

# Borneo's Orang-utans

Naturetrek Tour Report

11 – 21 September 2015



Bornean Orangutan



Bornean Angle-headed Dragon



Maroon Langur



Whiskered Treeswift

Report & images compiled by Terry Reis



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Tour participants: Terry Reis (leader), Hazwan Suban (local guide) and eight Naturetrek clients

## Day 1

Friday 11th September

### Outbound to Kuala Lumpur

Four members of the group travelled from London, departing from Heathrow Airport on a midday Malaysian Airlines flight to Kuala Lumpur (KL), a journey of about 12 hours.

## Day 2

Saturday 12th September

### Outbound to Kuala Lumpur & on to Sandakan

Weather: Hot and humid; mostly cloudless skies; lots of smoke haze.

Terry met all eight tour participants in the domestic departure lounge of Kuala Lumpur airport, the other four group members having arrived in KL earlier. We recognised each other by our apparel, especially footwear and, in some cases, the more conclusive Naturetrek luggage tag. Unfortunately our flight was delayed by two hours due to technical difficulties, but eventually we flew to Sandakan in eastern Sabah, arriving mid-afternoon. The haze, apparently caused by deliberate burning in Sumatra, largely dissipated as we flew eastwards, and those of us on the left hand side of the plane had good views of Gunung (Mount) Kinabalu en route. Hazwan met us outside the baggage hall with a minibus and we went to our accommodation, Sepilok Nature Resort (SNR), a 30 minute drive away.

Once we'd settled in to our bungalows, most of us meandered around the grounds of SNR. At first we occupied ourselves with swifts and swallows hawking over, and drinking from, the pond. A male Crimson Sunbird distracted us and then we turned to move towards the forest behind the resort. Terry was just identifying an endemic, and incredibly tame, Striped Bornean Tree Skink on a fig tree when a Rhinoceros Hornbill landed in said tree and began feeding. The skink was duly ignored. The hornbill gave good views until Terry returned with his telescope, whereupon it predictably flew off. We saw this, or another, individual in a second fruiting fig as well as three Black Hornbills high in the canopy. Our first squirrel, Prevost's, was moving in the fig tree, making typical chucking noises. In among the Yellow-vented Bulbuls and Pied Fantails we had somewhat frustrating views of a pair of noisy Long-tailed Parakeets. We heard our first Barking Gecko, a call with which some guests would become quite familiar. As a prelude to dinner, Terry gave a safety and comfort briefing, discussing potential dangers and discomforts posed by fauna, flora and the weather. After dinner some of us had a brief spotlight check around the resort grounds while the rest took to their bungalows until morning.

## Day 3

Sunday 13th September

### Sepilok

Weather: Hot and humid; rain - heavy late afternoon then steady later.

It was a very leisurely start to the day, with most of the group choosing a late breakfast to recover from their journeys. The early birds watched a Blue-throated Bee-eater before moving to the dining room veranda to watch the comings and going around the pond and a fig tree. A gibbon called in the distance as we watched Brown Barbet, Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Grey-rumped Treeswift, Asian Glossy Starling and Brown-throated and Olive-backed Sunbirds, among others.

After breakfast Julie proudly showed off three Short-nosed Fruit Bats roosting from the veranda ceiling above her front door. Others also had bats at their dwellings, some of which were carrying babies. We all walked down to Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre (SORC) just before 9am, seeing a male Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker en route, to meet Hazwan. We then saw our first Bornean Orangutan as we walked along the boardwalk to the viewing platform. This animal eventually came out onto the railing of the boardwalk and, with an attendant staff member, proceeded ahead of us. Hazwan pointed out our first snake, a large female Bornean Keeled Pit Viper in a tree near the walkway.

From the viewing platform we watched four or more orangutans come in to feed on bananas at the feeding platform, while a Prevost's Squirrel ran along the ropes. There was one adult female and three juveniles, one of which is hairless. It apparently had some disease as a baby, causing loss of hair, and now pulls out any hair that grows. It has failed to learn how to make nests for sleeping and instead sleeps next to the buildings. This is much hotter than sleeping in a tree, hence the hair removal. While watched the orangutans, a Wallace's Hawk-Eagle perched high above, enabling telescope views. We moved on to the orangutan 'nursery', an air-conditioned building opened earlier this year. This cinema-like building provided tiered viewing through glass of an area with poles, ropes, nets and a feeding platform - sort of a gymnasium for orangutans. Here we watched four orangutans for a while, mostly swinging from ropes. We then shifted to the Sun Bear Rehabilitation Centre (SBRC), which is also at SORC. On the way a White-fronted Falconet was spotted, arguably the world's smallest diurnal raptor, perched high on a dead branch.

At the SBRC, which opened in 2014, we stood on a series of elevated platforms overlooking two large enclosures housing Sun Bears undergoing rehabilitation, having been rescued from illegal captivity. Most individuals moved about on the ground but two climbed trees and fell asleep in the most uncomfortable looking positions. We were joined by a mixed troop of wild Pig-tailed and Long-tailed Macaques. The troop included fertile hybrids with tails of intermediate length, the species' names being quite descriptive. One Long-tailed Macaque climbed onto our viewing platform and caused mild consternation among the visitors and staff. We then watched a Giant Squirrel sprawled along a horizontal branch. By now it was quite hot and the squirrel showed no interest in moving. On the way out, five of us watched a treeshrew being uncharacteristically still on a branch. It was either a Lesser or Slender Treeshrew, two species that can only be reliably differentiated by measurement.

After lunch we returned to SORC, revisiting the viewing platform for the afternoon feeding. On the walk in, some of us saw Low's Squirrel. Only two orangutans came to the feeding platform, the hairless juvenile and another youngster. We did see another Giant Squirrel, which came headfirst down a vertical trunk. Two Prevost's Squirrels came to the leftover bananas after the orangutans left. There was a flock of Black Hornbills flying about, squawking loudly. A few small birds appeared once all the other humans left, including Orange-bellied Flowerpecker, Pied Fantail, and Red-eyed and Grey-cheeked Bulbuls. A Low's Squirrel was seen on the ground and around the base of the tree supporting the orangutan feeding platform.

The planned spotlighting walk at SORC before dinner was unfortunately abandoned due to rain, so we enjoyed a leisurely dinner instead.

## Day 4

## Monday 14th September

### Sepilok to Sukau; Sungai (River) Kinabatangan & Sungai Menaggol

Weather: Hot, humid & overcast; pm thunder & heavy cloud - no rain.

We rose before dawn and gathered at the dining room. The nearby fruiting fig tree was very productive with a single Wreathed Hornbill (only seen in flight), a pair of Rhinoceros Hornbill and ten or more Black Hornbills. After enjoying this activity we drove the short distance to Sepilok Rainforest Discovery Centre, where an extensive canopy walkway and series of towers provide views over an area of remnant emergent rainforest trees with a dense layer of secondary growth as understorey. There was 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 Black-and-yellow Broadbill, Blue-eared and Brown Barbets, Black-naped Monarch, Yellow-eared Spiderhunter, Green Iora and two Horned Flying Lizards, one of Borneo's so-called 'flying' animals, which invariably glide rather than fly from the canopy walkway. Walking the trails was less productive though we still saw Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo and Plain Flowerpecker.

