

Thailand - A Birdwatching Tour

Naturetrek Tour Report

15-24 February 2008

Report compiled by Chris Kehoe



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Day 0

Friday 15 February

Outbound from UK airports (via Dubai) on Emirates Airlines

Day 1

Saturday 16 February

Arrival in Bangkok, transfer to Khao Yai

Weather: dry, bright, warm and still on arrival.

Most group members arrived together in Bangkok a little ahead of the scheduled time of 11.05 and after negotiating immigration formalities, collecting luggage and changing money joined up with those already there, loaded the minibuses and set off towards Khao Yai at 13.00. Unfortunately a missed connection from Manchester Dubai led to four peoples arrival being delayed until the early hours of the following morning. The journey to Khao Yai was punctuated by three stops; firstly for an hour or so at some rice paddies along a side road which provided several open country species including 40 Asian Openbill Storks, Chinese and Javan Pond Herons, Long-tailed and Brown Shrikes and Black-shouldered Kite. A little later we arrived at Saraburi Temple where the hoped-for Limestone Wren-babblers showed almost immediately, also seen before we left after 40 minutes were Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Streak-eared and Sooty-headed Bulbuls, Taiga Flycatcher and several others that would become familiar sights in the coming days. Our final stop was at a roadside not far from our hotel where a final hour of birding before darkness fell produced a spectacular flight of emerging bats plus Chinese Sparrowhawk, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Ashy Woodswallows and others.

Day 2

Sunday 17 February

Khao Yai

Weather: dry, bright and warm/ hot, still.

Our first bird-filled full day began with breakfast at 05.30. A short drive delivered us to Khao Yai NP where at first light we were in position near some fruiting and flowering trees near the roadside. Birds came thick and fast as the light improved with particular highlights during the first hour including Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Thick-billed Green Pigeons, Moustached and Blue-eared Barbets, Blue-winged and Gold-fronted Leafbirds and plenty of Asian Fairy Bluebirds, Spangled Drongos and Vernal Hanging Parrots amongst many others. A little way down the road three Wedge-tailed Green Pigeons posed for the scope before a pair of Great Hornbills put on a fine performance. A little later we were watching Green-billed Malkohas, Heart-spotted Woodpecker and Little Spiderhunters as Verditer Flycatchers and a succession of Bulbuls appeared in the roadside trees. As the early morning rush began to subside a coffee break was very welcome before we made our way to the headquarters area where Rosy Minivet, Stripe-throated Bulbul and others showed well. As we walked the short distance to the campground where our packed lunches were waiting a large feeding flock contained several Blyth's Leaf Warblers, Grey-headed Flycatcher and Black-naped Monarch Flycatchers and others. During lunch a Changeable Hawk Eagle and a Dollarbird flew over and we had close encounters with a Red Muntjac and Sambar Deer. A walk along a quiet road after lunch gave us more views of species seen briefly earlier such as Puff-throated Bulbuls and Ashy Minivets, a Rufous-bellied Eagle flew over and Kamol located an Orange-breasted Trogon that allowed scope views for a while. Moving on we spent a little time in an unsuccessful search for Forktails along a riverbed before moving to a more open area where a Black-and-buff Woodpecker was seen briefly. A calling Brown Hawk Owl remained resolutely hidden but compensation came in the shape of a superb Banded Broadbill that eventually settled down for good scope views and as the light began to fade we took up positions at an open area and were rewarded with good views of several huge Great Eared Nightjars hawking over a line of trees.

Day 3

Monday 18 February

Khao Yai

Weather: dry, bright and warm/ hot throughout, still and rather humid at times.

Having had a very successful day concentrating on more easily visible species it was now time to seek out some of the shier inhabitants of Khao Yai. Our day began with a dawn search for Siamese Firebacks by driving slowly along a quiet stretch of Khao Khieo Access Road, although unsuccessful on the Fireback front, one of the vehicles succeeded in finding a Blue Pitta and a few other bits and pieces were seen. Moving higher up the road we followed a short loop trail to a lookout point across a large valley where Black Eagle, Crested Goshawk and Wreathed Hornbills were highlights and as we returned towards the road about half of the group got views of Silver Pheasants crossing the trail. The rest of the morning and early afternoon was spent slowly walking back down the road. Bird activity was generally low, although we did see a few new species such as Asian House Martin and Brown-backed Needletail, until we came across Stripe-throated Bulbuls, Bright-headed Cisticola and White-browed Scimitar-babbler in quick succession soon after lunch. Another attempt for Forktails drew a blank before we began a lengthy vigil at a stake-out for Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo. In the event just one person got a glimpse of the bird though Abbot's Babbler showed well and a couple of Siberian Blue Robins and another Blue

Pitta were glimpsed. Before darkness fell there was just enough time to track down some vocal Dusky Broadbills and a Large Hawk Cuckoo nearby.

Day 4 Tuesday 19 February

Juldis Khao Yai Resort Grounds; en route to Doi Inthanon via Bangkok and Chiang Mai (including Chiang Mai Firing range)

Weather: dry, bright and warm/ hot throughout, still.

We had time for a couple of hours birding around the hotel grounds before transferring back to Bangkok in order to catch an early afternoon flight to Chiang Mai. Bird activity was high early on with several Lineated Barbets and Red-breasted Parakeets perching up for the scope. Dusky Warbler was new, though predictably elusive, but most got their first views of Hainan Blue Flycatcher; a couple of Forest Wagtails showed well but the undoubted highlight was a showy group of Black Bazas flying and perching on the edge of an adjacent woodland. The journey to Bangkok passed quickly, our flight left on time and before we knew it we were arriving at an area of scrub adjacent to a military training ground (Chiang Mai Firing Range) on the outskirts of town. Several new birds were found here and at a nearby overgrown lake in the next couple of hours with Black-collared Mynas and Chestnut-tailed Starlings and Burmese Shrikes being most notable. A 90 minute drive then delivered us to the Doi Inthanon Highland Resort, our base for the next four nights where we arrived just before darkness fell.

Day 5

Wednesday 20 February

Doi Inthanon

Weather: cold with damp low cloud and a moderate breeze at the summit until mid-morning then dry and warm/ hot with variable cloud cover and a light breeze.

