

Borneo's Orang-utans

Naturetrek Tour Report

6 – 15 September 2013



Bornean Orangutan - Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre



Rhinoceros Hornbill - Borneo Rainforest Lodge



Maroon Langur, Gomantong Cave



Black-and-yellow Broadbill - Sepilok

Report & images compiled by Terry Reis



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Day 1

Friday 6th September

Outbound to Kuala Lumpur

All participants travelled from London, departing from Heathrow on a mid-day Malaysian Airlines flight to Kuala Lumpur, a journey of about 12 hours.

Day 2

Saturday 7th September

Outbound to Kuala Lumpur and onward to Sandakan

The subsequent flight delivered everyone to Sandakan in eastern Sabah at 18.30 (local time). Hazwan and I were waiting outside the baggage hall with mini-buses for guests and luggage. After a 30 minute drive we settled in at our first destination, the Sepilok Nature Resort, for a two night stay. We all enjoyed dinner, during which Hazwan and I gave an explanation of what tomorrow might bring.

Day 3

Sunday 8th September

Sepilok

Weather: Hot and sticky, rain last night and tonight, mostly during and after dinner

Pre-breakfast at the resort, a fruiting fig tree outside Heather's bungalow presented excellent views of Oriental Pied Hornbill, Brown and Blue-eared Barbets and Thick-billed Green Pigeon, among other frugivorous species. Stork-billed Kingfisher and White-breasted Waterhen were seen along the edge of the extensive waterbody in the resort grounds and a Prevost's Squirrel gave brief views among the bungalows.

During breakfast we saw our first Plantain Squirrel, running along the walkway, as well as Stork-billed Kingfisher (repeated for the late-risers), Silver-rumped Spinetail and a Water Monitor, the latter swimming across the pond overlooked by the dining area, a regular event during our stay.

We enjoyed a leisurely start to the day, leaving the resort at 8.50 for the 10 minute walk down to the famous Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre (SORC) for its opening at 9.00. During the short walk along the boardwalk to the viewing platform for the orangutan feeding station in the forest we saw two Maroon Langurs at eye level in the forest. We then watched a number of Bornean Orangutans; adult females, sub-adult males and young animals, including very small babies clinging to their mothers, make their way through the forest to feed from the feeding platform, placed level to the viewing area. Some of us subsequently went for a very short walk along the Bird Trail, where we saw a Horse-tailed Squirrel and a variety of interesting invertebrates, including our first Tiger Leech. We also had excellent telescope views of a magnificent female Rhinoceros Hornbill from the boardwalk.

We strolled back to SORC after lunch for the afternoon feeding. A pit viper was seen at close range in the forest from the boardwalk and two Black-and-yellow Broadbills, looking somewhat akin to cartoon characters, provided superb views just before we reached the feeding area. Again we were blessed with a number of orangutans coming in to feed. Joining the apes for brief periods were Prevost's Squirrel and Pig-tailed and Long-tailed Macaques. Linda had a close encounter with a female orangutan on the boardwalk...Linda looked as happy as the orangutan looked disgruntled at this intrusion into her personal space! During the feeding time a number of us had brief telescope views of a resplendent male Red-naped Trogon, and a Black Hornbill also provided telescope viewing for some on the walk back to the resort.

Some guests found that they shared their bungalows verandas with Short-nosed Fruit Bats, with multiple individuals roosting from the verandas. These small, charming mega-bats (related to flying-foxes, which truly are mega bats) had been feeding on the figs, with evidence of their repast on the floor below. Before dinner we returned to SORC for spotlighting. We had good views of a gliding Red Giant Flying Squirrel at the orangutan feeding area and Hazwan used call playback to bring in a Brown Boobook (Hawk Owl), which perched obligingly on a rope for a while. Another pit viper was seen on the walk out.

Day 4

Monday 9th September

Sepilok, en route Sukau

Weather: Hot and sticky, rain late afternoon

After breakfast we left the resort at 6.30 and drove the short distance to Sepilok Rainforest Discovery Centre, where an extensive canopy walkway and series of towers provides views over an area of remnant emergent rainforest trees with a dense layer of secondary growth as under-storey. There is also a series of trails, some paved, some with gravel and other less well-formed dirt tracks through the forest. Highlights of the morning were telescope views of two Red-bearded Bee-eaters, with a Crested Serpent-Eagle sunning nearby. Raptors were quite obvious during our stay with two, possibly three, Wallace's Hawk-Eagles and an Oriental Honey-Buzzard seen. A Giant Squirrel was seen on the Kingfisher Trail and a Red Giant Flying Squirrel appeared at the entrance to its nest box high in a tree for look at the outside world during daylight hours.

We returned to the resort, collected our possessions and left in a bus for Sandakan, with lunch at the Sandakan Hotel and a brief opportunity for shopping for last-minute items before transferring to a nearby jetty where a motor launch awaited. We travelled by this boat to the mouth of the Kinabatangan River and then upstream to our next base at Sukau Rainforest Lodge.