We returned to the resort for a nine o'clock breakfast, collected our possessions and left in a bus for Sandakan, with lunch at a hotel overlooking the waterfront. We then had a short drive to a nearby jetty where a motorboat waited. We cruised to the mouth of the Sungai Kinabatangan and then upstream to our next base at Sukau Rainforest Lodge. The Kinabatangan is Sabah's longest river, 560 kilometres long, and is partly protected by the 26,000 hectare Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary. Out on the ocean we saw Lesser Frigatebird, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Oriental Darter and Brahminy Kite, and we weren't far along the Kinabatangan before finding our first troop of Proboscis Monkeys. We did see sign of elephant activity along the river banks but no actual elephants.

Upon arrival, our introduction to Sukau Lodge, its schedules and our rooms by the lodge staff was postponed due to the presence of our first truly wild Bornean Orangutans, a mother and her two year old male young, high in a tree at the lodge. They were present until late afternoon and we watched them off and on until we left for our 4.30pm boat cruise. There was also a Wallace's Hawk Eagle nest at the lodge, with a large youngster, presumably close to fledging. On the way to the boat we disturbed a very large Water Monitor near the dining veranda. We climbed into a small boat, piloted by Hazwan, and we went a short distance back downstream to Sungai Menaggol, which flows into the Kinabatangan. The Menaggol supports the highest known density of Proboscis Monkeys. Before leaving the Kinabatangan we saw a pair of Pied Hornbill, close by a troop of Long-tailed Macaque.

Once in the Menaggol we found troops of both Long-tailed and Pig-tailed Macaques lounging, grooming, fighting and playing by the water's edge, both on the ground and in the trees. We then found our first adult male Proboscis Monkey with his troop of females and youngsters. Birds seen along the Menaggol included Black Hornbill, Long-tailed Parakeet and Stork-billed Kingfisher. We left the Menaggol after a while and went upstream of the lodge along the Kinabatangan where we found a single Silvered Langur sitting high in a tree, and a flock of Bushy-crested Hornbills flying along an oil palm plantation. In the late afternoon we watched interactions between two troops of Proboscis Monkeys settling in to sleep high in the riverside trees. There was much noise and general commotion, with spectacular leaps by many of the monkeys. The frequent movement and agility of Proboscis Monkeys belie their rotund bellies; their body shape a result of requiring a large, complex stomach to process their leaf and unripe fruit diet.

After dinner, we all got back into the boat and went spotlighting along the Menaggol. Our first sighting was a Buffy Fish Owl perched along the Kinabatangan. We then saw two very small Saltwater Crocodiles. We continued to see reptiles with a sleeping Water Monitor and two active Reticulated Pythons, both estimated at about three metres long. Three rodents were seen scampering along the bank, one having descended from a tree. This animal was possibly a Dark-tailed Tree Rat but may also have been a spiny rat *Maxomys* species. A couple of Giant River Frogs were seen sitting several metres from the water's edge. The undoubted highlight was a Flat-headed Cat, which is always seen near water, swims readily and probably feeds mostly on fish. It is listed as Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). It sat licking its paws, seemingly not too perturbed by the light, giving long if somewhat obscured views. In addition to all this nocturnal activity we saw three Blue-eared Kingfishers sleeping on perches low over the water, allowing close approach.

## Day 5

Tuesday 15th September

### Sukau; Sungai Kinabatangan & Gomantong Caves

Weather: Hot & sticky; rain mid-morning to early afternoon.

We had a very light breakfast at 5.30am and left at 6am in a boat to search of elephants downstream of the lodge, where they'd been seen yesterday. Hornbills were evident again, including Wreathed, Bushy-crested and Pied along the Kinabatangan. We then saw a perched White-crowned Hornbill, the most difficult of the eight possible Hornbill species. The bird gave good views before flying across the river. We followed and again watched it perched. There were signs of elephants at the mouth of a small creek so Hazwan gently eased our boat in. While we looked at a flock of Little Green Pigeon in a tree, Hazwan spotted an adult male Bornean Orangutan in a tree opposite. The orangutan had the characteristic flanges, flaps of fatty tissue, of an adult male, which females apparently find attractive. We watched this orangutan for some time, marvelling at how an animal that may have weighed as much as 100 kilograms could disappear so easily from view as he moved through the fig tree feeding. A pair of Oriental Pied Hornbills and some Long-tailed Macaques joined him after a while. Continuing a short distance along the creek we saw a pair of Rhinoceros Hornbills in flight, an obliging Blue-eared Kingfisher perched at eye height, and watched a Great Egret fishing from a log. On the return boat journey we saw Purple Heron, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Stork-billed Kingfisher and nesting Glossy Swiftlets. The swiftlets were nesting under an overhanging limestone cliff.

When we arrived back the lodge for our 8.30am proper breakfast, one of the staff pointed out a Malaysian Colugo clinging to a tree near the dining veranda, which is how they spend daylight hours. The Colugo is an exceptionally strange animal, with only one close relative, the Philippine Colugo; the two species making up their own Order, Dermoptera. Colugos have a gliding membrane that encloses the tail, unlike flying squirrels where the tail is free. After breakfast, the female and young orangutans were once again in the fruiting tree behind the lodge and were joined by an adult male. A few of us stood in the light rain to watch the male scale the vertical trunk to access the canopy and fruit. For a while all three were in the tree together, with the female seemingly agitated somewhat by the male's presence. Some time later five of us watched the female and youngster leave, to be followed by the male. He tracked them through the forest, as we did along the boardwalk. Presumably he was of amorous intent and she wasn't so inclined. Young are only weaned at between five and six years of age so the female wouldn't want to mate when still with a two year old.

After lunch we had a short boat trip across the river to the waiting minibus, and then drove to the famous Gomantong Cave (its fame being, in part, thanks to David Attenborough filmed sitting on an enormous pile of bat guano). Gomantong provides roosting and breeding habitat for two million Wrinkle-lipped Bats, among other bat species, which issue forth each evening in tight flocks that sometimes coalesce into a disjointed stream. The cave is equally well known for the harvesting of swiftlet nests for the production of soup, both Edible-nest and Black-nest Swiftlets.

We watched a Verditer Flycatcher next to the administration buildings before walking through the forest on a boardwalk to reach the cave entrance. We stopped to look at a perched Wallace's Hawk Eagle before entering. In the cave itself we walked along a boardwalk, surrounded by enormous piles of bat guano, cockroaches and long-legged centipedes (Scutigermorphs), and the occasional rat, with swiftlets flying around the cave entrances and thousands of bats clinging to the walls or wheeling high above us. Hazwan found several Mossy-nest Swiftlets sitting on nests. Glossy Swiftlets were also still nesting, close to the entrance, but the Edible-nest and Black-nest Swiftlets had finishing breeding and their nests had been harvested.

