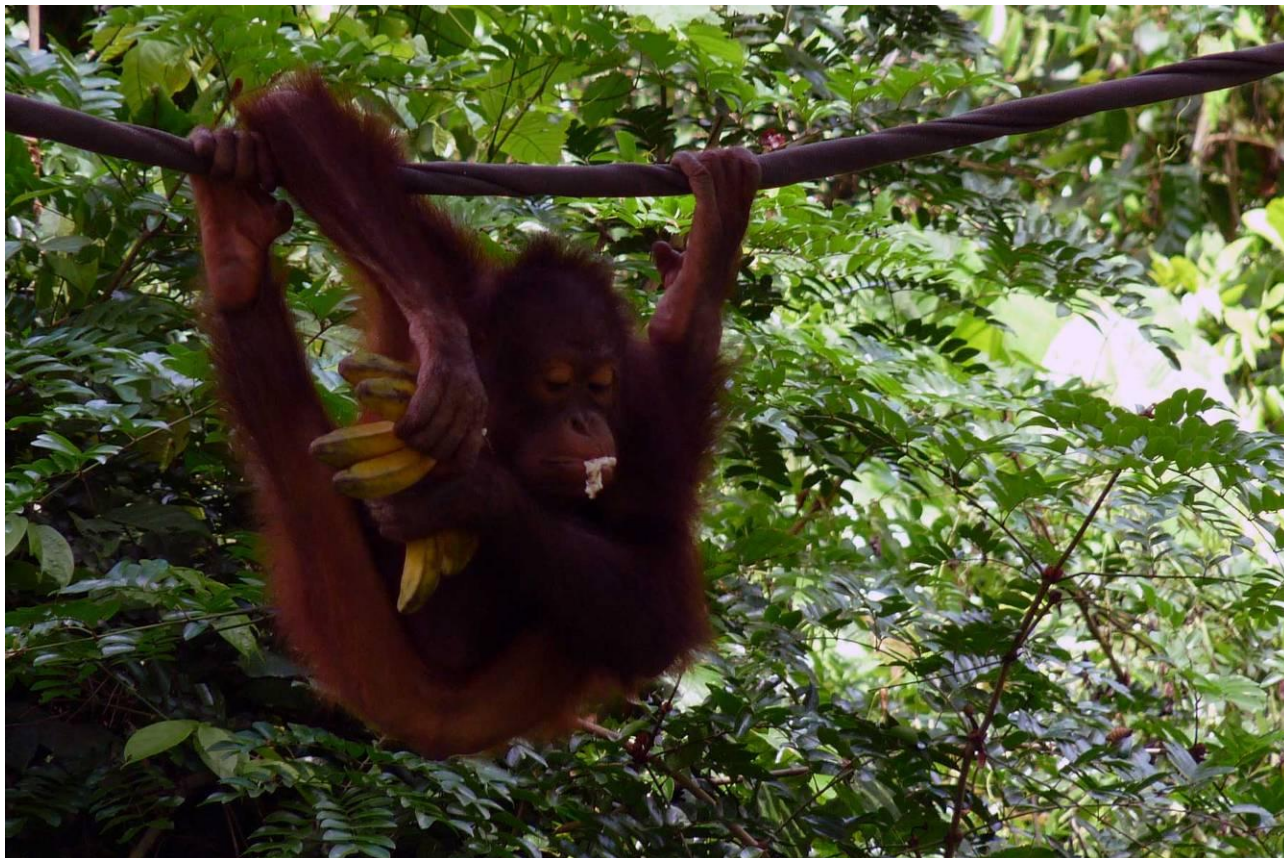


# Borneo's Orang-utans – an EIA tour

Naturetrek Tour Report

3 -13 September 2010

---



Orang-utan by Sanjana

Report compiled by Chris Kehoe



Naturetrek Cheriton Mill Cheriton Alresford Hampshire SO24 0NG England

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

F: +44 (0)1962 736426

E: [info@naturetrek.co.uk](mailto:info@naturetrek.co.uk)

W: [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk)

Tour Leaders: Chris Kehoe (Naturetrek Leader)  
Hamit Suban (Local Guide)  
Nadil (Local Guide at Borneo Rainforest Lodge)

Participants: Mick Wood  
Carol Wood  
Dave Vickers  
Joan Vickers  
Kelly Vaughan

## Day 1

**Friday 3rd September**

Apart from Dave and Joan who were already in West Malaysia, everyone caught a midday Malaysian Airlines flight from London Heathrow to Kuala Lumpur, a journey of 11-and-a-half hours.

## Day 2

**Saturday 4th September**

Outbound; Sepilok

Weather: warm, sticky and dry on arrival in Sandakan

Arriving at Kuala Lumpur in the morning, there was then a wait for the onward connection to Sandakan in Borneo which departed at 15.20 and arrived at 18.15. After collecting luggage and meeting myself and Hamit outside the arrivals area, a 30 minute drive delivered us to our first base at Sepilok Nature Resort. After half-an-hour or so to settle in and freshen up we met for dinner and to discuss the programme for the following day. After the long journey everyone had an early night...

