

Trip report on mammals and birds



Palawan and Calamianes

Daan Drukker, Eva Drukker, Bas Drukker



Introduction

Palawan is an elongated, large island in the southwest of the Philippines. Together with the associated smaller islands (i.e. Balabac, the Calamianes and Cuyo), it is part of the Sundaic plate, and during the Ice Ages, the connection to Borneo has caused the fauna to be dramatically different compared to the rest of the Philippines. There are many Sundaic elements, but the islands have been isolated enough to harbour a decent amount of endemics. Among those, there are six endemic squirrels, of which two occur only on the Calamian islands, which are situated north of the main island of Palawan. That was the most important reason to also visit Busuanga and Culion, which are part of this Calamian archipelago. We visited the Palawan region from the 31st of October until the 15th of November (original planning to leave on the 13th of November). It was a wonderful destination, and we hope you enjoy this report and find it useful if you plan a visit. My father (Bas Drukker), my sister (Eva Drukker) and me (Daan Drukker) all contributed to this trip report and formed a very nice team to look for wildlife.

How to use this report

When a species is mentioned in **bold** it means that we have seen it. When a species name is underlined it means we missed it. In the text I used English names for the species. In our total list at the end of this report, the scientific names can be found too. I follow the IOC/AviList taxonomy for birds and MDD taxonomy for mammals. Exact locations can always be found in our observations on Observation.org. In some cases I give coordinates directly in this report as well, in case you have no cell phone reception. All our observations can be found in [this link](#). All our photos via [this link](#). Our entire species list is [here](#) and you can select on birds and mammals only as well. We identified 132 species of birds, 30 species of mammals, 61 species of fish and a still growing number of insects.

Information on accommodation and logistics can be found in the section **Location descriptions and accommodation**. Here we also mention the interesting species. However, in the section **Species that require attention** we go into more detail. We hope you will find the **Target List** at the end very useful for planning.

When to go

When planning this trip, I was bound to the first weeks of November. My girlfriend and her mother had a trip to Japan planned long ago, so I decided to use that time to go with my father and sister and look for squirrels and other wildlife. It took me a while to find a destination in Southeast Asia where it was not full-on monsoon season, but I thought I hit the spot when I found the climate charts of Palawan. The rainy season ends here in October (June to November, with peak from July through September). I also read that the typhoon season in the Philippines is from June to November (with peak months being July through October) but that Palawan is usually missed by these storms. I also read that peak tourism season in El Nido is from the end of October to April, so I was not worried.

It turned out that my view on typhoon season was wildly optimistic, and that the online information was being caught up by climate change. The Philippines were hit twice during our two week stay. The first typhoon "Kalmaegi" even fully hit Northern Palawan and the Calamianes, causing major destruction.

During that time we had already planned to be in the South of Palawan, and luckily we had no problems whatsoever, except for a worried mother because the Internet on the entire island was out for a day. The weather was perfect, with decent tropical temperatures, mostly overcast skies (perfect for thermal scoping) and only short and not very intense showers.



The weather was good, but the two typhoons (causing the red distant skies) indirectly hampered our planning. (Eva Drukker)

Only when we traveled north to El Nido about a week later, we could see the destructive forces that had hit this part of the island. Landslides that had covered the roads had only just been cleared and the further north we came, the more fallen trees and bamboo could be seen. The second typhoon "Uwan" did not hit Palawan, but affected us much more unfortunately. Our ferry from El Nido to Coron did not go for three days, causing us to be forced to rebook our flights and skip our stay at Fraser's Hill, Malaysia. My advice is to wait until the typhoon season is over when you book your trip, in case you want to plan ferry crossings.

Gear and preparation

Thanks to some very good reports on cloudbirders, we could easily plan our itinerary and get connections with guides and hides (see there). These trip reports were on birds, but for the mammal watching, only little information was available. Luckily thanks to the report of Curtis Hart and some additional information from Paul Carter, Rob Hutchinson, Lars Petersson, Erickson Tabayag, Rob Gordijn and Lawrence Heaney I was able to prepare well. Still, we did a lot of "freestyle" while we were on the islands, partly this was due to stuff that got cancelled due to the typhoons, but also because we planned to improvise partly. Here is the list of trip reports and papers we used:

[Esselstyn, Jacob A., Peter Widmann, and Lawrence R. Heaney, 2004.](#) "The mammals of Palawan island, Philippines." Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington 117.3 (2004): 271-302. This paper turned out to be very useful for finding caves for bats and giving an idea how to identify them.

[Heaney, L. R. 1998.](#) A synopsis of the mammalian fauna of the Philippine Islands. Fieldiana. Zoology. New Series, 88, 1-61. This paper gives a nice overview of the mammals of the Philippines, good to use in combination with Esselstyn et al (2004) and All the Mammals of the World (Lynx editions) to get an idea of what mammal species to expect.

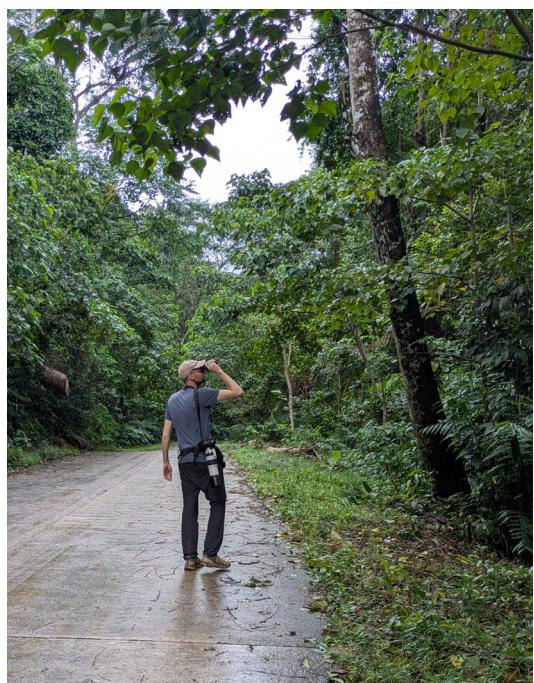
Desmond Allen 2020. Birds of the Philippines. Lynx and Birdlife International Field Guides. By far the best field guide to use

[Dries Van de Loock et al 2024](#) Trip Report Philippines. This trip report contained the most recent information and was the most useful in terms of contact information

[Daniel Watson 2023](#) Palawan and Singapore. This trip report had some useful additional information.

[Sjoerd Radstaak 2013.](#) Trip Report Philippines. Although quite dated, this report gave some useful information about the southern part of Palawan island

[Curtis Hart 2020.](#) Trip Report Philippines. Good information about mammalwatching, including scarce information about Busuanga and Calauit.



Thermal scope was very productive, also during overcast daytime (as often in the tropics) (Eva Drukker)

We had brought a lot of material which enabled us to find and identify as many species as possible. The thermal scopes proved indispensable once again. I have a Hikmicro Lynx L15 which I attached to my Nitecore p30i torch using a metal plate and a gun mount. This worked amazing as always. My father brought is Liemke Keiler Pro13 and both my sister and my father had a Nitecore p30 lamp. Both my father and I had an Echo Meter Touch. This very handy bat detector was on us all the time and simply can be attached to your phone. It meant that we could quickly record sound recordings of bats that were hanging around. We documented our sightings as much as possible. Sound recordings (other than bat sounds) were made with my old Sony PCM-M10. Eva used her Nikon Z50ii camera with 28-400mm lens mainly for video recordings. Bas and me brought our camera's. Unfortunately, my Canon 7D mark ii collapsed halfway through, so I could use Bas's Canon 80D with my EL 100-400mm F4.0 lens. We used the Observation app to log all our 1150+ sightings on [Ob-](#)

servation.org, where you can also find all our documentation. We also brought a telescope, but this was not really needed. Underwater I could document the fish species with my GoPro on a selfie stick, which worked fine, but does not allow fantastic pictures. Don't forget your tape box and fanny pack.

In terms of preparation for this island, I would advise an umbrella over a poncho, as it is much faster, easy to carry and less sweaty (although with one very heavy shower we still got wet feet, but I suspect the effect would have been similar if we would have worn a poncho). Rubber boots are not necessary. We used normal outdoor shoes and sandals. Do not forget mosquito spray as the far south of Palawan is malaria-area. Since you can reach a doctor very quickly, our health service does not advise malaria prevention pills, but don't take my word for it and check with your doctor.