Our first truly wild orangutan, an adult male with the characteristic fleshy facial flanges, was spotted in a sparsely foliated tree, providing some photographic opportunities. We also saw our first Proboscis Monkeys and a variety of water birds such as White-bellied Sea-Eagle and Oriental Darter. After an introduction to Sukau Lodge and our rooms by the lodge manager we climbed into two small boats and travelled further upstream in pursuit of reported Bornean Pygmy (Asian) Elephants. Light rain didn't prevent us from photographing the three groups of elephants we found scattered along the riverbank. Forty-five elephants were counted, though undoubtedly others lurked out of view. The highlights of elephant watching were the five male elephants, both in and out of the water, which appeared to be indulging in tests of strength, with much pushing and shoving, and the appearance of a very young animal sheltering between two adults and occasionally suckling.

At night we once again took to the water in two small boats and went spotlighting along the Kinabatangan River. Other than a wonderful Buffy Fish-Owl, perched near the water's edge, we saw diurnal animals sleeping rather than nocturnal species, including Black-and-red Broadbills clustered together on a branch and Stork-billed and Blue-eared Kingfishers. This allowed very close approach and good photo opportunities. An unexpected visitor to the lodge later that night, and interrupting our dinner, was a Bornean Slow Loris in the lobby/reception area! After the crowd dispersed, the Loris remained, calmly eating a banana provided by a staff member and seemingly unperturbed by the flurry of flashes. This remarkable species was recently discovered to be venomous, the venom produced by a combination of a secretion from a gland near its elbow and saliva, and apparently capable of producing anaphylactic shock in humans.

Day 5

Tuesday 10th September

Sukau; Menaggol Creek; Gomantong Caves

Weather: Hot and sticky, no rain, clear skies mostly

We had a very light breakfast at 5.30 and many of us were up early enough to see the troop of Silvered Langurs that slept near the dining area before they moved off to forage. We left at 6.00 in two boats to explore Menaggol Creek, which flows into the Kinabatangan River upstream of Sukau Lodge. Animals seen included; Wrinkled Hornbill, Orange-backed Woodpecker, Lesser Fish Eagle, kingfishers and a troop of Pig-tailed Macaques. Our attention was mostly focused on a troop of Proboscis Monkeys, with the troop's adult male showing surprising agility in his efforts to repel another male with designs of his harem. This dispute continued for some time, often within a few metres of our boats, and at one stage the challenger fell into the water in his efforts to avoid the dominant male. This interaction made for exciting viewing!

We returned for a late breakfast at 8.30 and then entertained ourselves around the lodge, with most of us walking along the boardwalk at the back of the lodge. After lunch we drove to Gomantong Cave after a short boat trip across the river to the waiting bus. Gomantong is famous for the two million Wrinkle-lipped Bats, among other bat species, that roost and breed in the cave and which issue forth each evening like an enormous willowing cloud of smoke. It is equally well known for the harvesting of swiftlet nests for the production of soup, both Edible-nest and Black-nest Swiftlets. We walked through the cave along a boardwalk, surrounded by piles of bat guano, cockroaches and centipedes, with swiftlets flying around the cave entrances and thousands of bats wheeling high above us. A challenging environment for humans, but a fascinating one nonetheless...

In the late afternoon we watched the bats fly from the cave, attracting the attention of Bat Hawks, Jerdon's Baza and Brahminy Kites. While we watched the bats a Red Giant Flying Squirrel appeared at the entrance to its tree hollow and a pair of Rhinoceros Hornbills landed in a nearby tree.

That night some of us spotlighted along the boardwalk at Sukau Lodge, seeing a roosting Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher, a little multi-coloured ball, as well as sleeping Crested Green Lizard and an active Bent-toed Gecko. The undoubted highlight, though, was the Oriental Bay Owl called in by Hazwan in a display of remarkable perseverance on Hazwan's part.



Bornean Angle-headed Dragon
Borneo Rainforest Lodge



Harlequin Tree Frog
Borneo Rainforest Lodge

Day 6

Wednesday 11th September

Sukau; Lahad Datu and en route to BRL

Weather: fine until 16.45 when brief torrential downpour

Some of us enjoyed a dawn walk along the boardwalk at the lodge before we all partook of a leisurely breakfast, packed our bags and were taken by boat to the bus. We then drove to Lahad Datu, with a Storm's Stork seen in flight along the way. Lunch was taken at a hotel, whereupon we went to the offices of the Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL) at Danum Valley and transferred to two mini-buses. The two hour drive to BRL was broken by a scheduled comfort stop, with our first Whiskered Treeswift along the nearby creek, and by opportunistic stops for an orangutan and Maroon Langurs. Some of us saw our only Helmeted Hornbill when we stopped for the langurs.

We arrived at BRL at 16.30, greeted by the charming staff, a Great-billed Heron flying along the Segama River (next to the lodge) and a short deluge to remind us we were in the tropics. We ate dinner on the veranda, with Sambar and Buffy Fish-Owl both visible during our meal.

Post-dinner we embarked on a night drive with our superb BRL guide Danny perched atop the truck cabin with a spotlight as we stood or sat in the back of the open truck. Our first wildlife sighting was a double act, with a Malay Civet and Common Palm Civet both sheltering under the same set of tree roots before the latter chased the former away. Other species seen included Thomas's and Red Giant Flying Squirrels and Bearded Pig.

