

Borneo (Sabah) and Singapore: March 1-25, 2007

Report by Sjef Öllers

Introduction and Practicalities

This was the first visit to the Sundaland region for me and my partner. Birds and mammals were our main interests. It was an excellent trip with sightings of three cat species, seven primates including orang utan, five pittas, seven broadbills, eight hornbills, and five individuals of Bornean ground cuckoo among lots of other great wildlife.

The Borneo part of the trip was booked through the excellent Borneo EcoTours. Flawless service: all bookings were exactly as requested, all transfers punctual, etc., etc. In Singapore we used public transport and taxis to get from one place to another. We stayed in the Perak Hotel (formerly Perak Lodge) on the edge of the Indian quarter, which was fine, but a bit non-descript. Rooms were nicely decorated, but a little cramped. There is a decent self-service breakfast. Pretty good location.

For information on the sites visited, field guides, trails, lodges, etc., please check the numerous trip reports on www.travelingbirder.com, www.mammalwatching.com, or <http://creagrus.home.montereybay.com/Borneo2003.html>. I have little news to add on these issues, but there are a few comments in the report below.



Itinerary

- March 1: Flight to Singapore
- March 2: Morning in Singapore – Afternoon flight Kota Kinabalu
- March 3: Flight to Lahad Datu – Transfer Tabin Wildlife Reserve – Tabin Lodge
- March 4-6: Tabin Wildlife Reserve
- March 7: Morning Tabin – transfer Danum Valley – Borneo Rainforest Lodge
- March 8-11: Danum Valley
- March 12: Transfer Sungei Kinabatangan - Sukau Rainforest Lodge
- March 13-15: Sungei Kinabatangan
- March 16: Transfer Mt. Kinabalu national park – Hill Lodge
- March 17-18: Mt. Kinabalu
- March 19: Return to Kota Kinabalu
- March 20: Day trip to Rafflesia forest reserve
- March 21: Flight to Singapore
- March 22: Sungei Buloh wetland reserve and Jurong bird park
- March 23: Bukit Timah and Mac Ritchie reservoir
- March 24: Pulau Ubin
- March 25: Flight to Europe



Day-to-day diary

March 2: Morning in Singapore – Afternoon flight Kota Kinabalu

After a relaxed flight with the excellent Singapore Airlines we arrived in Singapore mid-morning. We stored our luggage and took the metro to the city centre and headed for the botanical gardens. The

gardens are a pleasant place to hang out for a few hours and birding was not bad, but mostly common birds such as pink-necked dove, olive-backed sunbird, collared kingfisher, black-naped oriole, Asian glossy starling, yellow bittern, etc. were seen. A few plantain squirrels were seen as well. After some shopping and dining in the city centre we went back to the airport for our flight to Kota Kinabalu. We arrived in the late afternoon and took a taxi to the hotel (Shangri-La), where we had dinner (ok-ish, not great) and then went straight to bed.

March 3: Flight to Lahad Datu – Transfer Tabin Wildlife Reserve – Tabin Lodge

Because our flight would depart late morning we made a dawn visit to the Kota Kinabalu Wetland Reserve. It is a nice place with several trails and boardwalks and enjoyable birdwatching. Mostly common songbirds, herons and waders were present. Some highlights (for us) were the many giant mudskippers, a dog-faced water snake, and mangrove skink.

Mid-morning we headed back to our hotel and took a taxi to the airport. After a bumpy flight to Lahad Datu we were picked up by the Tabin lodge staff at the airport. The drive to Tabin leads through endless palm oil plantations and takes about 1.5-2 hours. Only a few common bird species were seen. Tabin Lodge is located in an idyllic spot along a small stream on the edge of the rainforest and palm oil plantations (which you don't see from the lodge). After dropping our bags, I walked around the lodge grounds seeing a female scarlet-rumped trogon, pied and black hornbill, and lesser fish eagle. An afternoon stroll towards the main road with our guide Danny produced black-and-yellow broadbill, crested serpent eagle, scarlet minivet and Malaysian blue flycatcher. We were too exhausted and jet-lagged to do a night drive, so after dinner we crashed into our beds.

March 4: Tabin Wildlife Reserve

In the morning we visited the Mud Volcano area and then walked back to the lodge along a medium-long and very nice trail. We encountered several Hose's langurs, six bearded pigs, and a Prevost's squirrel. Birding was a bit slow, but among others we saw dollarbird, crested fireback, rhinoceros hornbill, a variety of commoner babblers and bulbuls, verditer flycatcher and Bornean blue flycatcher.



In the afternoon we made a game drive in another direction. This produced excellent views of Mueller's Bornean gibbon, pig-tailed macaque, and a good number of monitor lizards. Birding was fairly slow again, but we did see a group of eight white-crowned hornbills! The night drive produced a single bearded pig, leopard cat, Malay civet, Asian palm civet and a brown wood owl. The sunbear was unfortunately not present at one of his usual haunts.

March 5: Tabin Wildlife Reserve

This morning we hiked to Lipad cave. It is a nice walk but very little was seen, also because our guide Danny seemed uninspired again. Best bird was a rather distant wrinkled hornbill. Around the lodge I

was thrilled to see a plain pygmy squirrel at less than 2 meters. The afternoon walk was more productive with a group of long-tailed macaques, several Prevost's squirrels, striped tit-babbler, crimson sunbird, yellow-rumped flowerpecker and the beautiful Asian fairy bluebird. A fruiting tree held a lot of birds (including green imperial pigeon, little green pigeon, emerald dove and black, pied and wreathed hornbill) but not the hoped for binturong. The night drive produced the same species as last night, but this time also the amazing moonrat!



March 6: Tabin Wildlife Reserve

As I hadn't been very impressed with our guide, I decided to go out on my own this morning. At dawn I saw a great-billed heron and lesser coucal near the wildlife department buildings. Excellent start! I managed to sneak up on a pair of crested fireback but they stayed in a very dark patch of forest. No photos. Black-headed pitta was heard several times but I could not track one down close enough to get views. Absolutely gobsmacking was a perched Wallace's hawk-eagle with its wings spread out. I could approach the bird up to 10 meters and it didn't fly. In the air just above the canopy I saw black eagle and pied hornbill. In a disturbed area with lot of tangles I got good views of white-rumped shama, my first black-and-red broadbill and a variety of bulbuls and babblers. I also had excellent views of five Hose's langurs and a larger group of pig-tailed macaques including an intimidating male. Activity was very good until about 9 but then levelled off. Still there was enough activity to keep me entertained until 13.30. A superb morning and my bird list for this morning was longer than for the complete previous two days combined.

My partner had explored a leech-infested trail with the guide. They managed to get close to a group of elephants, but unfortunately could not see them in the very dense secondary vegetation. Only bearded pigs were seen. Our last afternoon was spent on the tower at the Mud volcano. It was rather quiet for a long time, but around dusk a scattered group of about 15 bearded pigs emerged from the forest. Best birds were scarlet minivet, and bushy-crested and wrinkled hornbill. The night drive back produced nothing of note.

March 7: Morning Tabin – transfer Danum Valley – Borneo Rainforest Lodge

This morning we got up at 3.30 am for an early morning game drive. Annoyingly the driver hadn't bothered to set his alarm clock, so our guide had to kick him out of his bed. With a half hour delay we were finally on our way. Again we drove along the same road where sun bear is allegedly seen quite regularly but we failed again to see it. We only encountered sambar deer, Asian palm civet, and a buffy fish owl.

All in all, I left Tabin with mixed feelings; the lodge itself is great with enough birds and mammals directly around the lodge to keep one entertained. The food was excellent when we were there. The forest trails and the tower at the Mud Volcano around the lodge are also great to look for wildlife. But both our guide and the drivers seemed less inspired and perseverant than they could or should be.

After breakfast we made the transfer back to Lahad Datu. The drive was more entertaining this time, because in the middle of the oil palm plantations we saw a couple of the rare Storm's stork perched close to a rocky outcrop with about 2 hectares of rainforest left around it. Brilliant. We also saw pig-tailed and long-tailed macaques, brown shrike, and an authentic-looking male red junglefowl.



After finalizing some formalities at the Borneo Rainforest Lodge office in Lahad Datu we were driven to the lodge in Danum valley. It was midday and hot; nothing of note was seen. I was pleased to see that my request to have Wangkong Intal as our guide had gotten through; he was our guide for the next days.

On our first afternoon stroll along the main road it was clear that things would now take place several gears higher than at Tabin. Wangkong managed to track bird species down in an amazing tempo. Some goodies seen on the first afternoon were great argus, black-headed pita, Diard's trogon, large-billed heron, dusky broadbill, and rufous-tailed shama.

In the evening we were exhausted from the early start in the morning and the sticky heat in Danum, but somehow we decided to drag ourselves to the night drive. The first half not much was happening

and I was snoozing every now and then, but somewhere halfway a largish feline suddenly jumped out of the dense undergrowth and started walking in front of the vehicle (not more than 10 meters away!!). The impossible was happening; we were watching a clouded leopard!! I almost fell off the truck from excitement as I tried to make a picture standing on the seat while the truck pulled up. When we arrived at the lodge earlier in the afternoon, I had watched the board with animal sightings and saw that clouded leopard had already been seen two weeks earlier, so I had already resigned with the idea that leopard sightings for his quarter of the year had been used up. Anyway, the cat trotted in front of the car seemingly unconcerned, but it was impossible to get a decent picture of the beast. The leopard immediately continued walking as soon as the vehicle slowed down to stop. Most of the time only sideways or rear views of the leopard were had, but several times the leopard stopped on the road for a moment to look our way giving excellent views of the beautiful “cloud” pattern. The cat walked on the road for at least 150 meters before disappearing in the undergrowth again. The adrenaline rush was now high enough to keep me awake throughout the rest of the night drive: we further saw two red giant flying squirrels, a near-invisible leopard cat and a brown wood-owl.



March 8: Danum Valley

Next morning Wangkong told us that a female orang utan had been seen nearby, so our birding plans were stored for a while and we headed towards a path along the Segama river. Soon we located the ape, who was quite high up in the canopy but out in the open. After enjoying her acrobatics for a while, we eventually picked up birding again and walked the road and the Hornbill trail. Highlights were chestnut-laced partridge, our only helmeted hornbills of the trip, and white-fronted falconet. On our way back to the lodge we saw a group of six maroon langurs.

