



Vietnam 2020

Curtis Hart & Lindsay Hart
March 9th to 16th

We visited Vietnam at the end of our winter travels. We were originally supposed to be there for five weeks, however the trip was cut short due to Covid-19. We decided that we would travel until it was inconvenient, and that happened on March 15th when Vietnam closed all national parks. We lost \$60 to an unused hotel night, our change fee for our flight was \$0.60, and we still got to see one of the Douc Langurs.

We only visited one site for wildlife watching, Cat Tien National Park. We arrived on March 11th and left midday on March 15th. We stayed in the park hotel in the Pterocarpus building. The room had aircon, hot water, and was clean for about \$15 per night. We ate at the park restaurant and at the Forest Floor Lodge restaurant. It is worth going there just to meet James, who knows a lot about the park and is happy to tell you all about it. We also met Michael Hoit there, who I had previously known from Mammalwatching.com and Facebook. We ended up eating several meals, doing a few night walks together and catching a ride back to the airport. Cat Tien is almost well set up. There are no private vehicles on the park side of the river, but you can rent bicycles from 6:30 am until 6:00 pm. Sunrise was a little before 6:00 am, so we either had to walk a long way to the better patches of forest or get there a bit later.

After doing a bit of research, we decided to focus mainly on the track past Heaven's Rapids. It seems it is the best spot for all of the primates which is also close enough to

bike or walk to from headquarters. We had planned to move to Crocodile Lake, but the park closing prevented this.

Northern Slender-tailed Treeshrew (*Dendrogale murina*) We saw them near Heaven's Rapids on three different days. We heard several on our last day in the park, at least two near the headquarters area.

Pygmy Loris (*Nycticebus pygmaeus*) I saw three different individuals. One was in the bamboo about 15 minutes south of headquarters, one near Heaven's Rapids, and one between FF Lodge and headquarters.

Long-tailed Macaque (*Macaca fascicularis*) We saw these pretty often everywhere.

Northern Pig-tailed Macaque (*Macaca leonina*) One observed in the Heaven's Rapids area.

Black-shanked Douc Langur (*Pygathrix nigripes*) We saw multiple groups in the Heaven's Rapid area.

Buff-cheeked Gibbon (*Hylobates gabrellae*) We saw the same three individuals on two occasions near headquarters. They were visiting the captive ones.

Black Giant Squirrel (*Ratufa bicolor*) One was observed near Heaven's Rapids.

Indian Giant Flying Squirrel (*Petaurista philippensis*) One was observed near Heaven's Rapids. We saw it in daylight and watched it glide.

Palla's Squirrel (*Callosciurus erythraeus*) We saw several every day.

Malayan Porcupine (*Hystrix brachyura*) We saw one south of headquarters on the roadside.

Asian Palm Civet (*Paradoxurus hermaphoditus*) We saw a few on the night drive and a few between FF Lodge and headquarters.

Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*) One on night drive

Lesser Mouse-deer (*Tragulus kanchil*) A few near FF lodge.

Northern Red Muntjac (*Muntiacus vaginalis*) I saw one between FF lodge and headquarters.

Sambar (*Rusa unicolor*) Several were seen on the night drive, a few near headquarters.