Day 7

Thursday 12th September

BRL

Weather: dry and mostly sunny in the morning after a misty start, clouded over in the afternoon and rained briefly in the early evening

We started the day with light refreshments at 5.30 and departed at 6.00 to walk along the road to the canopy walk. Before we left the lodge environs Danny showed us a pit viper and three Bornean Angle-headed Dragons, adult male and female and a young animal, all sitting cryptically in the under-storey. At the beginning of the canopy walk we were treated to a White-bellied Woodpecker drumming on a dead tree as well as a variety of birds around a focal fruiting tree, including a pair of Jambu Fruit-Doves, male Red-naped Trogon and a Banded Broadbill. Grey-rumped Treeswifts and stunning Fiery Minivets were seen from the canopy walk, which is a wonderful experience even without wildlife. We had brief views of a female orangutan and youngster along the road, with the tiny Plain Pygmy Squirrel also seen by most people.

After a substantial breakfast at 9.00, Danny escorted us to a nearby Great Argus display court where we saw the obliging male; and tried, but failed, to see two calling Blue-headed Pittas. Various invertebrates, including Pill Millipedes distracted us as Hazwan tried to entice the pittas towards us, and we learnt just how much Gerry knew about invertebrates with his discourse on spiders. A troop of Maroon Langurs was in the trees at the lodge when we returned for lunch. Two adult orang-utans, one with a very small infant, were seen at a distance from the lodge after lunch. Then, from 15.30 to 17.30, we strolled around a series of trails close to the lodge and staff buildings with the most notable sighting being a Twin-barred Tree Snake, which posed nicely for photographs. This is one of Borneo's so-called 'flying' animals, which invariably glide rather than fly.

A few of us went spotlighting with Danny from 20.30 to 21.50 around the lodge and on the nature trail boardwalk. Danny used his UV light to show how scorpions glow and we saw a number of frog species including the 'flying' Harlequin Tree Frog and, very briefly, the beautiful Cinnamon Frog.

Day 8

Friday 13th September

BRL

Weather: Dry and some blue sky after a misty start

The day began with 6.00 breakfast and we left in search of East Bornean Grey Gibbons at 6.30. Danny and Hazwan pointed out the spawn (eggs) of Yellow-bellied Puddle Frogs in puddles along the road but we couldn't find any of the rotund adults. We crossed two suspension bridges to negotiate the trail to the jacuzzi pool, an area within the known territory of a pair of gibbons somewhat at ease with the presence of humans due to an on-going long-term study of their behaviour. The calls of the gibbons enabled Danny to find them for us and we all had lengthy views of these wonderful animals. We then continued on to the jacuzzi pool, with waterfall, where some of the group let fish exfoliate their feet and lower legs. The group split into two at this stage; some of us venturing up the hill to a lookout, with others wandering along trails on flatter terrain.

Those of us who worked off breakfast by walking to a platform providing a view of BRL, its surrounds and the Segama River, were also treated to views of traditional coffins placed in a rock face, with Danny explaining the cultural history of the burial site and the local area. The other group, as they meandered back to the lodge, encountered three orangutans, two adults and a young animal (not the same individuals as yesterday). The adults indulged in nest-building, unusual for that time of day, and apparently mated in the nest. They also saw a White-crowned Forktail along a minor stream, and a large Grey-tailed Racer, a colourful snake, awaited them in a tree by the lodge.

In the mid-afternoon we returned to the canopy walk, passing two Sambar as we left the lodge. Birds seen during the walk included Crested Goshawk, Malaysian Hawk-Cuckoo, Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot and Buff-rumped Woodpecker. Danny showed us a 'banana bat', which he said was a species of *Myotis*, a genus of micro-bat. It roosts in furled leaves, a behavioural trait known for Whiskered Myotis. Taking advantage of having three guides, the group came back in three parties, with the last people arriving as it was getting dark and being rewarded with a Mahogany Frog on the road, a rare sighting.

Tonight we went spotlighting in the truck pre-dinner, 6.45-8.20. We saw the usual Red Giant Flying Squirrel, one of which glided for us, as well as a Lesser Indo-Malayan Chevrotain (Mouse-deer) crouched by the roadside. This poorly named animal is neither a mouse nor a deer...its more current name, chevrotain, means 'little goat' in French, which is also misleading! Another Harlequin Tree Frog was found for those who missed the earlier individual. During our subsequent dinner Buffy Fish-Owl typically perched in an adjacent tree.

Day 9

Saturday 14th September

BRL

Weather: Mostly sunny after a misty start, hot and sticky by mid-morning, some rain mid-afternoon and early evening

Another 6.30 departure, post-breakfast, this time for the Segama Trail, which weaves along the far bank of the Segama River before crossing back via another suspension bridge. We then returned to the lodge along the road. Elephant dung along the trail showed just how close these animals come to the lodge. Mammals actually seen on this walk were Plain Pygmy Squirrel, Maroon Langur and a single male Pig-tailed Macaque, which was eating tree frog spawn hanging in a roadside tree. Birds seen included Red-billed Malkoha, Malaysian Hawk-Cuckoo and Blyth's and Wallace's Hawk-eagles. Another raptor, Lesser Fish Eagle, was eating a fish on the riverbank near the guest accommodation when we returned.

The afternoon was free time for the participants with the guides, myself, Hazwan and Danny available for anyone wanting to walk beyond those areas that didn't require a guide. As it was, a few took advantage of our presence and explored the nature trail, the road and the canopy walk. The nature trail, which is next to the lodge, proved very fruitful, with Crested Fireback and Banded and Blue-headed Pittas seen, though unfortunately only I saw the latter. A male Rhinoceros Hornbill perched very conveniently for Steve and me as we walked to the canopy walk and there was Bearded Pig on the road on the way back.

