baza**, **Asian Barred Owlet** and *four different barbets*, **Blue-throated, Lineated, Blue-eared and Coppersmith Barbet**. Later in the morning, we went inside the park, but this time to the *Eastern Ranges*, that allowed us to find **Brown and Gray-backed Shrikes, Plain Martin, Spotted Owlet** and **Lesser Adjutant** on the drive to the entrance gate.
Photos Next Page: *Top-**Classic Kaziranga,** Indian Rhinoceros**;** "Indochinese" Roller an imminent split from Indian*

Once *inside* the park, driving through woodland, we were able to spot **Greater (Goldenback) Flameback, Chestnut-headed, Green and Blue-throated Bee-Eaters**, soaring and perched **Crested Serpent-Eagles**, and **Changeable Hawk-Eagle**, as well as one or two flying **Himalayan Griffons**. Deeper inside the woods, we were shown a roosting **Brown Fish-Owl** (*below*) known to the local guide and driver. Birding in the many wet areas too gave us **Gray-headed Fish Eagle** and **Greater Spotted Eagle**, in addition to **Purple Heron, Gray-headed and Northern Lapwings, Bronze-winged and Pheasant-tailed Jacanas, Cotton Pygmy and Bar-headed Goose, Black-headed Ibis and Black-necked Stork**. New mammals also came in the form of **Wild Water Buffalo** and **Smooth-coated Otter**.

*Brown Fish-Owl in daylight at **Kaziranga National Park***

After lunch, we returned to the park, but this time to the *Central Ranges*. The afternoon's birding produced **Purple Heron, Gray-headed and Northern Lapwings, Bronze-winged and Pheasant-tailed Jacanas, Cotton Pygmy-Goose and Bar-headed Goose, Black-headed Ibis and Black-necked Stork**. A small patch of woodland yielded **Puff-throated and Abbot's Babblers, Dusky Warbler and Tickell's Leaf Warbler,** and a few **Red Junglefowl**.

Later on, driving within grassland habitat we had brief views of both **Greater and Lesser Coucals**, **Striated Grassbird** and **Striated Babbler**, although the standout find was the rare **Yellow (Finn's) Weaver**. While watching **Spot-billed Pelican** by a pond, we also spotted **Hen and Pied Harriers** on the wing. Our perseverance paid off late on with a major avian target at *Kaziranga*, when we located several **Swamp Francolins**.

March 31: Kaziranga to Manas (INDIA).

This was mostly a long driving day as we transferred between the parks of *Kaziranga* and *Manas*, passing through *Guwahati* on the way. We did start the day with some short birding around the Kaziranga hotel, where we did find a **Yellow-vented Flowerpecker**. **Oriental Magpie Robin, White-breasted Waterhen, Citrine Wagtail, Paddyfield Pipit and Pintail Snipe** were also observed in the surrounding rice fields. Other birds seen that day included **Greater and Lesser Adjutants, Bronze-winged Jacana, Red-wattled Lapwing,** and the omnipresent **White-throated Kingfisher**. Eventually, we reached the *Smiling Tusker Camp in Manas* and did some late afternoon birding in that area, finding **Streak-throated Woodpecker, Hair-crested Drongo, Alexandrine Parakeet, Yellow-footed Green Pigeon** and **Asian Koel.**

April 1: Manas National Park (INDIA).

We started the day by driving out to the *Kuribill Range in Manas National Park*, finding **Jungle Babbler, Northern Goshawk, Streak-throated Woodpecker** and yet more **Red Junglefowls**. Once inside the park, we began to see a number of male **Indian Peafowl** (*above*) displaying on the road, and an **Indian Thick-knee** in the same area. Our central goal for the morning was to track down the critically endangered *Bengal Florican*, for which *Manas* is one of the best sites in the world, and while passing through woodland on the way there we found **Rufous and Fulvous-breasted Woodpeckers, Rufous-necked Laughingthrush** and **Bronzed Drongo.** Once at the florican site, it did not take long for us to find at least *three* **Bengal Floricans**. Other grassland birds found in the same area included **Slender-billed and Chestnut-capped Babblers**, and **Plain, Ashy and Gray-breasted Prinias.**

Other species recorded in *Kaziranga* that day included, **Black-naped Monarch, Orange-fronted Leafbird, Plain Flowerpecker, Siberian Stonechat, Gray-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Plaintive Cuckoo, and Stork-billed Kingfisher** After lunch, we went to bird from another park entrance (*Tinmile Range*), along the edge of the Brahmaputra River, where we saw **Small Pratincole, River Lapwing, Black Stork, Pin-tailed and Wedge-tailed Green Pigeons, White-rumped Shama, Dollarbird, Pale-chinned Flycatcher, Asian Emerald Dove,** and **Streaked-throated Woodpecker**. However, the three standouts from this afternoon fell to **Silver-breasted and Long-tailed Broadbills**, and our first **Kalij Pheasant**. Also, beside the birds today we had some mammals like **Barking Dear, Capped Langur, Wild Boar, Gaur** and **Asian Elephant** on many different occasions. We also stayed a little late to ensure we found a **Large-tailed Nightjar** too for the birdlist.

April 2: Manas (INDIA) to Samdrup Jongkhar (BHUTAN).

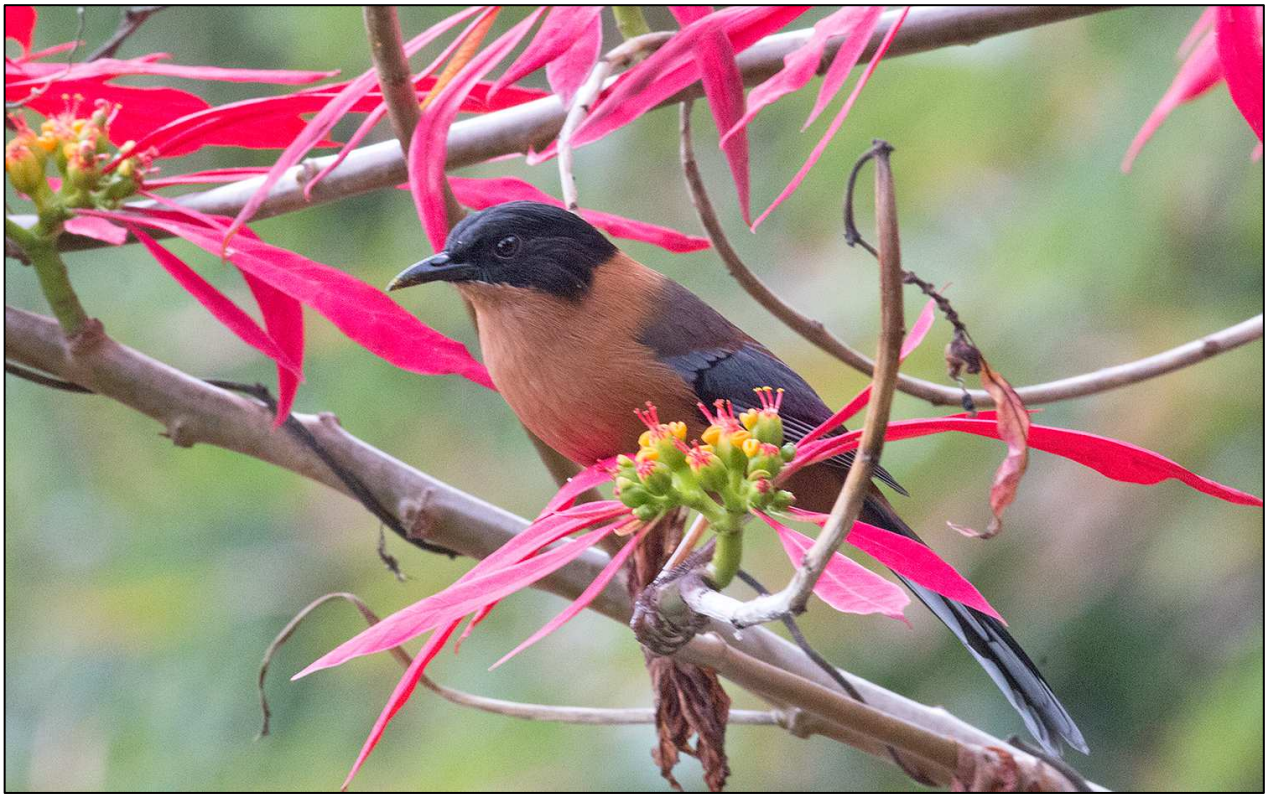
We started the day by birding another entrance to *Manas* (the *Bhuyapara Range*), finding **Black Francolin** which flew right up in front of us, and another **Bengal Florican**. We also targeted the local **Black-breasted Parrotbill** and **Jerdon's Babbler**, which proved difficult, but we all got them in the end. By now, as we'd seen our primary target species, we returned to camp for an early lunch and then departed for the *India-Bhutan border*, seeing **Yellow-eyed Babbler** on the way. Once we reached the border we met with those who had not joined the extension in Northeast India, and went through entrance formalities.
After meeting with our local Bhutanese guide, *Yeshey*, and checking into our hotel in *Samdrup Jongkhar*, we set out birding near town. Around there we found **Bay Woodpecker, Puff-throated Babbler, Blue Whistling-Thrush, Asian Barred Owlet, White-throated Bulbul, Crimson Sunbird, Pin-striped Tit-Babbler** and along the river, **Common Kingfisher** and **Striated Heron**. After such a long journey, and tasting the delicious Bhutanese national dish "Ema Datchi" it was time for bed.