Transportation

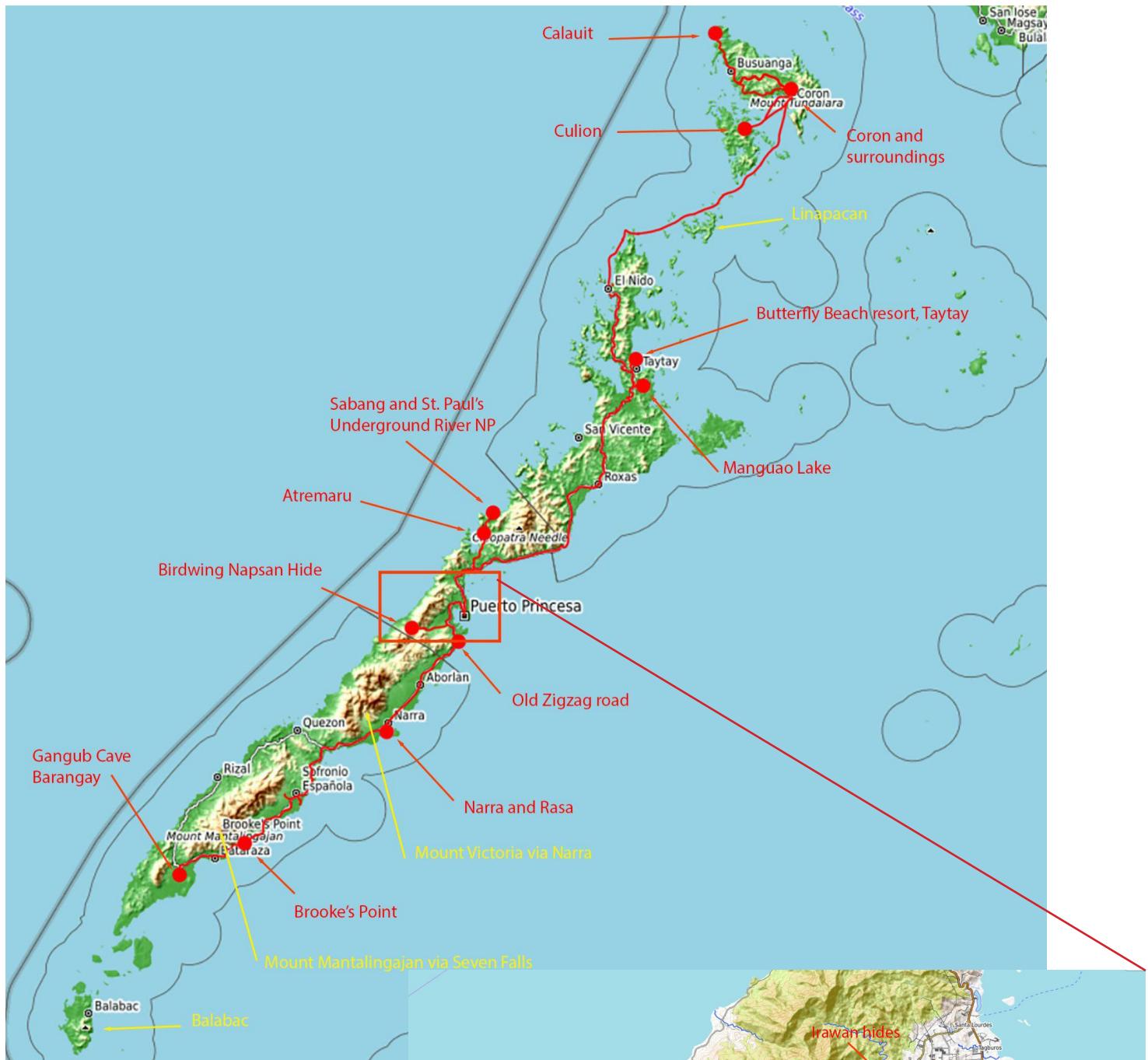
We hired a car with Redjer from Car Rental Jhenrej Palawan (Whatsapp +63 920 283 5137), which was recommended by Van der Loock et al's trip report and we were very happy with the service as well. It is very nice to drive around and there is no need whatsoever for a driver. The roads are relatively calm, people drive on the right, and I found it very pleasant to drive. You can expect prices of 1500PhP per day (~21 euros) for a small car and 2800PhP per day for a larger car with higher clearance. We were glad we took the latter, as it is easier to reach the unpaved roads that were there on a lot of good places. For 5000PhP you can return the car in El Nido, which we decided to do eventually because the typhoons had messed up our plans. Public transportation is easily available, not in the least by the many tricycles that are ubiquitous. They are cheap (expect around 50PhP for a trip of 2km). It seems that it is very much possible to do a budget trip on Palawan if you want. The ferry crossing from El Nido to Coron was booked in advance through 12Go (50euro pp), but you can also book at the counter in El Nido with Jomalia or Montenegro shipping for slightly cheaper.



Our car was very decent, although we had one flat tyre. We drove this rental car on the main island by ourself, which was pleasant and convenient. We took the fast ferry from El Nido to Busuanga, which gave us sightings of this fantasic Devil Ray and a Lesser Frigatebird (Daan Drukker and Eva Drukker).

Itinerary and planning

We went for 18 days, including some travel days and a day in Peninsular Malaysia. Our original plan was quite different, as we had three days and two nights planned in Malaysia, but due to the two typhoons we had to make a lot of alterations. In the table below I've included a column with the original plan as well. Near the second half of the trip, we had a lot of time "wasted" on extra days in the north with not many new species, but it was still very interesting nevertheless.



Map of the Palawan region with our route (red line) and the most important places mentioned in this report. In red the ones we visited, in yellow the places we did not visit. Inset: region of Puerto Princesa (red rectangle).



Activity	Accomodation	(original planning)
30 Flight from Amsterdam	sleep in plane	
31 Arrival at Puerto Princesa in the afternoon	Hotel Puerto Princesa	
1 Birdwing hide	Hotel Puerto Princesa	
Morning birding at Napsan, noon at Irawan, evening 2 at Caña Island		
3 To Narra via Zigzag. Sunset migration of the cockatoos Looking for Southern Squirrels, eventually at Gangub 4 cave	Resort at Narra	
5 Squirreling in the South, slow travel back North	Resort at Brooke's Point	
6 Jungles around Atremaru	Atremaru	(Underground river park)
7 Sabang and jungles around Atremaru Jungles around Atremaru in the morning, travel to El 8 Nido	Atremaru	
9 Around Taytay	Butterfly Beach Resort	(Ferry to Busuanga)
10 Around Taytay and Lake Manguao	Butterfly Beach Resort	(Dugong diving)
11 Back to El Nido	Hotel in El Nido	(Exploring Busuanga)
12 Ferry to Busuanga	Ani Mari's Guesthouse	(Trip to Culion)
13 Morning around Dipulao river, trip to Calauit	Ani Mari's Guesthouse	(extra day for Snorkling)
14 trip to Culion	Ani Mari's Guesthouse	(to Kuala Lumpur)
15 Snorkeling at Siete Pecados, afternoon flight to Cebu	Cebu airport	(Fraser's Hill)
16 Bukit Tinggi near Kuala Lumpur	sleep in plane	(Fraser's Hill)
17 Arrival back in Amsterdam		

Schedule from the 30th October until the 17th of November 2025. Last column with original planning if it weren't for the typhoons

Guides and hides

We mainly birded and mammaled independently, but we did make use of the services of some guides and hides, all highly recommended. For Irawan, permits are needed, as is the case for the Underground River Park. We asked Step, from Stepintonature (stepintonature@yahoo.com, Whatsapp: +63 9638680359) to arrange this for us, as well as a trip to Caña Island for Mantanani Scops Owl. It included access to the Irawan hides and Underground River. For the latter we received the full refund when it was cancelled due to too high waters because of typhoon Kalmaegi. Step was fully booked himself, except for the trip to Caña, so he proposed that we were joined for the rest of the day by his apprentice Kirsten for free. She was very enthusiastic and eager to learn, so hopefully she will be a full guide soon. Step is becoming more and more interested in mammals and as a member of the board for protection of the Philippine Pangolin he told me he was interested in setting up mammal tours aside from his normal bird tours as well. I advise you to inform with him if you are looking for a guide, either as a full package or if you want to go independently but do need help with permits.

If you want to look for Palawan Striped Babbler, Palawan Montane Squirrel and many other altitudinal species, it is recommended to go on the three day hike with Jeh (cjehson@yahoo.com). Due to my father's knee injury, it was not possible for us to go, but I hear it is highly recommended. Please take pictures of the squirrels once you are up there.

Another tour we had planned but got cancelled due to the typhoons was the snorkeling with dugongs on the island of Busuanga. We had this arranged with Dugong Diving Center (info@dugongdivecenter.com). They were communicative and I would recommend them, although it seems you can arrange a lot while you are in Coron- the main city of Busuanga - as well.

We visited two hides, both highly recommended. I used to be quite skeptical of hides, but since I know they are exceptionally good for squirrels and treeshrews, I am a big fan. At the Napsan hide, founded in 2023, the main target is the Palawan Peacock-pheasant, especially since the confiding male of the Underground River Park died in 2021. There was fantastic activity of Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel and Palawan Tree-

shrew, besides many tame Ashy-headed Babblers and other bird endemics. Don't forget to check the ceiling of the hide, as we found a Yellow-faced Horseshoe Bat and a Small Asian Sheath-tailed Bat. Apparently, there is a Falcated Wren-babbler that frequents the hide, but it was not there during our visit. The Napsan hide is operated by Birdwing, and they are well available through their Facebook page. The price was 100 USD pp and we could pay in euros. Contact them via Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/palawanbird-wing>

Location descriptions and accomodation

Puerto Princesa and Caña Island

The capital of Palawan is situated near a calm bay in which the tiny island of Caña is situated. This is the easiest place to see **Mantanani Scops Owl** (especially when Rasa is not accessible). The city itself is relatively big and busy compared to most of the rest of Palawan, but very calm compared to the real big cities such as Manilla and Cebu. There are many hotels, large supermarkets and ATM's. Around the peninsula where it is situated, there are some nice places to bird, be sure to check ebird if you find yourself in a situation where you are there for a longer time. See also the rice fields towards Iwahig Prison and check other trip reports for that. We stayed in a hotel in the city which was good, but I suspect interchangeable with any other hotel. From here we visited Napsan and Irawan.



Mantanani Scops Owl (Eva Drukker)

Napsan Road and Birdwing Hide

Along this road, the birding is nice, especially near the Birdwing Hide and where it comes close to the river. We saw many good bird species such as **Palawan Hornbill**, **Palawan Fairy-bluebird** and the more common endemics. It is good for woodpeckers, with all species possible. It looked good for spotlighting as well, and in the early morning we heard **Palawan Frogmouth** for example. The Birdwing Hide itself is very good for the most wanted endemic: **Palawan Peacock-pheasant**. There were many **Northern Palawan Tree Squirrels**, **Palawan Treeshrews**, **Ashy-headed Babblers** and many other endemics. In the hide there were also two roosting bats: **Yellow-faced Horseshoe Bat** and **Lesser Sheath-tailed Bat**. See "Guides and Hides" for more information. Be sure to look for Melodious Babbler, as we forgot to search for this species here.