Heather and Lesley went spotlighting on foot with Danny and me from 18.45 until 19.45 as the others enjoyed a night off and a pre-dinner libation or two! Once again we found a roosting Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher as well as File-eared Frog, a rather strange looking species with an unfortunate body odour. And we finally found a tarantula!

Day 10

Sunday 15th September

BRL; en route to London via Lahad Datu and Kota Kinabalu

Weather: Hot and sticky, overcast, rain in late morning

Seven of us left at 5.30, initiated by Anne-Marie, for the canopy walk, with a brisk pace to ensure we were perched in the treetops before sunrise. We saw a Common Palm Civet at the lodge at very close range and a couple of Bearded Pigs along the way. Two Bornean Bristleheads, an enigmatic species of very uncertain taxonomic affinities, were seen by some of us from the canopy walk. Fiery Minivets and Grey-rumped Treeswifts were again present and we achieved telescope views of a close Black-crowned Pitta when we returned to the road. When we returned to the lodge there were some gibbons visible in the distance.

Gerry and Lesley left for Tabin at 9.30, as part of a tour extension. The rest of us had lunch at 11.30 and then departed for Lahad Datu. We checked in at the airport and Hazwan said his goodbyes to return to Sandakan. Unfortunately our plane left two hours late, missing our connecting flight and so we spent the night in Kota Kinabalu, at the airline's expense. We flew to Kuala Lumpur the next morning and said our final goodbyes before returning back to the UK.

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Species Lists

Mammals (S = seen; H = heard only; E = Endemic; names in brackets indicate superseded names from *A field guide to the mammals of Borneo* (Payne *et al.* 1985). Not all participants saw all these species)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Short-nosed Fruit Bat	<i>Cyanopterus brachyotis</i>	S	-	-	At least seven seen roosting on the verandas of the bungalows at the Sepilok Nature Resort (SNR).
Large Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus vampyrus</i>	H	-	-	Heard from the car park at the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre (SORC) during spotlighting.
Wrinkle-lipped Bat	<i>Tadarida plicata</i>	-	S	-	100,000s seen emerging from Gomantong Cave. One probable young animal seen on walkway in the cave.
Horseshoe Bat species	<i>Rhinolophus</i> sp.	-	S	-	Several seen and photographed in Gomantong Cave.
Whiskered Myotis	<i>Myotis muricola</i>	-	-	S	Several animals presumed to be this species based on known behaviour seen roosting in furred leaves at BRL (Borneo Rainforest Lodge).
Bornean Slow Loris	<i>Nycticebus menagensis</i> (<i>coucang</i>)	-	S	-	One seen in the reception area of Sukau Lodge.
Maroon Langur E	<i>Presbytis rubicunda</i>	S	S	S	Troops observed regularly. Especially tame at Gomantong Cave.
Silvered Langur	<i>Trachypithecus cristatus</i> (<i>Presbytis cristata</i>)	-	S	-	A troop roosted near the dining area at Sukau Lodge and was seen once during the day.
Proboscis Monkey E	<i>Nasalis larvatus</i>	-	S	-	Troops and individuals seen along the Kinabatangan River en route to, and around, Sukau Lodge. A troop seen on Menaggol Creek.
Long-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	S	S	S	One was seen at the feeding platform at SORC. Troops were seen along the Kinabatangan River and at Sukau Lodge. Troops seen along the Segama River near BRL.
Sunda Pig-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>	S	S	S	One was seen at the feeding platform at SORC. A troop and an individual male were seen along the Menaggol Creek. A single male was seen on the road at BRL.
East Bornean Grey Gibbon E	<i>Hylobates funereus</i> (<i>muelleri</i>)	H	H	S	Pair seen on the Jacuzzi trail at BRL and again from the lodge.
Bornean Orangutan E	<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i>	S	S	S	Numerous semi-wild animals seen at SORC. Adult male seen along the Kinabatangan River. Single animal seen on drive to BRL. Singles, pairs and threes seen a number of times at BRL.
Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa affinis sandakanensis</i>	S	-	-	One seen at Rainforest Discovery Centre (RDC) at Sepilok.
Prevost's Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus prevostii pluto</i>	S	S	S	Common at all locations.
Plantain Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus notatus</i>	S	S	-	Common at SNR, including on the walkways. One seen along Menaggol Creek.
Horse-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus hippurus</i>	S	-	S	Individuals seen on the bird trail at SORC and at BRL on the Segama trail.
Plain Pygmy Squirrel	<i>Exilisciurus exilis</i>	-	S	S	One, or more, seen at Sukau Lodge. Singles and pairs seen a number of times at BRL, including from the dining area.
Red Giant Flying Squirrel	<i>Petaurista petaurista</i>	S	S	S	Common. Seen easily during spotlighting but also seen twice during the day.
Thomas's Flying Squirrel E	<i>Aeronyx thomasi</i>	-	-	S	One seen during a spotlighting drive from BRL.
Rat species	<i>Rattus</i> sp.	-	S	-	Several individuals of what was probably Black (House) Rat <i>Rattus rattus</i> were seen in Gomantong Cave. Ear size and tail length proportional to body length match this species.
Malay Civet	<i>Viverra zangalunga</i>	-	-	S	One seen during a spotlighting drive from BRL.
Common Palm Civet	<i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i>	-	-	S	One seen during a spotlighting drive from BRL. One seen pre-dawn near buildings at BRL.
Short-tailed Mongoose	<i>Herpestes brachyurus</i>	-	-	S	What was almost certainly this species was seen on the nature trail at BRL one morning.
Marbled Cat	<i>Pardofelis (Felis) marmorata</i>	-	-	?	Prints at the water's edge on the Segama River at BRL probably belonged to this species, based on size.
Asian Elephant	<i>Elephas maximus</i>	-	S	-	Forty-five or more animals were seen along the Kinabatangan River. Dung was common along