April 3: Samdrup Jongkhar to Narphung La (BHUTAN).

We awoke after a good rest, excited to explore this extraordinary country that is cited as the happiest in the world, and a lot more besides that make it utterly unique and compelling. Starting birding near our hotel we picked up **Lineated Barbet, Scarlet Minivet,** and **Bronzed and Lesser Racket-tailed Drongos**. However, the main target, **Black-backed Forktail,** took its time to reveal itself to all, but finally it did so.

Most of the birding on this day was while traveling along the main East-West road, where we found **Asian Fairy Bluebirds**, **Plumbeous Redstart, White-throated and Black Bulbuls**, attractive **Silver-eared Mesias**, **Golden-fronted and Orange-bellied Leafbirds, Long-tailed Sibia** and the beautiful **Black-throated Sunbird**. As we were going higher and higher in altitude we started to find ever more new species for the trip, as we had not yet been in the mountains. While we were having our lunch up on the hillside we noted a raptor coming towards us, which was a **Black Eagle** that flew right over us. After lunch, we headed up higher still, finding **Gray Treepie**, **Black-throated Prinia**, **Striated Yuhina**, **White-throated Fantail**, **Yellow-cheeked Tit** and **Golden-throated Barbet** by doing so.

Later on, we went to bird near *Wamrong*, where after a wait for a little while we found a nice forest patch, where we caught some feeding flocks with **Crimson-breasted Woodpecker, Green-tailed Sunbird, Gray-hooded Warbler, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Rufous Sibia** (*below*), **Streaked Spiderhunter, Yellow-breasted Greenfinch, Himalayan Cuckoo,** and **Bhutan Laughingthrush**. Our best find of the afternoon though was one of the most highly-anticipated birds of the trip, **Beautiful Nuthatch**, which eventually made its way right to the edge of the road and was one of the overall tour highlight.



April 4: Narphung La to Lingmethang Road (BHUTAN).

After a night camping, we headed up towards *Lingmethang* town, but to get there we needed to follow a winding mountain road, where we found **Russet Sparrow, Dark-rumped and Blyth's Swifts** gliding just below us, a small feeding flock brought us **Himalayan Cutia, Striated Laughingthrush, Gray-hooded, Ashy-throated, Chestnut-crowned and Black-faced Warblers, Long-tailed Minivet** and the colorful **Golden-breasted Fulvetta**. Driving much further on, our next stop we picked up species like **Chestnut-tailed Minla (Bar-throated Siva), Green-tailed Sunbird, Rusty-fronted Barwing, and Black-headed and Black-eared Shrike Babblers**. As we needed to drive a long distance, we made few stops, but during one of these we found our first **Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, White-capped Redstart, Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush,** and **Chestnut-crowned and White-throated Laughingthrushes.**

It was soon time for lunch, where we enjoyed the local dish of Ema Datchi. After that we searched for *trogons*, and the playing of a call later resulted in a super male **Ward's Trogon** perched only fifteen feet away. The rest of the afternoon was spent largely driving towards our next camp, but not without seeing a **Yellow-rumped Honeyguide**, that was spotted sitting beside a hive of Giant Bees, which they are associated with. Eventually, late in the day, we made it to our next camp for the night.

Bhutan is arguably the best country in the world to find Black-tailed Crake

April 5: Lingmethang and Yongkha, La Area (BHUTAN).

On this day, we birded *Yongkha La* just *above Lingmethang Town*, where we actually saw a bunch of interesting species just along the road, one of which was a **Black-tailed Crake** (*page before*). We also had our first ice cream, and saw **White-crested Laughingthrushes** gathering on the top of a leafless tree. **Rufescent Prinia, Oriental White-eye, Gray Treepie, Crested Bunting, Blue-throated Barbet,** amazing views of **Fire-breasted Flowerpecker** (*below*), **Orange-bellied Leafbird, Himalayan Bulbul** and both perched and soaring **Black Eagle** were all also seen. Indeed, it was a good spell for raptors, with **Himalayan Buzzard, Rufous-bellied Hawk and Mountain Hawk Eagle** all recorded too.

In the afternoon, we birded the same valley but *below* our camp site, where we picked up some good stuff, like the cute and miniature **Chestnut-headed Tesia**; the same particular area also brought us **Blue-headed Rock-Thrush, Ashy Bulbul, Large Cuckooshrike, Blue-throated Flycatcher,** singing **Great Barbet**, **Ultramarine Flycatcher** and a very responsive **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler**. Also, this afternoon we found some very friendly **Nepal or Himalayan Gray Langurs**, which were resting alongside the road. However, one of the big surprise species of the day, was hearing and seeing the monotypic **Spotted Elachura** that was not expected in this particular dry and open habitat.

April 6-7: Yongkha La and Phrumsengla National Park (BHUTAN).

We spent two wonderful days at this beautiful camp site, situated very close to the surrounding birding areas. We birded up and down the main road that cuts across *Phrumsengla National Park*, and we also birded also near the camp where we saw, **Scarlet Finch, Gray-headed Parrotbill, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler, Gray-headed Canary Flycatcher, Gray-headed Woodpecker, Asian Emerald Cuckoo,** and a **Common Cuckoo** that called all night long; we had great looks of **Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush** which were working along the road there too. The park itself brought us some good species, like **Yellow-cheeked, Green-backed and Black-throated Tits, White-throated Fantail, Yellow-bellied Fairy Fantail, Golden and Rufous-capped Babblers** in a feeding flock at some 7500ft/2280m.

Below that, we also chanced on **Rufous-winged Fulvetta, Chestnut-tailed Minla (Bar-throated Siva),** had superb views of **White-browed Scimitar Babbler** in a patch of bamboo, **Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler**, some flying **Nepal House Martin** and **White-throated Needletail, Striated, Scaly, and Bhutan Laughingthrushes** (*below*), an incessantly calling **Large Hawk Cuckoo,** as well as **Speckled Wood Pigeon, Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher, Large Niltava, Rusty-fronted Barwing, Whiskered and White-naped Yuhinas**, and **Golden-naped Finch**. By the the end, we also managed good looks of a roadside **Coral-billed Scimitar Babbler**. Our stay at this wonderful location had certainly paid us some great dividends.

April 8: Yongkha La to Sengor (BHUTAN).