Palawan Peacock-pheasant (Daan Drukker)

Irawan Eco Park

To visit this place you need to get permits, which Step arranged for us. You can visit several hides here, which are good for kingfishers, shama's and flycatchers, including the must see target **Palawan Flycatcher**. Squirrels were present too here and in a tunnel below the road we saw two **Acuminate Horseshoe Bats**. Don't forget to tip the nice man who maintains the hides.



Palawan Flycatcher (Daan Drukker)

Old Zigzag Road

When planning this trip, I thought we would spend much more time here, as it is easy independent birding and good for spotlighting as well. In the end we

only spent some time here on our way south and on our way back. Don't forget to tape for the interesting babblers here. We had some decent birding here, comparable with the Napsan Road.

Narra and Rasa

The resort I planned to go to, turned out to be full. Vanderloock et al (2024) said it was near a boardwalk in the mangrove, which is always nice, so I advise to check out the Maydavian Resort. We ended up at the Villa Royal Resort, which was very decent, but lacked the mangrove. A fine **Pacific Swift** migrated by here and our first **White-bellied Sea Eagle** of the trip perched on some poles in the sea. It was close to the **Red-vented Cockatoo** viewpoint where each evening they fly back to Rasa Island. We did not have to have permits for this, probably because Rasa Island was open in this time of year. They close the island during the cockatoo breeding season, but now they were open and you can book boat trips at the "Protected Area Office Rasa Island". Our planning did not allow this (squirrels had priority), but if you have the time, do check this out, as it seems to be good for very interesting species, such as Dugong and Grey Imperial Pigeon. Narra is also the place from where you can start the three day tour to Mount Victoria. See section **Guides and Hides** for more information.

Southern Coconut Plantations

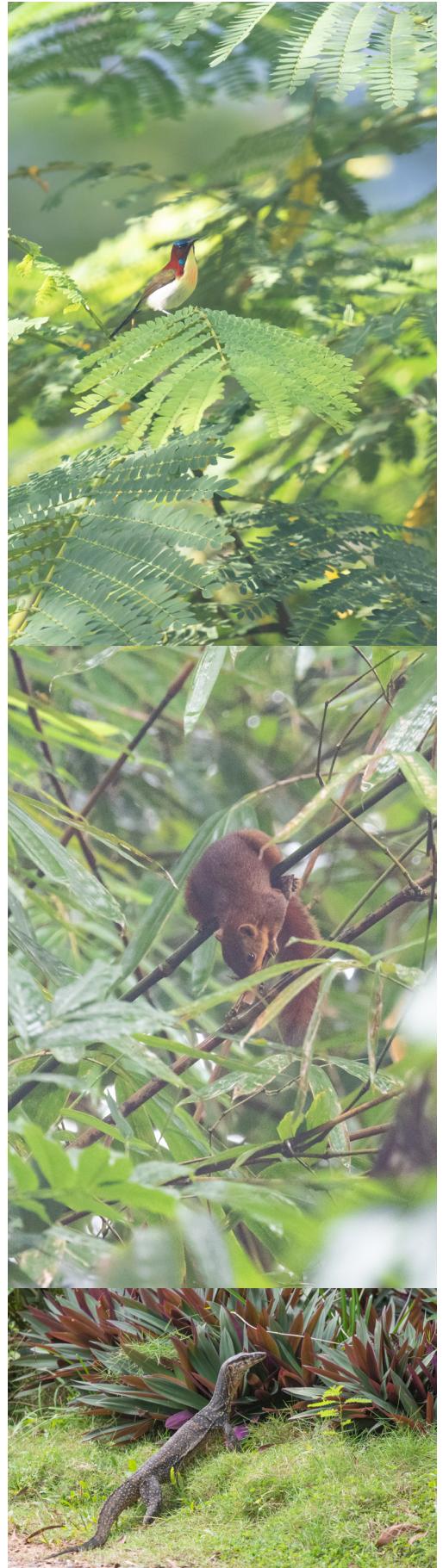
We spent some time in the plantations around Sofronio Espanola and Bataraza for **Southern Palawan Tree Squirrel**, eventually with success. I heard one calling out from the car and managed to get a tape recording. We ventured onto some stony sideroads to look for them and got some tips from locals on how they look and whether they had seen them at all. "Bising" was the local name. On our way back we found a flock of **White-throated Needletails**, a rarity in the Philippines.

Brooke's Point and Seven Falls

The seven falls north of the city of Brooke's Point is the starting point for the longer mountain trip to Mount Mantalingajan. The place looked interesting enough for mammals and birds, but in the morning when we were there we saw very little. At the river bridge on the way back we saw two **Asian House Martins**, of which I did not realise they are actually considered vagrants to the Philippines. We stayed at the only available accommodation on Agoda, which was the Shing Spa Resort. Very decent place to stay. Reminder that this is Malaria-territory, so take anti-mosquito precautions.

Gangub Cave

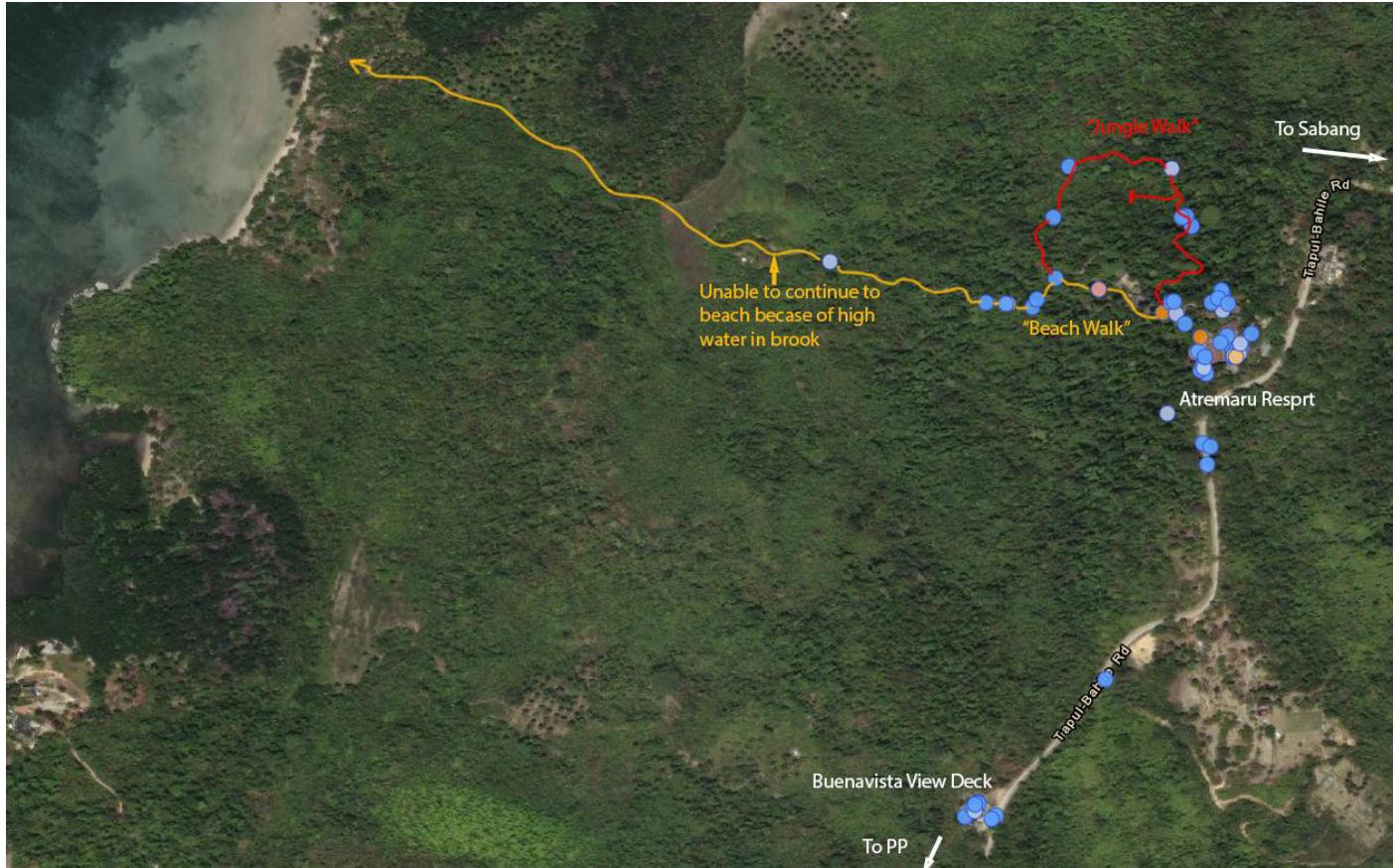
This was a nice surprise based on squirrel advice we got from the staff of the Shing Spa resort in Brooke's Point. It was a 50 minute drive from there and easy to reach. Judging from the decaying tourist facilities, this cave used to be busy, but nowadays it was given back to the bats. We did not have too much time to explore, but it was very exciting to see all the **Lesser Dawn Bats** and **Black-bearded Tomb Bats** in the cave. We were also very happy with the first sighting of **Southern Palawan Tree Squirrel** which was feeding on coconuts in an old coconut grove surrounded by other types of forest. If you have the time I recommend visiting this cave, as it seems possible to hold more species than just the two we saw. I can imagine Geoffroy's Rousette for example between the Dawn Bats, or smaller sub caves with insectivorous bats. The cave entrance is [here](#) (8.6196, 117.4703) and you can park your car at the junction where the unpaved road starts (5 minute walk from [here](#)).