## Day 3

**Sunday 5th September**

Sepilok

Weather: hot and sticky, dry

Early risers met for a pre-breakfast stroll in and around the hotel. Birds were prominent with noisy Asian Black Hornbills and Blue-eared Barbets particularly evident and a variety of Sunbirds and Flowerpeckers were in some fruiting trees where Prevost's and Plantain Squirrels shared the bounty.

After breakfast we embarked on our first visit to nearby Sepilok Orang-utan Rehabilitation Centre where a 20 minute video was followed by a five minute walk to the viewing platform. On arrival at the platform a few Orang-utans were already in place well before the 10am feeding crew turned up with a couple of buckets full of fruit for them. We then spent nearly an hour watching the comings and goings of at least six rehabilitating Orang-utans including a mother with a three month old baby that was fathered by one of the wild Orangs in the area. A short walk took us back to the hotel where there was time for a cold drink or shower before lunch.

We returned to the Rehabilitation Centre for the 3pm feeding when no fewer than 12 different Orang-utans appeared and put on an excellent show of acrobatics. Our day concluded with another walk in and around the hotel area where the undoubted highlight was a fine Rhinoceros Hornbill that posed for the scope.

## Day 4

Monday 6th September

Sepilok; Sukau

Weather: hot and sticky, some light rain in the afternoon

An early start took us to nearby Sepilok Rainforest Discovery Centre where a couple of hours on the excellent canopy walkway there before breakfast gave us some great views of Giant Squirrels and a good collection of birds that included White-bellied Woodpecker and the rare Jerdon's Baza amongst others. Back at the hotel there was plenty of time for packing and a shower after breakfast before we set off at 11.00 on the 40 minute drive to Sandakan Town.

Lunch was a fine buffet at the Sandakan Hotel before we transferred to a nearby jetty where a fast launch was waiting to take us on the three hour journey to our next base at Sukau Rainforest Lodge on the Lower Kinabatangan River. A few birds were seen along the way, as was a Bearded Pig, but the undoubted highlight was a herd of up to 10 Elephants that gave some reasonable views as they moved through riverside trees just before we reached Sukau village. Once at the lodge we had a quick turnaround before setting off on our first cruise. Boarding a motorised canoe captained by Hamit we set off upstream in search of Proboscis Monkeys but after just a few minutes a tell-tale trumpeting call caught our ears and a moment or two later an Elephant appeared on the nearby riverbank in full view. Hamit switched to the quieter electric motor and we positioned ourselves at an appropriate distance and sure enough the elephant then made its way into the river for a bath as we sat watching from just a few metres away. A little further on we found our first troop of Proboscis Monkeys gathering at the riverside for the night and also saw Long-tailed Macaques, Silvered Langurs and a nice selection of birds before the light began to fade and we returned to the lodge for a shower and dinner.

After dinner, during which we donned the customary sarongs, we once more boarded the canoe and had an hour long night cruise that produced great views of roosting Kingfishers and Black-and-red Broadbills plus a couple of impressively huge Buffy Fish Owls, a Fruit Bat species, two species of snake, some small Saltwater Crocodiles and a couple of Water Monitors.

## Day 5

Tuesday 7th September

Sepilok

Weather: Hot and sticky, mostly dry apart from a thunderstorm mid-afternoon

A knock on the door at 05.30 preceded hot drinks and toast at 05.45 and a departure at 06.00 on a cruise along the Menangol Tributary, a quiet backwater where we soon switched to the almost silent electric motors. The undoubted highlight this morning was a young female Orang-utan that gave some fine views moving around in a riverside tree for about 15 minutes before moving off. Several troops of Proboscis Monkeys were also seen before we returned for breakfast at 09.15 plus a good selection of birds that included four Storm's Storks, Hooded Pitta, White-breasted Babblers and both Diard's and Scarlet-rumped Trogons.

Other highlights were a flying Gecko, a couple of Water Monitor Lizards, a Grey-tailed Racer (Snake) and a rather large Saltwater Crocodile. After breakfast some opted to join local guide Winston on a guided walk along the boardwalk behind the lodge while others chose a self guided stroll or simply rested. A single male Bornean Gibbon was seen by some of those who visited the boardwalk today.

After lunch and a short rest a brief canoe journey took us to Sukau Village where our minivan was waiting to take us to Gomantong Caves. Plans for a walk along the road before visiting the cave were scuppered by a thunderstorm so we took shelter under the visitor centre veranda from where four species of Hornbill were seen plus Wallace's Hawk-eagle and Crested Serpent Eagle. As the rain eased Hamit led everyone on a tour of the cave with its delicate aromas and curious invertebrate community. Back at the car park we began a vigil for the bats that leave the cave in prodigious numbers each evening, a rather long wait tonight but enlivened by the presence of three White-fronted Falconets in the scope, a busy troop of Maroon Langurs and a Peregrine of the rare local race. Eventually the bats began to emerge and form into tight swarms and almost immediately up to five Bat Hawks and various other raptors appeared for an evening snack. We concluded our visit with scope views of an Orang-utan putting the finishing touches to its nest and settling down for the night.