After such a great time in the area, it was time to move on towards a new camp site. However, following breakfast and before departure we did some final birding in the area around *Yongkha La*, and found **Black-headed Shrike-Babbler** and our first **Sultan Tit,** in addition to **Asian Emerald Dove**, **Scarlet Finch**, and **Golden-throated and Great Barbets**. On our way up to *Sengor*, we saw a close **Collared Owlet** perched by the road. Driving further on, we found birds already familiar to us, like **Golden Babbler**, **Gray-cheeked, Gray-hooded, Greenish and Black-faced Warblers** (*below*). Continuing on higher still, another flock was found, this time with **White-throated and Yellow-bellied Fairy-Fantails, Maroon Oriole**, and a few species that had only given poor views previously, like **Black-faced and Striated Laughingthrushes, Gold-naped Finch**, **Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler** and an attractive **Little Forktail** feeding along the roadside beside a small waterfall. Also, today we drove to 10,000ft/3050m elevation, where our camp was set up at this altitude. While we enjoyed our lunch at this site, we had the chance to see **White-collared Blackbird, Rufous-winged Fulvetta, Red-billed Chough** and a noisy **Spotted Nutcracker** feeding on the ground at this new location.

After a quick rest, we went downhill a little with one singular aim, to get one of the most wanted birds of the tour: *Satyr Tragopan*. Once we get there, with no sign of this large red pheasant, we soon got a little frustrated. However, while we were searching for the *tragopan*, we saw other interesting species like **Blue-capped Redstart, Striated, Whiskered and Rufous-vented Yuhinas, Chestnut-tailed Minla (Bar-throated Siva),** and **Hoary-throated Barwing**. As it was approaching dusk, it felt like there was now no chance to get our target species, but at the very same time I saw our local guide *L' Dorji* was calm and serene. It was soon evident why, as we spotted a **Satyr Tragopan** walking along the road, 30 feet away!

April 9: Sengor to Jakar (BHUTAN).

After we spent our night at this high elevation campsite (but using an old building instead of a tent at *Sengor*), we hit the road for *Jakar*. During the day's journey we ended up seeing about twenty different **Blood Pheasants** along the road. Due to many stops and scanning, we also spotted another *three* **Satyr Tragopans** during this journey too. Our first Himalayan snow was seen at 12,000ft/3660m elevation at *Thrumsing La Pass,* a quick stop that brought us **Rufous-vented and Coal Tits** (*below*), **Red Crossbill** and **Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch** in the local spruce forest. On the way down from the pass we also spotted both soaring **Himalayan Buzzard** and **Steppe Eagle** just above *Ura village*. After a while driving. we managed to reach *Jakar* one of the biggest towns on the eastern side of the country.

After a long period of camping, we were relieved to have a hotel with hot shower and so took a break in the middle of the day to enjoy some of these latest luxuries, before heading out birding again in the afternoon. This was centered around a cultural activity though, as we visited a 16th Century Dzong first and then checked a nearby riverside, which held **Eurasian Hoopoe** (*below*), **Common and Green Sandpipers, Olive-backed Pipit,** and **Western Yellow Wagtail**. However, the star species on the river was of course the enigmatic **Ibisbill** that gave us great looks, but was memorably mistaken for a pair of old shoes on occasion by one of the guests, which lent some humor to proceedings!

April 10: Jakar to Trongsa (BHUTAN).

On this morning, the local guide, *L'Dorji,* led us up to a local monastery for another striking target bird, which paid off when we saw *8 different* **Himalayan Monals** along the road there. On the way down from the monastery, we found **Spot-winged Grosbeak, Red-headed Bullfinch, Rosy Pipit, Eurasian Magpie, Blue-fronted Redstart** and **Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch.** After a successful morning, we headed up towards *Trongsa*, our next destination, stopping in the patchy forest by *Yotong La* on the journey, which led us to see **White-browed Fulvetta, Black-browed Tit, Green-tailed and Mrs. Gould's Sunbirds, Rufous-winged Fulvetta, White-tailed Nuthatch,** and **Hoary-throated Barwing.** On reaching *Trongsa*, we checked into another beautiful hotel, took lunch, and had a break before another afternoon visit to a local *Dzong*.

Following this cultural diversion, we were back in the field birding late in the afternoon, racking up **Gray-headed Bullfinch, Blyth's Leaf Warbler, Brownish Bush Warbler, Bhutan Laughingthrush, Green-backed Tit** and both **Plumbeous and White-capped Redstarts** beside the river. As we didn't have much daylight left we went back to hotel for a nice, hot shower and delicious dinner, knowing we were returning to camping the following day once more.

April 11: Trongsa to Tingtibi (BHUTAN).

Today, we went towards *Tingtibi*, a small village south from where we were staying and another scenic valley for birding. We left our hotel right after breakfast, hoping for some good new birds on our way down. Our first stop wasn't that far from *Trongsa*, where we saw **Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, Bronzed Drongo, Rufous Sibia, Gray Treepie, Little Forktail, Bhutan and Black-faced Laughingthrushes** (*above*), **Yellow-bellied Fairy-Fantail** and a very cooperative **Pygmy Cupwing**. At the next stop, **Crested Bunting and Striated Prinia** featured. As we descended, we checked every river, finally finding our first rotund **Brown Dipper** standing on a rock, and the same spot also brought us **Slaty-backed Forktail** and the attractive **Gray-throated Babbler** was also spotted. Much further down still, before it got dark, we also got more of the same species from before like **Great, Blue-throated and Golden-throated Barbets, Tickell's Leaf Warbler, and Ultramarine and Rufous-gorgeted Flycatchers**, among others. Finally, we arrived in *Tingtibi* at dusk for another three nights under canvas. It was nice to see our old camping friends once again, and that they had (as usual) our campsite ready to go on arrival. So, after a delicious

Ema Datchi dish for dinner, we were rightly exhausted from driving along a long and winding road for much of the day, so went straight to bed.

April 12-14: Tingtibi Area (BHUTAN).

I think we were a fortunate group to stay in this particular valley for three days, as you can access both species of lowland elevations, and subtropical forests higher up too from this well located base. In the lower valley, (not that far from our campsite) were **Great and Rufous-necked Hornbills** (*below*) feeding on one of the fruiting trees by the roadside, and we also found a few **Crested Kingfishers** along the *Mangdue Chhu River*, **Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon** further up near the *Botanical Garden*, where we also saw **Ashy and White-throated Bulbuls, Blue Rock Thrush, Large Cuckooshrike, Great and Blue-throated Barbets**, and also great views of **Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush** working pretty low to the ground. During our stay in this valley, we also visited the southern road as well, where we searched for some species that prefer areas where there is plentiful native bamboo. This led us to see **White-hooded Babbler, Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush, Yellow-bellied, Yellow-vented,** and cute **Rufous-faced Warblers**, wonderful views of **White-browed Scimitar Babbler, Chestnut-winged Cuckoo, White-browed Piculet, Blue-eared Barbet, White-rumped Munia** and a nice pair of nesting **Slaty-backed Forktail** working back and forth along the road. On our last morning visit to this area, we had one final check for the rarest bird of the tour, **White-bellied Heron**, and finally spotted one initially flying that rested on a distant sand bar and was eventually admired within the Swarovski scope for all.

Our stay in the valley also gave us a chance to visit the upper road that leads towards *Zhemgang village*, which goes up to about 8200ft/2500m; and by working our way down from there, we located **Red-headed Trogon, Little Pied Flycatcher, White-bellied Erpornis, Small and Rufous-bellied Niltavas, Striated and Whiskered Yuhinas, Chestnut-crowned Warbler, Fiery-breasted Flowerpecker, White-browed Scimitar-Babbler, and Blue-throated and Great Barbets**. Birding along the same road in the lower valley allowed us some different species like **Nepal Fulvetta, Red faced Liocichla, and Blue-winged Laughingthrush**. It was also our pleasure to see once again some of the species from previous days like **Barred Cuckoo-Dove**, our first sighting in Bhutan of **Long-tailed Broadbill, Lesser Yellownape,** and a bunch of **Pin-tailed and Wedge-tailed Green Pigeons**, along with multiple good looks of **Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, Blyth's Paradise-Flycatcher** and we even saw **Blue-bearded Beater** multiple times sitting on the power lines. Mammal-wise, we saw a bunch of **Golden Langurs** (*below*) and a **Himalayan Giant Squirrel** eating pine nuts too.

April 15: Tingtibi to Probjikha Valley (BHUTAN).