Lovely Sunbird, Southern Palawan Tree Squirrel and Palawan Monitor.
(Daan Drukker)

Atremaru and surroundings

We traveled back north in one day, where we stayed at the Atremaru Resort. This place is not very cheap (we payed around 2000PhP pppn), but it was very much worth it. Especially because the well known ATV-trails and other jungle trails in Sabang are now completely overgrown and not accessible. The terrain and jungle trail at Atremaru however has all the targets and both night walks as well as day walks were very exciting. The best species here were **Palawan Flying Squirrel**, **Falcated Wren-babbler**, **Palawan Stink Badger**, **Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse**, **Palawan Peacock-pheasant** (sleeping female at night), **Palawan Frogmouth** and many other species. Very exciting was the **Sunda Leopard Cat** that crossed the trail, but was only seen by Daan. The jungle trail is well accessible, but keep in mind that there might be fallen trees and bushes (which was the case when we were there two days after the first typhoon), so it can be a little challenging. The map they give out at the reception is very bad, so here is a map I could make based on our observations:



Besides the jungle walk, the main road in the direct vicinity of Atremaru is also very interesting. A ten minute walk to the [Buenavista Viewpoint](#) is also very worthwhile. In the afternoon you might be lucky to see Red-vented Cockatoo here, but we were there in the late morning and saw other nice species.

Hundred Caves

This complex of caves is open with a guide. You can park and buy tickets near the entrance [here](#) (10.0831, 118.8487) and tell them that you are interested in bats. Our guide had no problem that I used my own bright torchlight and was visibly amused that I wanted to photograph literally every bat we encountered. It was a good cave for bats with ***Miniopterus cf fuliginosus***, **Hairy Horseshoe Bat**, **Dusky Roundleaf Bat** and many **Diadem Roundleaf Bats**, all of which were found by Esselstyn et al (2004) as well (and they had even more species here). The price was very reasonable (500PhP pp if I remember correctly) and it was a beautiful cave.

The tourist facilities of the very batty Hundred Caves provided gloves and helmets, and the guides were helpful in finding bats



Sabang and surroundings

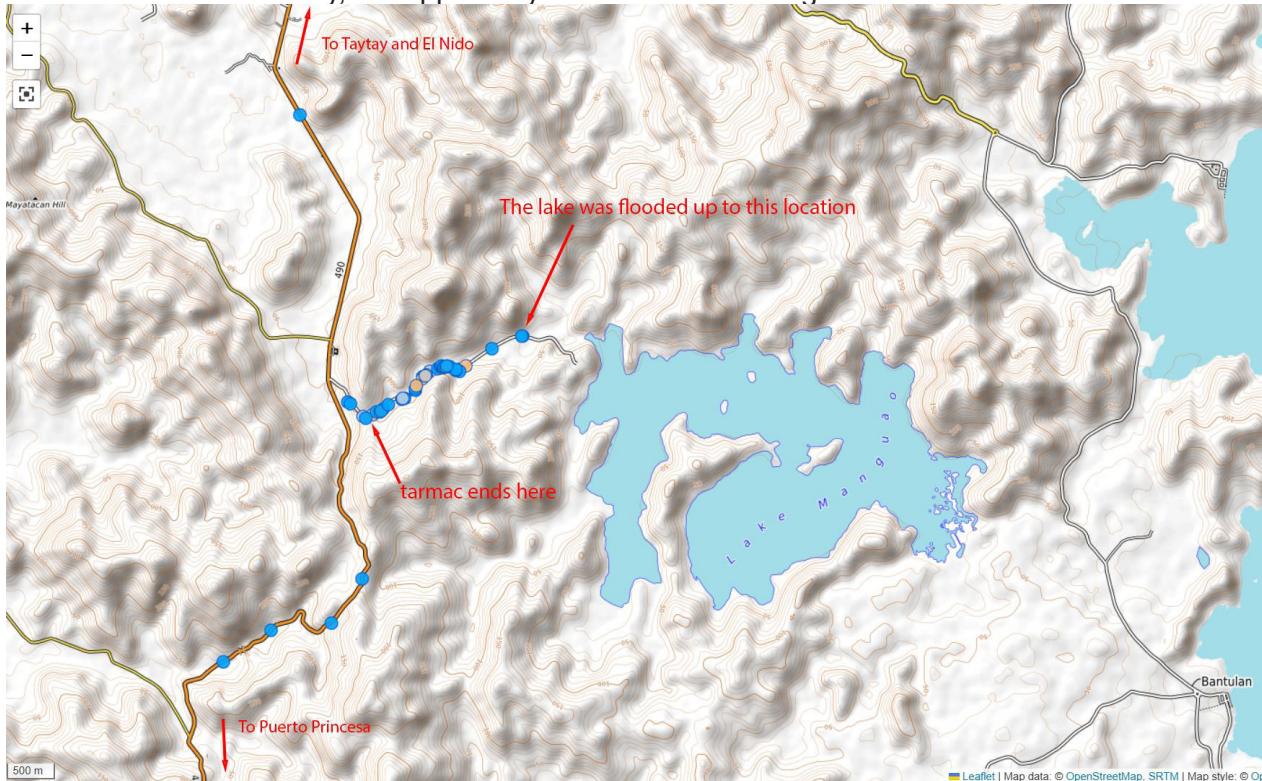
Our plan was to go to the Underground River NP to look for birds and bats during the first tour of the day. The entrance of the cave is supposed to be good for birds (such as Philippine Megapode) and in the vicinity Esselstyn et al (2004) saw candidates for Palawan Flying Fox. However, due to the first typhoon the river was too high and the trip that Step arranged for us was postponed and eventually cancelled. We were refunded the 5300PhP for three people and had a good time visiting other places in the area, such as the Hundred Caves and the Atremaru trails. In hindsight it might have been better to arrange a very early visit to the cave entrance and just bird around there. You will miss the bats, but those are easier at the Hundred Caves anyway. Ask Step for the possibilities. Unfortunately the road to a site for Melodious Babbler was flooded, so we missed that species again. Ask Step for locations for this species. Between Sabang and Atremaru there are some good spots for night walks along the main road. We saw here our only **Palawan Scops Owls** plus **Palawan Frogmouth**, **Creagh's Horseshoe Bat** and **Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse**.

Taytay mangroves

As a result of the three day delayed ferry crossing, we decided to book at the Butterfly Beach Resort, which is a bit pricey, but very nicely situated in a bay with mangroves and mudflats. It is also close to Lake Manguao (see below). On the mudflats, we saw decent numbers of **Chinese Egret** and the mangroves had amongst others a **Mangrove Whistler** and at sunset a nice **Palawan Stink Badger**, **Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse** and some **Lesser Asiatic Yellow Bat** and **Black-bearded Tomb Bat** flying around. Also nice were the grey forms of **Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel** and the sleeping **Blue Paradise-flycatcher**.

Lake Manguao

The forests around the lake hold a population of the Philippine Pangolin. During our night visits, Daan saw a blob in the thermal moving into thick bushes and later heard it stumbling seemingly higher up in a tree (around 5 meters), but even though we tried hard to find it back, we did not succeed. However, I am quite under the impression that we have been very close to my first Pangolin. Alas! This was here: 10.76643, 119.50809. This patch of forest produced other interesting wildlife though, such as **Müller's Rat**, **Peter's Fruit Bat** and during the day our only **Red-headed Flameback** and many other endemics. The lake itself was flooded unfortunately, but apparently it can be nice birding here.



El Nido

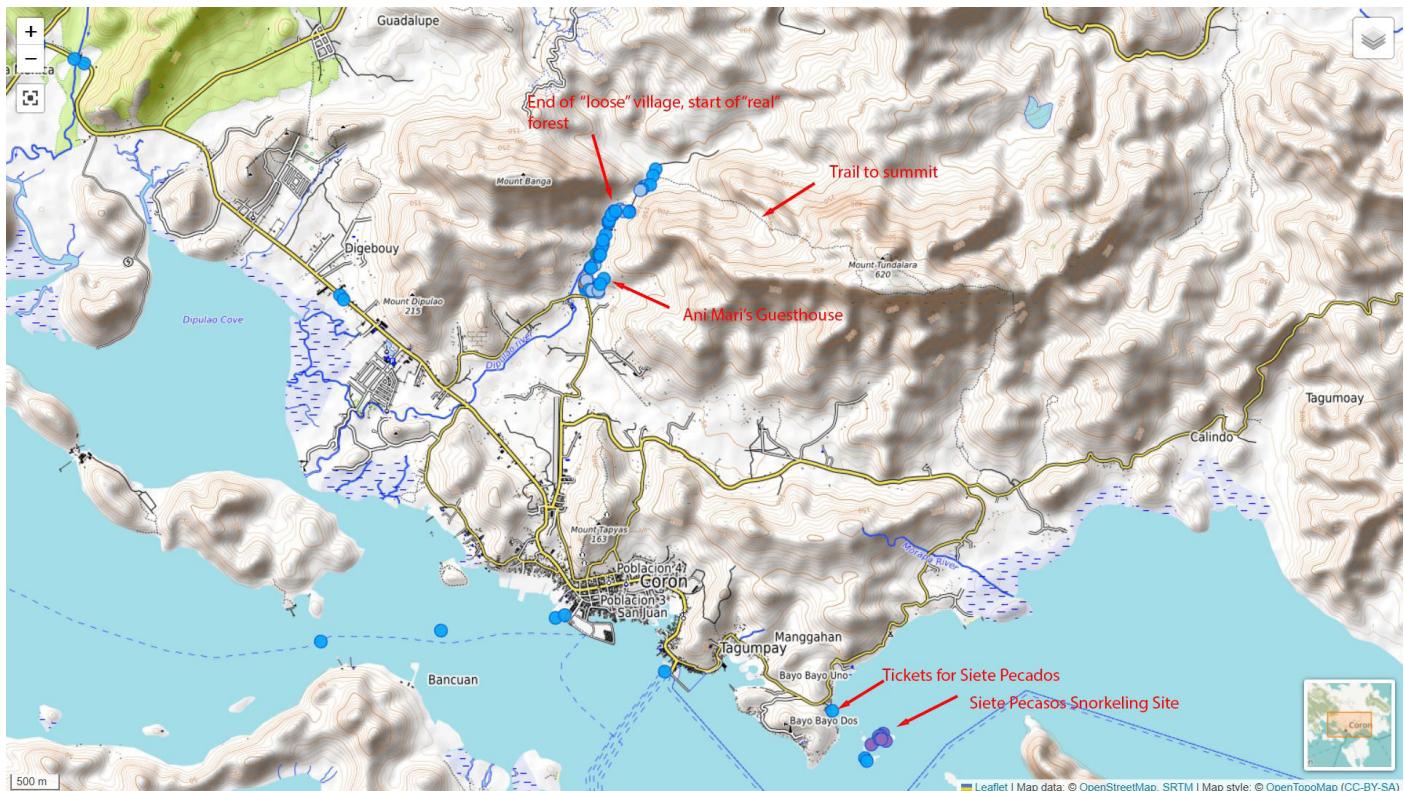
El Nido is situated in a spectacular landscape of cliffs and sea, but it was a bit too touristy for our taste. There are some reports on ebird of Grey Imperial Pigeon, but we only saw large flocks of **Green Imperial Pigeon** crossing the bay. Between El Nido and Taytay we had a fantastic observation of a mixed flock of needletails feeding above a rice field. It consisted of **Brown-throated Needletails** and our second group of about five **White-throated Needletails**. Since we had to stay twice for a night in El Nido, we had two different hotels, both of which were decent and the choice is ample.