In the afternoon we walked along the road again and spent some time on the canopy tower. Mammal activity was quite good with good views of giant squirrel, common treeshrew and Prevost's squirrel, but on our way back we found an impressive male orang utan right next to the road making a nest for the night! Brilliant! Other goodies were an oriental whip snake and a very large walking stick (>25 cm). Birding produced among others chestnut-breasted and chestnut-bellied malkoha, another black-headed pitta, black-naped monarch and rhinoceros hornbill.

The night drive produced the rather strange but interesting long-tailed porcupine, another red giant flying squirrel, a brown wood owl and three lesser mouse deers.

March 9: Danum Valley

This morning we walked the road, the Tekala trail and parts of the Segama trail. The only mammal sighting was a good one: a yellow-throated marten jumped on the road some ten meters in front of us and stopped right in the middle of the road! We stared amazed at each other for several seconds but the

slightest movement of my hand towards the camera made the marten race across the road. Birding produced among others fluffy-backed babbler, striped wren-babbler, arctic warbler, three! black-headed pittas, orange-backed woodpecker, and a too short view of black eagle.

In the afternoon we were joined by Paul Sharp from the UK. This added a welcome extra pair of eyes. This afternoon we experienced our first rain of the trip, but it was little more than a drizzle. It had been extremely dry in Danum over the last few weeks. We saw a dog-faced cat snake, two sambar deers, a pair of lesser green leafbirds, a male crested fireback, yellow-rumped flowerpecker, but little else. Both black-headed and giant pitta were heard but not seen.



March 10: Danum Valley

This morning Paul, Wangkong and the two of us started walking on the road and then explored the Sapa Babandil and Segama trails. From the road we saw two crested jays. From a fairly open spot in the forest on the Segama trail we saw both great argus (on a lek site) and blue-headed pitta. Two pairs of Diard's trogon, black-throated, striped and Bornean wren-babbler, Siberian blue robin, red-bearded bee-eater and rufous piculet were some of the other birds seen. Best mammal was a greater mouse deer that we flushed and crossed the trail in fairly open forest. We also saw maroon langurs, long-tailed macaques and the always amazing plain pigmy squirrel.

Back at the lodge we relaxed a bit on the balcony in front of our cabin. We were being entertained by several Prevost's squirrels when suddenly a common gliding lizard glid from one tree to another over a distance of at least 15 meters right in front of us. Amazing sight. A bit later a group of long-tailed macaques was feeding along the river's edge in front of our cabin. When the monkeys decided to go back in the forest, they suddenly started to give alarm calls that kept increasing in intensity and eventually some of the monkeys went completely mental. One of the monkeys jumped from a low branch into the river and swam back downstream in total panic for at least 100 meters. When the

predator finally emerged from the forest, it turned out to be a smooth-coated otter. The otter completely ignored the monkeys, stood at the river bank for about one minute and then launched into the water.

In the afternoon our group was further expanded with two American birdwatchers who were on a pitta quest. We explored parts of the Sapa Babandil and Tekala trails, where I finally managed to see a Bornean bristlehead, but it was high up in the canopy. Another excellent sighting was a male green broadbill displaying to the female. In addition, we saw both philentoma flycatchers, black-and-yellow broadbill and white-crowned forktail. A blue-banded kingfisher was heard but not seen. Close to where the bristlehead was seen we saw an impressive male orang utan moving through the trees.

This evening we arrived too late for the evening game drive. The vehicle was already jammed with people, but we later heard that little was seen this evening.



March 11: Danum Valley

This morning we went to the Viewpoint/Coffin Cliff trail. It is a nice trail with several steep climbs and indeed a beautiful view over the river and lodge grounds. Birding was rather slow in the beginning, but we walked the full loop (i.e. continued on the Sapa Telisoil trail), which passes through an area that is visited not that often and requires some climbing over fallen trees. In this more rocky area with scattered bamboo vegetation Wangkong picked up a faint whistle and told us to wait. He imitated the sound and unbelievably a bit later we were looking at a blue-banded pitta magnificently perched on a vine out in the open in beautiful light. The soft morning light dancing on the iridescent pitta feathers was unbelievable. As I was not sure whether everybody had gotten good looks at the pitta, I decided to wait with reaching for my camera. When I was sure everybody had seen the bird, I slowly tried to lift the camera but the bird flew almost immediately. Aaargh. Still celebrating our

amazing pitta encounter, we were caught by surprise when a chestnut-naped forktail landed for a short time on a log at the Fairy Falls and unfortunately it was only seen by Paul, Wangkong and me. In the same area Wangkong was the only one to see a rufous-collared kingfisher that darted off its perch immediately. While having a break at the falls we got good views of black-and-yellow broadbill and large-billed blue flycatcher. The walk back past the Serpent Falls produced several nice herp sightings and orange-backed woodpecker among others.

During the midday break Paul and I scoped a large fruiting tree, which produced red-throated and brown barbets among others. In the afternoon, we walked the Hornbill trail again, where we had more amazing pitta encounters. First we managed to track down a couple of blue-headed pittas, although it was again hard work to get them in the bins. A bit further on a Diard's trogon was found perched quietly. While looking for black-headed pitta in an area with very dense tangles, a blue-headed pitta jumped out of his hiding place and for a while stood quietly on the walking trail. Suddenly it was alarmed and dashed off. Seconds later a giant argus stepped on the trail exactly at the spot where the pitta had been. The only mammal seen was a large bearded pig along the main road. This evening we made a night walk, but it was extremely quiet. Best sighting was a lesser mouse deer.



March 12: Transfer Sungei Kinabatangan - Sukau Rainforest Lodge

After breakfast we left Danum valley for the Kinabatangan river area. The drive takes about 5-6 hours and is boring and rather depressing with many palm oil plantations seen on the way. The Sukau Rainforest Lodge has a nice location directly next to the river. There is an excellent viewing platform directly at the river and behind the lodge there is a circular boardwalk that is good for birdwatching and the occasional mammal. The sleeping quarters felt a bit cramped and the simple rooms were rather noisy and had tiny showers, but it was ok and you spend most of your time outside anyway. (I read on their website that the rooms and possibly the whole lodge will have undergone a major revision that should be finished by 2010. The pictures suggest a more luxurious lodge). Overall, a nice place though and a big bonus is that their boats have the possibility to switch to a silent electrical motor, which was very useful for a stealthier approach of shy animals. Food was a bit of an erratic affair: good when they cooked Asian food and less inspiring when they tried "Western" food.

Hanging around on the viewing deck after lunch we saw a Storm's stork and lesser adjutant high up in the air. Our first afternoon boat trip with our guide Raimie took us to the Menanggul river. The beautiful black-and-red broadbill and white-chested babbler turned out to be common here. Both Malaysian and Bornean blue flycatcher were seen. Bornean ground-cuckoo was heard far away. The highlight was undoubtedly the common but spectacular proboscis monkey. Pig-tailed and long-tailed macaques were seen as well. The night boat trip along the main river turned up a few birds (blue-eared kingfisher, yellow bittern, black-crowned night heron), two smallish crocs and flying foxes but little else.

March 13: Sungei Kinabatangan

In the morning we explored the Menanggul tributary again. Birdwatching was excellent with a chestnut-winged cuckoo (lifer for both our guide and us), two malkoha species, three broadbills, four hornbills, two trogons, Storm's stork, fiery minivet, grey-headed fish eagle and black-headed bulbul. Hooded pitta and Bornean ground-cuckoo were heard only, but much closer this time. Best mammal sightings were proboscis monkey and Mueller's Bornean gibbon.

In the afternoon we went further upstream to an oxbow lake, where we saw among others Chinese egret, white-bellied woodpecker, crimson sunbird and five hornbill species including white-crested at dusk!! A good mammal sighting was a group of maroon langurs, which are not that common in this area according to our guide.

Late afternoon, Paul had arrived from Danum valley as well. For the night boat cruise Paul joined us and we went up the Menanggul tributary, and unbelievably we struck gold again on the feline front: a flat-headed cat was seen for several minutes hunting along the river's edge. A rather odd-looking cat with its short tail and legs and large head. We also got close to an impressively large, but (according to the guide) still medium-sized reticulated python. Best bird species for this night was buffy fish-owl.

March 14: Sungei Kinabatangan

Paul and his guide Hamid also joined us for the morning excursion to the Tenigang Besar tributary. Birds were active and singing this morning and at the place where we entered the tributary we almost immediately heard hooded pita but could not track it down. A bit further on we heard Bornean ground-cuckoo but this time very close. Initially the birds seemed to be calling from one bank only, but soon it was clear there were birds on both sides. After some intense searching we finally found one on our right-hand side and soon after the second bird appeared a little behind the first. The birds kept calling and after fully enjoying the first couple we scanned the other bank and amazingly we found another couple on that side. A bit further we found a third bird on the right bank, which was very probably not one of the birds seen earlier.



We continued on the tributary and unfortunately noticed that at several places the palm oil plantations reached right down to the river bank in a habitat that is already very fragmented. Birds were thankfully still plentiful. Among others, we saw black-naped monarch, Abbot's babbler, chestnut-winged babbler, paradise flycatcher, oriental pied hornbill, dollarbird, collared kingfisher, four Storm's storks, and imperial green pigeon. When we were just about to return to the main river, we heard a hooded pitta call from directly at the river's edge and amazingly we found the bird in the fairly dense green foliage after I played its call for a short time. It even flew back and forth across the river allowing great flight views.

Raptor activity was superb that morning with white-fronted falconet, white-bellied sea-eagle, Jerdon's baza, crested goshawk, Japanese sparrowhawk, Brahminy kite, six crested serpent eagles and lesser fish eagle. Best mammals were silvered langur and Low's squirrel.

In the afternoon only the two of us and our guide visited Gomantong caves. Birding was quite good for an afternoon and it would be better to spend a full morning here as well. Buff-throated woodpecker, whiskered treeswift, maroon-breasted philentoma, paradise flycatcher, black-throated babbler and dark-throated oriole were some of the highlights. Superb was the sighting of a female orang utan with a very young baby. For some reason, we only visited the lower cave, where I only saw mossy-nest swiftlets and black-nest swiftlets on their nests. The stench in the cave, however, was unbearable. Allegedly, there also a few edible-nest swiftlets and their nests in the lower cave, but I couldn't be bothered to stay long. I walked the boardwalk in the lower cave rather quickly to get relieved from the nauseating smell. Around dusk we enjoyed the amazing spectacle of the bats emerging from the caves and being hunted by peregrine falcons and bat hawks.