Our first day on Doi Inthanon began with an early breakfast and a 40 minute pre-dawn drive to reach the summit at first light where we were met by rather misty and breezy conditions. Wrapped up against the elements we soon started to see some of the specialities of this altitudinal range with Red-capped Laughingthrushes and Chestnut-tailed Minlas in evidence on the visitor centre lawns and Dark-backed Sibias singing in the shrubbery. The next three hours were spent exploring the summit trail either side of a coffee break. The delightful mossy forest here eventually yielded us White-browed Shortwings, Slaty-bellied Tesias, Pygmy Wren-babblers and Snowy-browed Flycatchers and less skulking species such as Yellow-browed Tits, Rufous-winged Fulvettas and others showed well. Flowering trees and bushes here and at the visitor centre held Green-tailed and Gould's Sunbirds as well as Buff-barred and Ashy-throated Warblers. As the low cloud began to disperse and the crowds began to arrive we made our way down the mountain. Lunch was at a quiet picnic area off the beaten track where a Hill Blue Flycatcher showed well and a short walk from there to a scenic waterfall gave us a cracking White-capped Redstart and a more elusive Slaty-backed Forktail. A little further afield a couple of flowering trees were watched for some time and produced a couple of brief Streaked Spiderhunters along with Black Bulbuls and several Orange-bellied Leafbirds. Some got brief views of a Blue-throated Barbet here which proved to be the only one seen. Further down the mountain we visited another waterfall where a superb pair of Slaty-backed Forktails gave extended views as Crested Treeswifts and Striated Swallows flew overhead.

Day 6

Thursday 21 February

Doi Inthanon

Weather: dry bright and warm/ hot throughout, still

We began the day along the roadside near the second checkpoint where a host of mid-altitude species awaited us. A Bay Woodpecker flew across the road calling before our first Maroon Orioles appeared in the treetops and were quickly followed by a fleeting Chestnut-fronted Shrike Babbler, White-browed Shrike Babbler, Short-billed Minivets, Rufous-backed Sibias, several Bronzed Drongos, a Blue-winged Minla and, just before we moved, a small group of stunning Silver-eared Mesias. Returning to the summit a quick look for Rufous-throated Partridges proved unsuccessful but did provide us with a fly-by Speckled Woodpigeon and a couple of Fire-breasted Flowerpeckers amongst several previously seen higher altitude species. Back at the second checkpoint we spent the remainder of the morning exploring the Jeep Track that starts near there and were soon rewarded with a couple of Brown-throated Treecreepers and Grey-chinned Minivets before a large feeding flock containing many Grey-eared and a few Brown-eared Fulvettas, Chestnut-crowned Warbler and a Black-eared Shrike-babbler held our attention for a while. White-tailed Leaf-warblers were much in evidence here, though more often heard than seen, and a couple of vocal Green Cochoas remained typically well concealed in the canopy. Lunch at the park campground was preceded by a brief visit to Mr Cheang's Restaurant where a female Siberian Blue Robin hopped about and a Pygmy Wren-babbler was seen though there was no sign of the wintering Dark-sided Thrush while we were there. Lunch itself was enlivened by a large mixed flock of White-eyes and a very obliging Asian Barred Owlet. A nearby orchard gave us great views of a wintering male Daurian Redstart and a few other bits and pieces but there was no sign of the hoped for Fire-capped Tits. Higher up the mountain we concentrated our efforts on another Jeep Track and an adjoining side trail into thick forest for the remainder of the day. Birding was rather slow, as it often is in the afternoon in tropical forests, but everyone managed views of Golden-throated Barbets and some got glimpses or longer looks at such tricky species as White-gorgetted Flycatcher, White-tailed Robin and Large Niltava. As we returned towards our vehicles a couple of Mountain Tailorbirds gave some decent views.

Day 7

Friday 22 February

Doi Inthanon

Weather: chilly but clear and bright at the summit early on with a light breeze, bright, sunny and warm later

Our final full day commenced with a return to the summit, this time in bright, sunny and still conditions. A fly-past Ashy Woodpigeon was seen before we returned to the Summit Trail where 90 minutes were spent getting better views of some of the areas specialities (White-browed Shortwings being especially obliging), plus a bonus Hill Prinia, while waiting for news of Rufous-throated Partridges from staff in the visitor centre kitchen. News duly came through as we were having coffee and we went up in small groups so as to minimise disturbance and all enjoyed excellent views of these often elusive birds. Much of the rest of the morning was spent slowly walking down the road where another Hill Prinia and several Slaty-backed Flycatchers and a brief Grey Bushchat and Striated Bulbul were the highlights. We returned to the campground for our picnic lunch during which both Rufous-winged and Common Buzzards were seen and a small flock of Long-tailed Minivets were added to our list. Kamol received a call informing us that the wintering group of Fire-capped Tits had reappeared at the orchard we visited yesterday and a few minutes later we were savouring views of up to 15 birds (including a

sparkling breeding male) quietly preening in a bare tree. Also seen here by some was a skulking Buff-throated Warbler and just before we left a couple of Common Rosefinches appeared in the same tree as the Tits. The remainder of the day was spent in the vicinity of the second checkpoint, initially along the Jeep Track there which provided us with White-tailed Robin and Large Niltava and, for a couple of people, an elusive Red-headed Trogon. Back on the road there was a flurry of activity as a feeding flock moved through that contained a single Golden Babbler and a handful of Grey-throated Babblers amongst previously seen species. A singing White-gorgetted Flycatcher eventually gave itself up to most who had missed yesterday's bird and before darkness began to fall nearby trees provided us with a pair of Chestnut-vented Nuthatches, Blue-winged Minla, Wedge-tailed Green Pigeons, Little Pied Flycatcher, Rufous-bellied Niltava and several other species.

Day 8

Saturday 23 February

Doi Inthanon; en route to Bangkok via Chiang Mai

Weather: dry, bright and hot, still

With our return flight to Bangkok not until late afternoon we had the morning free to explore some lowland forest along the Km 12 Track. The dry deciduous woodland here was in stark contrast to the moist evergreen forest higher up the mountain. An early highlight here came in the shape of an excellent Black-backed Forktail on a small river next to where we parked the minibuses. Next up was a perched Chinese Sparrowhawk and a couple of obliging Purple Sunbirds, followed soon after by a small group of Eurasian Jays of the strikingly white-faced form *leucotis*. Kamol led us off-piste and soon located a distant perched Collared Falconet that allowed good scope views, soon after another was seen nearby and this was quickly followed by a Black-hooded Oriole and two Gold-fronted Leafbirds. Things began to quieten down as the temperature rose though a flock of Brown Noddies showed very well low overhead (even allowing their tail spines to be seen) and a Crested Serpent Eagle gave a fine performance calling overhead. Back at the hotel there was time for some final packing before lunch and some saw a Red-billed Blue Magpie or two in the grounds and a small group of Chinese Francolins were flushed while looking for these. The return drive to Chang Mai saw us arrive at the airport in ample time, our flight left a little late but we arrived in Bangkok just after the scheduled at 18.00. A parting of the ways here saw some remain in transit before catching a flight to Dubai (and ultimately home to the UK) while others dispersed into Bangkok. Most people transferred to the Asia Hotel in central Bangkok in preparation for a one day extension in search of waders at sites to the south (details follow the systematic list).