In the late afternoon, once again outside, we watched the bats fly from the cave, attracting the attention of Bat Hawks. We strolled along the road seeing Black Hornbill, Crested Serpent Eagle and a large troop of Maroon Langurs (Red Leaf Monkeys). By then it was 6pm and we climbed back into the minibus to return to the lodge. After dinner we spotlighted along the boardwalk at Sukau Rainforest Lodge but, unusually, saw no animals.

## Day 6

Wednesday 16th September

### Sukau to Borneo Rainforest Lodge via Lahad Datu

Weather: High cloud/smoke haze all day.

This morning we all partook of a leisurely breakfast, packed our bags and were taken by boat to the minibus at 9am. Before that, we all watched the mother and young orangutan feeding in the same tree behind the lodge. Moira and Terry went for a walk on the boardwalk and saw two Plantain Squirrels, and Terry had very brief views of Large Treeshrew, which unfortunately eluded Moira. Several of us watched the endemic Dusky Munia going to an apparent nest in one of the palm trees at the lodge. We then drove for two hours to Lahad Datu, did a bit of shopping and enjoyed lunch in a Chinese restaurant, after which we went to the offices of the Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL) at Danum Valley and transferred to two minibuses.

BRL is in the Danum Valley Conservation Area, 438 square kilometres of mostly lowland primary rainforest and one of the most important conservation areas in the Old World tropics. The two and a half hour drive to BRL was fairly uneventful other than for a Bearded Pig sow on the road with five very young striped piglets, a second single Bearded Pig, a sole male Pig-tailed Macaque and quite a large Sunda Spitting Cobra crossing the road. Although we stopped for the cobra, no-one followed it into the roadside vegetation, especially in sandals, as it can accurately spit venom. Unfortunately people in only one vehicle saw all of these animals, whether or not it was leading, which illustrates the vagaries of wildlife spotting. Both vehicles at one point stopped to look at three charming and very cooperative Whiskered Treeswifts.

Mid-afternoon we arrived at BRL, built on the banks of the Sungai Danum, and were greeted by the charming staff, including our BRL guide for the duration, Henry. A short time later we all went for a walk on the Nature

trail; a boardwalk next to the lodge. We came out on the road and headed away from the lodge for a short distance, seeing a Grey-and-buff Woodpecker high in a tree and, when we called in at the frog pond near the lodge on the way back, a very small Triangle (Red-sided) Keelback (a frog-eating snake). The spawn of File-eared Frog overhanging the pond was also pointed out.

At 6.45pm we went spotlighting in an open truck, with bench seats along each side. During the drive we saw five flying squirrels: two Thomas's Flying Squirrels (an endemic) and three Red Giant Flying Squirrels. One of the latter obligingly glided for us. We saw a long and very slender Dog-toothed Cat Snake crossing the road. This species has very long teeth, supposedly to aid in catching its preferred prey; birds. The teeth are thought to help with purchase through dense feathers. Some of the participants on the left side of the truck had brief views of a Lesser Indo-Malayan Chevrotain (Mouse-Deer). Chevrotain means 'little goat' in French. It is not a goat, mouse or deer; and is poorly named. It is one of the world's smallest ungulates (hoofed animal), about the size of a large rabbit with long legs. Male chevrotains have tusk-like teeth that protrude downwards from the mouth when it's closed. These are used in fighting. And finally, when we went up to the dining area of the lodge for dinner, there was a Brown Wood Owl perched about 12 metres from the veranda.

## Day 7

Thursday 17th September

### Borneo Rainforest Lodge

Weather: Misty start; dry & mostly sunny morning; cloud and brief rain in the afternoon

We started the day with breakfast at 6am. Birding was quite rewarding from the dining area veranda, both before and during breakfast. Martin and Terry saw a Black-and-crimson Pitta fly across the lawn in front of the veranda before anyone else arrived. After being joined by the others, White-crowned Shama, female Greater Green Leafbird, Whiskered Treeswift and Prevost's Squirrel were all easily seen. Some saw Straw-headed Bulbul along the Sungai Danum. Jane saw a Plain Pygmy Squirrel on her way to breakfast, and Gibbons called throughout breakfast.

After breakfast we left for the canopy walk. Along the road we saw Black-headed Bulbul and Black Hornbill, and heard more gibbons. Once up on the canopy walkway we all enjoyed views of East Bornean Grey Gibbon, a Bornean endemic. A pair of Raffle's Malkoha flew past and perched nearby. Otherwise the canopy walkway was rather quiet for birds, though some saw a Rufous-crowned Babbler. Once back on the road we all saw Yellow-bellied Bulbul and Brown Fulvetta, and heard a distant Helmeted Hornbill, its very distinctive call a series of accelerating hoots ending in maniacal laughter.

At lunch we said our goodbyes to Hazwan, who unfortunately had to return to Sandakan. All tour participants were sorry to see him go. Mid-afternoon we walked along the road and then turned onto the Sapa Babandil Trail, which runs, in part, along the Sungai Segama and then comes out at the lodge. We saw our seventh species of Hornbill on the road, Wrinkled, but unfortunately only as poor flight views. We also saw a flying lizard, *Draco* sp., Wallace's Hawk Eagle and Bearded Pig close to the lodge. Before going into the forest we watched another Bearded Pig and her young piglets on the road ahead of us. The forest was quiet, though we had good views of Long-tailed Macaque and Maroon Langur. The latter provided us with excellent entertainment as they leapt about with seemingly suicidal tendencies, though predictably they came to no harm. We stopped to look at two Lantern Bugs, the heads of which had a hollow upturned snout-like structure. It was believed this so-called

lantern was luminous at night: it isn't. Once back at the lodge, a Whiskered Myotis (a small micro-bat) was seen in a furled ginger leaf, a typical roosting site for this species.

Before dinner we all went with Harry, spotlighting around the lodge and on the Nature trail boardwalk. Inside the forest we found a sleeping Bornean Angle-headed Dragon and an active *Cyrtodactylus* gecko, possibly Kinabalu Bent-toed Gecko. Around a pond next to the road we saw three Triangle Keelbacks and two frog species: the 'flying' Harlequin Tree Frog and the strange-looking and foul-smelling File-eared Tree Frog. The latter is named for a serrated ridge behind each eye (see photo hereunder). We strolled towards the staff quarters, past a Bearded Pig sitting in the forest, to see a Brown Wood Owl perched in a tree, and then some of us saw a Dark-eared Tree Frog. We went back into the forest and all saw a tarantula next to its tree hollow home before wandering back to the lodge for dinner.

## Day 8

Friday 18th September

### Borneo Rainforest Lodge

Weather: Misty start then hazy & dry with some blue sky & high cloud

The day began with a 6am breakfast and the calls of gibbons. The gibbons were closer today and most impressive. The treeswift and shama were present again during breakfast, as well as an Oriental Magpie Robin. After breakfast we were driven to the edge of the conservation area and we walked back along the road to the lodge, with a deviation across the canopy walk. On the drive in the spotlighting truck, we saw yet another Bearded Pig on the road and then our first Red-bearded Bee-eater, perched by the roadside. The heavy mist made birding difficult in the early stages of the walk back, particularly with so many sightings being of small birds in the canopy, but we did see a Grey-streaked Flycatcher, a rare migrant. Other sightings along the road included Greater Racket-tailed and Bronzed Drongos, Purple-naped Sunbird and Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker.