The boat cruise after dark unfortunately was along the main river again and turned up buffy fish-owl, six yellow bitterns, common and blue-eared kingfisher, but this stretch seems to be poor for mammal sightings. None were seen.



March 15: Sungei Kinabatangan

This morning Paul, Raimie, and the two of us left early with a packed breakfast to spend all morning on the Menanggul tributary. It was a very enjoyable morning, but not as spectacular as the day before. Nevertheless, we saw (among others) another blue-headed pitta, Malaysian blue flycatcher, Asian fairy bluebird, spectacled bulbul, many blue-eared and stork-billed kingfishers, a flushed grey-headed fish eagle, Diard's and scarlet-rumped trogon. Unfortunately, I got overexcited when we spotted a perched

Storm's stork and as a result I planted my feet in my breakfast kit in front of me. The stork of course took offence when he heard the sound of cups, plates and cutlery being kicked around and flew off. Apart from the numerous proboscis monkeys, two bearded pigs were the only mammal sightings.

From the lodge lesser adjutant, Brahminy kite, and up to four Storm's stork were seen circling on the thermals around midday. During an early afternoon walk on the boardwalk behind the lodge we saw black-and-yellow broadbill and even better a banded broadbill. The post-lunch stroll through the lodge's garden produced among others common iora, scarlet-rumped trogon, and black-winged flycatcher-shrike.

In the afternoon Raimie, Hamid, Paul, Anja and I went again to the oxbow lake (where a Chinese egret was still present), but this time we got out of the boats to walk to do a "jungle walk" to another oxbow lake. The forest was very quiet, but we did see wrinkled hornbill, rufous-winged philentoma, black-throated babbler and rufous piculet. Funny enough we got lost for a while in the forest but eventually we made it to the second oxbow lake, which unfortunately produced nothing of note. Bearded pigs and a group of about ten silvered langurs at the first oxbow lake were the only mammals seen.

This evening we decided to make a night walk in the forest but it turned out to be extremely quiet. Only a sleeping scarlet-rumped trogon and black-backed kingfisher were seen. Best sighting was a spectacularly large moth, but unfortunately it wasn't very colourful. No mammals were seen. Both Paul and Hamid got a nasty sting from a nocturnal red bee that was attracted to the light of the torches.

March 16: Transfer Mt. Kinabalu national park – Hill Lodge

After an uneventful transfer with brown shrike being the only noteworthy sighting, we arrived around lunchtime at the main entrance of Mt. Kinabalu national park. Because of our limited time here we decided to skip high altitude birding and focus on the trails between HQ and Timophon gate. After two weeks of tropical heat the 16 °C at Mt. Kinabalu felt decidedly chilly. But after an hour of acclimatisation, the moderate temperatures proved to be perfect for hiking through the cloud forest.

In the afternoon we explored the higher end of the Silau Silau trail and the Kiau View trail. The Silau Silau trail was rather silent (best bird white-browed shortwing), but on the Kiau View trail we saw golden-naped barbet, grey-and-brown, chestnut-capped and black laughing-thrushes, and mountain tailorbird among others. Around our accommodation (Hill lodge) we saw black-and-crimson oriole, Bornean treepie and Temminck's sunbird. Luckily it rained very little this afternoon.

March 17: Mt. Kinabalu

At dawn we started walking the paved road towards Timophon gate. On the way up mostly common birds were seen, but checker-throated woodpecker and mugimaki flycatcher were nice additions. At Timophon gate we had a break and there was a lot of bird activity around the gate. Much to my delight I managed to find a fruithunter there. We then descended via the Liwagu trail. At the upper trail end we surprised a couple of crimson-headed partridges after a blind turn; they rushed down the trail only some 8-10 meters ahead of us. Excellent! Quite remarkable was a flyeater (gerygone) that was feeding quite far down. I heard the odd unmusical song, but checked it on my MP3 player to be sure, but it really was this species. It was feeding between lower mid-storey to lower canopy level, but we could see it more or less at eye level as the trail cuts through a steep slope in the beginning. Bird activity continued throughout the morning, but often there were longer periods with no birds seen at all. Small bird parties were seen every now and then. Yellow-breasted warbler was very common. Other birds seen were snowy-browed flycatcher, Bornean whistler, chestnut-crested babbler, Bornean treepie, spangled drongo and mountain bush warbler. Lower down on the Liwagu trail where the path is closer to the river, we saw a white-crowned forktail twice (possibly the same bird).

Down in the valley at the end of the Liwagu trail we were too lazy to check the map properly and ended up on a nearly unmarked maintenance trail that got increasingly wilder and more obscure, but

we finally ended up in a village along the main road, from where we walked back to the HQ entrance. Here I saw my only white-breasted wood-swallows of the trip.

We made a short lunch break at Liwagu restaurant, where we saw short-tailed green magpie and indigo flycatcher. We continued birding on the Mempening trail, where we saw spangled drongo, but little else. The clouds were becoming more menacing by the minute but we had almost reached the top end of the trail and decided to move on. Very close to the top end of the trail we turned around a blind corner and surprised a couple of Whitehead's trogons. Brilliant. The birds were shy, but we managed to get quite good views and even some photos for documentation. After the trogon sighting the heavens really opened and the torrential rain lasted for several hours.

Back at Hill lodge we saw Paul again. Late in the afternoon, the rain slowed down to a drizzle and Paul and I checked out the paved road and the area around Liwagu restaurant. We saw hill blue flycatcher, grey-chinned minivet, black-sided flowerpecker, Sunda whistling thrush and velvet-fronted nuthatch among others.

March 18: Mt. Kinabalu

We were up before dawn again and walked up to Timophon gate once more. A few hundred meters from our accommodation I suddenly heard Whitehead's broadbill. It was still dawn, so it was difficult to see anything in the dark canopy. After a while the bird started moving a bit, but I could only see a silhouette. Just when it was getting lighter and the bird seemed to get more visible, it flew across the road and landed in very dense foliage in the canopy. Aaargh. We waited for quite a while, but the bird wouldn't move at all, but it was cool to see this fluorescent green ball of feathers fly across the road. We continued our way up to Timophon gate, but saw mostly common birds and no mammals. At Timophon gate a besra was found perched. We now descended via the Bukit Ular trail. Golden-naped barbet was common here. The trail was rather quiet but about halfway we almost literally stumbled over a pair of red-breasted partridges. We got excellent views with the bins, but I decided to try for pictures as the birds were still hiding in a gully. I strategically positioned myself at the backside of the gully where I expected the bird would have to come out because part of the gully itself was blocked by fallen branches. Funny enough the female bird did exactly what I expected she would do, but she did it so well that I suddenly ended up eye to eye with her at less than 1 meter (too close for my camera to focus). Both the partridge and I stared at each other in disbelief for a few seconds and then the bird raced off back into the gully with a series of alarm calls. I stepped up the gully wall and saw that the male had been just behind her and was now racing away quickly a few meters ahead of the female. No photos, but a brilliant encounter.

In the afternoon we walked the Kiau View trail and most of the Silau Silau trail, although heavy showers were a constant problem. Most notable were a short-tailed green magpie, mountain wren babbler, two velvet-fronted nuthatches and indigo flycatcher.

March 19: Return to Kota Kinabalu

Our last morning we walked the Silau Silau, Mempening and Bukit Burung trails in a fairly high tempo. We saw among others three species of laughing-thrush, Sunda bush warbler, Sunda cuckoo-shrike, white-crowned forktail and snowy-browed flycatcher. Best of all was a male Whitehead's trogon at the upper end of the Silau Silau trail. Around lunchtime we packed our bags and had a last lunch. In the afternoon a representative of Borneo Ecotours drove us back to Kota Kinabalu. On the drive back we got to talk with him about our plans to visit the Rafflesia forest reserve. He offered to bring us there with his own car and join us for some birding for a fee. This sounded like a good idea, so we agreed to meet before dawn next morning at our hotel.

March 20: Day trip to Rafflesia forest reserve

Next morning we were eager to go to the Rafflesia reserve. Our "guide" appeared on time and we set off to the Crocker range, but as soon as the road was going uphill, the 4WD pick-up started to stutter

(sounding like there was air or water in the petrol). After some 10-15 minutes driving uphill the motor just gave up completely. We were stranded next to a small house where a young couple lived. After our guide talked to them, we were told that a car would be arranged: relatives of the couple were coming our way. This seemed to last forever, but some 45 minutes later the car arrived; it was another young couple selling fish. Our guide suggested that we continued uphill with them and he would arrange yet another car and pick us up on the way. OK, at least we were moving (we thought). The drive up the mountain would turn into an unplanned cultural excursion. The car would stop at every little house, shack, or hut along the road to sell fish. The locals were of course intrigued and amused why two tourists were travelling with the local fish market people. On one hand I was very annoyed that we were losing the best birding hours, on the other hand it was very funny to stop and chat at these places en route. We were proceeding with an average speed of about 10 km/hour. Around 8.30 am our guide caught up with us in a different car. Unsurprisingly, the atmosphere was rather icy especially when he confessed that to save costs he had indeed been mixing water into the petrol, which he suspected “might give some problems” when driving uphill with the 4x4.

Anyway, at about 9 am we finally arrived at the Rafflesia forest reserve. We talked to the staff: no flowering rafflesias had been seen for weeks. Ouch! The rafflesias had been my partner’s main reason to join on this day trip. We set off on the steep down-hill trail. The first 20-30 minutes we saw zero birds. Finally, we saw a small flock of five birds: the lovely blue-winged leafbird. But the trail remained very quiet as we kept going downhill. And then out of the blue, we stumbled upon a flowering *Rafflesia pricei*. According to our guide, this flower was open for no more than two days. The flower was at its best now and it is indeed an incredible flower!! The sheer size has to be seen to be believed, and this rafflesia is only medium-sized.



This “sighting” was also healthy for the atmosphere within “our group”. At the bottom of the valley, there was significantly more bird activity, but nothing exceptional was seen. I had the feeling that our guide was racing too fast through this area: he seemed a bit impatient and/or nervous because of the bad start in the morning. We also encountered an American birder down in the valley. Things had been quiet for him as well. We climbed out of the very steep valley seeing mostly common stuff. On

the way up I thought we saw Temminck's babbler, but wasn't sure. Back at the reserve entrance there was little activity either.