After dinner Hamit led a short night walk along the boardwalk behind the lodge and succeeded in find a Harlequin Tree Frog amongst others.

## Day 6

Wednesday 8th September

Sukau; en route to Lahad Datu, Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL), Danum Valley

Weather: Hot and sticky, dry

Before setting off on our dawn cruise we had time to admire the Bornean Gibbon that whooped away in a large tree above the restaurant building, rather to the chagrin of the Silvered Langurs that it was trying to keep company with. Our route today took us upstream via some Proboscis Monkeys and an obliging pair of Jerdon's Bazas and down a small channel into a large basin where more Proboscis Monkeys and a group of four Storm's Storks showed well, as did various Hornbills.

After breakfast there was time for packing and settling our bills before we said our goodbyes to the friendly staff at 10.00 and a short boat ride delivered us to our waiting minivan at Sukau Village. The two hour journey to Lahad Datu was largely uneventful as we passed through mile after mile of lifeless oil palm monoculture though a couple of Wandering Whistling Ducks on a small roadside pool near Gomantong were something of a diversion. At Lahad Datu we sat down to a banquet lunch in a Chinese restaurant before visiting the Borneo Rainforest Lodge offices to complete some paperwork before transferring to a different minivan and setting off towards Danum Valley at 13.15. The three-and-a-half hour journey down a rather bumpy logging track was broken up by a short comfort stop and a leg stretch. On arrival at the excellent lodge we met our local guide Nadil and were soon settling into our rooms and enjoying the spectacular surroundings, complete with delightful Whiskered Treeswifts perching prominently in the lodge garden. Dinner at 19.00 was followed by a night drive at 20.30 in the lodge truck. A little over an hour later we returned to the lodge having seen a Common Palm Civet and a handful of Thomas's Flying Squirrels, one of which obliged with a spectacular glide between huge emergent trees.

Before bed there was time to admire some of the invertebrate life attracted to the lodge lights including several Praying Mantises and Leaf Bugs.

## Day 7

Thursday 9th September

BRL

Weather: hot and sticky, dry

We began our first full day in Danum Valley with a dawn stroll along the Access Road before breakfast. Maroon Langurs were soon in evidence and a succession of birds included several Rufous Piculets. Everyone opted to join Nadil on an exploratory investigation of the canopy walkway where a Red-throated Bee-eater was a highlight before we ambled back for a hearty breakfast. After breakfast Nadil led a walk to along the Belian Trail to the Jacuzzi Pool where a bit of paddling was accompanied by foot nibbling by the local fish, though not enough to put Kelly off from making return visits in the heat of the day to cool off.

The afternoon walk consisted of a visit to the Hornbill Trail followed by a return to the lodge along the Access Road, a good selection of birds were seen and Squirrels included both Giant and Plain Pygmy for the ultimate size contrast. Back at the lodge a Bearded Pig was wandering around on the lawn below the restaurant. The undoubted highlight of an hour long 'dusk drive' before dinner was a delightful Leopard Cat that sat beside the road then trotted along it for ages as we slowly followed, also seen were several Thomas's Flying Squirrels.

## Day 8

Friday 10th September

BRL

Weather: hot and sticky, dry until early afternoon when steady rain set in for several hours

More energetic members of the group accompanied Nadil along the Viewpoint and Coffin Cliff Trails after an early breakfast and were rewarded with two groups of Bornean Gibbons and a Helmeted Hornbill. The rest of us returned to the canopy walkway and saw a good selection of birds including a Diard's Trogon and Fluffy-backed Tit-babblers.

After breakfast we set off on a long walk along the Segama and East Trail, meeting those returning from the viewpoint along the way, but apart from a few babblers and a Horse-tailed Squirrel it was a little quiet on what was becoming a rather sultry day. Plans for a walk along the Segama Trail in the afternoon were curtailed when the rain that had been threatening finally arrived so we contented ourselves with eating cake and drinking coffee in the lovely lodge while a few birds came and went in the nearby trees. After dinner it was dry enough for a night walk and an hour long stroll near the lodge produced a nice selection of species with Lesser Mouse Deer, Bornean Horned Frog and a Tarantula some of the highlights.

## Day 9

Saturday 11th September

BRL

Weather: hot and sticky, dry until early afternoon when rain set in

After an early breakfast we boarded the lodge truck and were delivered 5km to the gate at the start of the Access Road from which we had a leisurely stroll back with stunning rainforest scenery all the way. A couple of Bornean Bristleheads were the undoubted avian highlight but there was plenty of Hornbill activity and a variety of birds of prey took to the air as the first thermals formed.

Back at the lodge there was time to relax before lunch. Once again rain set in during the afternoon so our walk was cancelled and it continued into the evening so that there were no takers for a soggy night drive. However, dinner was enlivened by a couple of Malay Civets that came scurrying across the lawn right below us.

## Day 10

Sunday 12th September

Weather: hot and sticky, dry

A pre-breakfast stroll along the Access Road and part of the Hornbill Trail produced Maroon Langurs and calling Gibbons. At the canopy walkway a fruiting tree had ripened and attracted a Red-throated Barbet, a small group of Black-and-white Bulbuls and a single Grey-bellied Bulbul amongst the commoner species present.