This day was spent mostly towards the *Probjikha Valley*, only making brief stops along the way. During these stops we mostly saw repeat species, like **Black and Ashy Bulbuls, Blue-throated and Great Barbets, White-throated Kingfisher, Gray-bellied Cuckoo, Gray-headed Woodpecker, Green-billed Malkoha, Whistler's Warbler and Blyth's Shrike Babbler**.

Further up, we reached *Pele La Pass* (11,000ft/3350m elevation), a high elevation site with lots of *Rhododendron* flowers where we saw **Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, Black-browed Tit** (*below*), **Rufous-breasted Accentor, Rufous-necked and Spotted Laughingthrushes**. At the days end, we drove all the way down to our last campsite, which was set up in advance by our camp staff again in the *Probjikha Valley*. Unfortunately, like earlier up at the pass, was also rainy there too, so we couldn't do any further birding on arrival.

April 16: Probjikha Valley to Punakha (BHUTAN).

Having spent our last night camping, we bid farewell to our camp staff, who had been very well organized and made it very comfortable indeed. We left camp for *Punakha*, but before leaving the valley we saw **Olive-backed Pipit, Russet Sparrow** and a displaying **Oriental Skylark** in an open field. Next, we birded just below *Pele La Pass*, where we found **Black-faced Laughingthrush, Gray-crested Tit, Brown Parrotbill, Dark-rumped Rosefinch, Rufous-breasted Accentor, Green-backed Tit** and **Green-tailed Sunbird**. **Himalayan Griffons** soared above the pass too.

At the lower elevations towards *Punakha*, we did a little birding before lunch in our hotel within town, which yielded **Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker, Gray Bushchat, Rufous Sibia, Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher, Himalayan Buzzard,** and **Rufous-gorgeted and Taiga Flycatchers**. Later in the afternoon, we birded along the *Puna Tshang Chu River*, where we picked up **River Lapwing, Common Kingfisher, White-breasted Waterhen, White-browed Wagtail, Red-rumped Swallow** and obtained super looks at a **Brown Dipper** bathing nearby.

April 17-18: Punakha Valley (BHUTAN).

After almost two weeks birding by this point, we were largely looking for a handful of specialty species only. For this reason, we visited *Jigme Dorji National Park*. By birding within the broadleaved forests inside the park, we found **Slaty-bellied Tesia, Speckled Piculet, Greater and Lesser Yellownapes, Gray-headed and Bay Woodpeckers, Small Niltava,** got great looks of **Nepal Fulvetta, Hair-crested Drongo, Great Barbet, Mountain Bulbul, White-throated Laughingthrush, Maroon Oriole**, and also got stellar looks at **Blue-winged Siva (Minla).**

During our stay in the *Punakha Valley*, we also spent time birding along *the Tashithang Road*, which parallels the river. There, we found **Kalij Pheasant** (*below*), **Scaly-breasted Munia, Barred Cuckoo Dove, River Lapwing, Brown Dipper, Ruddy and Common Shelducks,** and **Eurasian Wigeon.** Also, near our hotel garden we were able to find **Red-wattled Lapwing, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler, Black-tailed Crake** and got great views of a couple of the scarce **Slender-billed Oriole** right above the hotel. We also got to sample the local butter tea and local liquor while staying there, at the request of the group!

April 19: Punakha to Thimphu (BHUTAN).

On this day, we went towards *Thimphu*, with a few stops on the way. The first one was at the *Botanical Garden* not far from *Punakha*, where we connected with **Eurasian Jay**, multiple **Brown Parrotbills**, **Whistler's, Blyth's Leaf and Chestnut-crowned Warblers, Gray-winged Blackbird, Brown Bullfinch** and managed an awesome view of a **Darjeeling Woodpecker** (*below*) foraging right in front of us on the ground.

After such a successful morning, we went to have our lunch in one of the beautifully set-up restaurant in the mountains near *Dochu La Pass*. Right after lunch we went to the pass itself, where we enjoyed seeing a beautifully constructed temple and 108 Stupas at 10,500ft/3200m elevation. Scanning and playing the call of a *Collared Owlet* brought in a bunch of mobbing birds that included **Fire-tailed Myzornis, Mrs. Gould's Sunbird, Rufous-vented and Whiskered Yuhinas, Rufous-vented Tit, Black-faced, White-throated and Spotted Laughingthrushes, Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, Dark-rumped Rosefinch, Rufous-breasted Accentor** and **White-browed Fulvetta.**

For the rest of the afternoon, we birded along the *Wang Chhu River,* where we saw another couple of **Ibisbills.** We eventually made it to our hotel in *Thimphu*, where we also said goodbye to our friend and guide *L'Dorji* getting *Thinley* as a replacement for the remaining days.

April 20: Thimphu and Cheri Valley (BHUTAN).

We spent the day near *Thimphu* and visited the *Cheri Valley*, which forms another entrance to *Jigme Dorji National Park*. In the park we got some great looks at **Kalij Pheasant, White-collared and Gray-winged Blackbirds, Rufous-bellied Woodpecker, Mrs. Gould's and Green-tailed Sunbirds, Speckled Wood-Pigeon** and the minuscule **Fire-capped Tit** which gave us quality looks. Later, we went a bit higher up from where we started. Again, the recording of a *Collared Owlet* worked out well, as this time it brought in mobbing **Rufous Sibia, Black-browed and Rufous-vented Tits, Gray-throated and Chestnut-crowned Warblers, Blyth's and Tickell's Leaf Warblers** and **Green Shrike Babbler**. After a while trying in the area, we were rewarded with looks of **Spotted Forktail**, although unfortunately it showed just briefly and not to all. After lunch in the hotel, we headed up towards the sewage works, and saw **Citrine, Gray and White Wagtails**, another **Ibisbill** feeding along the shore, **Common Sandpiper, Ruddy Shelduck** and nice views of **Brown-headed Gull**.

*Green-backed Tits were regularly encountered in "Himalayan Bird Waves" in ther Himalayas of **Bhutan***

April 21: Thimphu to Paro and Chele La (BHUTAN).

We were headed towards *Paro* on this day, but first paused at *Chele La Pass* very early in the morning. As we wound our way up to the pass, we saw **Blood and Kalij Pheasants** and even had brief views of **Satyr Tragopan** again too. Up at the pass itself (at 12,000ft/3660m), we encountered **Himalayan Bluetail, Himalayan White-browed and Dark-rumped Rosefinches, Eurasian Wren, Rufous-breasted and Alpine Accentors, Black-faced Laughingthrush**, and we had great looks of both **Spot-winged and White-winged Grosbeaks**. We also spent some time birding not seeing anything new, but happy in observing repeat species like **Himalayan Monal, Plain Mountain-Finch, Darjeeling Woodpecker, Blue-fronted Redstart, Rufous-vented and Gray-crested Tits** and **Hodgson's Treecreeper** again. Just before lunch, we birded the *Kila Goenpa Monastery* where only female monks are present, ands got some clear scope looks at **Snow Pigeon**. Other species in the area included, **Green-backed Tit** (*page before*), **Rufous-vented Yuhina, Whistler's, Buff-barred and Blyth's Leaf Warblers**. After lunch, *Thinley* took us to an area where species were attracted by a small waterhole, and found **Yellow-billed Blue Magpie, Chestnut-crowned and Spotted Laughingthrushes** (*below*), **White-collared Blackbird** and **Rufous-breasted Accentor**. Our final birding of the day, en-route to the hotel produced **White Wagtail, Brown Dipper** and yet another **Ibisbill**. Once at the hotel, we celebrated our final night as a full group with Bhutanese beer, and a look back on what had been a very successful transect through the beautiful Himalayan forests of Bhutan.

Bhutan is home to roch tapestry of laughingthrushes, with Spotted Laughingthrush being one of the most impressive from this classic set of Himalayan birds

April 22: Cultural Extension near Paro (BHUTAN) and departure.