Around noon a tropical shower stopped us for one hour or so and we decided to stop for lunch. When the rain slowed down we drove to a quarry beyond the rafflesia centre. When we got out of the car, the rain had just stopped and there were birds everywhere: the next 15 minutes would result in the best birding of that day: a spiderhunter appeared, the size seemed right for Whitehead's, but unfortunately it was a long-billed spiderhunter. Some of the other birds seen were a group of eight brown barbets, brown fulvetta, ochraceous bulbul, blue-winged leafbird, mountain tailorbird, indigo flycatcher, rufous-chested flycatcher, little pied flycatcher, dusky munia, eye-browed thrush, grey-rumped treeswift and best of all crippling views of an adult Blyth's hawk eagle. After this burst of activity, things slowed down again.

We drove a little further south in a last attempt to find the spiderhunter. We found some flowering trees, but no spiderhunter. A medium-sized bird landed in an almost leafless tree directly along the road. Bins were focused and we were looking at an adult long-tailed broadbill holding a giant caterpillar in his mouth. Brilliant!! After birding a bit more in this area, we decided to give up on the spiderhunter and drive back to check out the Rafflesia centre's entrance one more time to try for Bornean barbet and mountain barbet. When we arrived there, I heard a familiar screechy sound. I focused on the area where the sound was coming from. Just when I had located it, another Whitehead's broadbill flew off. I had even better flight views than at Kinabalu, but... aargh... again flight views. The bird crossed the road and dropped down in the valley below to disappear completely. We could also hear the barbets, but they were too far away and around the centre there were no flowering trees. When it started to rain again, we decided to head back to Kota Kinabalu. All in all, the Rafflesia centre is a great birding site, but it is probably better to spend the night in the area because the birding can very slow at times. The nearby Trus Madi mountain looked very tempting as well. No mammals were seen, but the forest is excellent, so I don't see why one could not have good sightings here, although the staff of the centre probably does not allow access before dawn or after dark. When we were leaving, we met the American birder again. He had remained on the Rafflesia trail all day and down in the valley he had found a flowering tree with Whitehead's broadbill and several barbets including Mountain Barbet, but not Bornean barbet.

March 21: Flight to Singapore

Today was mostly a travel day. Late morning we flew to Singapore. After being dropped off at the Perak Hotel, we explored the Little India quarter and the city centre. Initially we wanted to do little birding and mostly dining and shopping. But after one afternoon we were fed up with shopping, so we decided to visit some of the nature reserves in Singapore.

March 22 : Sungei Buloh wetland reserve and Jurong bird park

Our first Singapore nature experience was a visit to the Sungei Buloh wetland reserve. The infrastructure is excellent and the birding is maybe not spectacular but definitely entertaining. We birded from 7 am to 2 pm and we had not even done 2/3 of the paths, boardwalks, hides, etc. You would probably need a full day here to walk all the trails at birding speed. Anyway, birding was pretty good, if slow at times: blue-throated bee-eater, blue-tailed bee-eater, lesser whistling duck, grey-headed fish eagle!, brown-throated sunbird, purple-throated sunbird, copper-throated sunbird, Baya weaver, intermediate egret, a probable cinnamon bittern, collared kingfisher, stork-billed kingfisher, painted stork (feral), and lots of waterbirds such as lesser whistling duck, intermediate egret, little egret, green-backed heron, Javan pond heron, black-crowned night heron, purple heron, grey heron, common sandpiper, spotted redshank, common redshank, greenshank, whimbrel, Pacific golden plover, marsh and terek sandpiper, and black-winged stilt.

At about 2.30 am we decided to go for a more relaxed afternoon option and went to the Jurong Bird Park. It's a family entertainment park with all the expected disadvantages, but it is well done and they

do have spectacular birds (including Steller's sea eagle and Wilson's bird of paradise). However, the "real" birding was very slow. I had hoped to see some woodpeckers, sunbirds and flowerpeckers, but we saw almost nothing. Slightly disappointed we walked to the exit. Close to the exit, just outside the park, there is an area with dense entangled vegetation directly next to the motorway, where we flushed a small raptor. The presence of the raptor had alarmed a lot of birds, so suddenly birds came flying from all directions, including laced woodpecker, banded woodpecker (poor views), Asian koel and a few common flycatcher and babbler species. Finally, I relocated the raptor quite a bit further away sitting on a fence next to the motorway; it turned out to be a black baza, one of the most beautiful raptors in my opinion. Before I managed to set up the scope the bird was friendly enough to fly towards us for even better looks. On the way back we shortly got stranded in a traffic jam along a remnant forest patch, where we saw an adult changeable hawk eagle perched on one of the traffic light poles along the forest edge.

March 23: Bukit Timah and Mac Ritchie reservoir

Yesterday had been so entertaining that my partner agreed we should do another day of Singapore nature. At dawn we arrived at Bukit Timah: only a few birds but overloaded with joggers despite the fact that it was a work day. Best sightings were greater racket-tailed drongo, feral red-breasted parakeets (shortly perched and in flight) and blue-rumped parrots (in flight). I also saw a juvenile-looking flycatcher, but I could not bring it down to species level, possibly brown-streaked or Asian brown flycatcher. After 1.5 hours we had enough of this place.

A very helpful person at the Bukit Timah visitor's centre gave us an excellent map of the Mac Ritchie reservoir. We decided to go for a quite long, but mostly flat 13-km-long trail. The birding here was quite good despite the fact that the Singaporean army was training in the forest that day. Some of the birds seen were oriental honey buzzard (sailing over the canopy walkway at close range), greater racket-tailed drongo, purple-throated sunbird, orange-bellied flowerpecker, large-billed crow, striped tit-babbler, house swift, Himalayan swift, blue-winged leafbird, cream-vented bulbul, olive-winged bulbul, blue-throated bee-eater, dollarbird, black-crowned night heron, and long-tailed parakeet (in flight). Towards the end of the walk a stunning black-capped kingfisher was seen at close range. Truly spectacular was a territorial? dispute between three white-bellied sea eagles. Two birds were seen fighting in the air and shortly locked their claws (similar to their display flights), but this seemed to be aggressive behaviour. Eventually the intruder was chased off.

March 24: Pulau Ubin

Today would be our last day (our flight was at 23.45 hrs). My partner could no longer withstand the lure of Singapore shopping and had been on Pulau Ubin before. So I headed off to Pulau Ubin on my own. It was a Saturday and I was prepared for lots of Singaporeans having a day out here, but I was not prepared for 500+! children from the Singapore scouting club. I was a bit worried that this would ruin my birding plans, but the birds seemed rather unfazed by the additional wall of sound. My first bird on the island was the pretty male scarlet-backed flowerpecker. The birding on the shortest loop road around the village was quite good: Japanese sparrowhawk, Indian cuckoo, grey-rumped treeswift, olive-backed sunbird, crimson sunbird, purple-throated sunbird, striped tit-babbler, blue-rumped parrot (one perched in a tree), and the pretty scaly-breasted munia were seen among others.

Next I made another walk taking a longer loop going past mangroves, forest, old prawn farms and agricultural grounds seeing pied hornbill, oriental honey buzzard, heard red junglefowl (but did not look for it as I had seen it around Tabin) and lots of sunbirds. I decided to make a detour towards some mangroves. I was not even one minute there when I heard a familiar sound. This sounded like a pitta!! I looked up the call in Robson's guide (had left my MP3 player in the hotel) and indeed this had to be a mangrove pitta calling. I battled my way into the mangrove mud to a vantage point from where I could more or less look into the gully from where the pitta was calling. It was easy to imitate this pitta's call. Minutes and minutes passed, but the pitta would not move. I relocated myself and started

whistling again. Surprisingly the pitta started to move as well. I kept focusing on a window in the vegetation that gave views on a log in the gully and after 30-35 minutes I saw the pitta hopping over the log. The view was short, too short to fully enjoy the bird, but this was definitely a mangrove pitta. After that I tried to call in the pitta again, and while the bird continued calling, it did not move at all. After some time I gave up. My shirt was completely drenched from the excitement and the incredible sticky heat that day. After “de-mudding” myself with some water, I was presentable enough again to return to the village.

Back at the village I rented a bicycle to explore the trails and roads further away and escape the heat a bit: blue-tailed bee-eater and blue-throated bee-eater, Asian koel and dollarbird were nice sightings while cycling. At the western end of the road system on the island, a new walking trail had been built around a huge quarry. It was midday, more than 35 °C and still the track was full of birds. Quite amazing. Most were common birds including a very confident sub-adult brown shrike. I also saw a medium-sized green bird racing through the vegetation: I expected a leafbird, but it turned out to be the beautiful common green magpie. Then I saw bits and pieces of a sparrowhawk-like bird: I was hoping for a hawk cuckoo or one of the more difficult sparrowhawks, but after stalking it for a while I had to decide it was “just” a Japanese sparrowhawk.

On the way back to the village back I finally started seeing woodpeckers: good views of common flameback and laced woodpecker, but several flushed small woodpeckers could not be identified. At the quarry next to the village I found another black-capped kingfisher (strangely again no white-throated kingfisher). At the quarry I saw a white-bellied sea-eagle having trouble making height because he was holding a very big fish. The bird flew directly towards me and I could hear the wings rushing when it swooped right over my head only some 10 meters above me. It was now 3 pm and decided that this was a fitting end and headed back to the city centre, where we had an excellent dinner before moving on to the airport for the flight back home. For any questions, remarks, mistakes, etc., I can be contacted at: [olpa {at} onsneteindhoven.nl](mailto:olpa@onsneteindhoven.nl)



Index to the trip lists

The lists below were compiled directly after returning from Borneo in April 2007. Recent taxonomic status changes of several bird species have not been updated in this list. I used the *Pocket Guide to the Birds of Borneo* (C.M. Francis), *A Field Guide to the Birds of Borneo, Sumatra, Java, and Bali* (J. MacKinnon and K. Phillipps), and *A Guide to the Birds of Southeast Asia* (C. Robson) in the field and to compile the list. To identify the mammals in the field I used J. Payne, C.M. Francis, and K. Phillipps *A Field Guide to the Mammals of Borneo*. At home I also consulted *The Encyclopedia of Mammals* (D. W. MacDonald) and recently *Handbook of the Mammals of the World - Volume 1, Carnivores* (D. E Wilson and R. A Mittermeier).