Back at the lodge we had a leisurely breakfast and did some final packing before saying our goodbyes to Nadil and boarding the lodge bus for the three hour journey back to civilisation in the shape of Lahad Datu airport. Once there we checked-in quickly and ate our packed lunches. Farewells were said to Hamit who was travelling home to Sandakan.

The 50 minute flight to Kota Kinabalu left on time at 14.40. An onward flight to Kuala Lumpur preceded the long-haul flight to London leaving later in the evening and arriving at Heathrow early the next morning.

## Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit [www.naturetrek.co.uk](http://www.naturetrek.co.uk) to sign up.

## Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!

## Species lists:

### Mammals

Species order, taxonomy and nomenclature follow Payne and Francis (2005) A Field Guide to the Mammals of Borneo. Bornean endemic species are marked **E**

### Order Chiroptera

#### **Pteropodidae** - Fruit Bats

##### **Large Flying Fox** *Pteropus vampyrus natunae*

An unidentified Fruit Bat seen at Sukau may have been this widespread species but there are many other possibilities too

#### **Molossidae** - Free-tailed Bats

##### **Wrinkle-lipped Bat** *Tadarida p. plicata*

Large numbers emerged from Gomantong Caves though they kept us waiting rather late before doing so

### Order Primates

#### **Cercopithecidae** - Monkeys

##### **Maroon Langur** *Presbytis r. rubicunda* / *chrysea* **E**

Small troops of these attractive little primates were seen at Gomantong Caves and on several occasions at Danum Valley

##### **Silvered Langur** *Presbytis cristata ultima*

Up to 10 per day were seen in the Sukau area

##### **Proboscis Monkey** *Nasalis larvatus* **E**

Several groups were seen well along the Kinabatangan River and Menangol Tributary at Sukau, over 50 were noted in total

##### **Long-tailed Macaque** *Macaca f. fascicularis*

Common at Sukau where up to 30 per day were seen

#### **Hylobatidae** - Gibbons

##### **Bornean Gibbon** *Hylobates muelleri funereus* **E**

A solitary and sometimes noisy male was seen on two occasions near our lodge at Sukau and two groups totalling about eight individuals were seen along the Viewpoint Trail at Danum Valley, several more were heard throughout

**Pongidae** - Great Apes**Bornean Orang-utan** *Pongo pygmaeus mono*

Up to 12 rehabilitating individuals were seen during our two visits to the feeding platform at Sepilok Orang-utan Rehabilitation Centre; a wild individual gave some nice views along the Menangol Tributary at Sukau and another was seen putting the final touches to its nest at Gomantong Caves though a flurry of arms was pretty much all that was visible most of the time

## Order Rodentia

**Sciuridae** - Squirrels**Sciurinae** - Tree Squirrels and Ground Squirrels**Giant Squirrel** *Ratufa affinis sandakanensis*

Four were at Sepilok RDC and a couple more at Danum Valley

**Prevost's Squirrel** *Callosciurus prevosti pluto*

Common throughout

**Plantain Squirrel** *Callosciurus notatus d. dilutus*

A few were seen at Sepilok

**Horse-tailed Squirrel** *Sundasciurus hippurus pryeri*

A couple were seen at Sepilok and Danum Valley

**Plain Pygmy Squirrel** *Exilisciurus e. exilis*

Ones and twos were seen almost daily after the first at Sepilok RDC

subfamily **Petauristinae** - Flying Squirrels

**Thomas's Flying Squirrel** *Aeromys thomasi* **E**

All of the eight or so Flying Squirrels seen well at Danum Valley were this species

**Muridae** - Rats and Mice**Polynesian Rat** *Rattus exulans ephippium*

A couple of rats seen briefly at Sepilok and Danum Valley were perhaps this species

## Order Carnivora - Dogs, Bears, Mustelids, Civets, Mongooses and Cats

**Viveridae** - Civets and Mongooses**Malay Civet** *Viverra t. tangalunga*

Two ran across the lawn below the restaurant at Danum Valley as we were having dinner on our final evening there

**Common Palm Civet** *Paradoxorus hermaphroditus sabanus*

One was seen twice during our first night drive at Danum Valley



**Felidae** - Cats**Leopard Cat** *Felis bengalensis borneoensis*

One gave some excellent and prolonged views during our second night drive at Danum Valley

## Order Proboscidea

**Elephantidae**- Elephants**Asian Elephant** *Elephas maximus sumatranus*

Up to 10 gave some reasonable views as we approached Sukau from Sandakan and a little while later one gave excellent views during our first cruise on the Kinabatangan, even coming to bathe in the river right next to our boat at one stage thanks to Hamit's careful positioning of the boat and judicious switch to the quiet electric motor

## Order Artiodactyla - Even-toed Ungulates

**Suidae** - Pigs**Bearded Pig** *Sus b. barbatus*

One was seen briefly during the journey from Sandakan to Sukau, about 15 were along the road between Lahad Datu and Danum Valley and one appeared on several occasions near our rooms at Danum Valley