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
					the road into BRL and some was present on the Segama trail.
Bearded Pig	<i>Sus barbatus</i>	-	-	S	Individuals seen a number of times both during the day and night at BRL, including near the lodge.
Lesser Indo-Malayan Chevrotain (Mouse-deer)	<i>Tragulus kanchil (javanicus)</i>	-	-	S	One seen during a spotlighting drive from BRL.
Sambar	<i>Cervus unicolor</i>	-	-	S	Easily observed around the buildings at BRL in early morning, late afternoon and at night.

Birds (S = seen; H = heard only; E = Endemic; names follow *A field guide to the birds of Borneo* (Myers 2010), names in brackets indicate substantial differences in common names for the most likely alternative guide *Phillipps' field guide to the Birds of Borneo: Sabah, Sarawak, Brunei and Kalimantan* (Phillipps & Phillipps 2009). No one person saw all these species. Not all species heard only during the trip are listed below, only notable species and/or species brought to the attention of participants are included).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Crested Fireback	<i>Lophura ignita</i>	-	-	S	One female on nature trail at BRL.
Great Argus	<i>Argusianus argus</i>	-	-	S	One male seen on display court at BRL. Heard daily at BRL.
Storm's Stork	<i>Ciconia stormi</i>	-	S	-	Flock of four flying over the Kinabatangan River and one in flight during drive from Sukau from Lahad Datu.
Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>	S	-	-	Sandakan, in cleared land.
Great-billed Heron	<i>Ardea sumatrana</i>	-	-	S	Individuals seen twice along the Segama River at BRL.
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	S	S	-	Some in Sandakan, common along the Kinabatangan River.
Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>	S	-	S	Some in Sandakan, one (surprisingly) on the Segama River at BRL and common in Lahad Datu.
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	S	S	-	One at SNR, several seen in Sandakan and along the Kinabatangan River.
Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	-	S	-	Several seen on the Kinabatangan River and Menaggol Creek.
Jerdon's Baza	<i>Aviceda jerdoni</i>	-	S	-	One seen in flight at Gomantong Caves as bats emerged.
Oriental Honey-Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	S	-	S	One seen from canopy walk at RDC. One seen at BRL.
Bat Hawk	<i>Macheiramphus alcinus</i>	-	S	-	Pair seen perched and hunting bats at Gomantong Cave.
Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	-	S	-	Four seen along the Kinabatangan River and two seen at Gomantong Caves.
White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	S	S	-	Seen at SNR, in Sandakan and along the Kinabatangan River.
Lesser Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga humilis</i>	-	S	S	One seen perched and in flight on Menaggol Creek and one seen feeding on a fish on the Segama River at BRL.
Crested Serpent-Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	S	S	S	Common and widespread.
Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	-	-	S	One seen perched along the road at BRL.
Blyth's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus alboniger</i>	-	-	S	One seen in flight along the road at BRL.
Wallace's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus nanus</i>	S	-	S	Two, possibly three, birds seen at RDC and at least one sighting at BRL.
Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle	<i>Lophotriorchis kienerii</i>	-	-	S	One probable immature seen at BRL.
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	S	S	-	Several present at ponds at SNR and one spotlighted on Kinabatangan River.
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	S	S	S	Present in very small numbers throughout.
Great Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	-	-	-	12+ seen during boat trip from Sandakan to the mouth of the Kinabatangan River.
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	-	-	-	Common in Sandakan. Introduced.
Spotted(-necked) Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	S	-	-	Common in disturbed areas in Sepilok and Sandakan.
Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	-	-	S	One seen at BRL.
Jambu Fruit Dove	<i>Ptilinopus jambu</i>	-	-	S	Two, or more, seen feeding at entrance to