On this, the final day, some visited the world famous *Tiger's Nest Monastery* with the local guide, while others did some birding nearby. Both of these options were only a short distance from *Paro*. We took a short walk birding near the base of the temple steps, where patchy forest and boggy habitat occur. Amazingly, we found a **Solitary Snipe** there, which performed extremely well, in addition to some more familiar species like plentiful **Brown Parrotbills, Kalij Pheasant, White-browed Fulvetta, White-throated Laughingthrush, Tickell's and Blyth's Leaf Warblers, Rufous Sibia, Green-backed Tit** and our final looks at the gorgeous **Mrs. Gould's Sunbird**. With some people leaving late that morning, we transferred them to the airport, before Jose re-joined the rest of the group at *Tiger's Nest Monastery* for a fantastic close to the tour, followed by a final farewell dinner for the "remainers" at the hotel in *Paro* that night.

April 23: Departure (Flight from Paro to New Deli, India).

After breakfast we left for *Paro airport*, from where we took flights out to *New Delhi* in India for onward international departures. Jose took a short walk around the *Paro* hotel grounds before breakfast, finding familiar birds like **Green-backed Tit, Gray-backed Shrike, Black Drongo, Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush** (*below*), **Common Cuckoo, White-capped Redstart, Russet Sparrow, and Blue-Whistling Thrush** and others.

*At the end of the trip, the most popular birds of the tour were **Himalayan Monal**, **Beautiful Nuthatch**, **Darjeeling Woodpecker**, **Ibisbill**, **Wards Trogon** and **Blood Pheasant**. Besides these, were others that got worthy mentions too, like **Red-headed Trogon, Little Forktail, Mrs. Gould's Sunbird, White-throated and Spotted Laughingthrushes, White-browed Fulvetta, Small Niltava** and the attractive **Rufous-bellied Woodpecker**. **Our species total for the tour was 420 species SEEN and another 6 species heard only.***

Rufous-vented Tit was recorded on muiltiple occasions in mixed flocks in the Himalayas

BIRD LIST

Bird taxonomy follows Clements, J. F., T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, D. Roberson, T. A. Fredericks, B. L. Sullivan, and C. L. Wood. 2017. The eBird/Clements checklist of birds of the world: v2017. Downloaded from http://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/

Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl (Anatidae)

Bar-headed Goose	*Anser indicus*
Ruddy Shelduck	*Tadorna ferruginea*
Common Shelduck	*Tadorna tadorna*
Cotton Pygmy-Goose	*Nettapus coromandelianus*
Mandarin Duck	*Aix galericulata*

Garganey	*Spatula querquedula*	
Northern Shoveler	*Spatula clypeata*	
Gadwall	*Mareca strepera*	
Eurasian Wigeon	*Mareca penelope*	
Indian Spot-billed Duck	*Anas poecilorhyncha*	
Green-winged Teal	*Anas crecca*	
Ferruginous Duck	*Aythya nyroca*	

Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies (Phasianidae)

Hill Partridge	*Arborophila torqueola*	H
Chestnut-breasted Partridge	*Arborophila mandellii*	H
Indian Peafowl	*Pavo cristatus*	
Rufous-throated Partridge	*Arborophila rufogularis*	H
Black Francolin	*Francolinus francolinus asiae*	
Swamp Francolin	*Francolinus gularis*	
Red Junglefowl	*Gallus gallus*	
Blood Pheasant	*Ithaginis cruentus*	
Himalayan Monal	*Lophophorus impejanus*	
Satyr Tragopan	*Tragopan satyra*	
Kalij Pheasant	*Lophura leucomelanos*	

Storks (Ciconiidae)

Asian Openbill	*Anastomus oscitans*
Black Stork	*Ciconia nigra*
Woolly-necked Stork	*Ciconia episcopus*
Black-necked Stork	*Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*
Lesser Adjutant	*Leptoptilos javanicus*
Greater Adjutant	*Leptoptilos dubius*

Cormorants and Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)

Little Cormorant	*Microcarbo niger*
Great Cormorant	*Phalacrocorax carbo*

Anhingas (Anhingidae)

Oriental Darter	*Anhinga melanogaster*

Pelicans (Pelicanidae)

Spot-billed Pelican	*Pelecanus philippensis*

Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns (Ardeidae)

Gray Heron	*Ardea cinerea*
White-bellied Heron	*Ardea insignis*
Purple Heron	*Ardea purpurea*
Great Egret	*Ardea alba*

Intermediate Egret	*Ardea intermedia*
Little Egret	*Egretta garzetta*
Cattle Egret	*Bubulcus ibis*
Indian Pond-Heron	*Ardeola grayii*
Striated Heron	*Butorides striata*

Ibises and Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)

Glossy Ibis	*Plegadisfalcinellus*
Black-headed Ibis	*Threskiornis melanocephalus*

Osprey (Pandionidae)

Osprey	*Pandion haliaetus*

Hawks, Eagles, and Kites (Accipitridae)

Oriental Honey-buzzard	*Pernis ptilorhynchus*
Jerdon's Baza	*Aviceda jerdoni*
Himalayan Griffon	*Gyps himalayensis*
Crested Serpent-Eagle	*Spilornis cheela*
Changeable Hawk-Eagle	*Nisaetus limnaeetus*
Mountain Hawk-Eagle	*Nisaetus nipalensis*
Rufous-bellied Eagle	*Lophotriorchis kienerii*
Black Eagle	*Ictinaetus malaiensis*
Greater Spotted Eagle	*Clanga clanga*
Steppe Eagle	*Aquila nipalensis*
Imperial Eagle	*Aquila heliaca*
Hen Harrier	*Circus cyaneus*
Pied Harrier	*Circus melanoleucos*
Crested Goshawk	*Accipiter trivirgatus*
Shikra	*Accipiter badius*
Northern Goshawk	*Accipiter gentilis*
Black Kite	*Milvus migrans*
Pallas's Fish-Eagle	*Haliaeetus leucoryphus*
Gray-headed Fish-Eagle	*Haliaeetus ichthyaetus*
Himalayan Buzzard	*Buteo refectus*

Bustards (Otididae)

Bengal Florican	*Houbaropsis bengalensis*

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots (Rallidae)

White-breasted Waterhen	*Amaurornis phoenicurus*
Black-tailed Crake	*Zapornia bicolor*

Cranes (Gruidae)

Black-necked Crane	*Grus nigricollis*

Thick-knees (Burhinidae)

Indian Thick-knee	*Burhinus indicus*	

Stilts and Avocets (Recurvirostridae)

Pied Avocet	*Recurvirostra avosetta*	

Ibisbill (Ibidorhynchidae)

Ibisbill	*Ibidorhyncha struthersii*	

Plovers and Lapwings (Charadriidae)

Northern Lapwing	*Vanellus vanellus*	
River Lapwing	*Vanellus duvaucelii*	
Gray-headed Lapwing	*Vanellus cinereus*	
Red-wattled Lapwing	*Vanellus indicus*	

Jacanas (Jacanidae)

Pheasant-tailed Jacana	*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*	
Bronze-winged Jacana	*Metopidius indicus*	

Sandpipers and Allies (Scolopacidae)

Temminck's Stint	*Calidris temminckii*	
Solitary Snipe	*Gallinago solitaria*	
Pin-tailed Snipe	*Gallinago stenura*	
Common Sandpiper	*Actitis hypoleucos*	
Green Sandpiper	*Tringa ochropus*	
Spotted Redshank	*Tringa erythropus*	
Common Greenshank	*Tringa nebularia*	
Wood Sandpiper	*Tringa glareola*	

Buttonquail (Turnicidae)

Yellow-legged Buttonquail	*Turnix tanki*	H
Barred Buttonquail	*Turnix suscitator*	H

Pratincoles and Coursers (Glareolidae)

Small Pratincole	*Glareola lactea*	

Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers (Laridae)

Brown-headed Gull	*Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus*	

Pigeons and Doves (Columbidae)

Rock Pigeon	*Columba livia*	
Snow Pigeon	*Columba leuconota*	
Speckled Wood-Pigeon	*Columba hodgsonii*	
Oriental Turtle-Dove	*Streptopelia orientalis*	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	*Streptopelia decaocto decaocto*	