**Tragulidae** - Mouse-deer**Lesser Mouse-deer** *Tragulus javanicus klossi*

One was seen during the night walk at Danum Valley

**Cervidae** - Deer**Sambar Deer** *Cervus unicolor brookei*

A few came to the river below the restaurant at Danum Valley each evening

**OTHER FAUNA**

Reptiles were represented by several Water Monitor Lizards and a few Saltwater Crocodiles at Sukau; Geckos were conspicuous throughout with a Giant Gecko and a Flying Gecko at Sukau especially notable. Various unidentified small skinks and lizards were seen and a Green-crested Lizard was noted at Sukau. Four species of snake were encountered with Wagler's Pit Vipers at Sepilok and Gomantong Caves, Common Bronzebacks at Gomantong and Sukau and a Paradise Treesnake and a Grey-tailed Racer at Sukau. Amphibians identified included a couple of Harlequin Treefrogs and a Bornean Horned Frog. A plethora of spectacular invertebrates included several Praying and Orchid Mantises and Leafbugs, Stag and Rhinoceros Beetles, Flat-backed and Pill Millipedes and Lantern Bugs. Arachnids included a Tarantula species, a Golden Orb Spider and a Wolf Spider at Danum Valley while spectacular butterflies were seen throughout including some enormous Birdwing species

## Birds

Species order, nomenclature and taxonomy follows the list of the birds of the world produced by the International Ornithological Congress (IOC), v2.4

Subspecies generally follow the Handbook of the Birds of the World when available or Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World. When the particular subspecies is unclear the range of options is given.

### Key:

**E** = Bornean endemic species

**e** = Bornean endemic subspecies

Conservation status codes (after Birdlife International/ IUCN):

NT = near-threatened

VU = vulnerable

EN = endangered

Species that were either heard only or only seen by the tour leader or guides are placed in square brackets, any species not seen by the tour leader or guides are marked (n/l)

### PHASIANIDAE - Pheasants, Fowl & Allies

[Chestnut-necklaced Partridge *Arborophila charltonii graydoni e*]

Heard but not seen at Sukau and Danum Valley

[Great Argus *Argusianus argus grayi e NT*]

Heard but not seen at Danum Valley

### ANATIDAE - Ducks, Geese & Swans

**Wandering Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna a. arcuata*

Two were on a roadside pool near Gomantong Village as we drove to Lahad Datu

### CICONIIDAE - Storks

**Storm's Stork** *Ciconia stormi EN*

Four were seen along the Menangol Tributary at Sukau with another, or the same four, near the Oxbow Lake the next day

**Lesser Adjutant** *Leptoptilos javanicus VU*

Two were seen during the boat journey between Sandakan and Sukau

### ARDEIDAE - Herons, Bitterns

[Striated Heron *Butorides striata javanica / amurensis*]

One was in the grounds of our hotel at Sepilok early one morning (l/o)

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*

A handful were seen during the boat journey from Sandakan to Sukau

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea manilensis*

One or two were seen each day at Sukau

**Eastern Great Egret** *Ardea modesta*

Up to 10 were found during each of our cruises at Sukau

**Little Egret** *Egretta g. garzetta*

A few were seen between Sandakan and Sukau with a couple more along the river at Sukau

**ANHINGIDAE - Aningas, Darters****Oriental Darter** *Anhinga melanogaster* NT

Singles were seen each day at Sukau

**ACCIPITRIDAE - Kites, Hawks & Eagles****Jerdon's Baza** *Aviceda jerdoni borneensis* e

A pair at Sepilok RDC were followed by another pair at Sukau, a rarely seen, and often misidentified, species

**Bat Hawk** *Machaeramphus a. alcinus*

About five gathered to feast on the bats leaving Gomantong Caves

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indicus intermedius*

A handful during the journey to Sukau were followed by a couple each day along the river there and at Gomantong Caves

**White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

One was seen in flight over Sepilok

[Lesser Fish Eagle *Ichthyophaga h. humilis* NT]

Heard but not seen along the Menangol Tributary at Sukau

**Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela pallidus* e

Overall the commonest bird of prey seen with up to three per day noted on five dates

[Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus microstictus* e ]

One was along the Access Road to Borneo Rainforest Lodge one morning (l/o)

**Black Eagle** *Ictinaetus m. malayensis*

One or two were soaring over Borneo Rainforest Lodge on two mornings after breakfast

**Wallace's Hawk-eagle** *Nisaetus n. nanus* VU

A perched adult gave some decent scope views at Gomantong Caves

**FALCONIDAE - Caracaras, Falcons****White-fronted Falconet** *Microhierax latifrons* E NT

Three posed for the scope at Gomantong Caves

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus ernstii*

One sat waiting patiently for the bats to emerge at Gomantong Caves

**RALLIDAE - Rails, Crakes & Coots****White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis p. phoenicurus*

One was seen on a roadside pool near Gomantong Village as we stopped to look for Whistling-ducks

**SCOLOPACIDAE - Sandpipers, Snipes****Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

One or two were seen at all sites on four dates

**COLUMBIDAE - Pigeons, Doves****Spotted Dove** *Spilopelia chinensis tigrina*

Fairly common in disturbed habitats, especially in oil palm plantations as we passed in the van