We reached the canopy walk and were enjoying a sit down while listening to a close Helmeted Hornbill when the bird was spotted by Henry and seen by most of us either perched and/or in flight. This completed the full set of Bornean hornbills seen, though no one had had a good view of the Wrinkled Hornbill. As we approached the lodge a Crested Green Lizard was found on a tree, and a few of us saw a pair of Crested Goshawk circling above. At the beginning of the Nature trail we saw two very similar species together, Rufous-crowned and Scaly-crowned Babblers. We then finished our walk with another sighting of Maroon Langurs, on the Nature trail.

At 3.30pm we once again walked the Sapa Babandil Trail, this time starting along the river and coming back along the road. We were targeting a female orangutan and her youngster that were being followed by researchers. The animals were apparently moving towards the trail. Another Bornean Angle-headed Dragon was found and we all looked at, and photographed, the immature male that typically posed nicely, seemingly convinced we couldn't see him. The exhaustive publication *Danum Valley: The rain forest* (Hazebroek *et al.* 2011) doesn't list this species as occurring, but Terry has recorded it regularly and its absence from the species lists may simply be an oversight.

Shortly afterwards we came across the orangutans which were moving towards our trail, wedged somewhat by the close proximity of the road. The female and her four/five year old were moving quite quickly. They stopped in a fruiting tree but appeared agitated by bees or wasps, whose nest they may have disturbed. The female

crossed the path and held two trees together, apparently acting as a link for the youngster who deftly used her as a bridge; a remarkable piece of maternal care. The stress imposed on one of the trees was such that a large branch broke off and fell when the female released it. The two animals continued into the forest. A large number of guides and lodge guests had assembled to watch the orangutans. It did appear that the female was somewhat understandably stressed by all the attention and at one stage she gave a call that indicates displeasure. The researchers have clear guidelines on behaviour. If an animal calls more than once they abandon observation; similarly if the animal stays in one tree and hides or begins to build a nest. The appropriateness, or otherwise, of such a large group of people gathering to watch orangutans was to be discussed at the nightly guide debriefing. On the walk back to the lodge along the road, some of us had somewhat obscured views of a Chestnut-bellied Malkoha.

At 6.30pm we set off along the road once more, this time with tarsier as a target species. The walk began well with a Black Flying Squirrel seen high in a roadside tree. Despite our gentle coaxing it refused to glide. Further along the road Henry stopped us and asked Terry to watch for his laser, whereupon he went into the forest at a point with no real trail. Sure enough, after a while, his laser beam was seen and we went into the forest. Henry had found a Western Tarsier clinging to a vertical stem, three or four metres above the ground. It was a remarkable piece of wildlife spotting on his part. Despite the dense foliage we all saw the tiny animal, though mostly its head. Tarsiers are unusual in being completely carnivorous primates and this species has the largest eyes in proportion to body size of any mammal. We continued on a short distance and saw Red Giant Flying Squirrel perched atop a dead limbless tree. It glided across the road and with that we turned around and returned to the lodge feeling very pleased with ourselves. Only a small Triangle Keelback slowed our progress.

## Day 9

Saturday 19th September

### Borneo Rainforest Lodge

Weather: Misty start then mostly sunny, hot and humid; thunder & heavy cloud later but no rain.

Pre-breakfast some saw a Bearded Pig and some piglets foraging on the river's edge in front of the dining room. The usual shamas picking insects from around the garden lights were joined by a Pied Fantail, and a Bold-striped Tit-Babbler made its way along the shrubs on the fence line. We had the usual 6.30am departure, post-breakfast, and walked to the suspension bridge over the Sungai Danum and crossed onto the Segama trail which follows the river. Here we saw a male Blue-headed Pitta, endemic to Borneo. The bird hopped along a log before perching in clear view for a sustained period. Further on we saw a pair of Striped Wren-Babblers, which also provided excellent lengthy views with both birds calling from the ground. Other species seen along the Segama trail included a White-crowned Forktail which flew across the track towards the river, Long-tailed Macaque, Maroon Langur, and a very active Plain Pygmy Squirrel which leapt about frantically.

A Red-naped Trogon called near the next bridge and a few saw a male fly across the river. We then all saw a male Scarlet-rumped Trogon perched. Our trogon-fest was completed when Henry found a male Diard's Trogon a short while later. Unfortunately it was somewhat obscured and difficult to see though some of us did obtain views. As we walked back to the lodge we saw pairs of Maroon-breasted Philentoma and Hairy-backed Bulbul. Martin saw a perched, calling Black-and-crimson Pitta, which then flew and eluded the rest of us, and Jane and Stephen had brief views of a Yellow-throated Marten, with its tail held typically erect. The only other notable

fauna was a Tiger Leech that bit Jane on the stomach. The surprisingly dry conditions meant we had seen very few leeches. Later, on their way to lunch, some found a Whiskered Myotis roosting in a furled ginger leaf.

At 3.30pm most of us walked along the Hornbill trail and heard Blue-headed and Black-and-crimson Pittas among other species. We came out onto the road towards the canopy walk and had a very fruitful bit of birding with male Asian Fairy Bluebird, Scarlet-rumped Trogon, Buff-rumped Woodpecker, Chestnut-breasted, Black-bellied and Raffle's Malkohas, Red-bearded Bee-eater and Dark-throated Oriole. There was very regular thunder and heavy cloud and a Horned Frog called intermittently, presumably thinking/hoping it was going to rain. We decided to trust his judgement and headed back to the lodge (it turned out he was wrong). Some of us who were lingering stopped on seeing substantial movement in a tree. As we watched a male Wreathed Hornbill flew by, much closer than any earlier sighting. And then the movement was revealed as a Helmeted Hornbill, which dropped away out of tree and away from us. When we all arrived at the lodge a Wallace's Hawk Eagle flew into a tree, much to the indignation of a squirrel. Moira later saw a Colugo glide a considerable distance on the other bank of the river from the lodge. The animal may have been disturbed but the species is known to be active in the late afternoon.

After dinner we all climbed into the truck at 8.30pm for a night drive. We began with a Thomas's Flying Squirrel and then Henry spotted a sleeping Rhinoceros Hornbill. On the return leg were a pair of Bushy-crested Hornbills, a pair of Thomas's Flying Squirrels, and a sleeping male Crested Fireback. All the sleeping birds were perched on an outer branch above, or next to, the road. As we watched the pair of flying squirrels, Terry pointed out a Dark-eared Tree Frog but it garnered scant attention. We turned into the staff quarters area and saw two unidentified sets of eyeshine, though Henry thought the second pair belonged to a chevrotain (mouse-deer). Many animals are identifiable, at least to some degree, by the colour and brightness of their eyeshine and chevrotains have very bright, white eyeshine. A Malay Civet was seen on the lawn near some buildings and we all had quite good views of this animal before returning to the lodge.

