

Nepal - A Very Special Offer!

Naturetrek Tour Report

15 - 22 November 2010



Great Barbet – by Liz Talmadge



Spotted Owlet – by Liz Talmadge



White-throated Kingfisher – by Miles Charlesworth



Red-whiskered Bulbul – by Miles Charlesworth

Report compiled by Suchit Basnet

Images by kind courtesy of Liz Talmadge and Miles Charlesworth



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Day 0

Sunday 14th November

Travel from the UK

Day 1

Monday 15th November

The clients were met on arrival at Kathmandu Airport and transferred to Hotel Marsyangdi. Dinner at the hotel.

Day 2

Tuesday 16th November

After breakfast we left for the airport. Due to the mist we got delayed for about 2hrs 45 minutes. It was a 35 minute flight with views of a few snow-capped peaks. We were met at Biratnagar Airport by a driver and a 4x4. The journey to Koshi Camp took us about 1hr 20mins. At the camp we had our lunch and checked into our tents. After lunch we went for walk and had a telescopic view of a Fishing Cat.

Day 3

Wednesday 17th November

We started after breakfast and headed south. On the way we stopped to admire 3 Swamp Francolins. We went to the park headquarters and on the way we watched some Water Buffalo resting on the sand bank. After lunch back at the camp we drove towards the northern corner of the reserve to look for some owls. We found a Brown Hawk Owl and a Brown Fish-owl both on their roost. After that we drove into the village and saw a big colony of fruit bats (flying foxes). We reached camp late in the afternoon for tea/coffee.

Day 4

Thursday 18th November

We headed north to the Patnali Forest with a packed breakfast. Later by the camp we spent about 3 hours hoping to see if we could see the Fishing Cat again, and had a few had a glimpses of a Porcupine running across a track!

Day 5

Friday 19th November

Today we set off for a boat excursion on the Koshi River. We had to drive for about 20 minutes to the starting point. We saw ducks, waders, grassland birds and a few raptors - it took us 4 hours to reach the end point where we were picked up and driven to the camp for lunch.

After lunch and a bit of a rest we set off towards the Koshi Barrage. We found a small group of ducks and from the barrage we had excellent views of River Dolphins jumping!

Day 6

Saturday 20th November

Today we had to leave Koshi Camp and head back to Kathmandu. We did some birding before and after breakfast. We left for the airport at 11:30 am for the flight at 2pm. We were delayed for an hour but we were rewarded on the flight with excellent views of the Himalayas and Mt. Everest!

Day 7

Sunday 21st November

Our last day in Nepal... We started for the Phulchowki Hill after breakfast. We made a stop on the lower slope (at the base) of the hill and got excellent views of Grey Treepie, Black-lored Tit and some of us had views of the Red-billed Blue Magpie.

Driving up the hill we stopped at a few more places to view the Himalayan peaks and some birds. We ended the day after lunch at 2pm. We then drove back to the hotel and after a quick stop we then walked to the Kathmandu Durbar Square and Kathmandu's old market place (Ason). It was a long day but a very interesting one.

Day 8

Monday 22nd November

After breakfast we departed for the airport to catch the flight back to the UK.



Fire-breasted Flowerpecker – by Miles Charlesworth



Blue-throated Barbet – by Liz Talmadge

Species Lists

Birds (h = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	November						
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1	Swamp Francolin	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>		3		h			
2	Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>						2	
3	Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>	35	40	30	150			
4	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>		6					4
5	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>		14	25	40			
6	Cotton Pygmy-goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>				25			
7	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>				60			
8	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>				2			
9	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>				2			
10	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				5			
11	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	1			1			
12	Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos nanus</i>		1					
13	Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>		3	1	1			
14	Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>						2	
15	Darjeeling Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos darjellensis</i>						1	
16	Lesser Yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>			1				
17	Greater Yellownape	<i>Picus flavinucha</i>			1				
18	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>	1	1					
19	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	2	2	1				
20	Great Barbet	<i>Megalaima virens</i>						8	
21	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	6	8		2	4		
22	Oriental Pied-Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>			5				
23	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		5	8	2			
24	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>				4			
25	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					1		
26	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>		2	1	2			
27	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	5	6	3	5	2		
28	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>		2		8			
29	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>			2				
30	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	15	15	50	12	6		
31	Common Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>		1					
32	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>				1	1		
33	Sirkeer Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>			1				
34	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>		4	6	4	2		
35	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>		1					
36	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>		4	40				
37	Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	8						
38	House Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>						15	
39	Brown Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>		1					
40	Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>	1	2					
41	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	3h	4	1	4	2		
42	Brown Hawk-Owl	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>		1					
43	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>		1					
44	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	20	50	30	✓	20		
45	Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	1	15		10	15		
46	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	2	10	2	6	6		
47	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amauornis phoenicurus</i>		2	1	1			