The following acronyms are used:

Borneo:

BRL = Borneo Rainforest lodge and trails in the Danum Valley Conservation Area

GC = Gomantong caves and the surrounding forest.

GK = Gunung Kinabalu national park; due to time limitations we decided to focus on the trails between HQ and Timophon gate. We did not walk beyond Timophon gate.

KK = Kota Kinabalu city, Likas Lagoon and the Kota Kinabalu Wetland Centre (KKWC)

RC = Rafflesia Centre and the immediate surroundings.

SK = Sungei Kinabatangan includes Sukau rainforest lodge and surroundings, Kinabatangan main river, the Kelanap oxbow lake about 30-45 minutes upstream from the lodge and the Menangol and Tenigang Besar tributaries.

TAB = Tabin Wildlife Reserve, i.e., Tabin Lodge and the surrounding trails and roads

Singapore:

PU = Pulau Ubin island

BoG = botanical gardens in Singapore

Jur = Jurong bird park and surroundings

BT = Bukit Timah nature reserve

SB = Sungei Buloh wetland reserve

MRR = Mac Ritchie reservoir





Mammal List

Moonrat *Echinosorex gymnura* - one seen on a night drive at TAB.

Common treeshrew *Tupaia glis* - one seen in daytime along the road at BRL.

Mountain treeshrew *Tupaia montana* - one seen at very close range (3-4 m) at GK on Silau Silau trail.

[Unidentified large Horseshoe bat at Sukau].

Wrinkle-lipped (Free-tailed) Bat *Tadarida plicata* - the bat species emerging from the caves at GC.

Ridley's Myotis *Myotis Ridleyi* - roosting at Tabin lodge

[Slow loris *Nycticebus coucang* - an orphaned captive animal that was being raised for reintroduction in the wild was seen at Sukau lodge].

Hose's langur or Grey leaf monkey *Presbytis hosei* - a group of at least five was seen on the longer trail to the Mud Volcano, one animal was seen on the "short" Mud Volcano trail at TAB (more were heard), another group of 4-5 animals was seen along the main road towards the Mud Volcano.

Maroon langur or Red leaf monkey *Presbytis rubicunda* - seen regularly at BRL, two sightings at TAB and two sightings at SK (both at SK and TAB this species is apparently rather uncommon).

Silvered langur *Presbytis cristata* - one group of eight animals seen well at the oxbow lake in SK.

Long-tailed macaque *Macaca fascicularis* - common in TAB, BRL, SK and interestingly one very shy, small group (4-5 animals) at GK.

Pig-tailed macaque *Macaca nemestrina* - common in TAB, BRL and SK.

Mueller's Bornean gibbon *Hylobates muelleri* - one seen very well along the main road towards the park gates in TAB on the afternoon "bird drive", two seen well at TAB during a dawn walk around the lodge, two seen rather poorly at SK jumping from tree to tree.

Bornean Orang Utan *Pongo pygmaeus* - one male was seen very well along the access road at BRL in the afternoon and on his nest the next morning, one female was seen near the suspension bridge across the Danum river, one male on the Tekala trail, one female with baby at GC.

Giant squirrel *Ratufa affinis* - one seen very well at BRL.

Prevost's squirrel *Callosciurus prevostii* - common at TAB and BRL, a few seen at SK.

Plantain squirrel *Callosciurus notatus* - common in Singapore and most sites in Sabah.

Kinabalu squirrel *Callosciurus baluensis* - a few seen at GK, montane equivalent of Prevost's squirrel.

Bornean Black-banded Squirrel *Callosciurus orestes*: common in GK

Low's squirrel *Sundasciurus lowii* - one seen at the Menanggal tributary in SK.

Jentink's Squirrel *Sundasciurus jentinki* - several at GK

Bornean mountain ground-squirrel *Dremomys everetti* - seen twice at GK

Plain pigmy squirrel *Exilisciurus exilis* - superb sighting of one at the lodge grounds in TAB, also seen at BRL and SK.

[Tufted ground squirrel *Rheithrosciurus macrotis* - heard only at GK - vocalizing was pointed out by a park guide at GK].

Red giant flying squirrel *Petaurista petaurista* - seen twice on night drives at GK, unfortunately no extended glides were seen, only short jumps/glides over a few meters.

Malayan porcupine *Hystrix brachyura* - one seen well on a night drive at BRL.

Long-tailed porcupine *Trichys fasciculata* - one seen crossing the road on a night drive at BRL, it looks more like a large spiny rat with spines at the tail end.

Yellow-throated marten *Martes flavigula* - one seen very well when it stopped for a short while on the BRL access road.

Smooth-coated otter *Lutra perspicillata* - one in front of our cabin at BRL on March 10.

Malay civet *Vierra tangalunga* - seen twice during night drives in TAB.

Asian palm civet *Paradoxurus hermaphroditus* - 1-2 seen on every night drive in TAB.

Diardi's clouded leopard *Neofelis diardi* - The ultimate mammal sighting of the trip ! The leopard walked onto the road on the first night drive at BRL. We could follow/see the animal very well for at least 150 meters along the road.

Flat-headed cat *Prionailurus planiceps* - one allowed prolonged and excellent views along the Menanggul tributary during a nightly boat cruise.



Leopard Cat *Prionailurus bengalensis* - seen very well twice on night drives in TAB, one very poor (virtually non-)view at BRL during a night drive

[Asian elephant *Elephas maximus* - never seen, but heard several times in TAB and BRL]

Bearded pig *Sus barbatus* - very common at TAB, daily sightings, up to 15-20 animals were seen at dusk around the Mud Volcano, a few sightings at BRL and SK of (usually) individuals

Lesser mouse-deer *Tragulus javanicus* - seen on two night drives at BRL, could be seen almost daily around the lodge grounds at night.

Greater mousedeer *Tragulus napu* - one flushed at the Segama trail during daytime.

Sambar deer *Cervus unicolor* - one sub-adult at TAB during the morning night drive on March 7, two on the main road at BRL during dusk, one nearly invisible in the vegetation 5 meters from the road during a night drive at BRL.



Bird List

Oriental Darter (*Anhinga rufa*) one daily at the rock pool in the lodge grounds at TAB, 2-20 daily at SK, occasional sightings at BRL.

Yellow Bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*) one at BoG, 3-6 every night on night boat cruises at SK

[Cinnamon Bittern (*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*) - one heron flushed in a quiet corner at SB may have been this species, the colour and size seemed right, but the view was simply too short to be sure].

Black-crowned Night-heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) seen twice on night boat cruises at SK, one seemingly wild bird at Jur, juvenile birds at MRR and PU (Pekan quarry).

Javanese Pond-heron (*Ardeola speciosa*) one adult at SB

[Javanese/Chinese Pond-heron: juvenile birds at SB were of either one of these two species].

Cattle Egret (*Bulbulcus ibis*) common in cultivated areas.

Green-backed Heron (*Butorides striatus virescens*) 1-3 almost daily (near water) at every site visited.

Eastern Reef-heron (*Egretta sacra*) - one dark-phase bird at KK.

Chinese Egret (*Egretta eulophotes*) - two birds at the oxbow lake in SK on March 13.

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*) common in KK area.

Intermediate (Yellow-billed) Egret (*Egretta intermedia*) - at least 10 at SB, (at least) two at Likas.

Great White Egret (*Egretta alba*) - about 4-5 daily at oxbow lake at SK, at least 20 at PU (Pekan quarry) and SB, a few at MRR.

Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*) - at least 50 at the wetland sanctuary near KK, 1-2 daily at SK, about 4-5 at SB.

Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) - about 5-10 at SB, more than 10 at PU (Pekan quarry).

Great-billed Heron (*Ardea sumatrana*) - one seen at dawn at the bridge near the Wildlife department accommodation at TAB, one seen for 2-3 days at the river in front of the cabins at BRL.

Lesser Adjutant Stork (*Leptoptilos javanicus*) - one seen soaring from the jetty at the lodge in SK on March 13 giving good scope views, again one was seen the next day, but this time poor, distant views.

Storm's Stork (*Ciconia Stormi*) - two were seen very well and photographed in a 2 hectare remnant patch of rainforest in palm oil plantations on the way from Lahad Datu to TAB. Daily one or two sightings of (up to four) birds in flight at SK.

Painted Stork (*Mycteria leucocephala*) - one seen at SB, most likely a feral bird.

Lesser Whistling-duck (*Dendrocygna javanica*) - one seen at BoG, two couples at SB.

Jerdon's Baza (*Aviceda jerdoni*) - one seen in riverine vegetation along the Kinabatangan river.

Black baza (*Aviceda leuphotes*) - one seen hunting in lush, thick vegetation next to the highway outside Jur area, brilliant scope views.

Oriental Honey-buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*) - one seen close-up from the canopy bridge at MRR, one circling at low altitude on PU and one possible (rear view) sighting at SK.

Bat Hawk (*Macheirhamphus alcinus*) - two seen well at GC hunting the bats, one appeared briefly on the canopy walkway at BRL on March 11.

Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*) - 1-4 daily at SK, several at SB, Jur and PU.

White-bellied Sea Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) - one sub-adult at SK, 3 adults having a quite spectacular territorial dispute at MRR, one juvenile at SB and two adults on PU.

Grey-headed Fish Eagle (*Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*) - one immature and one adult seen at SK, one at SB.

Lesser Fish Eagle (*Ichthyophaga humilis*) - one adult would perch almost daily at the rock pool at the Tabin lodge grounds, several possible sightings at SK (brief views of seemingly immature birds).

Crested Serpent-eagle (*Spilornis cheela*) seen daily in TAB and BRL, occasional sightings at SK and a few at RC.

Japanese Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter gularis*) - one seen flying over at SK on March 14 on the Tenigang Besar tributary and two seen very well on PU.

Besra Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter virgatus*) one seen perched at Timophon gate in GK at close range.

Crested Goshawk (*Accipiter trivirgatus*) one circling above the Kinabatangan river at SK on March 14

Black Eagle (*Ictinaetus malayensis*) one giving good views while soaring quite low at TAB and one was seen briefly flying over the entrance road to the lodge at BRL.