Red Collared-Dove	*Streptopelia tranquebarica*	
Spotted Dove	*Streptopelia chinensis*	
Barred Cuckoo-Dove	*Macropygia unchall*	
Asian Emerald Dove	*Chalcophaps indica*	
Yellow-footed Pigeon	*Treron phoenicopterus*	
Pin-tailed Pigeon	*Treron apicauda*	
Wedge-tailed Pigeon	*Treron sphenurus*	
Green Imperial-Pigeon	*Ducula aenea*	
Mountain Imperial-Pigeon	*Ducula badia*	

Cuckoos (Cuculidae)

Greater Coucal	*Centropus sinensis*	
Lesser Coucal	*Centropus bengalensis*	
Green-billed Malkoha	*Phaenicophaeus tristis*	
Chestnut-winged Cuckoo	*Clamator coromandus*	
Asian Koel	*Eudynamys scolopaceus*	
Asian Emerald Cuckoo	*Chrysococcyx maculatus*	
Plaintive Cuckoo	*Cacomantis merulinus*	
Gray-bellied Cuckoo	*Cacomantis passerinus*	
Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo	*Surniculus lugubris*	
Large Hawk-Cuckoo	*Hierococcyx sparverioides*	
Common Hawk-Cuckoo	*Hierococcyx varius*	
Indian Cuckoo	*Cuculus micropterus*	
Himalayan Cuckoo	*Cuculus saturatus*	
Common Cuckoo	*Cuculus canorus*	

Owls (Strigidae)

Mountain Scops-Owl	*Otus spilocephalus*	H
Brown Fish-Owl (Eastern)	*Ketupa zeylonensis leschenaulti*	
Collared Owlet	*Glaucidium brodiei*	
Asian Barred Owlet	*Glaucidium cuculoides*	
Spotted Owlet	*Athene brama*	
Brown Fish-Owl (Eastern)	*Ketupa zeylonensis leschenaulti*	

Nightjars and Allies (Caprimulgidae)

Gray Nightjar	*Caprimulgus jotaka*	H
Large-tailed Nightjar	*Caprimulgus macrurus*	

Swifts (Apodidae)

White-throated Needletail	*Hirundapus caudacutus*
Himalayan Swiftlet	*Aerodramus brevirostris*
Blyth's Swift	*Apus leuconyx*
Dark-rumped Swift	*Apus acuticauda*

House Swift	*Apus nipalensis*
Asian Palm-Swift	*Cypsiurus balasiensis*

Trogons (Trogonidae)

Red-headed Trogon	*Harpactes erythrocephalus*
Ward's Trogon	*Harpactes wardi*

Hoopoes (Upupidae)

Eurasian Hoopoe	*Upupa epops*

Hornbills (Bucerotidae)

Great Hornbill	*Buceros bicornis*
Oriental Pied-Hornbill	*Anthracoceros albirostris*
Rufous-necked Hornbill	*Aceros nipalensis*

Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)

Common Kingfisher	*Alcedo atthis*
Stork-billed Kingfisher	*Pelargopsis capensis*
Ruddy Kingfisher	*Halcyon coromanda*
White-throated Kingfisher	*Halcyon smyrnensis*
Crested Kingfisher	*Megaceryle lugubris*
Pied Kingfisher	*Ceryle rudis*

Bee-eaters (Meropidae)

Blue-bearded Bee-eater	*Nyctyornis athertoni*
Green Bee-eater	*Merops orientalis*
Blue-tailed Bee-eater	*Merops philippinus*
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	*Merops leschenaulti*

Rollers (Coraciidae)

Indian Roller	*Coracias benghalensis affinis*
Dollarbird	*Eurystomus orientalis*

Asian Barbets (Megalaimidae)

Coppersmith Barbet	*Psilopogon haemacephalus*
Blue-eared Barbet	*Psilopogon duvaucelii*
Great Barbet	*Psilopogon virens*
Lineated Barbet	*Psilopogon lineatus*
Golden-throated Barbet	*Psilopogon franklinii*
Blue-throated Barbet	*Psilopogon asiaticus*

Honeyguides (Indicatoridae)

Yellow-rumped Honeyguide	*Indicator xanthonotus*

Woodpeckers (Picidae)

Eurasian Wryneck	*Jynx torquilla*

Speckled Piculet	*Picumnus innominatus*	
White-browed Piculet	*Sasia ochracea*	
Gray-capped Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos canicapillus*	
Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos macei*	
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos hyperythrus*	
Crimson-breasted Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos cathpharius*	
Darjeeling Woodpecker	*Dendrocopos darjellensis*	
Lesser Yellownape	*Picus chlorolophus*	
Greater Yellownape	*Picus flavinucha*	
Streak-throated Woodpecker	*Picus xanthopygaeus*	
Gray-headed Woodpecker	*Picus canus*	
Black-rumped Flameback	*Dinopium benghalense*	
Rufous Woodpecker	*Micropternus brachyurus*	
Greater Flameback	*Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus*	
Bay Woodpecker	*Blythipicus pyrrhotis*	

Falcons and Caracaras (Falconidae)

Eurasian Kestrel	*Falco tinnunculus*	
Peregrine Falcon	*Falco peregrinus*	G

Old World Parrots (Psittaculidae)

Alexandrine Parakeet	*Psittacula eupatria*	
Rose-ringed Parakeet	*Psittacula krameri*	
Blossom-headed Parakeet	*Psittacula roseata*	
Red-breasted Parakeet	*Psittacula alexandri*	

Asian and Grauer's Broadbills (Eurylaimidae)

Long-tailed Broadbill	*Psarisomus dalhousiae*	
Silver-breasted Broadbill (Gray-browed)	*Serilophus lunatus rubropygius*	

Vangas, Helmetshrikes, and Allies (Vangidae)

Large Woodshrike	*Tephrodornis virgatus*	
Common Woodshrike	*Tephrodornis pondicerianus*	
Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	*Hemipus picatus*	

Woodswallows (Artamidae)

Ashy Woodswallow	*Artamus fuscus*	

Ioras (Aegithinidae)

Common Iora	*Aegithina tiphia*	

Cuckooshrikes (Campephagidae)

Gray-chinned Minivet	*Pericrocotus solaris*	
Long-tailed Minivet	*Pericrocotus ethologus*	

Scarlet Minivet	*Pericrocotus speciosus*
Rosy Minivet	*Pericrocotus roseus*
Large Cuckooshrike	*Coracina macei*
Black-winged Cuckooshrike	*Lalage melaschistos*

Shrikes (Laniidae)

Brown Shrike	*Lanius cristatus*
Long-tailed Shrike	*Lanius schach*
Gray-backed Shrike	*Lanius tephronotus*

Vireos, Shrike-Babblers, and Erpornis (Vireonidae)

Black-headed Shrike-Babbler	*Pteruthius rufiventer*
Blyth's Shrike-Babbler	*Pteruthius aeralatus*
Green Shrike-Babbler	*Pteruthius xanthochlorus*
Black-eared Shrike-Babbler	*Pteruthius melanotis*
White-bellied Erpornis	*Erpornis zantholeuca*

Old World Orioles (Oriolidae)

Slender-billed Oriole	*Oriolus tenuirostris*
Black-hooded Oriole	*Oriolus xanthornus*
Maroon Oriole	*Oriolus traillii*

Drongos (Dicruridae)

Black Drongo	*Dicrurus macrocercus*
Ashy Drongo	*Dicrurus leucophaeus*
Bronzed Drongo	*Dicrurus aeneus*
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus remifer*
Hair-crested Drongo	*Dicrurus hottentottus*
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus paradiseus*

Fantails (Rhipiduridae)

White-throated Fantail	*Rhipidura albicollis*

Monarch Flycatchers (Monarchidae)

Black-naped Monarch	*Hypothymis azurea*
Blyth's Paradise-Flycatcher	*Terpsiphone affinis*

Crows, Jays, and Magpies (Corvidae)

Eurasian Jay	*Garrulus glandarius*
Yellow-billed Blue-Magpie	*Urocissa flavirostris*
Rufous Treepie	*Dendrocitta vagabunda*
Gray Treepie	*Dendrocitta formosae*
Eurasian Magpie	*Pica pica*
Eurasian Nutcracker	*Nucifraga caryocatactes*

Red-billed Chough	*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*
House Crow	*Corvus splendens*
Large-billed Crow	*Corvus macrorhynchos*