	Common name	Scientific name	November						
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>				8			
49	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1	10	15	40	5		
50	Common Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>				12			
51	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>				1			
52	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			2	20			
53	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>		2					
54	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1	2	4			
55	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>				10			
56	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>				4			
57	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>		5	3	6			
58	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>			3	10			
59	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>				25			
60	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	2	3		2			
61	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>				1			
62	Black-bellied Tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>				2			
63	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	2	3		3			
64	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>		1	1	2			
65	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	5					200	
66	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	5						
67	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>						1	
68	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>		1		1			
69	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>		1	1				
70	Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>		1		1			
71	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>		3					
72	Besra	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>		1	1				
73	White-eyed Buzzard	<i>Butastur teesa</i>			1	1			
74	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		1		1			
75	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	1	1					
76	Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>				1			
77	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	*		1				
78	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	1	1	3	2			
79	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>				2			
80	Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>				1			
81	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	12	30	15	30	12		
82	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	50	20	6	4			
83	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1		3	20	2		
84	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		8		4			
85	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	1	1		15			
86	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>		1		6			
87	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	20	10	30	200	60	20	
88	Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	12	30	15	100	10		
89	Little Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>				3			
90	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		4	1				
91	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>		1					
92	Black Ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	1	8					
93	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	200	14	6	50	5		
94	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>			7	2			
95	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>				1			
96	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>			2	1			
97	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>			2				
98	Orange-bellied Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>						3	

	Common name	Scientific name	November						
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22
99	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	3	2	1		2		
100	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	1	2	1	4	1		
101	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>	1	1		1			
102	Black-headed Jay	<i>Garrulus lanceolatus</i>							2
103	Red-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>							4
104	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	3	4	4	2	2		
105	Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>							20
106	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	200			40	300	200	
107	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	20	30	12	20			10
108	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	2	2	1	6	2		
109	Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>							2
110	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>				1			
111	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>	✓	1	2				
112	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>			5				
113	Short-billed Minivet	<i>P. brevirostris</i>			3				
114	White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	2	2	2	2			
115	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	30	50	30	100	50		
116	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>		6					
117	White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>		1	1				
118	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>			1				
119	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>			6				
120	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>			3				
121	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	3	1					
122	Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>			20				
123	Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>							1
124	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>							1
125	White-collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>							1
126	Dark-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>							60
127	Red-throated Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	2	6	3	2	2		
128	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>	1	1	1		1		
129	Pale-chinned Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis poliogenys</i>			5				
130	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	3	5	6	1	3		
131	Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	3h	1f	3	8h	1m		
132	Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>				2			
133	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	2	3	4	1	2		
134	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>			2				
135	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>				2			
136	Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>							2
137	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	1		1	6			
138	White-tailed Stonechat	<i>Saxicola leucura</i>				3			
139	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>		30		15	12		
140	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sturnus contra</i>	5	20	10	15	4		
141	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	40	40	15	100	100	50	
142	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>	2	5		24	6		
143	White-tailed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>							6
144	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			1				
145	Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>							1
146	Black-lored Tit	<i>Parus xanthogenys</i>							2
147	Plain Martin	<i>R. paludicola</i>					3		
148	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1						4
149	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>			10				

	Common name	Scientific name	November						
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22
150	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>	15	30	60	20	20		
151	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	40	100	200	*	50		
152	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>						15	
153	Graceful Prinia	<i>Prinia gracilis</i>				4			
154	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>				8			
155	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	6	1	2				
156	Thick-billed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>					1		
157	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	1	4	3		2		
158	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>		5		1			
159	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>		1					
160	Buff-barred Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>						50	
161	Hume's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	1	1	1				
162	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	6	20	5	2	3		
163	Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>				1			
164	Striated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax striatus</i>							h
165	Streaked Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax lineatus</i>							1
166	Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>							h
167	Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>			3				
168	Striped Tit Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>			3				
169	Straited Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>				15			
170	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	10	20	40	✓	20		
171	Cutia	<i>Cutia nipalensis</i>							4
172	White-browed Shrike Babbler	<i>Pteruthius flaviscapis</i>							12
173	White-browed Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe vinipectus</i>							10
174	Rufous Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>							100
175	Whiskered Yuhina	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>							2
176	Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>							4
177	Rufous-vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>							6
178	Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>				6			
179	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>				2			
180	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>							3
181	Purple Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	1	1	1				
182	Green-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>							2
183	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		30	40	6			30
184	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>							8
185	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	4	6	1	50			
186	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	1	2		3			
187	Richard's Pipit	<i>Anthus richardi</i>				1			
188	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>				2			
189	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	3	10	8		4		
190	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	25	30	4	5	2		
191	Dark-breasted Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus nipalensis</i>							1

Common Name	Scientific Name	November						
		16	17	18	19	20	21	22

Mammals (h = heard only)

1	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>	30	300				50	
2	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>			30	2		1	
3	Common Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>			5				
4	Asiatic Golden Jackal	<i>Canis lupus</i>	h						
5	Indian Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsi</i>		1	2				
6	Ganges River Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>				7			
7	Wild Water Buffalo	<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>	5	9		6			
8	Fishing Cat	<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	1						
9	Porcupine	<i>Hystrix indica</i>			1				
10	Yellow-throated Marten	<i>Martes flavigula</i>						2	
11	Marsh Mugger	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>				1			

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Long-tailed Shrike – by Miles Charlesworth



Indian Pond Heron – by Miles Charlesworth