Changeable Hawk-eagle (*Spizaetus cirrhatu*) one adult seen very well near Jur, several presumed immature birds at various locations (SK, TAB, RC).

Blyth's Hawk-eagle (*Spizaetus alboniger*) - one adult gave fabulous full scope views at RC.

Wallace's Hawk-eagle (*Spizaetus nanus*) - one superb sighting of a (near-??)adult bird sunbathing with stretched-out wings on the main road towards the mud volcano, one adult with a begging juvenile was seen at the Wildlife Department buildings in TAB, one adult perched on a dead tree next to the road towards the park gate in TAB, at least one positive sighting at BRL, and several possible/probable sightings of immature birds at SK and BRL.

Bornean or White-fronted Falconet (*Microhierax latifrons*) - one seen through the scope along the main road at BRL on March 8, seen twice far away at the Oxbow lake in SK on March 12 and 14.

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) at least 3 were seen hunting bats at GC

Red-breasted Tree-partridge (*Arborophila hyperythra*) - we ran into a couple on the Bukit Ular trail at GK, fabulous views at about 2-3 meters.

Chestnut-necklaced Tree-partridge (*Arborophila charltonii*) - amazingly one crossed the Hornbill trail about 10 meters in front of us.

Crimson-headed Wood-partridge (*Haematortyx sanguiniceps*) - we surprised a couple on the upper section of the Liwagu trail at GK, good views at about 5-10 meters distance.

Crested Fireback-pheasant (*Lophura ignita*) - seen almost daily at BRL, one couple seen at TAB on the Mud Volcano trail and one couple seen well at TAB along the main road beyond the Wildlife Department (towards the Mud volcano entrance trail).

Great Argus (*Argusianus argus*) a single male was seen on four occasions at BRL, one was seen on the main road not far from the lodge, one male was seen twice occupying a lek site on the Tekala trail. However, the most amazing sighting was when a blue-headed pitta in full view on the Hornbill trail suddenly hopped away to make place for a Great Argus male that crossed the trail at the same spot.

White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*) - quite common at TAB, KKWC and SB, occasional sightings elsewhere.

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*) – a few at Likas lagoon, only one present at SB.

Pacific Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) - at least 300 at SB.

Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius*) – a few seen at KKWC and Likas lagoon.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) - at least 50 at SB.

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) at least 30 at SB.

Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) at least 200 at SB.

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) a few at Likas lagoon

Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*) at least 30 at SB.

Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) at least 50 at SB.

Terek Sandpiper (*Xenus cinereus*) two were positively identified at SB, possibly more present.

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*) a few at Likas lagoon, 1-2 seen at TAB and BRL, several daily at SK, one at PU, one at MRR.

Blackheaded Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) – a few at the coast near KK airport.

Greater Crested Tern (*Sterna bergii*) one seen at KK airport on March 21

Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*) common in cultivated areas

Little Cuckoo-dove (*Macropygia ruficeps*) - at GK seen daily on the main road from park HQ to Timophon gate, a few sightings on the trails.

Emerald Dove (*Chalcophaps indica*) one at TAB, one fly-over at SK

Zebra Dove (*Geopelia striata*) several seen in cultivated areas/cities in Singapore and Borneo

Little Green Pigeon (*Treron olax*) common at TAB, rather hard to see at BRL, several at SK

Pink-necked Pigeon (*Treron vernans*) common in Singapore

Large Green Pigeon (*Treron capellei*) one female at TAB - more seemed present, but could not be seen well enough in the dense vegetation

Green Imperial Pigeon (*Ducala aenea*) seen daily at TAB, one sighting at BRL, several sightings at SK

Mountain Imperial Pigeon (*Ducala badia*) seen only once in GK on the Mempening trail

[Pied Imperial Pigeon (*Ducala bicolor*) free flying feral birds at Jur]

Blue-rumped Parrot (*Psittinus cyanurus*) one seen perched in a tree at PU, otherwise seen as fly-over

Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot (*Loriculus galgulus*) - one seen very well at TAB on March 3, otherwise only seen as fly-over

Red-breasted Parakeet (*Psittacula alexandri*) - several at BT (feral population)

Long-tailed Parakeet (*Psittacula longicauda*) - only seen in flight at BRL, seen daily (in flight) at SK

Chestnut-winged Cuckoo (*Clamator coromandus*) - Stunning views of one adult on March 13 at the Menanggul tributary in SK

[Large Hawk-cuckoo (*Cuculus sparveroides*) - very brief fly-by views at SK of what must have been almost certainly this species].

Indian/Short-winged Cuckoo (*Cuculus Micropterus*) - one seen very well at PU

Dronko Cuckoo (*Surniculus Lugubris*) one at GK on March 15

Plaintive Cuckoo (*Cacomantis merulinus*) - both males and females were seen well on several occasions in BRL

[Violet Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx Xanthorhynchus*) - one male identified by Wangkong by sound while flying over the canopy walkway at BRL (very poor flight views)].

Common Koel (*Eudynamys scolopacea*) 1- 3 daily in Singapore

Chestnut-bellied Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus sumatranus*) two excellent sightings at BRL on March 8 and 10.

Red-billed Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus javanicus*) flight view of one at BRL, one good sighting at SK on March 14.

Chestnut-breasted Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*) two single birds seen well at BRL on March 7 and 10.

Raffles's Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus*) one decent sighting at SK.

Bornean Ground Cuckoo (*Carpococcyx radiceus*) an incredible total of 5 different birds at the Tenigang Besar tributary in SK on March 14, one bird was heard far away at the Menanggul tributary at SK on March 12 and 13.

Common Coucal (*Centropus sinensis*) heard regularly, seen at TAB, PU, SB, SK

Lesser (Black) Coucal (*Centropus bengalensis*) seen only once out in the open on bushes between the Wildlife Department buildings and the bridge at TAB

Buffy Fish-owl (*Ketupa ketupu*) one at the bridge in TAB, several seen on night boat cruises in SK

Brown Wood-owl (*Strix leptogrammica*) a couple seen at TAB, several seen at BRL

Black-nest (Lowe's) Swiftlet (*Collocalia maxima*) positively identified on the nest at GC.

Mossy-nest Swiftlet (*Collocalia salangana*) positively identified on the nest at GC.

[Edible-nest Swiftlet (*Collocalia fuciphaga*) - these can most easily be seen by visiting the upper cave at GC (which we did not visit), the many swiftlets flying around in the area must have included this species as well though].

White-bellied (Glossy) Swiftlet (*Collocalia esculenta*) common at all sites in Sabah, seen almost daily

Silver-rumped Swift (*Rapidura leucopygialis*) common at Danum, TAB, RC and SK

Brown-backed Needletail (*Hirundapus gigantea*) - low to medium numbers at most sites including TAB, SK, RC, SB, PU and MRR

Asian Palm-swift (*Cypsiurus batasiensis*) many seen in TAB, otherwise not seen/noticed

Pacific (Fork-tailed) Swift (*Apus pacificus*) good numbers at SB

Little Swift a.k.a. Asian House Swift (*Apus affinis*) quite common in the Singapore area

Crested or Grey-rumped Tree-swift (*Hemiprocne longipennis*) one at RC, (at least) one at Pulau Ubin

Whiskered Tree-swift (*Hemiprocne comata*) one at the staff quarters at BRL, one on the main road at BRL, one at GC.

Diard's Trogon (*Harpactes diardii*) seen on most days at BRL, one male at SK, best sighting: two couples were seen together at the Segama trail at BRL.

Whitehead's Trogon (*Harpactes whiteheadi*) one couple seen on the Mempoing trail, one male on the Silau Silau trail.

Scarlet-rumped Trogon (*Harpactes duvaucelii*) one at TAB, almost daily at BRL, one male at GC and seen on most days at SK.

[Rufous-collared Kingfisher (*Halcyon concreta*) - unfortunately one was seen by Wangkong Intal only on March 11 on the View Point trail].

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) one at KK, several seen daily at SK.

Blue-eared Kingfisher (*Alcedo meninting*) several seen daily at SK.

Black-backed Kingfisher (*Ceyx erithacus*) seen daily at BRL and SK.

Stork-billed Kingfisher (*Pelargopsis capensis*) daily at SK, one on PU, several at MRR and SB.

Black-capped Kingfisher (*Halcyon pileata*) one at MRR, one on PU (Pekan Quarry).

Red-bearded Bee-eater (*Nyctornis amictus*) one seen rather poorly at the Segama trail extension at BRL.

Blue-throated (Chestnut-headed) Bee-eater (*Merops viridis*) one seen hunting over the river at BRL in front of the lodge, several seen very well at SB and MRR, at least 5 at PU.

Blue-tailed Bee-eater (*Merops philippinus*) several seen well at SB and PU.

Dollarbird or Eastern Broad-billed Roller (*Eurystomus orientalis*) - seen twice at TAB, occasionally at BRL, daily at SK, about 4 at MRR, 4 at PU.

White-crowned (Long-crested) Hornbill (*Berenicornis comatus*) one group of 4 at TAB on the road south to park entrance gate, one male and two females along the SK river.

Bushy-crested Hornbill (*Anorrhinus galeritus*) none at TAB, seen on most days at BRL and SK

Wrinkled Hornbill (*Rhyticeros corrugatus*) 1 male at TAB, 1 male at BRL, one male at SK on the hike at Oxbow lake.

Wreathed Hornbill (*Rhyticeros undulatus*) 1-3 daily at TAB

Black Hornbill (*Anthracoseros malayanus*) quite common at TAB, a few seen at SK

Pied Hornbill (*Anthracoseros coronatus*) common at TAB, none at BRL, a few seen at SK and about 3-4 at PU.

Rhinoceros Hornbill (*Buceros rhinoceros*) quite common at BRL and SK, a few seen at TAB

Helmeted Hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*) only one couple seen at BRL.

[Bornean or Black-throated Barbet (*Megalaima eximia*) heard only at RC].

[Mountain Barbet (*Megalaima monticola*) heard only at RC].

Red-throated (Gaudy) Barbet (*mystacophanos*) one seen through the scope in the canopy of trees around the chalets at BRL.

Golden-naped Barbet (*Megalaima pulcherrima*) one seen very well and one seen rather poorly at Kiau View trail, one seen very well at Bukit Ular Trail, two were seen on the Mempening trail.