Systematic bird list

Taxonomy, nomenclature and species order follows Craig Robson's definitive A Field Guide to Birds of South-east Asia (New Holland) 2000, unless otherwise indicated. Species marked (NL) were not seen by the tour leaders, species in square brackets were heard only or not firmly identified to species and are not included in the species totals as are any species (not listed) seen only by the tour leaders. Subspecies listed should be treated as likely rather than definite in many cases and follow indications in Robson's spin-off text A Field Guide to the Birds of Thailand (New Holland) 2002

1 Chinese Francolin *Francolinus pintadeanus phayrei*

Three were flushed at Doi Inthanon Highland Resort during lunch on our final day there

2 Rufous-throated Partridge *Arborophila rufogularis tickelli*

Two gave great views behind the café at the summit of Doi Inthanon, others had been heard during our first visit to the summit

[Scaly-breasted Partridge *Arborophila chloropus chloropus*

Heard but not seen at Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon]

3 Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus gallus*

Two were seen and several others heard at Khao Yai and a couple more were seen briefly at Doi Inthanon

4 Silver Pheasant *Lophura nycthemera nycthemera*

Six were seen by about half the group along the trail near the top of the Khao Khieo Access Road at Khao Yai

5 Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker *Picooides macei longipennis*

Two were at Chiang Mai Firing Range

[White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis feddeni*

Heard but not seen at Doi Inthanon]

6 Greater Flameback *Chrysocolaptes lucidus guttacristatus*

Two pairs were seen at Khao Yai. Another Flameback seen briefly at Doi Inthanon was either this species or, perhaps more likely, a Common Flameback *D. javanense*

7 Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis pyrrhotis*

A noisy individual flew over the road at the second checkpoint at Doi Inthanon but was not relocated

8 Black-and buff Woodpecker *Hemicircus jugularis*

One was seen briefly at Khao Yai

9 Heart-spotted Woodpecker *Hemicircus canente*

Two were seen at Khao Yai

[Great Barbet *Megalaima virens virens*

Heard regularly but not seen at Doi Inthanon]

10 Lineated Barbet *Megalaima lineata hodgsoni*

Heard at Saraburi Temple, about eight were seen well at Juldis Khao Yai Resort on the morning of our departure

11 Green-eared Barbet *Megalaima faiostricta faiostricta*

Common at Khao Yai where at least 10 were seen and many more heard

12 Golden-throated Barbet *Megalaima franklinii ramsayi*

Two were seen at Doi Inthanon where many more were heard

13 Blue-throated Barbet *Megalaima asiatica davisoni*

One was seen briefly at Doi Inthanon where a few more were heard

14 Moustached Barbet *Megalaima incognita elbeli*

Three were seen and a few more heard at Khao Yai

15 Blue-eared Barbet *Megalaima australis cyanotis*

About 20 were seen at Khao Yai with many others heard

16 Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala indica*

Heard at Saraburi Temple; half a dozen were seen at Khao Yai and nearby Juldis Khao Yai Resort with another three seen at Chiang Mai Firing Range and at lower elevations on Doi Inthanon

17 Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris albirostris*

About eight were seen at Khao Yai with others heard there and at Juldis Khao Yai Resort

18 Great Hornbill *Buceros bicornis bomrai*

A pair gave some superb views in a roadside fruiting tree at Khao Yai on our first morning there, one of the unforgettable spectacles of Oriental birding!

19 Wreathed Hornbill *Rhyticeros undulatus*

Two gave prolonged flight views from a lookout along the trail near the top of the Khao Khieo Access Road at Khao Yai

20 Orange-breasted Trogon *Harpactes oreskios stellae*

A male eventually settled down and allowed most people scope views at Khao Yai where another was heard

21 Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus erythrocephalus*

A rather elusive male showed to a couple of people along the Km 37.5 Jeep Track Trail at Doi Inthanon

22 Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis affinis*

A couple between Bangkok and Khao Yai were followed by a further half a dozen at widespread lowland sites

23 Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis deignani*

One flew over as we had lunch near the visitors centre at Khao Yai

24 Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis bengalensis*

Singles were seen on a couple of occasions at Khao Yai and once at Doi Inthanon

25 Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis athertoni*

Three gave decent and prolonged scope views on our first morning at Khao Yai

26 Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis ferrugeigeps*

Three or four were noted at Chiang Mai Firing Range

27 Chestnut-headed Bee-eater *Merops leschenaulti leschenaulti*

About 20 at Khao Yai were followed by a couple on our last morning at Doi Inthanon

28 Large Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx sparverioides sparverioides*

Four were seen and several others heard at and around Khao Yai, also heard at Doi Inthanon

29 Asian Koel *Eudynamys scolopacea chinensis & malayana*

Very often heard and occasionally seen throughout after the first near the Juldis Khao Yai Resort

30 Green-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus tristis longicaudatus*

About 6 were seen at Khao Yai, often very well

31 Coral-billed Ground-Cuckoo *Carpococcyx renauldi*

One group member managed a very fleeting view at the stake-out at Khao Yai (NL)

32 Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis intermedius*

One was seen at Chiang Mai Firing range with others heard at Khao Yai and on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon

33 Vernal Hanging Parrot *Loriculus vernalis*

About 100 were in fruiting trees on our first morning at Khao Yai

34 Red-breasted Parakeet *Psittacula alexandri fasciata*

A couple at Khao Yai were followed by at least 20 at Juldis Khao Yai Resort (a traditional site) on our final morning there

35 Himalayan Swiftlet *Aerodramus brevirostris rogersi & perhaps innominata*

Up to 30 were seen at Khao Yai

36 Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus indicus*

Half a dozen over Khao Yai were followed by very good views of 10 on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon

37 Asian Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis infumatus*

Fairly common and widespread with up to 50 seen each day

38 House Swift *Apus affinis subfurcatus*

Small groups were occasionally seen at Khao Yai

39 Crested Treeswift *Hemiprocne coronata*

Two or three were noted at Doi Inthanon but they didn't linger for all to see

40 Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides bruegeli*

A couple were glimpsed from the moving minibuses at Khao Yai but others showed well at the campground at Doi Inthanon and at Doi Inthanon Highland Resort, a few more were heard

[Brown Boobook *Ninox scutulata burmanica* (formerly Brown Hawk-owl)]

Heard but not seen at Khao Yai and Juldis Khao Yai Resort. As the birds were calling it seems fair to assume they were resident individuals rather than the now often split migratory form *japonica* (Northern Boobook)]

41 Great Eared Nightjar *Eurostopodus macrotis cerviniceps*

At least five showed well at dusk at Khao Yai with another couple seen briefly from the moving vehicles

42 Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus bimaculatus*

One was noted at Doi Inthanon Highland Resort (NL)

[Feral Rock Pigeon *Columba livia 'domesticus'*

Present, unfortunately, in some urban and semi-urban contexts]

43 Speckled Wood Pigeon *Columba hodgsonii*

Singles were seen twice at the summit of Doi Inthanon

44 Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis tigrina*

Fairly common and widespread in the lowlands, especially in association with habitation