## Day 10/11

## Sunday 20th/Monday 21st September

Borneo Rainforest Lodge to London via Lahad Datu, Kota Kinabalu & Kuala Lumpur

Weather: Clear skies with less mist

We left at 5am for the canopy walk. Close to the lodge a Teledu (Sunda Stink Badger) was seen on the edge of the road. It quickly turned towards the forest and moved on sufficiently quickly that not everyone saw it. We walked fairly briskly to the canopy walk to ensure we were on the walkway before first light. We were then treated to a fantastic dawn chorus dominated by gibbons, though with substantial competition from Bushy-crested Hornbills. The noise peaked at about 5.30am just as it grew light. By chance we had a very clear morning with comparatively little mist and no smoke haze. We saw a large flock of Bushy-crested Hornbills fly by, and two single Wreathed Hornbills. Rhinoceros and Helmeted Hornbills called among a number of other species, with many Sooty-capped Babblers adding their pleasant, slow, somewhat plaintive whistling call to the general ambiance. Species seen from the walkway included Green Iora, Black-headed Bulbul and Fiery Minivet.

When we arrived back at the entrance to the Nature trail a male Crested Fireback walked slowly in the forest, seemingly little perturbed by our presence, and Long-tailed Macaques and Maroon Langurs sat in the trees on either side of the road. The langurs performed their usual acrobatics, with one chasing another along a wire

across the road before the pursued animal leapt back across the road. We then walked the Nature trail back to the lodge, pausing briefly for a Low's Squirrel missing much of its tail, and our only Spotted Fantail.

After a leisurely breakfast everyone packed their bags and, with our packed lunches, we departed at 9.30am for Lahad Datu. Some saw a Horse-tailed Squirrel run across the road not far from the lodge, but otherwise no interesting wildlife was reported for the journey. We checked in at Lahad Datu airport with those travelling to London checking their luggage right through and obtaining boarding passes for all three flights, despite the modest nature of the airport. We all boarded the flight to Kota Kinabalu (KK). Three Oriental Pratincoles were seen from the plane window. At KK airport we split up, some to transfer onwards to Kuala Lumpur and then back to the UK, others to collect luggage as they were staying on in Sabah. We all said our goodbyes in KK airport before splitting up.

## Summary & Highlights

Although we lost one night's spotlighting to rain, it was generally very dry by Sabah standards, especially while we were at Danum Valley, which meant the trip was somewhat poor for frogs. Reptiles seen included four somewhat iconic species: Horned Flying Lizard, Reticulated Python (the world's longest snake), Sunda Spitting Cobra and a pit viper. Reduced insect activity due to the lack of rain meant we saw comparatively little foraging by insectivorous birds and general bird activity was unusually low, however we saw more bird species than last year's trip. Raptors and woodpeckers weren't very evident, but we saw all eight hornbill species; a rare feat and one to be cherished. The best birds were arguably White-crowned, Helmeted and Rhinoceros Hornbills and Blue-headed Pitta. In addition to some excellent and sustained viewing of wild Bornean Orangutans, including two adult, flanged males, mammal highlights included Colugo, Eastern Bornean Grey Gibbon, Western Tarsier, the rarely seen Flat-headed Cat and a couple of long glides by Red Giant Flying Squirrels. All in all, an excellent trip.

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## Species Lists

No one participant saw all the species listed in the tables hereunder. Sukau includes Gomantong Cave and nearby reaches of Sungai Kinabatangan and its tributaries. Danum Valley refers to the Conservation Area, as does Borneo Rainforest Lodge.

**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)).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Large Treeshrew	<i>Tupaia tana</i>	-	S	-	One seen from boardwalk at Sukau Rainforest Lodge (SRL).
Lesser/Slender Treeshrew	<i>Tupaia minor/gracilis</i>	S	-	-	One seen near the Sun Bear Rehabilitation Centre (SBRC). One seen at RDC (Rainforest Discovery Centre, Sepilok). Payne <i>et al.</i> (1985) states that you are unable to distinguish reliably without measurements but Hazwan, with local knowledge, identified the latter as a Lesser Treeshrew.
Short-nosed Fruit Bat	<i>Cyanopterus brachyotis</i>	S	-	-	Roosting on verandas of several bungalows at SNR. This species has undergone taxonomic revision and this name will probably change.
Wrinkle-lipped Bat	<i>Tadarida plicata</i>	-	-	-	1,000s seen emerging from Gomantong Cave.
Horseshoe Bat species	<i>Rhinolophus</i> sp.	-	S	-	Many seen in Gomantong Cave.
Whiskered Myotis	<i>Myotis muricola</i>	-	-	S	One, or more, seen in furled ginger leaves at Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL).
Colugo	<i>Cynocephalus variegates</i>	-	S	S	One seen during the day at SRL. One seen gliding in afternoon at BRL.
Western Tarsier	<i>Tarsius bancanus</i>	-	-	S	One seen on night walk at BRL.
Maroon Langur <b>E</b>	<i>Presbytis rubicunda</i>	-	S	S	One troop seen at Gomantong. Troops seen at BRL on four occasions.
Silvered Langur	<i>Trachypithecus cristatus</i> ( <i>Presbytis cristata</i> )	-	S	-	One seen along the Sungai Kinabatangan.
Proboscis Monkey <b>E</b>	<i>Nasalis larvatus</i>	-	S	-	Many troops seen on the Kinabatangan and Sungai Menaggol.
Long-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca fascicularis</i>	S	S	S	Seen at SBRC. Troops were seen along the Kinabatangan and Menaggol and at SRL. Also at BRL.
Sunda Pig-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca nemestrina</i>	S	S	-	Troops were seen at the SBRC and along the Menaggol. One male seen on drive to BRL from Lahad Datu.
East Bornean Grey Gibbon <b>E</b>	<i>Hylobates funereus</i> ( <i>muelleri</i> )	H	-	S	Heard from SNR and RDC. Two seen from the canopy walk at BRL.
Bornean Orangutan <b>E</b>	<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i>	S	S	S	Numerous semi-wild animals seen at SORC. Truly wild mother and young and adult male seen at SRL. Adult male seen in a creek downstream of SRL. Mother and young seen at BRL.
Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa affinis sandakanensis</i>	S	H	H	One seen at SBRC. One seen at SORC. Heard at RDC.
Prevost's Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus prevostii Pluto</i>	S	S	S	Common throughout.
Plantain Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus notatus</i>	-	S	-	Seen twice at SRL along boardwalk.
Horse-tailed Squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus hippurus</i>	-	-	S	One seen on road at BRL.
Low's Squirrel	<i>Sundasciurus lowi</i>	S	-	S	Two seen at SORC. One seen on Nature trail at BRL.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Plain Pygmy Squirrel	<i>Exilisciurus exilis</i>	-	-	S	One seen repeatedly at the lodge at BRL. One seen on the Segama trail. One seen on Nature trail.
Black Flying Squirrel	<i>Aeronyx tephromelas</i>	-	-	S	One seen at BRL during night walk.
Red Giant Flying Squirrel	<i>Petaurista petaurista</i>	-	-	S	Seen on night drive and night walk at BRL.
Thomas's Flying Squirrel <b>E</b>	<i>Aeronyx thomasi</i>	-	-	S	Two seen on one night drive at BRL. Three seen on second night drive.
Rat species		-	S	-	One seen along the Menaggol at night. Based on size, colour and habitat probably Dark-tailed Tree Rat <i>Nivventer cremoriventer</i> or a spiny rat <i>Maxomys</i> species.
Rat species	<i>Rattus</i> sp.	-	S	-	Several were seen in Gomantong Cave.
Yellow-throated Marten	<i>Martes flavigula</i>	-	-	S	One seen on Sapa Babandil trail.
Teledu (Sunda Stink Badger)	<i>Mydaus javanensis</i>	-	-	S	One seen pre-dawn near lodge at BRL.
Flat-headed Cat	<i>Prionailurus planiceps</i>	-	S	-	One seen spotlighting along Menaggol.
Bearded Pig	<i>Sus barbatus</i>	-	H	S	Seen twice on the road into BRL and seen regularly at BRL.
Lesser Indo-Malayan Chevrotain (Mouse-deer)	<i>Tragulus kanchil (javanicus)</i>	-	-	S	One seen during night drive at BRL.