**Common Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps i. indica*

Singles were seen on two occasions at Danum Valley

**Little Green Pigeon** *Treron olax*

A handful were seen at Sepilok and Sukau

[Large Green Pigeon *Treron capellei* VU]

One flew across the river and landed out of sight as we were watching the Elephant bathing at Sukau (l/o)

**Green Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula a. aeneas*

Small numbers were seen each day at all sites visited

**PSITTACIDAE - Parrots****Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot** *Loriculus galgulus*

Flying birds were regularly seen at Sepilok and Sukau but none settled for perched views

**Long-tailed Parakeet** *Psittacula l. longicauda* NT

Seen daily flying over in small numbers at Sepilok and Sukau where a small group of perched birds were in a tree along the Menangol Tributary

**CUCULIDAE - Cuckoos**

[Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis bubutus*]

Heard but not seen at Sukau and Danum Valley

**Raffles's Malkoha** *Rhinortha c. chlorophaeus*

One at Sepilok was followed by a couple more at Danum Valley

[Red-billed Malkoha *Zanclostomus javanicus*]

One and twos were seen on three occasions at Sukau and Danum Valley (l/o)

**Chestnut-breasted Malkoha** *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris microrhinus*

A couple showed well at Danum Valley one morning

**Violet Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx x. xanthorhynchus*

Singles were seen flying over calling at Sepilok on two occasions

[Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus threnodes*]

Heard but not seen at Gomantong Caves

**STRIGIDAE - Owls****Buffy Fish-owl** *Ketupa k. ketupu*

Three were seen during our night cruise at Sukau and a couple more were found at Danum Valley

**HEMIPROCNIDAE - Treeswifts****Grey-rumped Treeswift** *Hemiprocne longipennis harterti*

Small groups were seen in flight at Sepilok and Danum Valley on five dates

**Whiskered Treeswift** *Hemiprocne c. comata*

Up to five or six were a regular feature around the lodge at Danum Valley

**APODIDAE - Swifts****Glossy Swiftlet** *Collocalia esculenta cyanoptila*

Common and widespread

[Aerodromus Swiftlet species *Aerodramus* sp.]

Large numbers of unidentified Swiftlets were seen throughout; the following species are all considered abundant in Sabah: Mossy-nest Swiftlet *A. salangana natunae*; Black-nest Swiftlet *A. maximus lowi*; and Edible-nest Swiftlet *A. fuciphagus vestitus*; confident identification relies on seeing them non their characteristic nests

**Silver-rumped Spinetail** *Rhaphidura leucopygialis*

Small numbers were noted on five dates at Sepilok and Danum Valley

**Brown-backed Needletail** *Hirundapus g. giganteus*

Up to 20 were soaring around as we waited for the bats to emerge at Gomantong Caves

**TROGONIDAE - Trogons****Diard's Trogon** *Harpactes d. diardii* NT

Singles were seen once along the Menangol Tributary at Sukau and twice at Danum Valley

**Scarlet-rumped Trogon** *Harpactes duvaucelii* NT

One was seen at Sukau

**CORACIIDAE - Rollers****Oriental Dollarbird** *Eurystomus o. orientalis / calonyx*

Four were seen during our cruises at Sukau

**ALCEDINIDAE - Kingfishers****Stork-billed Kingfisher** *Pelargopsis capensis cyanopteryx*

Up to three were seen daily at all sites, most notably during the night cruise at Sukau

**Blue-eared Kingfisher** *Alcedo meninting verreauxii*

About six were seen during our cruises at Sukau

**Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis bengalensis*

One was at our hotel at Sepilok one morning

**MEROPIDAE - Bee-eaters****Red-bearded Bee-eater** *Nyctornis amictus*

One was seen from the canopy walkway at Sepilok RDC and another at Danum Valley

**Blue-throated Bee-eater** *Merops v. viridis*

Small numbers were seen at Sepilok and Sukau on four dates

**BUCEROTIDAE - Hornbills****Bushy-crested Hornbill** *Anorrhinus galeritus*

Four at Gomantong Caves were followed by five at Danum Valley

**Oriental Pied Hornbill** *Anthracoceros albirostris convexus*

Regularly seen at Sepilok and Sukau

**Black Hornbill** *Anthracoceros malayanus* NT

Conspicuous and noisy throughout, recorded on six dates

**Rhinoceros Hornbill** *Buceros rhinoceros borneoensis* e

One showed well at Sepilok and others were heard and occasionally seen at Danum Valley

**Helmeted Hornbill** *Rhinoplax vigil*

One flew over twice at Gomantong Caves and another was seen towards the viewpoint at Danum Valley

**Wrinkled Hornbill** *Aceros corrugatus*

A handful were noted at Sukau and Danum Valley on three dates

**Wreathed Hornbill** *Rhyticeros undulatus*

One at Sepilok RDC was followed by three at Gomantong Caves and another single at Danum Valley

**MEGALAIMIDAE - Asian Barbets**

[Red-throated Barbet *Megalaima m. mystacophanos* NT]

A male showed in the fruiting tree near the canopy walkway at Danum Valley (1/o)