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
					canopy walk at BRL.
Thick-billed Green-Pigeon	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>	S	-	-	Several seen feeding in a fig tree at SNR.
Green Imperial-Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>	S	S	S	Seen in small numbers throughout.
Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>	-	-	S	Seen and heard in flight on a number of occasions from the canopy walk at BRL.
Long-tailed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula longicauda</i>	S	-	-	Two seen at SORC.
Malaysian (Javan) Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx fugax</i>	-	-	S	One seen along road at BRL.
Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	-	-	H	Heard once at BRL.
Violet Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>	H	-	S	Heard from canopy walk at RDC and one male seen during drive into BRL.
Little Bronze Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx minutillus</i>	-	-	S	Two seen along the road at BRL.
Black-bellied Malkoha	<i>Rhopodytes diardi</i>	-	-	S	One seen on Segama trail at BRL.
Red-billed Malkoha	<i>Zanclostomus javanicus</i>	-	-	S	Seen twice at BRL.
Raffles's Malkoha	<i>Rhinorthis chlorophaeus</i>	S	-	S	Fairly common at Sepilok and BRL.
Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	S	-	?	One, or more, present at SNR. A coucal, probably this species, seen from moving vehicle at BRL.
Oriental Bay Owl	<i>Phodilus badius</i>	-	S	-	One seen from the boardwalk at Sukau Lodge after extensive call playback.
Reddish Scops-Owl	<i>Otus rufescens</i>	-	-	H	One heard during spotlighting drive at BRL.
Barred Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo sumatranus</i>	-	-	H	One heard during spotlighting drive at BRL.
Buffy Fish-Owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>	-	S	S	One seen during spotlighting boat trip on the Kinabatangan River and one present each night next to the dining area at BRL.
Brown Boobook (Hawk-Owl)	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	S	-	-	One seen at viewing platform at SORC during spotlighting. Responded to call playback.
Glossy Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>	S	S	-	Seen at SNR and elsewhere at Sepilok. Nesting at Gomantong Cave.
Mossy-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus salangana</i>	-	S	-	Several seen on nests at Gomantong Cave.
Black-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus maximus</i>	?	?	?	Presumably seen throughout, particularly at Gomantong Cave. No positive identification.
Edible-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus fuciphaga</i>	?	?	?	Presumably seen throughout, particularly at Gomantong Cave. No positive identification.
Silver-rumped Spinetail	<i>Rhaphidura leucopygalis</i>	S	-	-	Seen regularly at ponds at SNR.
Brown-backed Needletail	<i>Hirundapus giganteus</i>	S	-	-	Several seen in the Sepilok area, including at the RDC.
Grey-rumped Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne longipennis</i>	S	-	S	Several seen at SNR and commonly observed from the canopy walk at BRL.
Whiskered Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>	-	-	S	Seen during drive to BRL, around the BRL buildings and from the canopy walk.
Red-naped Trogon	<i>Harpactes kasumba</i>	S	-	S	Males seen at SORC and along the road at BRL.
Diard's Trogon	<i>Harpactes diardii</i>	-	-	S	Male seen at start of canopy walk at BRL.
Cinnamon-rumped Trogon	<i>Harpactes orrhophaeus</i>	-	-	H	Heard on the Segama trail at BRL.
Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	S	S	-	Seen occasionally, mostly around Sukau Lodge.
Rufous-collared (Chestnut-collared) Kingfisher	<i>Actenoides concretus</i>	-	-	H	Heard on the Jacuzzi trail at BRL.
Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	S	S	S	Seen regularly throughout at waterbodies.
Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>	-	-	-	One seen in Sandakan during bus drive.
Rufous-backed (Oriental Dwarf) Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx rufidorsa</i>	-	S	S	One spotlighted along boardwalk at Sukau Lodge. Two seen at BRL, including one during a spotlighting walk.
Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>	S	S	-	Seen a few times, including at SNR and during a spotlighting boat trip on the Kinabatangan River.
Red-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctyornis amictus</i>	S	-	S	Seen from canopy walks at both RDC and BRL.
Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>	S	S	S	Common.
Bushy-crested Hornbill	<i>Anorrhinus galeritus</i>	S	-	-	Flock of six from the canopy walk at RDC.
Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>	S	S	-	One seen feeding in a fig tree at SNR. Seen a couple of times at Sukau Lodge, including one group of three birds.
Black Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>	S	-	-	Seen a number of times around Sepilok.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Rhinoceros Hornbill	<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>	S	S	S	Seen and/or heard daily.
Helmeted Hornbill	<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>	-	-	S	One seen on the drive into BRL and heard daily at BRL.
White-crowned Hornbill	<i>Berenicornis comatus</i>	-	-	H	Heard twice, including during drive to BRL.
Wrinkled Hornbill	<i>Aceros corrugatus</i>	-	S	-	One seen flying across Menaggol Creek.
Wreathed Hornbill	<i>Rhyticeros undulatus</i>	-	S	S	Four seen during boat trip on Kinabatangan River to Sukau Lodge. Seen occasionally at BRL.
Gold-whiskered Barbet	<i>Megalaima chrysopogon</i>	-	-	H	Heard daily at BRL.
Red-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima mystacophanos</i>	-	H	H	Heard regularly.
Yellow-crowned Barbet	<i>Megalaima henricii</i>	-	-	H	Heard occasionally.
Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis duvaucelii</i>	S	H	H	Several seen in fig tree at SNR, heard most locations.
Brown Barbet	<i>Caloramphus fuliginosus</i>	S	S	-	Seen several times, usually in ones and twos.
Rufous Piculet	<i>Sasia abnormis</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
White-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Orange-backed Woodpecker	<i>Reinwardtipicus validus</i>	-	S	-	One female or immature bird seen on Menaggol Creek.
Buff-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tristis</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Buff-necked Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tukki</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Black-and-red Broadbill	<i>Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos</i>	-	S	-	Group seen at roost during spotlighting boat trip on Kinabatangan River.
Banded Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus javanicus</i>	H	-	S	Seen twice at BRL, once on the trail to the lookout and once along road.
Black-and-yellow Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>	S	S	S	Common in forest.
Hooded Pitta	<i>Pitta sordida</i>	-	H	-	Two heard along Menaggol Creek.
Blue-headed Pitta E	<i>Pitta baudii</i>	-	-	S	One male seen on nature trail at BRL, heard several times on other trails.
Black-and-crimson (Black-headed) Pitta E	<i>Pitta ussheri</i>	-	-	S	One male seen along road at BRL, heard several times on other trails.
Banded Pitta	<i>Pitta guajana schwaneri</i>	-	-	S	One seen on nature trail at BRL. Now known as Bornean Banded Pitta <i>Hydromis schwaneri</i> , a Bornean endemic.
Lesser Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina fimbriata</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Fiery Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus igneus</i>	-	-	S	Seen a number of times from the canopy walk at BRL.
Dark-throated Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>	S	-	-	Two were seen at the Orangutan feeding station at SORC.
Black-winged Flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus hirundinaceus</i>	-	-	S	Seen a couple of times at BRL.
Rufous-winged Philentoma	<i>Philentoma pyrhoptera</i>	-	-	S	Seen and heard at BRL a couple of times.
White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	-	-	-	Several birds seen in Sandakan in transit.
Green Iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>	-	-	S	Several birds seen at the end of canopy walk at BRL.
Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	S	S	S	Seen occasionally.
Spotted Fantail	<i>Rhipidura perlata</i>	-	-	S	Seen once in mixed species flock on Segama trail, BRL.
Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	-	S	-	One seen from boardwalk at Sukau Lodge.
Asian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	S	-	-	One seen at SNR.
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	-	-	S	One seen during drive to BRL and one seen on Segama trail.
Slender-billed Crow	<i>Corvus enca</i>	S	S	S	Seen or heard regularly.
Bornean Bristlehead E	<i>Pityriasis gymnocephala</i>	-	-	S	Two seen from canopy walk at BRL.
Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	-	-	-	Three seen perched on wires during bus trip from Sukau to Lahad Datu. These sightings are inconsistent with Myers (2010) and Phillipps & Phillipps (2009) descriptions of occurrence.
Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>	S	S	-	Common at Sepilok. Seen once at Sukau Lodge.
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Chalcoparia singalensis</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>	S	-	-	Several birds seen at SNR.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	S	-	-	Common at SNR.
Purple-naped Sunbird	<i>Hypogramma hypogrammicum</i>	S	S	-	Seen twice.
Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	S	-	S	Usually common and presumably overlooked at Sukau.
Thick-billed Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera crassirostris</i>	S	-	-	Seen once at RDC.
Long-billed Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera robusta</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Spiderhunter species	<i>Arachnothera</i> sp.	S	S	S	Spiderhunters were seen and heard very regularly but generally were not identified to species.
Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker E	<i>Prionochilus xanthopygius</i>	S	-	-	Seen once at SNR.
Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Greater Green Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis sonnerati</i>	S	-	-	Seen once at RDC.
Lesser Green Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	-	-	S	Seen and heard at BRL. Leafbirds were seen a number of times without identification to species.
Asian Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>	-	-	S	Seen a couple of times from the canopy walk, BRL.
Dusky Munia E	<i>Lonchura fuscans</i>	-	S	S	Fairly common.
Chestnut Munia	<i>Lonchura atricapilla</i>	S	-	-	Seen a couple of times at SNR and in Sandakan in transit.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	S	-	-	Common in built up areas.
Javan Myna	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>	-	-	-	Introduced. Seen in Sandakan. Supposedly not found in Sabah according to Myers (2010) but established at Sepilok in 2004 (Phillipps & Phillipps 2009).
Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	-	-	-	Common in Sandakan and Lahad Datu.
Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	-	S	-	Pair seen in flight over Kinabatangan River.
Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	S	-	S	Generally common.
White-crowned Shama E	<i>Copsychus stricklandii</i>	-	S	S	Seen and heard occasionally.
White-crowned Forktail	<i>Enicurus leschenaulti</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Large-billed Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis caeruleus</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa latirostris</i>	-	-	S	Several seen along the road at BRL.
Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	-	-	S	One seen on trail to lookout at BRL.
Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>	-	-	S	Seen a number of times along the road and from the canopy walk at BRL.
Straw-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus zeylanicus</i>	-	-	S	Seen a couple of times along the Segama River at BRL.
Grey-bellied Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cyaniventris</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Yellow-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>	S	-	S	Common around Sepilok and present at BRL.
Cream-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus simplex</i>	S	-	-	Seen feeding in fig tree at SNR.
Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>	S	S	S	Common.
Spectacled Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos</i>	-	S	S	Seen at Sukau Lodge and commonly observed from canopy walk at BRL.
Hairy-backed Bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>	S	S	-	Seen a few times, including at the feeding station at SORC.
Finsch's Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus finschii</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Yellow-bellied Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Grey-cheeked Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus bres</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Streaked Bulbul	<i>Ixos malaccensis</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	-	-	-	Flock seen on outskirts of Lahad Datu.
House (Pacific) Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	S	S	S	Common.
Brown Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe brunneicauda</i>	-	-	S	One seen in mixed species flock on Segama trail, BRL.
Chestnut-winged Babbler	<i>Stachyris erythroptera</i>	H	H	H	Common, but inconspicuous.
Chestnut-backed Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus montanus</i>	-	-	S	Seen once at BRL.
Bold-striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronus bornensis</i>	-	S	-	Seen at Sukau Lodge and at Gomantong Caves.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronus ptilosus</i>	S	-	-	One seen at the RDC.
Black-capped Babbler	<i>Pellorneum capistratum</i>	-	H	-	Heard along Menaggol Creek.
Sooty-capped Babbler	<i>Malacopteron affine</i>	S	-	S	Seen on the boardwalk at SORC and at RDC. Common at BRL, though mostly heard.
Scaly-crowned Babbler	<i>Malacopteron cinereum</i>	-	-	S	Seen a couple of times along the road at BRL.
White-chested Babbler	<i>Trichastoma rostratum</i>	S	S	-	Seen on Kingfisher trail at RDC and along Menaggol Creek.
Ferruginous Babbler	<i>Trichastoma bicolor</i>	-	H	H	Heard along Menaggol Creek and at BRL.
Horsfield's Babbler	<i>Malaccocincla sepiaria</i>	-	-	S	One seen on Jacuzzi trail and pair seen on nature trail, BRL.
Ashy Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>	S	S	S	Common.
Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>	-	S	S	Seen occasionally.
Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>	-	-	S	One seen along road at BRL.
Yellow-bellied Prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	-	-	S	One seen roosting during spotlighting drive at BRL.