### Birds (S = seen; H = heard only; E = Endemic; I = Introduced)

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 2014). Not all species heard only during the trip are listed below, including species such as ubiquitous barbets. Only notable species and/or species brought to the attention of participants are included. Species seen but not listed for a location were seen in transit.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Great Argus	<i>Argusianus argus</i>	-	-	H	Heard often in forest around Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL).
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	-	S	-	Four seen perched high along the Sungai Kinabatangan downstream of Sukau.
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	-	S	-	Common along the Kinabatangan.
Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	S	S	-	Several seen at Sandakan airport. One seen at SNR. One seen along the Kinabatangan.
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	-	S	S	Common along the Kinabatangan. Two seen on Sungai Danum at Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL).
Pacific Reef-Egret	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	-	-	-	One seen in Sandakan.
Lesser Frigatebird	<i>Fregata ariel</i>	-	-	-	Several frigatebirds seen during boat trip from Sandakan to the mouth of the Kinabatangan. At least one was a Lesser Frigatebird.
Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	-	S	-	One seen in the ocean and one flying over the Kinabatangan.
White-fronted (Bornean) Falconet <b>E</b>	<i>Microhierax latifrons</i>	S	-	-	One seen perched high on a dead branch at the Sun Bear Rehabilitation Centre (SBRC).
Bat Hawk	<i>Macheiramphus alcinus</i>	-	S	-	One or more hunting bats at Gomantong Cave. One seen flying across the Kinabatangan.
Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	S	-	-	One seen at Sandakan airport. Several

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
					seen along the Kinabatangan.
White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	-	S	-	One seen flying over the ocean. One seen along the Kinabatangan.
Lesser Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga humilis</i>	-	S	-	One seen along the Kinabatangan.
Crested Serpent-Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	-	S	-	One seen at Gomantong.
Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	-	-	S	A pair seen in flight along the road at BRL.
Wallace's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus nanus</i>	S	S	S	One seen at the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre (SORC). Nesting pair with large young at Sukau Rainforest Lodge (SRL). One seen at Gomantong. Singles seen along road and at the lodge at BRL.
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	S	-	-	One seen at Sepilok Nature Resort (SNR).
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	S	S	-	One seen at the Rainforest Discovery Centre, Sepilok (RDC). Two seen on Sandakan waterfront. Small flock seen along the Kinabatangan.
Oriental Pratincole	<i>Glareola maldivarum</i>	-	-	-	Three seen on Lahad Datu airfield.
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	-	-	-	Common during boat trip from Sandakan to the mouth of the Kinabatangan.
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chidonias hybrida</i>	-	S	-	Several seen along the Kinabatangan.
Rock Dove I	<i>Columba livia</i>	-	-	-	Common in cities and towns.
Spotted (-necked) Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	-	-	-	Common along road to Lahad Datu.
Zebra Dove I	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	S	-	-	Pair seen at SNR.
Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	S	-	S	One seen at SRDC. Five seen together along road at BRL. Fairly common at BRL.
Little Green Pigeon	<i>Treron olax</i>	-	S	-	Flock on creek downstream of SRL.
Thick-billed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>	S	-	-	Pair seen at SNR.
Imperial-Pigeon species	<i>Ducula</i> sp.	S	S	S	Imperial-Pigeons were seen regularly in flight, typically high and in poor light. Green Imperial-Pigeon is usually more common though we may also have seen Mountain Imperial-Pigeon.
Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>	S	-	S	Seen in flight from the canopy walk at RDC. One seen in flight along the road at BRL. No guest saw this species at all well.
Long-tailed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula longicauda</i>	S	S	-	Seen a number of times at SNR. Individuals seen along the Menaggol.
Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	-	H	H	Heard at Gomantong and BRL.
Black-bellied Malkoha	<i>Rhopodytes diardi</i>	-	-	S	One seen along the road at BRL.
Chestnut-bellied Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>	-	-	S	One seen along the road at BRL.
Raffles's Malkoha	<i>Rhinortha chlorophaeus</i>	-	-	S	Pair seen from canopy walk at BRL. One seen along the road.
Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	<i>Zanclostomus curvirostris</i>	-	-	S	One seen along the road at BRL.
Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	S	-	-	One seen at SNR. Common on drive from Sukau to Lahad Datu.
Buffy Fish-Owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>	-	S	H	One spotlighted along the Kinabatangan.
Brown Wood Owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	-	-	S	One seen at BRL at dining room. One seen at staff quarters.
Glossy Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>	S	S	S	Seen at RDC. Nesting at Gomantong Cave and along the Kinabatangan. Seen at BRL.
Mossy-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus salangana</i>	-	S	-	Seen nesting at Gomantong Cave.
Black-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus maximus</i>	-	-	-	Presumably seen throughout, particularly