[Yellow-crowned Barbet *Megalaima henricii brachyrhyncha e* NT]

Hamit photographed one at Danum Valley

**Blue-eared Barbet *Megalaima australis duvaucelii***

a couple were in the fruiting tree at Sepilok with a few more seen at Sukau, many more were heard there and at Danum Valley

**PICIDAE - Woodpeckers****Rufous Piculet *Sasia a. abnormis***

About six were seen during our first morning walk at Danum Valley

**White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus j. javensis***

Singles were seen twice at Sepilok and another was at Sukau

**Buff-rumped Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tristis grammithorax***

One was at Sukau and a couple at Danum Valley

**EURYLAIMIDAE - Broadbills****Black-and-red Broadbill *Cymbirhynchus m. macrorhynchos***

Up to 10 at Sukau included some roosting birds during our night cruise, a few more were at Danum Valley

**Black-and-yellow Broadbill *Eurylaimus ochromalus***

Heard regularly throughout but only seen on a couple of occasions at Danum Valley

**PITTIDAE - Pittas**

[Giant Pitta *Hydrornis caeruleus hosei e*]

One of two calling birds at Danum Valley popped into view for a while though only Hamit saw it (1/o)

**Blue-headed Pitta *Hydrornis baudii E***

Singles were seen briefly on two occasions at Danum Valley

[Bornean Banded Pitta *Hydrornis schwaneri E*]

Heard but not seen at Danum Valley

[Black-crowned Pitta *Erythropitta ussheri E*]

Heard but not seen at Sukau and Danum Valley

**Hooded Pitta *Pitta sordida mulleri***

One was seen during our final cruise at Sukau after several had been heard there previously, also heard at Danum Valley

**ACANTHIZIDAE - Australasian Warblers**

[Golden-bellied Gerygone *Gerygone s. sulphurea*]

Heard but not seen at Danum Valley

**PITYRIASIDAE - Bristlehead**

**Bornean Bristlehead** *Pityriasis gymnocephala* **E**

A nest building pair was seen along the Access Road at Danum Valley one morning and others were heard near the canopy walkway

**ARTAMIDAE - Woodswallows**

**White-breasted Woodswallow** *Artamus l. leucorhynchus*

A handful were seen during our cruises at Sukau

**AEGITHINIDAE - Ioras**

**Green Iora** *Aegithinia v. viridissima*

A couple at Sepilok were followed by a few more at Sukau

**DICRURIDAE - Drongos**

**Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus paradiseus brachyphorus* **e**

Three were seen at Sepilok

**RHIPDURIDAE - Fantails**

**Pied Fantail** *Rhipidura javanica longicauda*

Fairly common at Sepilok with a few more at Sukau and Danum Valley

[**Spotted Fantail** *Rhipidura perlata*]

One was seen at Danum Valley (l/o)

**MONARCHIDAE - Monarchs**

**Asian Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone paradisi borneensis* **e**

A male gave a couple of brief views near the canopy walkway at Danum Valley

**CORVIDAE - Crows, Jays**

**Black Magpie** *Platysmurus leucopterus aterrimus* **e**

Three were seen at Sepilok

**Slender-billed Crow** *Corvus enca compiler*

Small numbers were regularly seen in well forested contexts

**PYCNONOTIDAE - Bulbuls**

**Straw-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus zeylanicus*

A noisy pair was seen on a few occasions near the lodge at Danum Valley



[Black and White Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanoleucus*]

A fruiting tree near the canopy walkway at Danum Valley held at least six birds on our final morning there (l/o)

**Black-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus a. atriceps*

Singles were seen at Sepilok and Sukau

[Grey-bellied Bulbul *Pycnonotus cyaniventris paroticalis e*]

Hamit saw one in the fruiting tree at Danum Valley (l/o)

**Yellow-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus goiavier gourdini*

Common in disturbed habitats but absent in primary forest

**Olive-winged Bulbul** *Pycnonotus plumosus insularis / hutzi e*

Small numbers were seen daily at Danum Valley

**Asian Red-eyed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus b. brunneus*

Ones and twos at Sepilok were followed by a couple more at Danum Valley

**Spectacled Bulbul** *Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos*

Regularly heard at Sukau and Danum Valley with a handful seen at each place

**Grey-cheeked Bulbul** *Alophoixus bres gutturalis e*

A couple were seen briefly at Danum Valley

**HIRUNDINIDAE - Swallows, martins**

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica gutturalis*

Common over Oil Palm plantations with a few elsewhere

**Pacific Swallow** *Hirundo tahitica javanica*

Small numbers were present throughout

**CISTICOLIDAE - Cisticolas and allies**

**Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris latrunculus e*

Roosting birds were seen during nocturnal forays at Sukau and Danum Valley

**Rufous-tailed Tailorbird** *Orthotomus s. sericeus*

Small numbers were present throughout

**Ashy Tailorbird** *Orthotomus ruficeps borneoensis e*

Much as the last species though a little commoner

**TIMALIIDAE - Babblers, Parrotbills**

[**Black-capped Babbler** *Pellorneum capistratum morrelli e*]