Brown Barbet (*Calorhamphus fuliginosus*) several seen well along the main road at BRL on March 7, one seen through the scope in the trees around the chalets at BRL.

Rufous Piculet (*Sasia abnormis*) 1-3 seen on most days at BRL, one seen at SK on March 15.

Rufous Woodpecker (*Celeus brachyurus*) usually seen once or twice daily at BRL.

Crimson-winged woodpecker (*Picus puniceus*) one seen at BRL on the Hornbill trail on March 8.

White-bellied Woodpecker (*Dryocopus javensis*) one fly-over at the oxbow lake in SK.

Checker-throated Woodpecker (*Picus mentalis*) one seen at GK along the road to Timophon gate.

Common Flameback (*Dinopium Javanense*) one seen well at PU, poor views at Jur and MRR.

Laced Woodpecker (*Picus vittatus*) excellent views at close range at PU, poor views at Jur and MRR.

Orange-backed Woodpecker (*Reinwardtipicus validus*) males and females seen on several days at BRL.

Maroon Woodpecker (*Blythipicus rubiginosus*) seen on several days at BRL

Buff-necked Woodpecker (*Meiglyptes tukki*) one seen well at GC

Dusky Broadbill (*Corydon sumatranus*) a group seen well along the main road at BRL, excellent scope views of a group of about 6-8 birds at RC.

Black-and-red Broadbill (*macrorhynchus*) common at SK, one seen at TAB, several seen at BRL.

Banded Broadbill (*Eurylaimus javanicus*) one seen at SK on the boardwalk behind the lodge.

Black-and-yellow Broadbill (*Eurylaimus ochromalus*) one at the lodge in TAB, one at BRL, a few at SK.

Long-tailed Broadbill (*Psarisomus dalhousiae*) one seen very well next to the road slightly south of the RC entrance.

Green Broadbill (*Calyptomena viridis*) one pair seen displaying at BRL on March 10.

Whitehead's Broadbill (*whiteheadi*) frustratingly only good views of birds in flight at GK and at RC.

Mangrove Pitta (*Pitta megarhyncha*) - too short view at PU of one skulking through the mangroves near Merbah hut.

Blue-headed Pitta (*Pitta baudi*) - at least 3 sightings at BRL of which two were outstanding, one good sighting at SK.

Hooded Pitta (*Pitta sordida*) - one bird seen at SK along the Tenigang Besar tributary.



Blue-banded Pitta (*Pitta arcuata*) - unbelievable views of an adult bird perched on a vine in beautiful light on the Sapa Teliso trail in BRL.

Black-headed pitta (*Pitta (granatina) ussheri*) - seen on most days at BRL, at least on 4 different occasions prolonged views of a bird in full view.

[Giant Pitta (*Pitta caerulea*) heard only on the Hornbill trail at BRL]

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) one positively identified with the scope at SK, probably undernoticed.

Pacific Swallow (*Hirundo tahitica*) very common at most sites visited.

Asian House Martin (*Delichon dasypus*) at least two birds positively identified at PU.

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*) several in TAB and several on the paved road at GK.

White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba alba*) one at the bridge in TAB.

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina larvata*) one perched on a dead tree on the last morning in GK.

Fruithunter aka Black-breasted Triller (*Chlamydochaera jefferyi*) - superb views at about 10 m distance of one male perched in a treetop at Timophon gate.

Fiery Minivet (*Pericrocotus igneus*) a group of about 6 (males and females) at SK.

Mountain or Grey-chinned Minivet (*Pericrocotus solaris*) seen twice at GK: a pair at Liwagu restaurant and a small group near the parking lot at the gym.

Scarlet Minivet (*Pericrocotus flammeus*) super views of 1 couple from the tower at the mud volcano and a small flock of about 8 (males and females) at TAB.

Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike (*Hemipus hirundinaceus*) one male at TAB, seen on two occasions at SK in the lodge grounds

Straw-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus zeylanicus*) - one seen very poorly and far away in BRL, one skulking through vegetation at PU.

Black-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus atriceps*) - one seen well at SK on March 16

Scaly-breasted Bulbul (*Pycnonotus squamatus*) - one decent sighting at BRL

Eastern Yellow-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus goiavier*) - common in all sites visited

Olive-winged Bulbul (*Pycnonotus plumosus*) - common at PU and MRR in Singapore.

Cream-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus simplex*) - seen once at BRL and two at MRR.

Red-eyed Brown Bulbul (*Pycnonotus brunneus*) - common in Borneo

Spectacled Bulbul (*Pycnonotus erythrophthalmus*) - probably underrecorded, one clearly seen at BRL

Finsch's Bulbul (*Criniger finschii*) - one sighting at BRL on March 10

Ochraceous Bulbul (*Alophoixus ochraceus*) several at RC and two at GK

Grey-cheeked Bulbul (*Alophoixus bres*) one seen on the Hornbill trail on March 11

Grey-headed/Yellow-bellied Bulbul (*Alophoixus phaeocephalus*) Seen twice at TAB, and twice at SK.

Hairy-backed Bulbul (*Hypsipetes criniger*) common at BRL, several seen TAB, a few at SK

Common Iora (*Aegithina tiphia*) several at SK on the lodge grounds

Greater Green Leafbird (*Chloropsis sonnerati*) one female at BRL

Lesser Green Leafbird (*Chloropsis cyanopogon*) - one couple at BRL and one female at BRL

Blue-winged Leafbird (*Chloropsis cochinchinensis*) - at least 5 at RC, one at MRR, one at PU

Asian Fairy-bluebird (*Irena puella*) - seen about once a day at BRL and occasionally at SK.

Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*) one in palm plantations from TAB back to Lahad Datu and one seen on the new trail at Ketam Quarry at PU.

Bornean Bristlehead (*Pityriasis gymnocephala*) - one seen high in the canopy on the Tekama trail at BRL

Blue/White-winged Shortwing (*Brachypteryx montana*) - seen twice at GK, on the Mempening and upper Silau Silau trail, respectively

Siberian Blue Robin (*Tarsiger cyane*) - seen only once at BRL on the Sapa Babandil trail

White-rumped Shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*) - fairly common to common in Borneo, seen only once in Singapore area, i.e. at Ketam Quarry on PU

Rufous-tailed Shama (*Copsychus pyrropygus*) one sighting of a male and female together along the main access road at BRL

Chestnut-naped Forktail (*Enicurus ruficapillus*) - one short sighting at the Fairy Falls at BRL.

White-crowned Forktail (*Enicurus leschenaulti*) two excellent sightings at resp. BRL and GK, several flushed at GK and BRL.

Sunda Whistling Thrush (*Myiophoneus glaucinus*) seen about once or twice daily at GK

Eye-browed Thrush (*Turdus obscurus*) one gave excellent scope views at RC

Short-tailed Babbler (*Trichastoma malaccense*) seen daily at TAB, seen almost daily at BRL

White-chested Babbler (*Trichastoma rostratum*) common at SK

Ferruginous Babbler (*Trichastoma bicolor*) seen twice in BRL

Abbott's Babbler (*Trichastoma abbotti*) two birds on the boardwalk of the lodge at SK

Moustached Babbler (*Malacopteron magnirostre*) seen on most days at BRL

Sooty-capped Babbler (*Malacopteron affine*) seen on most days at BRL
Scaly-crowned Babbler (*Malacopteron cinereum*) seen daily at BRL
Rufous-crowned Babbler (*Malacopteron magnum*) seen daily at BRL
Bornean Wren-babbler (*Ptilocichla leucogrammica*) seen twice at BRL, on March 7 and 10
Striped Wren-babbler (*Kenopia striata*) seen twice at BRL, on March 9 and 10
Black-throated Wren-babbler (*Napothera atrigularis*) seen twice at BRL, March 8 and 10
Mountain Wren-babbler (*Napothera crassa*) seen once on the Silau Silau trail and once on the Bukit Ular trail
Grey-throated Babbler (*Stachyris nigriceps*) seen daily in varying numbers at GK
Black-throated Babbler (*Stachyris nigricollis*) one good sighting at GC, one poor sighting at the oxbow lake hike at SK
Chestnut-winged Babbler (*Stachyris erythroptera*) seen daily at BRL, one at SK in the lodge grounds
Striped Tit-babbler (*Macronous gularis*) seen twice at TAB, once at TAB, several at MRR, one at PU
Fluffy-backed Tit-babbler (*Macronous ptilosus*) small group of 3-4 birds seen only once at BRL
Grey-and-brown Laughing-thrush (*palliatus*) fairly common at GK
Black Laughing-thrush (*lugubris*) a single bird was seen 3 times on the Kiau view trail on GK usually in the company of Bornean treepies and Grey-and-brown Laughing-thrushes, also on the Mempening trail on March 19.
Chestnut-capped Laughing-thrush (*mitratus*) common at GK
Brown Fulvetta (*Alcippe brunneicauda*) a few at RC
White-bellied Yuhina (*Yuhina zantholeuca*) one seen very well at RC, one fairly poor sighting at BRL
Chestnut-crested Yuhina (*Yuhina everetti*) common at GK on all trails
Bornean Stubtail or Bornean Short-tailed Bush-warbler (*whiteheadi*) seen twice at GK on Bukit Ular trail and around HQ
Mountain Bush Warbler (*Cettia montanus*) small groups seen at least twice at GK
Arctic Warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*) seen only once along the main road at BRL, possible sighting in Singapore.
Mountain Leaf-warbler (*Phylloscopus trivirgatus*) several at GK.
Yellow-breasted Warbler (*Seicercus montis*) seen daily a few times at GK in small groups.
Yellow-bellied Prinia (*Prinia flaviventris*) one seen very well at TAB, one asleep during a night drive in BRL, several at PU.
Dark-necked Tailorbird (*Orthotomus atrogularis*) one sighting in TAB, one sighting in BRL, fairly common at PU and MRR.
Ashy Tailorbird (*Orthotomus ruficeps*) common
Rufous-tailed Tailorbird (*Orthotomus sericeus*) common
Mountain Tailorbird (*Orthotomus cuculatus*) seen daily once or twice at GK, one at RC.
Yellow-breasted Flycatcher aka Gerygone (*Gerygone sulphurea*) one surprisingly responded to tape playback and showed itself at eye level (for us) on the Liwagu trail.
Verditer Flycatcher (*Muscicapa thalassina*) one seen very well in TAB on the short access trail to the Mud volcano.
Grey-chested or White-throated Jungle Flycatcher (*Rhinomyias umbratilis*) one seen at BRL on the Hornbill trail.
Mugimaki Flycatcher (*Ficedula mugimaki*) one seen very briefly at BRL, two good sightings at GK
Snowy-browed Flycatcher (*Ficedula hyperythra*) 2-4 seen daily at GK, one adult was seen feeding a begging juvenile on the Liwagu trail.
Rufous-chested Flycatcher (*Ficedula dumetoria*) seen twice on the Segama trail.
Narcissus flycatcher (*Ficedula narcissina*) one at KK wetland sanctuary HQ.
Little Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula westermanni*) seen daily at GK.
Blue-and-white Flycatcher (*Cyanoptila cyanomelena*) one at GK along the road relatively close and almost at eye level in the Park HQ area. According to local guides this species is rare here; unsurprisingly they suggested the commoner alternative, indigo flycatcher, but the bird that I saw definitely did not have a buff vent and the head colour pattern was different.
Hill Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis banyumas*) one poor sighting due to poor light from the Liwagu restaurant terrace in GK.
Bornean Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis superba*) one male at TAB, possible female/juv. sightings at BRL and SK.
Large-billed Flycatcher (*Cyornis caerulata*) about 3-4 sightings of males at BRL, one male at SK, one possible female at the Sapa Teliso trail.
Malaysian Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis turcosa*) seen twice at TAB (males), male and female birds seen almost daily at BRL and SK.
Dark-sided (Siberian) Flycatcher (*Muscicapa sibirica*) only one sighting on the Sapa Bebandil trail in BRL.
Grey-spotted or grey-streaked Flycatcher (*Muscicapa griseisticta*) one sighting at SK in the lodge grounds.

