

The following notes are intended to be a supplement to existing reports, and are therefore not exhaustive.

Distances given are mostly estimates, so use of the coordinates given is highly recommended.

---Labahe

Cablecar road:

This road is typically only accessible by official shuttle bus. The station lies very close to the junction between this road and the main road through the park. It is within walking distance of the Luming Hotel.

Red Panda - according to word I received before my trip, and, now, personal experience - appears to be most common (or, at least, most-commonly seen) in the area immediately surrounding the 'toilet block' (30.191399, 102.433143) approximately 7km up the road from the shuttle station, as well as along the first kilometer of road above this point. Interestingly, it also appears that the pandas tend to move around in the area only a couple of hours after sunrise. Well, at least in Spring.

Giant Panda was seen from this point: 30.200948, 102.435017, as it moved about in the bamboo on upper reaches of the slope on the eastern side of the road. It was first seen sleeping in a small gully, where it looked much like a rock. High-powered optics were necessary to see the animal well. If you cannot find the spot using GPS software, note that it is at the junction of the first track leading away from the main road, if you are travelling down the hill from the cablecar station. It is more-or-less on the 8th or 9th bend below the cablecar station - 'bend' being somewhat subjective in its definition, and difficult to gauge when in the field, of course. The track leads to a small quarry of sorts, where we also saw a sleeping Red Panda.

Main road (from park entrance to internal hotels):

This road can be driven in a private car, and, apparently, at any time of day or night. Spotting the road was very productive during my visit, with several Red-and-white Giant Flying Squirrels and a Complex-toothed Flying Squirrel seen in just a couple of hours, along with two Tufted Deer and a handful of Red Goral. The Complex-toothed was seen on a small roadside cliff just a few hundred meters below the junction of the two roads in the park.

---Ruoergai

A lot of info has been written on the 'quarries' near Ruoergai that are good spots for Pallas's and Chinese Mountain/Desert Cats. Unfortunately, I didn't discover this until after I had left the area. As a result, I just did a night drive along the main road between the town and Flower Lake. We did bump into a Chinese M/D Cat for our efforts, though - around 5km from town, right beside the road.

---Balang Shan area

I have seen Leopard Cat along the road between Rilong and the entrance to the long tunnel that passes below Balang Shan Pass - around here: 30.967233, 102.873897

On the pass itself (30.910305, 102.893237), I have often seen Bharal.

The area around 30.897490, 102.922843 - where there is a small building with a viewing deck and toilets - appears to be good for Tufted Deer.

There is a Red Panda breeding/rehab? centre across the river from 31.075522, 103.219697 - the pandas can be seen from the main road.

---Barkam area

We saw Black Bear from the main road (S209), in the Suomo River valley, at about 31.905929, 102.645381. Note that the river is labelled as the Somang in maps.me.