Blue Paradise Flycatcher, two vagrant White-throated Needletails, Chinese Egret, a sleeping pair of Black-headed Bulbuls, our only Red-headed Woodpecker and a Reticulated Python (Daan Drukker).

Coron and surroundings

The ferry to the island of Busuanga (El Nido to Coron) was eventful. There was a lot of swell on the first part, which calmed down when we got to the leeward side. Here we saw an adult male of a **Lesser Frigatebird**. A little further there were interesting fish, such as jumping **Black-backed Needlefish** and a spectacular **Mobula/Chilean Devil Ray**. This was the beginning of a fish-themed trip, as on our last day we were able to do two hours of fantastic snorkeling at Siete Pecados east of Coron, where I was able to identify 59 species of fish. Before this, there was still a lot to explore on Busuanga outside the touristy center of Coron. We stayed at [Ani Mari's Guesthouse](#). The owner Mari was very helpful, and her driver knew a lot about nature. I fully recommend this place, as it was affordable and Mari could arrange so many things, such as the pickup from the harbour, the dropoff at the airport, the visit to Calauit and the snorkeling at Siete Pecados. The direct surroundings of Ani Mari's Guesthouse and the walk north provided some excellent sightings, such as a lot of **Busuanga Squirrels**, **Palawan Treeshrew**, **Hooded Pitta's**, **Peter's Fruit Bats** (with the endemic parasitic louse fly subspecies *Leptocyclopodia ferrarii palawanensis*), **Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse** (a juvenile, causing some confusion initially if it not could be a Ranee Mouse, but see the [observation](#)), our best observation of a **Palawan Stink Badger** as well as many of the classic Palawan avifauna.

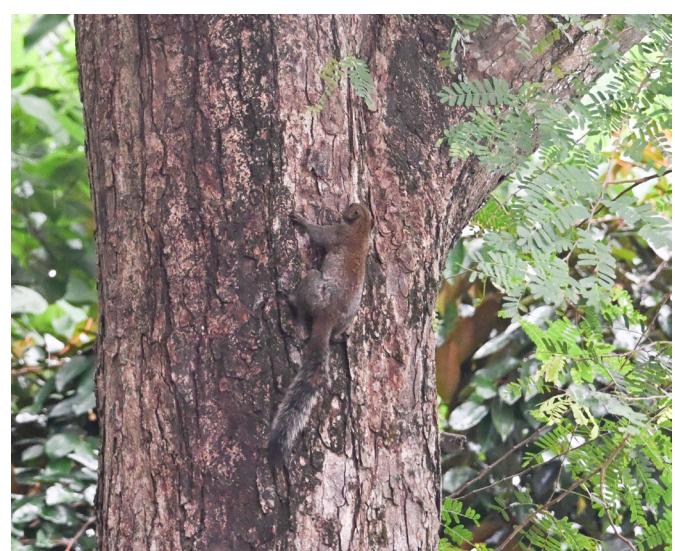


Calauit

We spent half a day at the island of Calauit on the northwestern end of Busuanga. This was surprisingly more exciting than I had expected! My expectations were low because I knew the endemic **Calamian Deer** here were to be found on the terrain of an open zoo with giraffes and zebra's. Former president Marcos founded the safari park, but as a side effect the **Calamian Deer** are not hunted. I found the safari-vibes not problematic at all eventually. We were accompanied by a friendly guide and for the rest we were the only tourists on the island. The deer were not tame, but vigilant and sneaked away when you came too close. I could even record their [alarm call](#)! Apart from that, the birding was also nice here, with new trip species such as **Swinhoe's Snipe**, **Pied Triller**, **Paddyfield Pipit** and more. When talking to the guides and caretakers of the safari-animals, it turned out that they also had very good knowledge of the wild and indigenous animals on Calauit. They have two Palawan Bearded Pig in captivity here, but they told me that they can also be found in the wild here. The same is true for Palawan Porcupine. If I had known this, I would have done what Michaël Dagnelie did and planned a night of camping on the island. This should be no problem, but don't be discouraged when you find an exotic Waterbuck in your thermal. Mari from Ani Mari's Guesthouse arranged our visit and brought us there. However it is easy to arrange your visit yourself. You can buy tickets and boat crossing (1800PhP for the three of us) at [this location](#) (12.2635, 119.8874).

Culion

The island of Culion is almost never visited by foreign naturalists. It is a former leper colony and everyone we met was genuinely surprised we wanted to go here. People automatically assumed that we should be in the queue for the boat to El Nido with all the other western tourists, which departed at the same time as the first ferry to Culion. The main attraction on Culion is the **Culion Tree Squirrel**, which only occurs on Culion and Linapacan and was never photographed alive before. We could not find any accommodation on the island on such short notice (we could not plan ahead due to the typhoon), but this might be possible with the flyer we photographed on the island itself (see next page). With no accommodation, we had to do a "hit and run". The first ferry to the island leaves at 6:00. There are multiple ways to get back, and we planned to take the 16:00 ferry back to Coron. The main problem: squirrels are most

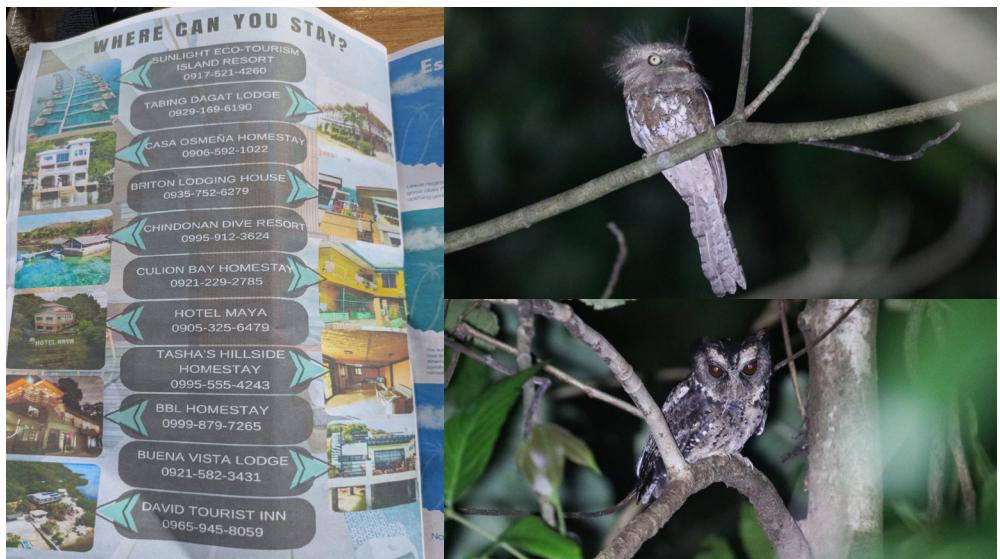


Second picture ever of a Culion Tree Squirrel (Eva Drukker)

active in the morning and at sunset. Our experience was that most squirrel activity stops after 9:30. The ferry arrived at 7:15, so I ran up the hill towards the nice trees at the upper side of the village. My father and sister followed soon and almost directly when they arrived I found a squirrel-like figure in my thermal. It got away before I had the chance to exclude a treeshrew. After a while I had to pee and while doing that I had put down my camera. Right at that time the squirrel re-appeared in a high tree, which meant that at first I could only see it with the binoculars. It was a striking squirrel, with a pale band at the tail base and pale patches on the dorsum flanks. When I could get hold of my camera, I was only able to take very crappy pictures, but the tail band was visible. Later, we heard a squirrel calling further down the road. When we got this one in view, I was confused, as it was much grayer than the one I saw before, without the pale tail base and the flanks were silvery, but not as patchy as I saw on the first individual. It turns out that **Culion Tree Squirrel** has two forms, and we saw both of them. The latter was the first to be video'd, sound recorded and decently photographed. As it was a "hit and run", we did not take the time to explore the rest of Culion, but we spent some time below a vibrant fruiting fig, with amongs others **Palawan Hornbill**, **Pink-necked Green Pigeon**, **Blue-headed Rackettail** and many other birds.