45 Red Collared Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica humilis*

Common in the lowlands on the outskirts of Bangkok

46 Barred Cuckoo-dove *Macropygia unchall tusalia*

Singles were seen on two occasions at Khao Yai

47 Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica indica*

A couple gave fleeting views at Khao Yai

48 Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata*

A couple were seen from the moving vehicles in the lowlands between Bangkok and Khao Yai

49 Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra nipalensis*

About 15 showed well on our first morning at Khao Yai

50 Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenura sphenura*

Three at Khao Yai were followed by about 10 at the second checkpoint on Doi Inthanon

51 Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia griseicapilla*

Five were recorded at Khao Yai

52 White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus phoenicurus*

One at Juldis Khao Yai Resort was followed by a couple at Chiang Mai Firing Range

[Black-tailed Crake *Porzana bicolor*

Heard but not seen at Doi Inthanon]

53 Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

One was in rice paddies on the outskirts of Bangkok

54 Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus himantopus*

Fairly common in rice paddies between Bangkok and Khao Yai

55 Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius jerdoni* or *curonicus*

Four were in rice paddies on the outskirts of Bangkok

56 Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus atronuchalis*

Six in rice paddies near Bangkok were followed by six more at Khao Yai

Doi Inthanon

57 Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes syama*

Four gave great views at Juldis Khao Yai Resort on our final morning there

58 Oriental Honey-Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis* or *orientalis*

Singles were noted on two occasions at Khao Yai

59 Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus vociferus*

One was at the rice paddies near Bangkok and another at Chiang Mai

60 Crested Serpent-Eagle *Spilornis cheela burmanicus*

One flew over the Km 12 Trail at Doi Inthanon on our final morning

61 Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus indicus*

At least three were seen over Khao Yai with one performing its characteristic wing shivering display

62 Shikra *Accipiter badius poliopsis*

One, possibly three or four, were along the Km 12 Trail on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon after an earlier bird at Khao Yai

63 Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis*

A male near Juldis Khao Yai Resort was followed by at least one more at the Km 12 Trail on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon

64 Rufous-winged Buzzard *Buteo liventer*

One flew through the campground where we had lunch at Doi Inthanon

65 'Common' Buzzard *Buteo (buteo) japonica*

One was soaring over the campground where we had lunch at Doi Inthanon. Eastern Palearctic and Himalayan taxa are increasingly regarded as specifically distinct from western birds (i.e. Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo burmanicus*) but relationships between the various forms are far from satisfactorily resolved at present

66 Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis malayensis*

One showed well from the viewpoint along the trail near the top of the Khao Yai Doi Inthanon

67 Rufous-bellied Eagle *Hieraaetus kienerii formosae*

One was seen soaring during our first afternoon at Khao Yai

68 Changeable Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus (cirrhatu) limnaeetus*

One flew over our lunch stop on our first day at Khao Yai; birds from SE Asia are now often regarded as specifically distinct from the nominate race in India but retain the same English name

69 Mountain Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus nipalensis nipalensis*

One was over the Km 12 Trail at Doi Inthanon

70 Collared Falconet *Microhierax caerulescens burmanicus*

Two gave good scope views along the Km 12 trail at Doi Inthanon

71 Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus interstinctus*

Two were seen near the Juldis Khao Yai Resort

72 Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis poggei*

One was at Khao Yai

73 Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*

A couple were in the rice paddies near Bangkok with others seen from the moving vehicles

74 Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax indicus*

Half a dozen were in rice paddies near Bangkok

75 Little Egret *Egretta garzetta garzetta*

Rice paddies between Bangkok and Khao Yai held hundreds

76 Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea manilensis*

One was in rice paddies near Bangkok

77 Great Egret *Casmerodius albus modestus* (Aka *Egretta* or *Ardea alba*)

A handful were seen between Bangkok and Khao Yai

78 Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia* (Aka *Casmerodius intermedia*)

One was in rice paddies near Bangkok, others may have been overlooked amongst the numerous Egrets seen from the moving vehicles between Bangkok and Khao Yai

79 'Eastern' Cattle Egret *Bubulcus (ibis) coromandus*

Small numbers were seen from the moving vehicles in the lowlands; birds from India eastwards are often now regarded as specifically distinct from nominate race birds elsewhere

80 Chinese Pond-Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

About 40 were seen between Bangkok and Khao Yai with a handful more at the latter and at and around Chiang Mai and Doi Inthanon, all were in non-breeding plumage

81 Javan Pond-Heron *Ardeola speciosa*

About a third of the Pond Herons in rice paddies near Bangkok showed the distinctly finer neck streaking thought to be indicative of this species in non-breeding plumage and which mirrors differences in breeding plumage

82 Little Heron *Butorides striatus javanicus* &/or *actophilus*

Singles were seen at Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon

83 Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*

At least 50 were seen between Bangkok and Khao Yai

84 Blue Pitta *Pitta cyanea cyanea*

One was seen by one of the minibuses as we searched for Siamese Firebacks at Khao Yai and later the same day and another was seen by some people at the Coral-billed Ground-cuckoo stake-out

[Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarisomus dalhousiae dalhousiae*

Two were heard but not seen at Khao Yai]

85 Banded Broadbill *Eurylaimus javanicus harterti*

One posed for the scope at Khao Yai where another was heard

86 Dusky Broadbill *Corydon sumatranus laoensis*

Four were seen together at Khao Yai

87 Asian Fairy Bluebird *Irena puella puella*

Up to 20 were seen on our first morning at Khao Yai, most were in flowering and fruiting trees, thereafter just a handful more were noted at both Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon

88 Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinchinensis chlorocephala* & *cochinchinensis*

Fruiting trees at Khao Yai attracted at least 10 birds and half a dozen were at Doi Inthanon

89 Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis aurifrons pridii* & *inornata*

Two at Khao Yai were followed by two more at Doi Inthanon

90 Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii hardwickii*

About eight fed in flowering trees during our first afternoon at Doi Inthanon

91 Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* probably *confusus* or *cristatus*

Two were seen at rice paddies near Bangkok

92 Burmese Shrike *Lanius colluriooides colluriooides*

Two were seen at Chiang Mai Firing Range

93 Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach longicaudatus*

One was in rice paddies near Bangkok

94 Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus*

One at Khao Yai was followed by four more at Doi Inthanon

95 Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius leucotis*

A group of five were seen on a couple of occasions during our final morning at Doi Inthanon

96 Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythrorhyncha magnirostris*

One or two were seen briefly at Doi Inthanon Highland Resort during lunch on our final day there

97 Common Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis chinensis*

Singles were seen briefly at Khao Yai on two occasions

[Rufous Treepie *Dendrocitta vagabunda kinneari*

Heard but not seen at Doi Inthanon]

98 'Large-billed' Crow *Corvus (macrorhynchos) levaillantii*

About 10 were seen at both Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon; some recent authors have subdivided this species and named birds of the race *levaillantii* Eastern Jungle Crow