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Suka U	Danum Valley	Comments
					at Gomantong. No positive identification.
Edible-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus fuciphaga</i>	-	-	-	Presumably seen throughout, particularly at Gomantong. No positive identification.
Silver-rumped Spinetail	<i>Rhaphidura leucopygialis</i>	S	-	-	Seen regularly at ponds at SNR.
Grey-rumped Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne longipennis</i>	S	-	-	Several seen at SNR.
Whiskered Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>	-	-	S	Seen during drive to BRL and from the canopy walk. Seen some mornings at breakfast at BRL.
Red-naped Trogon	<i>Harpactes kasumba</i>	H	-	S	Heard at RDC. One male seen flying across the river at BRL.
Diard's Trogon	<i>Harpactes diardii</i>	-	-	S	Male seen on Tekala trail.
Scarlet-rumped Trogon	<i>Harpactes duvaucelii</i>	-	-	S	Male seen on Tekala trail. Male seen along road.
Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	-	S	-	Seen along the Kinabatangan and Menaggol.
Banded Kingfisher	<i>Lacedo pulchella</i>	-	-	H	Heard on Sapa trail.
Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	-	S	S	Several seen on the Kinabatangan and Menaggol. One seen on the river at BRL.
Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>	-	-	-	Two seen perched on wires while driving to Gomantong and Lahad Datu.
Rufous-backed (Oriental Dwarf) Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx rufidorsa</i>	S	-	-	One seen at RDC.
Blue-eared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo meninting</i>	-	S	S	Several seen on the Menaggol. One seen on river at BRL.
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	S	-	-	One seen at SNR.
Red-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis amictus</i>	-	-	S	Singles seen twice along road at BRL.
Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>	S	-	-	Seen at SNR.
Bushy-crested Hornbill	<i>Anorrhinus galeritus</i>	S	S	S	Flock seen at SNR. Flock seen along the Kinabatangan. Flock seen from canopy walk at BRL.
Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>	-	S	-	Pairs seen several times along the Kinabatangan and Menaggol.
Black Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>	S	S	S	10+ seen at SNR. Flock seen at SORC. Several seen at RDC. Pair seen on the Menaggol. Seen twice at BRL.
Rhinoceros Hornbill	<i>Buceros rhinoceros</i>	S	S	S	Pair seen at SNR. Pair seen on Kinabatangan. Seen or heard regularly at BRL.
Helmeted Hornbill	<i>Rhinoplax vigil</i>	-	-	S	One seen perched and in flight from canopy walk at BRL. One seen along the road.
White-crowned Hornbill	<i>Berenicornis comatus</i>	-	S	-	One male seen along the Kinabatangan
Wrinkled Hornbill	<i>Aceros corrugatus</i>	-	-	S	One seen along road at BRL.
Wreathed Hornbill	<i>Rhyticeros undulatus</i>	S	S	S	One seen at SNR. Several singles seen on the Kinabatangan. Singles seen along the road at BRL and from canopy walk.
Red-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima mystacophanos</i>	-	-	H	Heard at BRL.
Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis duvaucelii</i>	S	H	S	One seen at RDC. One seen on road at BRL. Heard often.
Brown Barbet	<i>Caloramphus fuliginosus</i>	S	-	-	One seen at SNR. Flock seen at RDC.
Buff-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tristis</i>	-	-	S	One seen along road at BRL.
Grey-and-buff Woodpecker	<i>Hemicircus concretus</i>	-	-	S	One seen along road at BRL.
Banded Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus javanicus</i>	-	-	H	Heard a few times at BRL.
Black-and-yellow	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>	S	H	S	One or more seen at RDC. Seen along

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Suka u	Danum Valley	Comments
Broadbill					road at BRL. Common but mostly heard.
Hooded Pitta	<i>Pitta sordida</i>	-	H	-	Heard along the Menaggol.
Blue-headed Pitta E	<i>Pitta baudii</i>	-	-	S	Male seen on the Segama trail. Female seen on Sapa Babandil trail. Heard from canopy walk and on Hornbill trail.
Black-and-crimson (Black-headed) Pitta E	<i>Pitta ussheri</i>	H	-	S	One heard at RDC. One seen flying past dining room at BRL. One seen on Sapa Babandil trail. Heard often at BRL.
Fiery Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus igneus</i>	-	-	S	Minivets seen more than once from the canopy walk. On one occasion Fiery Minivet was definitely present. Scarlet may also have been seen.
Dark-throated Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>	-	-	S	Seen along the road at BRL and from canopy walk.
Rufous-winged Philentoma	<i>Philentoma pyrhoptera</i>	-	-	S	Seen once on Nature trail.
Maroon-breasted Philentoma	<i>Philentoma velatum</i>	-	-	S	Pair seen on Sapa Babandil trail.
White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	-	S	-	One seen along the Kinabatangan. Seen at Lahad Datu.
Green Iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>	S	-	S	Seen from the canopy walk at RDC. Seen at BRL from canopy walk.
Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	S	S	S	Common in open and disturbed areas and on forest edge.
Spotted Fantail	<i>Rhipidura perlata</i>	-	-	S	One seen on Nature trail.
Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	S	-	S	Seen from the canopy walk at RDC. Seen three times at BRL.
Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>	-	-	S	Pair seen along road at BRL.
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	S	-	S	One without rackets seen at RDC. One seen with one racket at BRL.
Slender-billed Crow	<i>Corvus enca</i>	S	S	S	Common.
(Bornean) Black Magpie E	<i>Platysmurus (aterrimus) leucopterus</i>	S	-	-	Two seen poorly in flight at RDC.
Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Antheptes malacensis</i>	S	-	S	Fairly common at SNR. Seen at BRL.
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Chalcoparia singalensis</i>	S	-	-	Seen from the canopy walk at RDC.
Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	S	-	S	Seen at SNR. Male seen in the lodge gardens at BRL.
Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>	S	-	-	Seen at SNR.
Purple-naped Sunbird	<i>Hypogramma hypogrammicum</i>	H	-	S	Heard at RDC. Seen along road at BRL.
Streaky-breasted (Bornean E) Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera everetti (affinis)</i>	-	-	S	Seen at lodge at BRL.
Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	S	-	S	Seen at SNR. Common in lodge gardens at BRL.
Long-billed Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera robusta</i>	-	-	S	Seen at lodge gardens at BRL.
Spectacled Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera flavigaster</i>	-	-	S	Seen along road at BRL.
Thick-billed Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera crassirostris</i>	-	-	S	Seen in lodge gardens at BRL.
Yellow-eared Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera chrysogenys</i>	S	-	-	Seen from the canopy walk at RDC.
Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus maculatus</i>	-	-	S	Seen along road at BRL.
Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>	S	-	S	Seen at SNR and SORC. Seen near lodge at BRL.
Plain Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum minullum</i>	S	-	-	Seen at RDC.
Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>	S	-	-	Seen at SNR.
Greater Green Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis sonnerati</i>	-	-	S	Seen at lodge gardens at BRL.
Lesser Green Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	S	-	-	Seen from the canopy walk at RDC.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Suka u	Danum Valley	Comments
Asian Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>	-	-	S	Male seen along road at BRL.
Dusky Munia E	<i>Lonchura fuscans</i>	-	S	S	Nesting at SRL. Seen along the road at BRL. Common on drive from Lahad Datu.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow I	<i>Passer montanus</i>	S	S	-	Common in built up areas. Seen at SRL.
Javan Myna I	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>	S	-	-	Introduced. Seen at Sepilok. Supposedly not found in Sabah according to Myers (2010) but established at Sepilok in 2004 (Phillipps & Phillipps 2014).
Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	S	-	-	Seen at SNR. Seen in Sandakan and Lahad Datu.
Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	H	-	S	Heard at SNR. Seen at BRL along river.
Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	S	-	S	Seen at SNR. Seen at BRL in gardens near dining room.
White-crowned Shama E	<i>Copsychus stricklandii</i>	-	-	S	Seen at BRL around lodge and occasionally in forest.
White-crowned Forktail	<i>Enicurus leschenaulti</i>	-	-	S	Seen once along Segama trail.
Bornean Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis superbus</i>	-	-	H	Heard along the Segama trail.
Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>	-	S	S	One seen at Gomantong. Seen along road at BRL.
Grey-streaked Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>	-	-	S	One seen along road at BRL.
Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>	-	-	S	Seen along road at BRL and from canopy walk.
Straw-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus zeylanicus</i>	-	-	S	Seen on Sungai Danum at BRL.
Yellow-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>	S	S	-	Common around Sepilok and present on the Kinabatangan.
Olive-winged Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus plumosus</i>	S	-	-	Seen at RDC.
Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>	S	-	-	Seen at SNR and RDC.
Spectacled Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos</i>	S	-	-	Seen at RDC.
Buff-vented Bulbul	<i>Iole olivacea</i>	-	-	S	Two seen along road at BRL.
Hairy-backed Bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>	-	-	S	Pair seen on Sapa Babandil trail.
Yellow-bellied Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>	-	-	S	Seen along road at BRL.
Grey-cheeked Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus bres</i>	S	-	S	Seen at SORC. Seen on Sapa Babandil trail.
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	-	S	-	Seen along the Kinabatangan.
House (Pacific) Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	S	S	S	Common.
Brown Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe brunneicauda</i>	-	-	S	Several seen along road at BRL. Two seen on Nature trail.
Chestnut-winged Babbler	<i>Stachyris erythroptera</i>	H	H	H	Heard often.
Bold-striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronus bornensis</i>	-	-	S	Seen in gardens at BRL.
Sooty-capped Babbler	<i>Malacopteron affine</i>	-	-	H	Heard regularly at BRL especially from canopy walk.
Scaly-crowned Babbler	<i>Malacopteron cinereum</i>	-	-	S	Seen at BRL.
Rufous-crowned Babbler	<i>Malacopteron magnum</i>	-	-	S	Seen from the canopy walk at BRL and near lodge.
White-chested Babbler	<i>Trichastoma rostratum</i>	S	S	-	Seen at RDC. Seen on the Menaggol.
Striped Wren-Babbler	<i>Kenopia striata</i>	-	-	S	Pair seen on Segama trail.
Ashy Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>	H	S	-	Seen at Gomantong.
Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>	H	H	S	Common.