To get to Culion, you need to buy tickets for the ferry at the [office of Montenegro Shipping](#) in the port of Coron on the same day you want to go. That means if you want to take the 6:00 ferry, be sure to be there at 5:00 in the morning. We took a smaller boat back, and apparently there are many options. We could subscribe in the [port office here](#) and on this smaller boat you could pay during the crossing (350PhP pp).

Left side: list of potential places to stay the night on Culion.
Right side: Palawan Frogmouth and Palawan Scops Owl (Daan Drukker)



Species that require attention

Philippine Megapode - apparently the entrance at the Underground River is the best place to find them, especially with the thermal. See section ***Sabang and surroundings***.

Swiftlets – just get your ID and taxonomy knowledge up to date. Keep in mind that Philippine Swiftlet should only be expected on higher elevations, although we saw some seemingly convincing specimens near Atremaru. The other species should be more common, although we only saw one (very cute) **Pygmy Swiftlet** (at the Buenavista Viewpoint). The Palawan subspecies of the Philippine endemic **Ameline Swiftlet** was seen regularly, but only once in Atremaru were we able to document it correctly, fully excluding the paler rumped and less slender **Germain's Swiftlets** that seem to be much more common. The common swiftlets of the Plume-toed/Grey-rumped group (genus *Collocalia*) are placed under **Grey-rumped Swiftlet**, which checks out because of their hint of a gray rump, but the subspecies on Palawan is unknown.

Gray Imperial Pigeon - only on islands, such as Rasa or islets off El Nido.

Palawan Scops Owl - just prepare locations and learn the sound

Mantanani Scops Owl - only on islands. If you have the chance to visit Rasa, it is not necessary to do the tour at Caña island, although Caña was very pleasant and easy to reach. Step can arrange this visit. A visit to Rasa can be done via the office. See section ***Narra and Rasa***.

Palawan Frogmouth - Just prepare locations and learn the sound. Seemed to be more common than **Palawan Scops Owl**.

Philippine Cockatoo - best place is Rasa or, as we did, the viewpoint where they come and go to Rasa for their roosting. See section **Narra and Rasa** for more information. The cockatoos can also be found on other places, such as the Buenavista Viewdeck (keep in mind that the place called "Cockatoo viewpoint" further north along the Sabang road is no longer suitable), Puerto Princesa city itself and along the Napsan road. If you not go as far south as Narra, just check the most recent reports on Observation.org and Ebird.org for roosts. Step might also be able to help in that case.

Red-headed Flameback - much less common than **Spot-throated Flameback**, or at least much less vocal. Does not seem to be really enthusiastic in its reaction to tape. We eventually saw one at the entrance road to lake Manguao, but this is usually not a very common visit on most itineraries. The terrain around the Birdwing hide at the Napsan road is apparently also good

Philippine Pitta - the known pair at the Irawan hide had disappeared when we were there, so you are dependent on finding them in the field. It is not endemic to Palawan, but of course it is a very good bird, so don't forget to tape for them at good spots.

Melodious Babbler - unfortunately missed by us, partly due to inundated roads that should lead to reliable locations, partly due to that we did not put enough effort in taping and searching at the good locations (e.g. zigzagroad and Napsan) during the first days. This species is mostly active and singing in the early morning and can be found in bamboo thickets and forests near brooks. Prepare locations beforehand!

Falcated Wren-babbler - we had one very nice sighting at the Jungle trail of the Atremaru resort. If you are not booking there, don't forget to prepare locations and get to know the sound. Apparently it sometimes visits the Birdwing hide at Napsan.

Palawan Striped Babbler - only bird endemic on altitude, in the same habitat as the **Palawan Montane Squirrel**. Best to find at a three day hike up Mount Victoria. Contact guide Jeh (cjehson@yahoo.com). Unfortunately, due to the knee injury of my father, we could not go up, so PLEASE if you go, take pictures of the squirrels once you are above 800 meters and send them to me.

When not visiting Napsan hide and Irawan hide, the following species fall under the above list as well

Palawan Peacock-pheasant

Palawan Flycatcher

Ashy-headed Babbler

Other endemics and target species (see **Target List** below) should be easily encountered by regular birding.

Mammals

Mammals are of course less easy to target and require luck, thermal imaging, spotlighting or all of the above. Nevertheless there are some tips I can give:

Squirrels and treeshrew: except for the Palawan Montane Squirrel, all four diurnal squirrels are common, but shy. All of them are most reliably found in coconut trees, where we found them either with the thermal scope or by their sounds (mainly the calls, sometimes their gnawing). The local people know the squirrels well and they are called "bising". For the **Southern Palawan Tree Squirrel**, we found them exclusively in coconut groves, and they seem to be rare even in well developed trees near human settlements, while **Cu-lion** and **Busuanga Squirrels** were common in such places. **Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel** was easiest at the Napsan and Irawan hides, but was also found in other habitats, such as El Nido and the coast at Tay-tay. All these four species were quite vocal and we often could find them thanks to their calls. I recorded all of them, and their recordings can be found on Observation.org and via this link on Xeno-Canto. Get familiar with them, as it is one of the most common sounds to hear.

We found the beautiful **Palawan Flying Squirrel** only once at the Atremaru resort, where they are regularly seen. However, they can be expected in other good forested patches during night walks as well, judging by the observations of other people. We found ours using the thermal scope. We did not try for **Palawan Montane Squirrel** unfortunately as mentioned before, so please try to find them if you go for **Palawan Striped Babbler**. Apparently they are quite vocal too, so if you can make a sound recording, I would be even happier.

The **Palawan Treeshrews** were eager to visit the Napsan Birdwing hide, and could be studied well there (including their calls). We also saw them on Busuanga near Ani Mari's Guesthouse.



Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel (morph with gray dorsum and red tail), Busuanga Tree Squirrel, Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse, Palawan Treeshrew (Daan Drukker)

Smaller terrestrial mammals: identifying mice and rats is difficult as always. Getting even a glimpse of a shrew is even harder, and we did not see any. There are a few endemic shrews and one introduced species (*Suncus murinus*), none of which we saw. We saw quite a few mice and rats, mostly found with the thermal up in the trees and bushes. We saw the endemic **Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse** the most (7 specimens), including a juvenile that gave me a Sundaic Rannee Mouse scare. That latter species is rarely found, with records on Calauit and mainland Palawan. Two of the arboreal rats were quite large with long guard hairs, but with uniform tails, excluding the smaller Palawan Spiny Rat. I identified them as **Müller's Rat**, also based on the resemblance to the specimens from Sumatra we have at Naturalis. Other rats were smaller and also without any pale tail tip or tail undersides (excluding the Palawan Spiny Rat again). That leaves us with three options, as the Palawan Mountain Rat only occurs on high elevations (only found on Mantalingajan, but might be possible at Victoria as well): Rattus exulans, Rattus tiomanicus and Rattus tanezumi. Of these, we saw one convincing ***Rattus tanezumi*** and one ***R. tiomanicus***, as well as a potential *R. exulans*. See Observation.org for the documentation and let me know if you agree or not.

Bats: Palawan holds many exciting bat species, but only one of them is endemic to the region: the Palawan Fruit Bat (*Acerodon leucotis*). Many observations on citizen science platforms mistakenly show **Large Flying Fox** or perhaps Island Flying Fox. Since I could not find (photos of) museum specimens, I am not completely certain at the moment, but I think only two or three observations show the smaller and lighter Palawan Fruit Bat (with distinctive pale upper body and some kind of rings around the eyes). It concerns this one and this one (the latter with some obvious Large Flying Foxes as well mistakenly photographed), and this one might be one as well. Unfortunately, we only could identify **Large Flying Fox** with certainty in the specimens we saw. There is a large colony of this species near Puerto Princesa, and every evening you saw them flying away from their roost. Additionally we saw several ones foraging around Atremanu and south of Sabang. The much smaller **Peter's Fruit Bat** (*Cynopterus luzoensis*) is endemic to the Philippines and can be found in many areas with the thermal. We saw them feeding on figs and returning to a roost. We identified the thousands of fruit bats in the Gangub cave (see section **Gangub cave** for more information) as **Lesser Dawn Bat** (*Eonycteris spelaea*) although there might have been some *Rousettus amplexicaudatus* as well there. They were accompanied by **Black-bearded Tomb Bats** (*Taphozous melanopogon*), a species we also saw and heard (both with bat detector as well as with the naked ear, as



Large Flying Fox (not to be confused with the rare Palawan Flying Fox), Peter's Fruit Bat (with Lousefly *Leptocyclopodia ferrari palawanensis*), Yellow-faced Horseshoe Bat and Creagh's Horseshoe Bat (Daan Drukker)

their lowest harmonic is audible) when it left from its roost at the Taytay mangroves, together with **Lesser Asiatic Yellow Bat (*Scotophilus kuhlii*)**. Near the Francisco B. Reyes Airport on Busuanga, we saw and heard an even larger Emballonuridae, which turned out to be a **Pouched Tomb Bat (*Saccopteryx saccolaimus*)**. This is the first record for Busuanga and only the second for Palawan judging by [Duco et al. \(2023\)](#). You can find sonograms and recordings on our [observation](#) and [XC](#). To complete the Emballonuridae family, we also had a **Small Asian Sheath-tailed Bat (*Emballonura alecto*)** hanging on the Napsan Birdwing Hide. In this same place there was a fantastic **Yellow-faced Horseshoe Bat (*Rhinolophus virgo*)**, a Philippine endemic which we could nicely [see and record](#). At night, we often found Rhinolophoidea bats hanging on branches taking a break from their hunting flights. Usually it concerned **Diadem Roundleaf Bats**, but sometimes also smaller *Rhinolophus/Hipposideros*. These were often gone too quickly to get a photo, except for [this great Creagh's Horseshoe Bat \(*Rhinolophus creaghi*\)](#) between Atremaru and Sabang. Nice to see the very peculiar noseleaf without obvious sella. Aside from the **Hundred Caves** (see that section), where we had very good batting opportunities, we did some field observations as well. Here we used our Echo Meter Touch to get sound recordings, preferably in combination with photo or video, or at least with visual observation to see the behaviour. Apart from the aforementioned Emballonuridae and *Scotophilus*, there were also other Vesper bats. Two of them are tentatively identified as **Lesser Bamboo Bat (*Tylonycteris pachypus*)**. The [other observation](#) concerned of larger *Myotis*-like bats, but at the moment their identification remains a mystery