99 Ashy Wood-swallow *Artamus fuscus*

Up to 10 per day were seen at and around Khao Yai and a couple more at Chiang Mai and Doi Inthanon

100 Black-naped Oriole *Oriolus chinensis diffusus*

At least six were seen on our first morning at Khao Yai, the possibility that some of the females may have been Slender-billed Orioles *O. tenuirostris* cannot be discounted but at least two unequivocal males Black-naped were seen

101 Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus xanthornus*

One was seen along the Km 12 Trail at Doi Inthanon

102 Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii traillii*

About six were seen in the mid-elevation forests near the second checkpoint at Doi Inthanon

[Cuckoo-shrike species *Coracina* sp

Fleetingly seen and unidentifiable Cuckoo-shrikes were seen once at Khao Yai and once at Doi Inthanon]

103 Rosy Minivet *Pericrocotus roseus roseus*

Two were seen on our first day at Khao Yai

104 Ashy Minivet *Pericrocotus divaricatus divaricatus*

Over 30 were recorded at Khao Yai with a handful more at Doi Inthanon, several were brief or distant and some may have been Swinhoe's Minivets *P. cantonensis* though several obvious male Ashy were seen well

105 Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris rubrolimbatus*

About 15 were recorded at mid-elevations at Doi Inthanon, mostly near the second checkpoint

106 Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus ethologus*

About eight were in conifers at the campground where we had lunch at Doi Inthanon; identified as the migratory race *ethologus* by the dull head pattern of the females

107 Short-billed Minivet *Pericrocotus brevirostris neglectus*

About a dozen were seen during our various visits to the second checkpoint on Doi Inthanon

108 Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus semiruber*

A handful were recorded at Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon

109 Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus picatus* & *capitalus*

Four at Khao Yai were followed by another on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon

110 Yellow-bellied Fantail *Rhipidura hypoxantha*

Four were seen on Doi Inthanon

111 White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis celsa*

Three or four were found at higher elevations on Doi Inthanon

112 Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javnica longicauda*

One at Saraburi Temple was the only one seen

113 Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus thai* & perhaps *cathoecus*

Small numbers were seen in the lowlands between Bangkok and Khao Yai and near Chiang Mai

114 Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus meuboti* etc

Two at Saraburi Temple were followed by about 15 at Khao Yai and a dozen at Doi Inthanon, all were of the darker races

115 Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus aeneus*

About 10 were seen at mid-elevations on Doi Inthanon

116 Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer tectirostris*

About 15 were seen at mid-elevations on Doi Inthanon

117 Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus hottentottus* & perhaps *brevirostris*

Over 150 were at Khao Yai during our first day there with a couple seen next day and a handful more at Doi Inthanon

118 Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus rangoonensis*

A couple were seen and heard at Khao Yai with a couple more at and around the Doi Inthanon Highland resort

119 Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea montana*

One at Saraburi Temple was followed by two at Khao Yai and one at Doi Inthanon

120 Asian Paradise-flycatcher *Tephrodornis paradisi indochinensis* &/or *incei*

Four were found at and around Khao Yai and two were at Doi Inthanon

121 Common lora *Aegithina tiphia philipi*

One at Saraburi Temple was followed by a couple more at Khao Yai, heard but not seen at Doi Inthanon

122 Great lora *Aegithina lafresnayeii innotata*

Three showed briefly at Khao Yai where a couple more were heard

123 Common Wood-Shrike *Tephrodornis pondicerianus pondicerianus*

One was seen briefly at Khao Yai

124 Blue Rock-Thrush *Monticola solitarius pandoo*

One was at Saraburi Temple and two at Khao Yai

125 Blue Whistling Thrush *Myiophoneus caeruleus eugenei* & *caeruleus*

Three were at Khao Yai and another six at Doi Inthanon including a dark-billed bird of the migrant nominate race *caeruleus*

126 Chestnut Thrush *Turdus rubrocanus gouldi*

Two were seen at the summit of Doi Inthanon

127 Eye-browed Thrush *Turdus obscurus*

One was seen at Doi Inthanon and a couple of more distantly seen Thrushes there may also have been this species

128 White-browed Shortwing *Brachypteryx montana cruralis*

At least one pair at the Summit Trail at Doi Inthanon eventually gave some great views

129 Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica dauurica*

About five were seen in and around Khao Yai and one was at Doi Inthanon

130 Slaty-backed Flycatcher *Ficedula hodgsonii*

About six were seen between the summit and stupa at Doi Inthanon

131 Taiga (Red-throated) Flycatcher *Ficedula albicilla*

One was at Saraburi Temple, four or five were seen and several others heard at and around Khao Yai and several more were heard and a couple seen at and around Doi Inthanon. Now split from Red-breasted (also Aka Red-throated Flycatcher) *F. parva*

132 White-gorgetted Flycatcher *Ficedula monileger leucops*

These elusive flycatchers were seen on two occasions at mid-elevations on Doi Inthanon

133 Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra hyperythra*

A pair were along the Summit Trail at Doi Inthanon

134 Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni australorientis*

Three were seen at mid-elevation on Doi Inthanon

135 Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassina thalassina*

Two were at Khao Yai, one at the Juldis Khao Yai Resort and about seven at Doi Inthanon

136 Large Niltava *Niltava grandis grandis*

Singles were seen twice at Doi Inthanon

[Small Niltava *Niltava macgrigoriae signata*

Heard but not seen at Khao Yai]

137 Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava sundara denotata*

One was seen briefly during our final evening on Doi Inthanon

138 Hainan Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis hainana*

One was at Khao Yai and another at the Juldis Khao Yai Resort

139 Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis banyumas whitei*

One was seen at Khao Yai and another two were at Doi Inthanon

140 Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis calochrysea*

Two were seen at Khao Yai and a further four at and around Doi Inthanon

141 Siberian Blue Robin *Luscinia cyane cyane*

Two were glimpsed and others heard at Khao Yai and a female showed quite well at Mr Deang's place at Doi Inthanon

142 Orange-flanked Bush-Robin *Tarsiger cyanurus rufilatus* or *cyanurus* (formerly Red-flanked Bluetail)

Singles were seen twice at the Summit Trail on Doi Inthanon; views were brief so it is unclear whether the birds were of the wintering Siberian race *cyanurus* which some now regard as a separate species (i.e. Northern Red-flanked Bush Robin) from populations centred on the Himalayas and outlying ranges (i.e. Himalayan Red-flanked Bush-robin *T. rufilatus*)

143 Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis erimelas*

One was seen at the Juldis Khao Yai Resort and about five were at and around the lower slopes at Doi Inthanon

144 White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus interpositus*

A couple were seen and others heard at Khao Yai, one was seen at the Juldis Khao Yai Resort and three or four were at Doi Inthanon

145 Daurian Redstart *Phoenicurus aureus leucopterus*

A smart male was at the orchard we visited on Doi Inthanon

146 White-capped Redstart (Riverchat) *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*

One gave some great views at Doi Inthanon

147 White-tailed Robin *Myiomela leucura leucura*

A total of three were found at Doi Inthanon though all were typically elusive

148 Black-backed Forktail *Enicurus immaculatus*

One showed well along the river at the start of the Km 12 Track at Doi Inthanon on our final morning there

149 Slaty-backed Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus*

Four were seen, two very well, on the afternoon of our first day on Doi Inthanon and another glimpsed next day

[Green Cochoa *Cochoa viridis*

Heard but not seen along the Km 37.5 Jeep Track at Doi Inthanon]

150 Common (Eastern or Siberian) Stonechat *Saxicola (torquatus) maurus/ stejnegeri*

Two were in rice paddies near Bangkok, one at Khao Yai and a couple at Chiang Mai Firing range. The jury is still out on whether Eastern races should be regarded as a separate species from those in Europe.