Larks (Alaudidae)

Oriental Skylark	*Alauda gulgula*

Swallows (Hirundinidae)

Gray-throated Martin	*Riparia chinensis*
Bank Swallow (Sand Martin)	*Riparia riparia*
Barn Swallow	*Hirundo rustica*
Red-rumped Swallow	*Cecropis daurica*
Asian House-Martin	*Delichon dasypus*
Nepal House-Martin	*Delichon nipalense*

Fairy Flycatchers (Stenostiridae)

Yellow-bellied Fairy-Fantail	*Chelidorhynx hypoxantha*
Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher	*Culicicapa ceylonensis*

Tits, Chickadees, and Titmice (Paridae)

Fire-capped Tit	*Cephalopyrus flammiceps*
Yellow-browed Tit	*Sylviparus modestus*
Sultan Tit	*Melanochlora sultanea*
Coal Tit	*Periparus ater*
Rufous-vented Tit	*Periparus rubidiventris*
Gray-crested Tit	*Lophophanes dichrous*
Green-backed Tit	*Parus monticolus*
Cinereous Tit	*Parus cinereus*
Yellow-cheeked Tit	*Machlolophus spilonotus*

Long-tailed Tits (Aegithalidae)

Black-throated Tit	*Aegithalos concinnus*
Black-browed Tit	*Aegithalos iouschistos*

Nuthatches (Sittidae)

Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	*Sitta cinnamoventris*
White-tailed Nuthatch	*Sitta himalayensis*
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	*Sitta frontalis*
Beautiful Nuthatch	*Sitta formosa*

Treecreepers (Certhiidae)

Hodgson's Treecreeper	*Certhia hodgsoni*
Rusty-flanked Treecreeper	*Certhia nipalensis*
Sikkim Treecreeper	*Certhia discolor*

Wrens (Troglodytidae)

Eurasian Wren	*Troglodytes troglodytes*	

Dippers (Cinclidae)

Brown Dipper	*Cinclus pallasii*	

Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)

Striated Bulbul	*Pycnonotus striatus*	
Black-crested Bulbul	*Pycnonotus flaviventris*	
Red-vented Bulbul	*Pycnonotus cafer*	
Red-whiskered Bulbul	*Pycnonotus jocosus*	
Himalayan Bulbul	*Pycnonotus leucogenys*	
White-throated Bulbul	*Alophoixus flaveolus*	
Black Bulbul	*Hypsipetes leucocephalus*	
Ashy Bulbul	*Hemixos flavala*	
Mountain Bulbul	*Ixos mcclellandii*	

Kinglets (Regulidae)

Goldcrest	*Regulus regulus*	G

Cupwings (Pnoepygidae)

Scaly-breasted Cupwing	*Pnoepyga albiventer*	G
Pygmy Cupwing	*Pnoepyga pusilla*	

Bush Warblers and Allies (Scotocercidae)

Slaty-bellied Tesia	*Tesia olivea*	
Chestnut-headed Tesia	*Cettia castaneocoronata*	
Yellow-bellied Warbler	*Abroscopus superciliaris*	
Rufous-faced Warbler	*Abroscopus albogularis*	
Black-faced Warbler	*Abroscopus schisticeps*	
Mountain Tailorbird	*Phyllergates cucullatus*	
Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler	*Horornis fortipes*	

Leaf Warblers (Phylloscopidae)

Dusky Warbler	*Phylloscopus fuscatus*	
Tickell's Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus affinis*	
Buff-barred Warbler	*Phylloscopus pulcher*	
Ashy-throated Warbler	*Phylloscopus maculipennis*	
Pale-(Lemon-)rumped Warbler	*Phylloscopus chloronotus*	
Yellow-browed Warbler	*Phylloscopus inornatus*	
Greenish Warbler	*Phylloscopus trochiloides*	
Blyth's Leaf Warbler	*Phylloscopus reguloides*	
Yellow-vented Warbler	*Phylloscopus cantator*	

Gray-hooded Warbler	*Phylloscopus xanthoschistos*	
Golden-spectacled Warbler	*Seicercus burkii*	
Whistler's Warbler	*Seicercus whistleri*	
White-spectacled Warbler	*Seicercus affinis*	
Gray-cheeked Warbler	*Seicercus poliogenys*	
Chestnut-crowned Warbler	*Seicercus castaniceps*	

Grassbirds and Allies (Locustellidae)

Striated Grassbird	*Megalurus palustris*	

Cisticolas and Allies (Cisticolidae)

Zitting Cisticola	*Cisticola juncidis*	
Golden-headed Cisticola	*Cisticola exilis*	
Common Tailorbird	*Orthotomus sutorius*	
Dark-necked Tailorbird	*Orthotomus atrogularis*	H
Striated Prinia	*Prinia crinigera*	
Black-throated Prinia	*Prinia atrogularis*	
Rufescent Prinia	*Prinia rufescens*	
Gray-breasted Prinia	*Prinia hodgsonii albogularis*	
Ashy Prinia	*Prinia socialis*	
Plain Prinia	*Prinia inornata*	

Parrotbills, Wrentit, and Allies (Paradoxornithidae)

Fire-tailed Myzornis	*Myzornis pyrrhoura*	
Golden-breasted Fulvetta	*Lioparus chrysotis*	
Yellow-eyed Babbler	*Chrysomma sinense hypoleucum*	
Jerdon's Babbler	*Chrysomma altirostre griseigulare*	
White-browed Fulvetta	*Fulvetta vinipectus*	
Brown Parrotbill	*Cholornis unicolor*	
Gray-headed Parrotbill	*Psittiparus gularis*	
Black-breasted Parrotbill	*Paradoxornis flavirostris*	

White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies (Zosteropidae)

Striated Yuhina	*Yuhina castaniceps*	
White-naped Yuhina	*Yuhina bakeri*	
Whiskered Yuhina	*Yuhina flavicollis*	
Stripe-throated Yuhina	*Yuhina gularis*	
Rufous-vented Yuhina	*Yuhina occipitalis*	
Black-chinned Yuhina	*Yuhina nigrimenta*	
Oriental White-eye	*Zosterops palpebrosus*	

Tree-Babblers, Scimitar-Babblers, and Allies (Timaliidae)

Chestnut-capped Babbler	*Timalia pileata*	

Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	*Mixornis gularis*	
Golden Babbler	*Cyanoderma chrysaeum*	
Rufous-capped Babbler	*Cyanoderma ruficeps*	
Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler	*Pomatorhinus ferruginosus*	
Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler	*Pomatorhinus ruficollis*	
White-browed Scimitar-Babbler	*Pomatorhinus schisticeps*	
Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler	*Megapomatorhinus erythrogenys*	
Gray-throated Babbler	*Stachyris nigriceps*	

Ground Babblers and Allies (Pellorneidae)

White-hooded Babbler	*Gampsorhynchus rufulus*	
Rufous-winged Fulvetta	*Schoeniparus castaneceps*	
Puff-throated Babbler	*Pellorneum ruficeps*	
Abbott's Babbler	*Turdinus abbotti*	
Indian (Rufous-rumped) Grassbird	*Graminicola bengalensis*	

Laughingthrushes and Allies (Leiothrichidae)

Nepal Fulvetta	*Alcippe nipalensis*	
Striated Laughingthrush	*Grammatoptila striata*	
Himalayan Cutia	*Cutia nipalensis*	
Striated Babbler	*Turdoides earlei*	
Slender-billed Babbler	*Turdoides longirostris*	
Jungle Babbler	*Turdoides striata*	
White-crested Laughingthrush	*Garrulax leucolophus*	
Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush	*Garrulax monileger*	
Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla rufogularis*	
Spotted Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla ocellata*	
Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla pectoralis*	
White-throated Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla albogularis*	
Rufous-necked Laughingthrush	*Ianthocincla ruficollis*	
Bhutan Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron imbricatum*	
Scaly Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron subunicolor*	
Blue-winged Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron squamatum*	
Black-faced Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron affine*	
Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	*Trochalopteron erythrocephalum*	
Rufous Sibia	*Heterophasia capistrata*	
Long-tailed Sibia	*Heterophasia picaoides*	
Silver-eared Mesia	*Leiothrix argentauris*	
Red-billed Leiothrix	*Leiothrix lutea*	H
Red-tailed Minla	*Minla ignotincta*	
Red-faced Liocichla	*Liocichla phoenicea*	