Medium sized nocturnal mammals: exciting endemics include Palawan Porcupine, Philippine Pangolin and **Palawan Stink Badger**. Additionally there are some medium sized mammals that are not endemic to Palawan, but are always nice to see (Binturong, **Philippine Palm Civet**, Collared Mongoose (endemic subspecies), Malay Civet, Asian Small-clawed Otter and **Sunda Leopard Cat**). For all of these applies that you need some luck and many hours of nocturnal thermal scoping and spot lighting to see them. We did this on foot, and were quite successful at Atremaru with **Sunda Leopard Cat**, **Philippine Palm Civet** and **Palawan Stink Badger**. The river along the Atremaru Jungle Trail also has the otter according to Step. We also saw the **stink badger** near the Taytay mangroves and near Coron on Busuanga. See section **Atremaru and surroundings**, **Lake Manguao** and **Coron and surroundings** for details and maps on where to do night walks. We did not do night drives. Perhaps that might be interesting to do on the Napsan road



Sunda Leopard Cat and Palawan Flying Squirrel (Daan Drukker)

in the deepest part of the night (when there is less traffic). There are some sources that presume the **Sunda Leopard Cat** is introduced by humans to Palawan, but I think that is a misinterpretation of [Patel et al. \(2017\)](#). They say that it is likely that the Visayan population might be introduced from Palawan, but that the Palawan population most likely has spread from Borneo during glaciation times when Palawan was connected to Borneo. The Palawan Porcupine has been seen on Calauit as well, see next section.

Calamian Deer and Palawan Bearded Pig: we visited Calauit Island - which is actually only separated from Busuanga by a narrow creek - to see the **Calamian Deer**. To our surprise, the guides told me that the place also holds a good population of Bearded Pigs, and this might be your best chance of finding this species, since they are very rare on the mainland of Palawan! They had two specimens in an enclosure, but the guides assured me that there is a wild population too. You would have to use a different approach compared to what we did though. First you need some background of this place. It holds a mini zoo and strangely there are giraffes and zebra's roaming freely on Calauit. Former president Marcos set it up in the seventies. I was a bit scared that this "zoo-feeling" would ruin the experience of the **Calamian Deer**, but that was totally not the case. The deer are truly wild and even rather shy. I could even record their alarm call. I enjoyed our afternoon visit and it was nice birding too. However, if you want to have a chance on the Bearded Pigs, you need to spend the night there. According to Michaël Dagnelie, you can camp here. He did not specifically look for pigs though. See section **Calauit** for information on getting there and tickets.



Calamian Deer (wild) and Palawan Bearded Pig (captive, but apparently possible on Calauit in the wild as well) (Daan Drukker)

Target List

Species	Endemic to	Notes
Dugong	Australasia but always nice	
Palawan Treeshrew	Palawan region endemic	
Palawan Spiny Rat	Palawan endemic	
Palawan Mountain Rat	Palawan mountain endemic	
Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse	Palawan region endemic	
Philippine Porcupine	Palawan region endemic	
Palawan Montane Squirrel	Palawan mountain endemic	
Southern Palawan Tree Squirrel	Palawan endemic	
Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel	Palawan endemic	
Culion Tree Squirrel	Culion endemic	
Busuanga Squirrel	Busuanga endemic	
Palawan Flying Squirrel	Palawan region endemic	
Palawan White-toothed Shrew	Palawan endemic	
Batak White-toothed Shrew	Palawan mountain endemic	
Peters's Short-nosed Fruit Bat	Philippine endemic	
Palawan Flying Fox	Palawan endemic	
Philippine Dusky Leaf-nosed Bat	Sulu sea element	
Yellow-faced Horseshoe Bat	Philippine endemic	
Philippine Horseshoe Bat	Philippine near-endemic	
Eschscholtz's Long-fingered Bat	Philippine endemic	
Philippine Long-fingered Bat	Philippine endemic	
Pallid-large-footed Myotis	Sulu sea element	
Balabac Chevrotain	Balabac endemic	
Calamian Deer	Calamian endemic	Easy on Calauit
Palawan Bearded Pig	Palawan region endemic	Apparantly doable on Calauit, but mostly nocturnal
Palawan Pangolin	Palawan endemic	Difficult, but try Taytay
Sunda Leopard Cat	Sunda but always nice	at Atremaru, see text for notes on nativeness
Asian Small-clawed Otter	Asia but always nice	
Malay Civet	Asia but always nice	
Binturong	Asia but always nice	
Collared Mongoose	Sunda but always nice	
Palawan Stink Badger	Palawan region endemic	

Below: Western Hooded Pitta and Copperband Butterflyfish (Daan Drukker). Next page: target list for birds.



Species	Endemic to	Notes
Philippine Scrubfowl	Philippine near-endemic	
Palawan Peacock-pheasant	Palawan endemic	Birdwing Napsan hide, but also at Atremaru
Philippine Duck	Philippine endemic	
Philippine Cuckoo-dove	Philippine endemic	
Grey Imperial Pigeon	Sulu sea element	
Black-chinned Fruit Dove	Philippine near-endemic	
Black-naped Fruit Dove	Sulu sea element	
Pygmy Swiftlet	Philippine endemic	
Philippine Glossy Swiftlet	Philippine endemic	check taxonomy
Philippine Swiftlet	Philippine endemic	check taxonomy
Palawan/Ammeline Swiftlet	Philippine endemic	check taxonomy
Philippine Hawk-cuckoo	Philippine endemic	
Palawan Scops Owl	Palawan endemic	
Mantanani Scops Owl	Sulu sea element	
Palawan Hornbill	Palawan region endemic	
Rufous-crowned Bee-eater	Philippine endemic	
Red-headed Flameback	Palawan region endemic	
Spot-throated Flameback	Palawan region endemic	
Philippine Cockatoo	Sulu sea element	
Blue-headed Racquet-tail	Palawan region endemic	
Blue-naped Parrot	Philippine near-endemic	
Philippine Pitta	Philippine endemic	confiding specimens at Irawan had dissapeared
Philippine Pied Fantail	Philippine endemic	
Palawan Drongo	Palawan region endemic	
Blue Paradise Flycatcher	Palawan region endemic	
Palawan Crow	Palawan region endemic	
Philippine Jungle Crow	Philippine endemic	
Palawan Tit	Palawan region endemic	
Palawan Bulbul	Palawan region endemic	
Sulphur-bellied Bulbul	Palawan endemic	
Ashy-fronted Bulbul	Palawan region endemic	
Philippine Mountain Warbler	Philippine endemic	
Palawan Striped Babbler	Palawan mountain endemic	Only Mt. Mantalingajan and Mt. Victoria
Melodious Babbler	Palawan endemic	
Ashy-headed Babbler	Palawan endemic	
Falcated Wren-babbler	Palawan endemic	
White-vented Shama	Palawan region endemic	
Palawan Blue-flycatcher	Palawan region endemic	
Philippine Blue-flycatcher	Philippine potential split	
Philippine Shortwing	Philippine endemic	
Palawan Flycatcher	Palawan endemic	
Palawan Fairy-bluebird	Palawan region endemic	
Yellow-throated Leafbird	Palawan region endemic	
Palawan Flowerpecker	Palawan region endemic	
Striped Flowerpecker	Philippine potential split	
Pygmy Flowerpecker	Philippine endemic	
Palawan Spiderhunter	Palawan endemic	
Purple-throated Sunbird	Philippine near-endemic	
Palawan Sunbird	Palawan region endemic	
Lovely Sunbird	Palawan region endemic	

Mammal trip list (source: [Observation.org list](http://Observation.org/list))

name	scientific name	obs	ind
Palawan Treeshrew	<i>Tupaia palawanensis</i>	3	5
Long-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	7	19
Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree Mouse	<i>Chiropodomys calamianensis</i>	6	7
Oriental House Rat	<i>Rattus tanezumi</i>	1	1
Malaysian Field Rat	<i>Rattus tiomanicus</i>	1	1
Müller's Rat	<i>Sundamys muelleri</i>	2	2
Palawan Flying Squirrel	<i>Hylopetes nigripes</i>	1	1
Busuanga Squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus hoogstraali</i>	8	8
Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus juvencus</i>	18	30
Culion Tree Squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus moellendorffii</i>	2	2
Southern Palawan Tree Squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus steerii</i>	4	6
Peters's Fruit Bat	<i>Cynopterus luzoniensis</i>	4	20
Lesser Dawn Bat	<i>Eonycteris spelaea</i>	1	5000
Large Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus vampyrus</i>	7	227
Acuminate Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus acuminatus</i>	1	2
Creagh's Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus creaghi</i>	1	1
Philippine Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus hirsutus</i>	1	2
Yellow-faced Horseshoe Bat	<i>Rhinolophus virgo</i>	1	1
Dusky Roundleaf Bat	<i>Hipposideros ater</i>	1	150
Diadem Roundleaf Bat	<i>Hipposideros diadema</i>	8	158
Small Asian Sheath-tailed Bat	<i>Emballonura alecto</i>	1	1
Naked-rumped Pouched Bat	<i>Saccoaimus saccoaimus</i>	1	1
Black-bearded Tomb Bat	<i>Taphozous melanopogon</i>	2	104
Lesser Asiatic Yellow Bat	<i>Scotophilus kuhlii</i>	2	2
Lesser Bamboo Bat	<i>Tylonycteris pachypus</i>	1	1
Asian Long-fingered Bat	<i>Miniopterus fuliginosus</i>	1	3
Sunda Leopard Cat	<i>Prionailurus javanensis</i>	1	1
Common Palm Civet	<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>	1	1
Palawan Stink Badger	<i>Mydaus marchei</i>	4	4
Calamian Deer	<i>Axis calamianensis</i>	7	20
	<i>Muridae indet.</i>	2	2
	<i>Rhinolophus spec.</i>	1	3
	<i>Vespertilionidae indet.</i>	2	8