151 Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata burmanica*

One near Juldis Khao Yai Resort was followed by three in the orchard on Doi Inthanon

152 Grey Bushchat *Saxicola ferrea*

One was seen briefly along the main road between the summit and the stupa at Doi Inthanon

153 Chestnut-tailed Starling *Sturnus malabaricus nemoricola*

Up to 10 were at Chiang Mai Firing Range

154 Asian Pied Starling *Sturnus contra floweri*

Six were in rice paddies near Bangkok

155 Black-collared Starling *Sturnus nigricollis*

Heard but not seen at the Juldis Khao Yai Resort but about 15 showed well at Chiang Mai Firing Range

156 Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis tristis*

A handful were seen between Bangkok and Khao Yai and at the Juldis Khao Yai Resort with a few more around Chiang Mai

157 White-vented Myna *Acridotheres grandis*

A few were between Bangkok and Khao Yai and about 100 were around the Juldis Khao Yai Resort before we left, others were at and around Chiang Mai

158 Golden-crested Myna *Ampeliceps coronatus*

One was scoped at Khao Yai

159 'Common' Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa intermedia*

At least 10 were seen during our first day at Khao Yai

160 Chestnut-vented Nuthatch *Sitta nagaensis montium*

A pair attended a nest near the second checkpoint on Doi Inthanon

161 Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis frontalis*

Singles were seen on two occasions at Doi Inthanon where a couple more were heard

162 Brown-throated Treecreeper *Certhia discolor shanensis*

At least four were seen along the mid-elevation trails at Doi Inthanon

163 Fire-capped Tit *Cephalopyrus flammiceps olivaceus*

On our second visit to the Orchard at Doi Inthanon about 15 showed well including a cracking male in breeding plumage that posed for the scope, a rather difficult species to see anywhere

164 Yellow-cheeked Tit *Parus spilonotus subviridis*

About 20 were recorded at mid- and high elevations on Doi Inthanon

165 Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus modestus*

Two or three were found along the Summit Trail at Doi Inthanon

[Sultan Tit *Melanochlora sultanea sultanea*

Heard but not seen at Khao Yai]

166 Sand Martin *Riparia riparia ijimae*

About 20 were over rice paddies near Bangkok and a couple more at Chiang Mai Firing Range

167 Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica gutturalis* & perhaps *tytleri* or *mandschurica*

Common in open country in the lowlands around Bangkok and at Khao Yai but not seen elsewhere

168 Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii filifera*

Up to four were on wires at Chiang Mai Firing Range

169 Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica japonica*

After the first over rice paddies near Bangkok this species proved to be quite common at Khao Yai where over 100 were seen

170 Striated Swallow *Hirundo striolata stanfordi* &/or *mayri*

Replaced the last species at Doi Inthanon where variable numbers were seen daily at low and mid-elevations, though identified by location rather than appearance as most were rather distant

171 Asian House-Martin *Delichon dasypus* probably *dasypus*

One was seen at Khao Yai and a couple of more distantly seen House Martins there and at Doi Inthanon were probably this species

172 Striated Bulbul *Pycnonotus striatus paulus*

One was seen briefly near the stupa on Doi Inthanon

173 Black-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus atriceps*

At least eight were seen during our first morning at Khao Yai

174 Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanicterus vantynei* & *johnsoni*

One of the commoner forest species seen with about 40 at Khao Yai and 30 more at low and mid- elevations on Doi Inthanon; birds at Khao Yai were of the red-throated race *johnsoni*

175 Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus pattani*

A couple at Khao Yai were followed by a further 15 at Chiang Mai and Doi Inthanon

176 Sooty-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus aurigaster klossi* & perhaps *thais*

A couple at Saraburi Temple were followed by a handful more at Chiang Mai Firing Range and around Doi Inthanon Highland Resort

177 Stripe-throated Bulbul *Pycnonotus finlaysoni eous*

Four were seen at Khao Yai where a couple more were heard

178 Flavescent Bulbul *Pycnonotus flavescens vividus*

About a dozen were seen at mid- and high elevations at Doi Inthanon

179 Streak-eared Bulbul *Pycnonotus blanfordi conradi*

Two were at Saraburi Temple and three or four in the grounds of Doi Inthanon Highland Resort during lunch on our final day

180 Puff-throated Bulbul *Criniger pallidus henrici*

Fairly common at Khao Yai where about 15 were seen, a couple more were noted at Doi Inthanon at lower mid-elevations

181 Grey-eyed Bulbul *Iole propinqua propinqua*

Quite common at Khao Yai where about 10 were seen and many more heard, a couple more were heard at lower elevations on Doi Inthanon

182 Ashy Bulbul *Hypsipetes flavala hildebrandi*

Six were recorded at Doi Inthanon

183 Mountain Bulbul *Hypsipetes mccllellandii tickelli*

Fairly common at Doi Inthanon where about 20 were seen, mostly at mid-elevations but with a couple nearer the summit

184 Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes madagascariensis concolor*

About 10 were seen at mid-elevations on Doi Inthanon, all were of the dark-headed resident race

185 Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis malaya*

A couple were seen and heard in rice paddies near Bangkok

186 Bright-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis equicaudata*

One of several calling birds at the Khao Yai meadows popped up and showed well

187 Hill Prinia *Prinia atrogularis erythropleura*

Two were seen at and near the summit of Doi Inthanon

188 Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens beavani*

Two were seen and a couple more heard at Khao Yai and another was at Chiang Mai Firing Range

189 Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii* *erro*

Four or five were at Chiang Mai Firing range and one at Doi Inthanon

190 Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris* *delacouri*

One was seen briefly at Chiang Mai Firing Range

191 Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata* *herbeti*

Two were in rice paddies near Bangkok and one at Doi Inthanon

192 Chestnut-flanked White-eye *Zosterops erythropleurus*

The commonest White-eye with about 30 seen at Khao Yai and 100 at Doi Inthanon, the latter mostly in one large flock at the campground