Asian Brown Flycatcher (*Muscicapa latirostris*) seen almost daily at BRL, two sightings at TAB

Indigo Flycatcher (*Eumyias indigo*) one at RC and several at GK.

Grey-headed Flycatcher (*Culicicapa ceylonensis*) one mediocre sighting at BRL, excellent sighting of 3 birds at the Liwagu trail in GK.

Rufous-winged Flycatcher (*Philentoma pyrrhopterum*) two on the Tekala trail at BRL near the suspension bridge, one at the oxbow lake walk in SK.

Maroon-breasted Flycatcher (*Philentoma velatum*) two on the Tekama trail at BRL, one in SK.

Asian Paradise-flycatcher (*Terpsiphone paradisi*) two males seen at BRL, one female and male together at GC, one female alone at SK, one male alone at SK.

Black-naped Monarch (*Hypothymis azurea*) 1-4 seen daily at SK, seen on most days in BRL.

White-throated Fantail (*Rhipidura albicollis*) 2-3 daily at GK.

Pied Fantail (*Rhipidura javanica*) common at TAB, typically 1-2 daily at BRL and SK.

Spotted Fantail (*Rhipidura perlata*) 3 seen very well at GC, one sighting at BRL.

Bornean Mountain Whistler (*Pachycephala hypoxantha*) common at GK.

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch (*Sitta frontalis*) one at BRL along the main road, two at SK, two in front of Liwagu restaurant at GK on March 17 and two on the Silau Silau trail at GK on March 18.

Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker (*Prionchilus maculatus*) at least one seen at BRL, one seen at SK in the lodge grounds.

Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker (*Prionchilus xanthopygius*) poor sightings at TAB, two excellent sightings at BRL.

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum trigonostigma*) excellent sightings of about 4-5 at MR

Black-sided Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum celebicum*) two excellent sightings at GK: one from Liwagu restaurant, one at Balsam restaurant.

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum cruentatum*) one very good sighting of a male at PU, one good sighting of a female at BoG.

Brown-throated Sunbird (*Anthreptes malacensis*) several seen very well at SB, MRR and PU.

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird (*Anthreptes singalensis*) one male at TAB, one female at BRL.

Purple-naped Sunbird (*Hypogramma hypogrammicum*) seen a few times at these locations: BRL, TAB, GC and SK.

Purple-throated Sunbird (*Nectarinia sperata*) good views at PU and MRR, mediocre views at SB.

Copper-throated Sunbird (*Nectarinia calcostetha*) one male at SB.

Yellow-bellied (aka Olive-backed) Sunbird (*Nectarinia jugularis*) fairly common at TAB, a few seen at BRL and SK, several seen at SB, MRR and PU.

Crimson (aka Yellow-backed) Sunbird (*Aethopyga siparaja*) common at GK.

Scarlet Sunbird (*Aethopyga mystacalis*) one seen at TAB, one at SK, one at BT, several at PU and SB.

Little Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera longirostra*) quite common at TAB and BRL, a few seen at SK.

Spectacled Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera flavigaster*) one seen well at BRL.

Grey-breasted Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera affinis*) one sighting at BRL.

Long-billed Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera crassirostris*) one at BRL (poor views), one perched at the clearing beyond RC.

Black-capped White-eye (*Zosterops atricapilla*) quite common on all trails in GK.

[Everett's White-eye (*Zosterops everetti*) on the main road below Timophon gate two white-eyes that looked different from the "usual" black-capped white-eyes were seen in a loose and largish mixed flock. It was not easy to get good complete views of the fast-moving birds, but overall the birds appeared much yellower and definitely did not have a blackish face/cap. By eliminating the various options, Everett's white-eye seems the most likely candidate for these two birds seen. Oriental white-eye seems to be a lowland/coastal bird in Borneo and according to MacKinnon Mountain White-eye does not occur here. The birds seen did not match photos/images of juvenile black-capped white-eyes].

Dusky Munia (*Lonchura fuscans*) common at TAB, a few seen at SK.

Scaly-breasted Munia (*Lonchura*) about 5 seen on PU.

Chestnut Munia (*Lonchura malacca*) common at TAB and cultivated areas, occasional sightings elsewhere.

Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*) common at TAB and cultivated areas, very common in Singapore

Philippine Glossy Starling (*Aplonis panayensis*) common at TAB, SK, PU, SB, occasional views at BRL and GK.

White-vented Myna (*Acridotheres grandis*) common in Singapore city.

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) common in Singapore city.

Hill Mynah (*Gracula religiosa*) seen twice at TAB, a few sightings at BRL and SK.

Dark-throated Oriole (*Oriolus xanthonotus*) seen several times at TAB, BRL, SK, GC.

Black-naped Oriole (*Oriolus chinensis*) very common everywhere in Singapore.

Black-and-crimson Oriole (*Oriolus cruentus*): only at GK: one near Hill lodge and one on the Liwagu trail.

Ashy Drongo (*Dicrurus leucophaeus*) a few seen regularly at GK: near HQ entrance, Liwagu trail, Mempoening trail and Silau Silau trail.

Bronzed Drongo (*Dicrurus aeneus*) (at least) one bird at TAB seen perched and hawking for insects

Spangled Drongo (*Dicrurus hottentottus*) seen only at GK: one seen daily on the Mempoening trail, one on the lodge grounds at GK, one on the Kiau view trail

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo (*Dicrurus paradiseus*) one at TAB chasing pied hornbills, at least 2 at BT, at least 4 at PU, two birds at MRR

White-breasted Woodswallow (*leucorhynchus*) one at GK next to road at the HQ entrance, several at RC, PU and SB

Crested Jay (*Platylophus galericulatus*) flight views of two birds at BRL and one of the two birds was seen briefly perched.

Green Magpie (*Cissa chinensis*) one seen on a new walking trail flanking Ketam Quarry at PU

Short-tailed Magpie (*Cissa thalassina*) 1-2 daily at GK

Bornean Treepie (*Dendrocitta occipitalis*) seems fairly common at GK

Slender-billed Crow (*Corvus enca*) daily at TAB, BRL and SK

Large-billed (Jungle) Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*) seen only in Singapore, good numbers at PU and a few at MRR

House crow (*Corvus splendens*) common in Singapore city



Herps and other wildlife

Oriental Vine snake (*Ahaetulla prasina*) one seen at the upper end of the Hornbill trail, the snake had just devoured a small lizard or skink according to one of the guides

Mangrove cat snake (*Boiga dendrophila*) seen several times on night boat trips at SK

Dog-toothed cat snake (*Boiga cinodon*) one seen on the main access road at BRL

Reticulated Python (*Python reticulatus*) - One injured young animal, but still in fine condition was shown by the guides at BRL, one specimen of about 2-3m was seen on a night boat cruise at SK

Dog-faced water snake (*Cerberus rynchops*) one in the mangrove mud pools at KK wetland sanctuary

Horned Flying Lizard (*Draco cornutus*) one pointed out by Wangkong on the short trail between the suspension bridge and the football pitch, showing the typical wing pattern with blue and red patches.

Common Gliding Lizard (*Draco sumatranus*) seen several times at BRL (one at the canopy walkway). Most spectacular sighting was of one animal sailing from one tree to another over a distance of about 15-20 m right in front of the balcony of our chalet at BRL.

Bornean Angle-headed Lizard (*Gonocephalus borneensis*) one seen very well on the trails at BRL.

Common House Gecko (*Hemidactylus frenatus*) common.

Smith's Giant Gecko (*Gekko smithii*) its characteristic call is reminiscent of a barking dog. Often heard, but seen only once at BRL

Mangrove Skink (*Emoia atrocostata*) common at KK wetland sanctuary and a few seen at SB.

Black-banded skink (*Mabuya rudis*) a few seen at BRL.

Striped Bornean Tree Skink (*Apterygodon vittatum*) one seen very well at TAB.

Asian Salt-water Crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*) Daily sightings at SK, usually baby crocs and several (im)mature animals varying in length from 0.5-2.5 meters.

Water Monitor Lizard (*Varanus salvator*) very common along the main road at TAB, very common at SK, a few seen at BRL, a few seen at SB.

Red-eared Terrapin (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) common in Singapore, introduced species.

[Black Marsh Turtle (*Cuora Amboinensis*) a black-coloured turtle at Menanggul tributary on March 13 could have been this species]

Giant mudskipper (*Periophthalmodon schlosseri*) common at SB.

Small mudskipper species (??) common at KKWC.

Fiddler Crab (??) common at KKWC.

Mud Crab (??) common at KKWC.

Archer Fish (*Toxotes jaculatrix*) odd-looking fish species seen at KKWC.