A couple were seen on our final morning at Danum Valley after a few had earlier been heard there and at Sepilok (l/o)

**White-chested Babbler** *Trichastoma rostratum macropterum e*

Regularly heard and occasionally seen during our cruises at Sukau, one was also seen at Danum Valley

**Ferruginous Babbler** *Trichastoma bicolor*

A couple were seen at Danum Valley where several more were heard

**Sooty-capped Babbler** *Malacopteron affine phoeniceum e*

Frequently heard and occasionally seen at Danum Valley after an earlier couple at Sukau

**Scaly-crowned Babbler** *Malacopteron c. cinereum*

Small numbers were seen and heard daily at Danum Valley

[Bornean Wren-babbler *Ptilocichla leucogrammica* E]

Heard but not seen at Danum Valley

[**Striped Wren-babbler** *Kenopia striata*]

A couple were at the start of the Hornbill Trail near the canopy walkway at Danum Valley one morning (l/o)

**Chestnut-winged Babbler** *Stachyris erythroptera bicolor e*

Small numbers were seen at Sukau and Danum Valley most days, many more were heard

**Bold-Striped Tit-babbler** *Macronus b. bornensis / montanus* (both *e*)

Frequently heard throughout with a few seen at Sukau and Danum Valley

**Fluffy-backed Tit-babbler** *Macronus ptilosus reclusus e*

A couple gave some reasonable views along the Access Road at Danum Valley one morning

**Brown Fulvetta** *Alcippe brunneicauda*

About eight were in roadside trees during a leg stretch en route to Danum Valley from Lahad Datu

**STURNIDAE - Starlings, Rhabdornis****Asian Glossy Starling**

Fairly common at Sepilok and in the few urban contexts visited

[White-vented Myna *Acridotheres javanicus* (I)]

Small numbers were near our hotel at Sepilok with others along the roadside between there and Sandakan

**MUSCICAPIDAE - Chats, Old World Flycatchers****Oriental Magpie-robin** *Copsychus saularis adamsi e*

Ones and twos were seen and heard at Sepilok and Sukau

**White-crowned Shama** *Copsychus s. stricklandii* E

Small numbers were recorded on five dates at Sukau and Danum Valley

[Rufous-tailed Shama *Trichixos pyrropyga*]

A singing bird was near the canopy walkway at Danum Valley one morning (1/0)

**White-crowned Forktail** *Enicurus leschenaulti frontalis*

One was briefly along the Access Road at Danum Valley one morning

**Malaysian Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis t. turcosus e*

A couple were seen during our first cruise at Sukau and a pair were occasionally around the garden of Borneo Rainforest Lodge, Danum Valley

#### **CHLOROPSEIDAE - Chloropseidae**

**Lesser Green Leafbird** *Chloropsis c. cyanopogon*

Half-a-dozen were in the fruiting trees at Sepilok and a few more were noted at Danum Valley on three dates

#### **DICAEIDAE - Flowerpeckers**

**Orange-bellied Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum trigonostigma dayakanum e*

Ones and twos were seen on three dates at Sepilok, Sukau and Danum Valley

**Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum cruentatum nigrimentum e*

A pair was in a flowering tree at Sepilok

#### **NECTARINIIDAE - Sunbirds**

**Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** *Chalcoparia singalensis borneana e*

One at Gomantong Caves was followed by a handful at Danum Valley on two dates

**Brown-throated Sunbird** *Anthreptes malacensis bornensis e*

Small numbers were around the hotel at Sepilok

**Purple-naped Sunbird** *Hypogramma h. hypogrammicum*

Singles were seen twice at Danum Valley

**Van Hasselt's Sunbird** *Leptocoma sperata brasiliانا*

A pair was in a fruiting tree near the hotel at Sepilok

**Copper-throated Sunbird** *Leptocoma calcostetha*

A pair was in the same tree as the previous species

**Olive-backed Sunbird** *Cinnyris jugularis ornatus*

Ones and twos were in the hotel garden at Sepilok

**Crimson Sunbird** *Aethopyga s. siparaja*

A couple at Sepilok were followed by a couple more at Danum Valley

**Little Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera longirostra buettikoferi e*

Small numbers were noted on six dates at all sites

**Thick-billed Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera crassirostris*

Singles fed on flowers in the hotel garden at Sepilok on successive mornings

**Yellow-eared Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera chrysogenys harrissoni e*

One was in a flowering tree next to the lodge at Danum Valley one morning

**Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera affinis everetti e*

One came and went a few times from the same flowering tree at Danum Valley where the previous species was seen

**PASSERIDAE - Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches**

[Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus malaccensis* (I)]

Small numbers were present in disturbed habitat including oil palm plantations and hotel gardens

**ESTRILLIDAE - Waxbills, Munias & Allies****Dusky Munia** *Lonchura fuscans*

Small numbers were recorded on five dates at all sites; nearly an endemic but occurs on one small island belonging to the Philippines

[White-bellied Munia *Lonchura leucogastra palawana*]

Hamit saw one at Danum Valley (I/o)

**Chestnut Munia** *Lonchura atricapilla jagori*

Small numbers were around the hotel garden at Sepilok