193 Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus* *siamensis*

At least a handful were mixed in with other White-eyes at Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon

194 Japanese White-eye *Zosterops japonicus* *simplex*

At least a handful were mixed in with other White-eyes at Khao Yai and Doi Inthanon

195 Slaty-bellied Tesia *Tesia olivea*

Two or three eventually showed very well along the Summit Trail at Doi Inthanon

[Oriental Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis*

A couple of large *Acrocephalus* Warblers seen briefly at Chiang Mai Firing Range were probably this species]

196 Mountain Tailorbird *Orthotomus cuculatus* *coronatus*

About four were seen at mid-elevations on Doi Inthanon with a couple more heard

197 Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius* *inexpectatus*

A couple were recorded at Khao Yai and at Juldis Khao Yai Resort

198 Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis* *nitidus*

About six were recorded at Khao Yai

199 Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* *fuscatus*

Two were seen at Juldis Khao Yai Resort and a couple more heard at Khao Yai and elsewhere

200 Buff-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus subaffinis*

One showed briefly at the orchard on Doi Inthanon while we were watching Fire-capped Tits

201 Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi*

One was seen by one vehicle while we searched for Siamese Firebacks, a couple more were heard

202 Buff-barred Leaf- Warbler *Phylloscopus pulcher pulcher*

Up to 10 were around the summit of Doi Inthanon

203 Ashy-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus maculipennis maculipennis*

Up to five were at the summit of Doi Inthanon

204 Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Often heard in the lowlands and at lower elevations on Doi Inthanon, about 40 were seen in total

205 Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis borealis*

One was seen briefly at Khao Yai

206 Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides trochiloides* & perhaps *plumbeitarsus*

One at Saraburi Temple was followed by a couple more at Khao Yai where several more were heard

207 Pale-legged Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus tenellipes*

One was seen while looking for Siamese Firebacks and another calling bird was glimpsed at Khao Yai

208 Blyth's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides assamensis*

Two feeding flocks at Khao Yai contained about 20 individuals

209 White-tailed Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus davisoni davisoni*

The commonest Leaf-warbler at mid-elevations at Doi Inthanon where about 20 were seen and many more heard

210 Grey-crowned Warbler *Seicercus tephrocephalus*

Two were noted at Khao Yai

211 Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Seicercus castaniceps collinsi*

Two were seen at mid-elevations at Doi Inthanon

[White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus diardi*

Heard but not seen on a couple of occasions at Khao Yai]

[White-necked Laughingthrush *Garrulax strepitans*

Heard but not seen at mid-elevation at Doi Inthanon]

212 Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush *Garrulax erythrocephalus melanostigma*

About 10 showed well around the summit at Doi Inthanon; some authorities split this race as Silver-eared Laughingthrush

213 Abbott's Babbler *Trichastoma abbotti williamsoni*

Two showed well while we waited for the Coral-billed Ground-cuckoo at Khao Yai

[Buff-breasted Babbler *Pellorneum tickelli fulvum*

Heard once but not seen at mid-elevation on Doi Inthanon]

214 Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps chthonium*

One was seen briefly at Khao Yai one the afternoon of our first day there

[Large Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus hypoleucos tickelli*

Heard but not seen at Khao Yai]

215 White-browed Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus schisticeps humillis*

One of two seen at Khao Yai eventually showed quite well

216 Limestone Wren Babbler *Napothera crispifrons calcicola*

Two showed well at Saraburi Temple

217 Pygmy Wren Babbler *Pnoepyga pusilla pusilla*

To or three were at the Summit trail on Doi Inthanon and one at Mr Deang's

218 Golden Babbler *Stachyris chrysaea aurata*

One was seen in a mixed flock near the second checkpoint on Doi Inthanon

219 Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps yunnanensis*

Four or five were in the same flock as the last species

220 'Pin-striped' Tit-Babbler *Macronous gularis saraburiensis*

One showed well early on our first morning at Khao Yai and a couple more were heard there; now split from Bornean birds which are known as Bold-striped Tit-babbler

221 Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix argenteauris galbana*

Four showed well at mid-elevation at Doi Inthanon with another seen more briefly nearby

222 White-browed Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis aeralatus*

A singing bird posed for the scope near the second checkpoint on Doi Inthanon with a couple more seen briefly near there

223 Black-eared Shrike Babbler *Pteruthius melanotis melanotis*

One was with a large Fulvetta flock along the Km 37.5 Jeep Trail at Doi Inthanon

224 Chestnut-fronted Shrike-babbler *Pteruthius aenobarbus intermedius*

One was seen briefly at the second checkpoint on Doi Inthanon with another heard nearby

225 Spectacled Barwing *Actinodura ramsayi ramsayi*

About six at Doi Inthanon were all in the vicinity of the second checkpoint

226 Blue-winged Minla *Minla cyanouroptera sordida*

One or two were seen on three occasions at mid-elevations on Doi Inthanon

227 Chestnut-tailed Minla *Minla strigula castanicauda*

Quite common at higher elevations at Doi Inthanon were about 20 were seen

228 Rufous-winged Fulvetta *Alcippe castaneiceps exul*

Most of the 15 or so seen were at higher elevations on Doi Inthanon but a few were seen at mid-elevations near the second check-point too

229 Brown-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe poioicephala probably hartingtoni*

Two or three were noted at the Km 37.5 Jeep Trail at Doi Inthanon with larger numbers of the next species

230 Grey-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe morrisonia fraterculus*

A large feeding flock contained about 30 birds along the Km 37.5 Jeep Trail at Doi Inthanon with small numbers seen in nearby areas

231 Rufous-backed Sibia *Heterophasia annectens mixta*

About 6 at Doi Inthanon were all at mid-elevation near the second check-point

232 Dark-backed Sibia *Heterophasia melanoleuca radcliffei*

In total about 20 were seen at mid- and high elevations on Doi Inthanon

233 White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis zantholeuca zantholeuca* (formerly White-bellied Yuhina *Yuhina zantholeuca*)

About 10 were seen at Khao Yai and six more at Doi Inthanon; genetic studies have shown that despite superficial similarities this species is not closely related to Yuhinas

234 Thick-billed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum agile modestum*

Two were seen during our first morning at Khao Yai

235 Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysotheum chrysochlore*

About four were seen at Khao Yai

236 Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum concolor olivaceum*

Two were noted at Doi Inthanon

237 Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus ignipectus & cambodianum*

A couple were seen occasionally at the summit on Doi Inthanon and cambodianum birds (males lacking red on the breast and colloquially known as Buff-bellied Flowerpecker) were seen half a dozen times at Yhao Yai

238 Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum cruentatum cruentatum*

A male was seen at Saraburi Temple

239 Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarinia jugularis flamaxillaris*

Three at and around Khao Yai were followed by a couple more on the lower slopes of Doi Inthanon