Reptiles (S = seen; H = heard only; E = Endemic; Names taken from *A field guide to the reptiles of south-east Asia* (Das 2010). Names in brackets indicate some alternative common names. Not all participants saw all these species)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Crested Green Lizard	<i>Bronchocela cristatella</i>	S	S	S	Seen occasionally.
Flying Lizard species	<i>Draco</i> sp.	-	S	-	Two seen at Gomantong Caves. Possibly different species.
Bornean Angle-headed Dragon E	<i>Gonocephalus bornensis</i>	-	-	S	Seen daily at BRL, particularly around the lodge.
Bent-toed Gecko species	<i>Cyrtodactylus</i> sp.	S	S	S	No individual was identified to species and multiple species are likely to have been seen.
Smith's Giant Gecko (Barking Gecko)	<i>Gekko smithii</i>	H	S	H	Based on call, this species was common and widespread. One was seen twice at Sukau Lodge near the dining area.
Asian House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	S	S	S	Seen and heard at all locations.
Striped Bornean Tree Skink E	<i>Apterygodon vittatum</i>	S	-	S	Seen twice.
Black-banded Skink	<i>Mabuya rudis</i>	S	-	S	Common at Sepilok. Less so at BRL.
Red-throated Skink	<i>Mabuya rugifera</i>	-	-	S	One was seen on the trail to the lookout at BRL.
Water Monitor	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	S	S	S	Common.
Mangrove (Yellow-ringed) Cat Snake	<i>Boiga dendrophila</i>	-	S	-	Seen once on the Kinabatangan River, in a tree where we watched five male elephants.
Garden Flying Snake	<i>Chrysopelea paradisi</i>	S	-	S	One seen on the walkway at SNR.
Twin-barred Tree Snake	<i>Chrysopelea pelia</i>	-	-	S	One seen at BRL.
Red-tailed (Grey-tailed) Racer	<i>Gonyosoma oxycephalum</i>	-	-	S	One seen next to the main lodge building at BRL.
Sumatran Pit Viper	<i>Parias sumatranus</i>	S	-	S	Two pit vipers were seen from the boardwalk at SORC and one was present near the lodge at BRL throughout our stay. Identified during the trip as Wagler's Pit Viper <i>Tropidolaemus wagleri</i> , which is no longer considered to occur in Borneo. Identification as <i>P. sumatranus</i> (based on photos of the BRL animal) should be considered tentative, especially for the two individuals at Sepilok.