Hoary-throated Barwing	*Actinodura nipalensis*	
Rusty-fronted Barwing	*Actinodura egertoni*	
Blue-winged Minla	*Actinodura cyanouroptera*	
Chestnut-tailed (Bar-throated Siva) Minla	*Actinodura strigula*	

Fairy-bluebirds (Irenidae)

Asian Fairy-bluebird	*Irena puella*	

Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae)

Dark-sided Flycatcher	*Muscicapa sibirica*	
Ferruginous Flycatcher	*Muscicapa ferruginea*	
Oriental Magpie-Robin	*Copsychus saularis*	
White-rumped Shama	*Copsychus malabaricus*	
White-gorgeted Flycatcher	*Anthipes monileger*	
Pale-chinned Blue Flycatcher	*Cyornis poliogenys*	
Pale Blue Flycatcher	*Cyornis unicolor*	G
Blue-throated Flycatcher	*Cyornis rubeculoides*	
Large Niltava	*Niltava grandis*	
Small Niltava	*Niltava macgrigoriae*	
Rufous-bellied Niltava	*Niltava sundara*	
Verditer Flycatcher	*Eumyias thalassinus*	
Bluethroat	*Luscinia svecica*	
Blue Whistling-Thrush	*Myophonus caeruleus*	
Little Forktail	*Enicurus scouleri*	
Spotted Forktail	*Enicurus maculatus*	
Black-backed Forktail	*Enicurus immaculatus*	
Slaty-backed Forktail	*Enicurus schistaceus*	
Himalayan Rubythroat	*Calliope pectoralis confusa*	
Himalayan Bluetail	*Tarsiger rufilatus*	
Rufous-breasted Bush-Robin	*Tarsiger hyperythrus*	
Golden Bush-Robin	*Tarsiger chrysaeus*	H
Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	*Ficedula strophiata*	
Little Pied Flycatcher	*Ficedula westermanni*	
Ultramarine Flycatcher	*Ficedula superciliaris*	
Taiga Flycatcher	*Ficedula albicilla*	
Blue-fronted Redstart	*Phoenicurus frontalis*	
Plumbeous Redstart	*Phoenicurus fuliginosus*	
White-capped Redstart	*Phoenicurus leucocephalus*	
Hodgson's Redstart	*Phoenicurus hodgsoni*	
Black Redstart	*Phoenicurus ochruros*	
Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush	*Monticola rufiventris*	

Blue-capped Rock-Thrush	*Monticola cinclorhynchus*	
Blue Rock-Thrush	*Monticola solitarius*	
Siberian Stonechat	*Saxicola maurus*	
Gray Bushchat	*Saxicola ferreus*	

Thrushes and Allies (Turdidae)

White-collared Blackbird	*Turdus albocinctus*	
Gray-winged Blackbird	*Turdus boulboul*	

Starlings (Sturnidae)

Common Hill Myna	*Gracula religiosa*	
Asian Pied Starling	*Gracupica contra*	
Chestnut-tailed Starling	*Sturnia malabarica*	
Common Myna	*Acridotheres tristis*	
Jungle Myna	*Acridotheres fuscus*	
Great Myna	*Acridotheres grandis*	

Leafbirds (Chloropseidae)

Golden-fronted Leafbird	*Chloropsis aurifrons*	
Orange-bellied Leafbird	*Chloropsis hardwickii*	

Flowerpeckers (Dicaeidae)

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum chrysorrheum*	G
Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum melanoxanthum*	
Plain Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum minullum*	
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum ignipectus*	
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	*Dicaeum cruentatum*	

Sunbirds and Spiderhunters (Nectariniidae)

Fire-tailed Sunbird	*Aethopyga ignicauda*	G
Black-throated Sunbird	*Aethopyga saturata*	
(Mrs.) Gould's Sunbird	*Aethopyga gouldiae*	
Green-tailed Sunbird	*Aethopyga nipalensis*	
Crimson Sunbird	*Aethopyga siparaja*	
Streaked Spiderhunter	*Arachnothera magna*	

Accentors (Prunellidae)

Alpine Accentor	*Prunella collaris*	
Rufous-breasted Accentor	*Prunella strophiata*	

Wagtails and Pipits (Motacillidae)

Western Yellow Wagtail	*Motacilla flava*	
Citrine Wagtail	*Motacilla citreola*	
Gray Wagtail	*Motacilla cinerea*	

White Wagtail	*Motacilla alba*
White-browed Wagtail	*Motacilla maderaspatensis*
Paddyfield Pipit	*Anthus rufulus*
Rosy Pipit	*Anthus roseatus*
Olive-backed Pipit	*Anthus hodgsoni*

Spotted Elachura (Elachuridae)

Spotted Elachura	*Elachura formosa*

Old World Buntings (Emberizidae)

Crested Bunting	*Melophus lathami*

Finches, Euphonias, and Allies (Fringillidae)

Collared Grosbeak	*Mycerobas affinis*
Spot-winged Grosbeak	*Mycerobas melanozanthos*
White-winged Grosbeak	*Mycerobas carnipes*
Scarlet Finch	*Carpodacus sipahi*
Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch	*Carpodacus pulcherrimus*
Dark-rumped Rosefinch	*Carpodacus edwardsii*
Crimson-browed Finch	*Carpodacus subhimachalus*
Himalayan White-browed Rosefinch	*Carpodacus thura*
Brown Bullfinch	*Pyrrhula nipalensis*
Red-headed Bullfinch	*Pyrrhula erythrocephala*
Gray-headed Bullfinch	*Pyrrhula erythaca erythaca*
Gold-naped Finch	*Pyrrhoplectes epauletta*
Plain Mountain-Finch	*Leucosticte nemoricola*
Yellow-breasted Greenfinch	*Chloris spinoides*
Red Crossbill	*Loxia curvirostra*

Old World Sparrows (Passeridae)

House Sparrow	*Passer domesticus*
Russet Sparrow	*Passer rutilans*
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	*Passer montanus*

Weavers and Allies (Ploceidae)

Baya Weaver	*Ploceus philippinus*
Yellow (Finn's) Weaver	*Ploceus megarhynchus salimalii*

Waxbills and Allies (Estrildidae)

White-rumped Munia	*Lonchura striata*
Scaly-breasted Munia	*Lonchura punctulata*

MAMMAL LIST

Elephants (Elephantidae)

Asian Elephant	Elaphus maximus

Old World Monkeys (Cercopithecidae)

Golden Langur	Trachypithecus geei
Capped Langur	Trachypithecus pileatus
Nepal Gray Langur	Semnopithecus schistaceus
Assam Macaque	Macaca assamensis
Rhesus Macaque	Macaca mulatta

Weasels & Otters (Mustelidae)

Yellow-throated Marten	Martes flavigula
Smooth-coated Otter	Lutragale perspicillata

Rhinoceroses (Rhinocerotidae)

Indian Rhinoceros	Rhinoceros unicornis

Pigs (Suidae)

Wild boar	Sus scrofa

Deer (Cervidae)

Indian Hog Deer	Axis porcinus
Barasingha (Swamp Deer)	Cervus duvauceli
Northern Red Muntjac	Muntiacus vaginalis

Bovids (Bovidae)

Asian Buffalo	Bubalus arnee
Himalayan Goral	Naemorhedus goral
Gaur	Bos gaurus

Squirrels (Sciuridae)

Hoary-bellied Himalayan Squirrel	Callosciurus pygerythrus
Red-bellied Squirrel	Callosciurus erythraeus
Himalayan (Orange-bellied) Squirrel	Dremomys lokriah
Black Giant Squirrel	Ratufa bicolor
Himalayan Striped Squirrel	Tamiops mcclellandii

Pikas (Ochotonidae)

Large-eared Pika	Ochotona macrotis
Moupin Pika	Ochotona thibetana

Old World Fruit Bats (Pteropodidae)

Indian Flying Fox	Pteropus giganteus