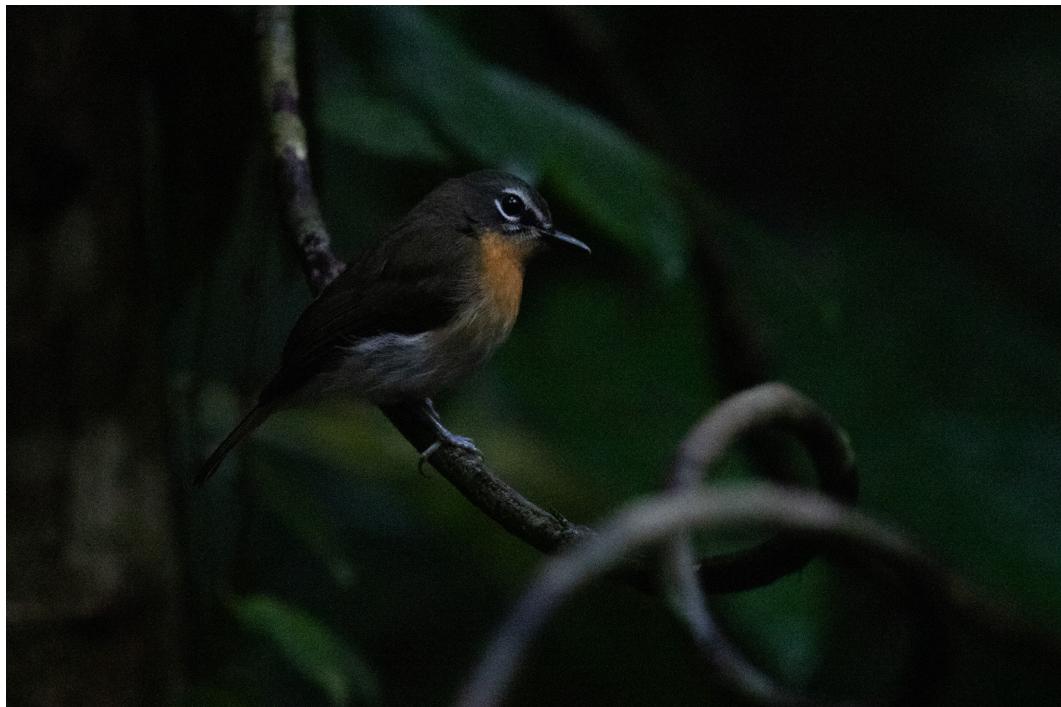
Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel (intriguing red form at Lake Manguao, but note the pale flanks and hint of black tail tip) and *Miniopterus fuliginosus* at the Hundred Caves (ID based on size, shape of tragus the work of Esselstyn et al). (Daan Drukker) I hope to bring more clarity in the world of the squirrels of the region in the future!

Bird trip list (source: [Observation.org list](http://Observation.org/list))

name	scientific name	obs	ind
Wandering Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna arcuata</i>	1	2
Palawan Peacock-Pheasant	<i>Polyplectron napoleonis</i>	3	3
Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	2	2
Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>	4	5
Banded Bay Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>	1	1
Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo	<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>	1	1
Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	1	5
Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>	6	7
Philippine Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Macropygia tenuirostris</i>	1	1
Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	2	3
Zebra Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	14	19
Pink-necked Green Pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>	1	1
Thick-billed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>	1	2
Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>	7	121
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1	3
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	3	114
Siberian Sand Plover	<i>Anarhynchus mongolus</i>	1	3
Swinhoe's Snipe	<i>Gallinago megala</i>	1	3
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	4	5
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	6	13
Long-toed Stint	<i>Calidris subminuta</i>	1	1
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	2	6
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	1	3
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	1	1
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	1	1
Lesser Frigatebird	<i>Fregata ariel</i>	1	1
Yellow Bittern	<i>Botaurus sinensis</i>	1	1
Nankeen Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	1	1
Pacific Reef Heron	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	4	7
Chinese Egret	<i>Egretta eulophotes</i>	2	5
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	30	37
Little Heron	<i>Butorides atricapilla</i>	1	5
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	24	25
Medium Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	96	575
Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea coromanda</i>	38	79
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1	2
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1	1
Large-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>	2	2
Palawan Frogmouth	<i>Batrachostomus chaseni</i>	4	6
Grey-rumped Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia marginata</i>	16	98
Pygmy Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia troglodytes</i>	1	1
Philippine Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus mearnsi</i>	1	3
Ameline Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus amelis</i>	1	10
Edible-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus fuciphagus</i>	5	28
White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	2	25
Brown-backed Needletail	<i>Hirundapus giganteus</i>	2	21
Pacific Swift	<i>Apus pacificus</i>	1	1
Mantanani Scops Owl	<i>Otus mantananensis</i>	1	1
Palawan Scops Owl	<i>Otus fuliginosus</i>	1	2

Spotted Wood Owl	<i>Strix seloputo</i>	2	2
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	2	2
Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	7	8
Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	1	1
Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>	1	1
Rufous-bellied Eagle	<i>Lophotriorchis kienerii</i>	1	1
Crested Goshawk	<i>Lophospiza trivirgata</i>	1	1
Eastern Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus spilonotus</i>	1	1
White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Icthyophaga leucogaster</i>	8	9
Grey-faced Buzzard	<i>Butastur indicus</i>	5	6
Palawan Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros marchei</i>	5	11
Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	2	2
Rufous-crowned Bee-eater	<i>Merops americanus</i>	1	1
Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	6	6
Ruddy Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon coromanda</i>	1	1
Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>	13	17
Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>	1	2
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	3	3
Black-backed Dwarf Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx erithaca</i>	1	1
Rufous-backed Dwarf Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx rufidorsa</i>	2	2
White-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	1	1
Spot-throated Flameback	<i>Dinopium everetti</i>	1	2
Red-headed Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes erythrocephalus</i>	1	1
Great Slaty Woodpecker	<i>Mulleripicus pulverulentus</i>	2	2
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	2	2
Red-vented Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua haematuropygia</i>	3	10
Blue-headed Racket-tail	<i>Prioniturus platenae</i>	5	22
Blue-naped Parrot	<i>Tanygnathus lucionensis</i>	6	17
Western Hooded Pitta	<i>Pitta sordida</i>	6	6
Fiery Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus igneus</i>	1	6
Ashy Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus divaricatus</i>	1	2
Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina striata</i>	7	12
Pied Triller	<i>Lalage nigra</i>	1	4
White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorynchus</i>	14	20
Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	3	3
Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	3	5
Mangrove Whistler	<i>Pachycephala cinerea</i>	1	1
Philippine Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura nigritorquis</i>	2	3
Palawan Drongo	<i>Dicrurus palawanensis</i>	15	23
Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	10	15
Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	2	2
Blue Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone cyanescens</i>	5	6
Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	6	6
Palawan Crow	<i>Corvus pusillus</i>	40	50
Palawan Tit	<i>Pardaliparus amabilis</i>	3	4
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	2	2
Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>	10	11
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	1	1
Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo javanica</i>	4	25
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	55	509

Asian House Martin	<i>Delichon dasypus</i>	1	2
Arctic Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>	3	3
Palawan Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus frater</i>	4	6
Sulphur-bellied Bulbul	<i>Iole palawanensis</i>	5	10
Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Brachypodius melanocephalus</i>	4	8
Ashy-fronted Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cinereifrons</i>	6	14
Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Mixornis gularis</i>	6	9
Ashy-headed Babbler	<i>Pellorneum cinereiceps</i>	1	3
Falcated Wren-Babbler	<i>Ptilocichla falcata</i>	1	1
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>	2	2
Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	54	358
Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	6	11
White-vented Shama	<i>Copsychus niger</i>	12	12
Grey-streaked Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>	8	8
Blue-and-white Flycatcher	<i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i>	2	2
Palawan Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis lemprieri</i>	6	7
Palawan Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula platenae</i>	1	1
Palawan Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus plateni</i>	10	13
Thick-billed Flowerpecker	<i>Pachyglossa agilis</i>	1	1
Pygmy Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum pygmaeum</i>	2	2
Purple-throated Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma sperata</i>	2	5
Palawan Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris aurora</i>	12	14
Lovely Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga shelleyi</i>	5	5
Pale Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera dilutior</i>	5	5
Yellow-throated Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis palawanensis</i>	8	12
Palawan Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena tweeddalii</i>	2	2
Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	6	70
White-bellied Munia	<i>Lonchura leucogaster</i>	1	2
Chestnut Munia	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	3	106
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	21	138
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla tschutschensis</i>	1	1
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	7	9
Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	2	4



Female Palawan Blue Flycatcher (Bas Drukker)