Amphibians (S = seen; H = heard only; E = Endemic; Names taken from *A field guide to the frogs of Borneo* (Inger & Stuebing 2005). No one participant saw all these species).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Bornean Horned Frog	<i>Megaphrys nasuta</i>	-	-	H	Heard regularly, both by day and night.
Tree Hole Frog E	<i>Metaphrynella sundana</i>	H	H	-	Probably common.
Grass Frog	<i>Fejervarya limnocharis</i>	H	H	S	Very common in disturbed areas.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Yellow-bellied Puddle Frog	<i>Occidozyga laevis</i>	-	-	-	The spawn of this species was present in a number of puddles around BRL. Identified by the BRL guide.
Green Paddy Frog	<i>Rana erythraea</i>	S	-	-	One seen in a pond at SNR.
Rough-sided Frog	<i>Rana glandulosa</i>	S	-	-	One seen and heard at SORC during spotlighting.
Mahogany Frog	<i>Rana luctuosa</i>	-	-	S	One seen on the road at night at BRL.
Cinnamon Frog	<i>Nyctixalus pictus</i>	-	-	S	One seen at BRL during spotlighting.
Four-lined Tree Frog	<i>Polypedates leucomystax</i>	H	-	H	Common in disturbed areas.
Dark-eared Tree Frog	<i>Polypedates macrotis</i>	-	-	S	Several seen at BRL.
File-eared Tree Frog	<i>Polypedates otitophus</i>	-	-	S	One seen at BRL.
Friiled Tree Frog	<i>Rhacophorus appendiculatus</i>	-	-	S	One seen at BRL.
Harlequin Tree Frog	<i>Rhacophorus pardalis</i>	-	-	S	Two seen at BRL.

Other Fauna

Some of the more spectacular insects encountered included Rhinoceros Beetles, Long-legged Centipedes, Phasmids (stick insects), Giant Wood Ants, Tractor, Pill and Giant Millipedes, Lantern Bugs, several Birdwing Butterfly species and Atlas Moth. A large Tarantula was seen while spotlighting around the lodge at BRL.

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