Reptiles (S = seen; H = heard only; E = Endemic). Names in brackets indicate some alternative common names).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Saltwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>	-	S	-	One seen spotlighting on Sungai Kinabatangan. One seen in mouth of Sungai Menaggol.
Crested Green Lizard	<i>Bronchocela cristatella</i>	-	-	S	One seen along road at Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL).
Horned Flying Lizard	<i>Draco cornutus</i>	S	-	-	Two seen from canopy walk at the Rainforest Discovery Centre, Sepilok (RDC).
Flying lizard species	<i>Draco</i> sp.	-	-	S	One seen along road at BRL. Not identified to species.
Bornean Angle-headed Dragon <b>E</b>	<i>Gonocephalus bornensis</i>	-	-	S	One spotlighted on Nature trail. One seen on Sapa Trail.
Friilly House Gecko	<i>Cosymbotus platyurus</i>	S	S	-	Common on buildings, probably present at BRL.
A bent-toed gecko	<i>Cyrtodactylus</i> sp.	-	-	S	Possibly <i>C. baluensis</i> . Seen briefly on Nature trail at BRL.
Warty House Gecko	<i>Gekko monarchus</i>	-	S	-	Seen on buildings at Sukau Rainforest Lodge (SRL).
Smith's Giant Gecko (Barking Gecko)	<i>Gekko smithii</i>	H	H	H	One lived in Julie's room at BRL and barked at passers by. Occasionally heard in forest.
Asian House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	S	-	S	Common at Sepilok Nature Resort (SNR) and BRL, probably present at SRL.
Striped Bornean Tree Skink <b>E</b>	<i>Apterygodon vittatum</i>	S	-	-	Pair seen at SNR. Several seen at Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre (SORC), including on the tree at the feeding platform.
Black-banded Skink	<i>Mabuya rudis</i>	-	-	S	One seen on Nature trail.
A forest skink	<i>Sphenomorphus</i> sp.	-	-	S	One seen on Nature trail. Two seen on Sapa Loop trail.
Water Monitor	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	S	S	S	Common.
Reticulated Python	<i>Python reticulatus</i>	-	S	-	Two seen along Sungai Menaggol during spotlighting.
Dog-toothed Cat Snake	<i>Boiga cynodon</i>	-	-	S	One seen on road during night drive at BRL.
Striped Bronzeback	<i>Dendrelaphis caudolineatus</i>	-	S	-	One seen at SRL.
Triangle (Red-sided) Keelback	<i>Xenochrophis trianguligerus</i>	-	-	S	At least three seen at the pond near the lodge and another seen on small pond along the road.
Sunda Spitting Cobra	<i>Naja sumatrana</i>	-	-	-	One seen on road during drive to BRL.
Bornean Keeled Pit Viper	<i>Tropidolaemus subannulatus</i>	S	-	-	One female seen at SORC.

Amphibians (S = seen; H = heard only; E = Endemic; Names taken from *A field guide to the frogs of Borneo* (Inger & Stuebing 2005)).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
Bornean Horned Frog	<i>Megaphrys nasuta</i>	-	-	H	Occasionally heard both by day and night.
Tree Hole Frog <b>E</b>	<i>Metaphrynella sundana</i>	-	H	H	Common.
Giant River Frog	<i>Limnonectes leporinus</i>	-	S	-	Seen along the Sungai Menaggol during spotlighting.
Green Paddy Frog	<i>Rana erythraea</i>	H	-	S	Heard at Sepilok Nature Resort (SNR). Seen road-killed at Borneo Rainforest Lodge (BRL).
Cricket Frog	<i>Rana nicobariensis</i>	H	-	-	Heard at SNR.
Four-lined Tree Frog	<i>Polypedates leucomystax</i>	-	-	H	Heard around lodge.
Dark-eared Tree Frog	<i>Polypedates macrotis</i>	-	-	S	Seen twice.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Sepilok	Sukau	Danum Valley	Comments
File-eared Tree Frog	<i>Polypedates otitophus</i>	-	-	S	At least four present near the lodge, breeding in pond.
Harlequin Tree Frog	<i>Rhacophorus pardalis</i>	-	-	S	Two seen at frog pond.

### Other Fauna

Some of the more spectacular invertebrates encountered included Long-legged Centipede, Giant Wood Ant, Tractor, Pill and Giant Millipedes, Lantern Bug, several Birdwing Butterfly species and a large Tarantula.



Hazwan and the tour participants at the Borneo Rainforest Lodge



Canopy Walkway - Borneo Rainforest Lodge



File-eared Frog - Borneo Rainforest Lodge