240 Purple Sunbird *Nectarinia asiatica intermedia*

Three were seen and others heard along the Km 13 Track at Doi Inthanon

241 Mrs Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae dabryii*

Three or four were at the summit of Doi Inthanon

242 Green-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga nipalensis angkanensis*

Up to 10 were around the summit at Doi Inthanon

243 Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga saturata petersi*

Three at Khao Yai were followed by two at Doi Inthanon

244 Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja cara*

One was seen on a couple of occasions in the grounds of Doi Inthanon Highland Resort

245 Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra longirostra*

About five were seen at Khao Yai

246 Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna musarum*

One or two were seen in flowering trees at Doi Inthanon

247 House Sparrow *Passer domesticus indicus*

A handful were seen in urban contexts

248 Plain-backed Sparrow *Passer flaveolus*

A couple were seen in the lowlands between Bangkok and Khao Yai

249 Eurasian Tree-Sparrow *Passer montanus malaccensis*

Small numbers were seen in urban contexts

250 Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus*

Two showed well in the grounds of the Juldis Khao Yai Resort

251 'Eastern' Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla (flava) tschutshensis* etc.

Small numbers were seen in rice paddies near Bangkok; a split of Eastern Palearctic taxa, including all those occurring in SE Asia, from forms from further west seems likely

252 Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea cinerea*

Two or three were at Khao Yai and twice that number at Doi Inthanon

253 Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus rufulus*

One was at Khao Yai

254 Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni yunnanensis*

Three or four were at Chiang Mai Firing Range with a couple more at our lunch stop at a campsite at Doi Inthanon

255 Red Avadavat *Amandava amandava punicea*

A couple in rice paddies on the outskirts of Bangkok were followed by about eight at Chiang Mai Firing Range

254 White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata subsquamicollis*

A couple were seen briefly at Khao Yai and four at Chiang Mai Firing Range

255 Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata topela*

A handful at the rice paddies near Bangkok were followed by about 20 at Chiang Mai Firing Range

256 Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus* (probably *ssp. roseatus*)

A pair were at the orchard at Doi Inthanon during our second visit there

Tour extension

24-25th February

Tour leaders: Chris Kehoe (Naturetrek)
Sukanya Thanombuddha (local guide)

Tour participants: Paul Meredith
Pete Williamson
Peter Smith
Bernard Morris
Jack Levene
Paul Edlin
Meg Frost
Jim Frost

Locations: 24th February: Khok Kham saltpans (Samut Sakhon), Lam Pak Bia sandspit and Ban Pak Thale saltpans; Inbound to UK (arriving 25th)

Weather: overcast then mostly clear and sunny by mid-morning. Overcast again by mid- afternoon when a few spots of rain near Bangkok, light breeze, warm and humid then hot and humid, slight breeze at coast.

Those who opted for the one day extension to search for waders at sites near Bangkok left the Asia Hotel at 06.00. Just over an hour later we arrived at Khok Kham near Samut Sakhon to be told that a spotter had just located our primary target, a superb Spoon-billed Sandpiper that gave great views down to 40 metres for well over half an hour until we left the area. Also present at Khok Kham were large numbers of Red-necked Stints and Lesser Sandplovers with smaller numbers of Broad-billed, Curlew and Marsh Sandpipers, Long Toed Stint, Great Knot and others; a Javan Pond Heron was surprisingly in full breeding plumage and that greatly aided its detection. Moving on, a small diversion took us to a temple in Samut Sakhon where we spent a few minutes watching a large colony of Germain's Swiftlets before pressing on south towards Laem Pak Bia where a couple of Black-faced Spoonbills were awaiting us. Having seen Spoon-billed Sandpiper early on we had the time to pay a visit to the sandspit at Laem Pak Bia where another notable rarity was present. A thirty minute boat ride delivered us to the sandspit, actually an island due to the high tide, and a few minutes later we were enjoying great views of the recently described White-faced Plover – how odd that such a distinctive bird should have eluded detection by the ornithological world for so long! Also in evidence were a couple of Malaysian Plovers amongst much larger numbers of Kentish and Greater Sandplovers. During the hour we remained on site we were also treated to views of a couple of Nordmann's Greenshanks (rather distant but alongside Common Greenshanks for comparison) a more obliging Chinese Egret, over 100 Great Knot and many other waders. Amongst the assembled Terns were both Great- and Lesser-crested, Gull-billed and Caspian. Just as we were about to leave an Oriental Pratincole flew past. Back on shore we visited a small beachfront restaurant for lunch before renewing our search for waders at Ban Pak Thale saltpans a little to the north. This has become the main site for Spoon-billed Sandpipers in recent years and after about twenty minutes we duly located one amongst the assembled waders, that included eight Red-necked Phalaropes, and spent thirty minutes savouring it. It was then time for most of us to return to Bangkok so we boarded the minibus at 15.00 and arrived back at the Asia Hotel

soon after 17.00 (the traffic being tolerable as it was Sunday) and had time to wash and change before checking out at 18.00. After a few celebratory drinks and a bite to eat we left for the airport at 21.00 and checked-in quickly. Our flight to Dubai left a little later than 01.30 scheduled time but we arrived in plenty of time for everyone to catch their connections to chilly Britain

Systematic list for extension

(species additional to those seen on the main tour are numbered)

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

One was seen at Laem Pak Bia

257 White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*

One was seen at Laem Pak Bia

258 Black-capped Kingfisher *Halcyon pileata*

One was seen at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

259 Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris*

A couple were from the moving bus in mangrove areas

260 Germain's Swiftlet *Collocalia germani*

A colony containing over 100 nests was in a temple at Samut Sakhon, a few more were seen in flight at Ban Pak Thale

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

Small numbers were at scattered sites

[Feral Rock Pigeon *Columbia livia*

A few]

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

Several were seen alongside roadsides

Red Collared Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica*

Several were seen at and around Laem Pak Bia

261 'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa (limosa) melanuroides*

About 150 were on salt pans at Ban Pak Thale; split by some authors from European races

262 Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica lapponica* or *baueri*

One was on the mudflats at Laem Pak Bia

263 Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata orientalis*

One was seen on the mudflats near Laem Pak Bia

264 Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

One at Khok Kham was followed by about 10 at Pak Thale

265 Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* ssp

Two were at Khok Kham and one at Pak Thale

266 Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

Dozens were at all salt pans visited

267 Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

At least 20 were at Khok Kham with similar numbers at Laem Pak Bia sandspit and Ban Pak Thale

268 Nordmann's (Spotted) Greenshank *Tringa guttifer*

Two distant birds visible from Laem Pak Bia sandspit appeared alongside a darker headed and leggy Common Greenshank to confirm their identity

269 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

One was seen near Laem Pak Bia

270 Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres interpres*

One was at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

271 Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*

About eight at Khok Kham were followed by well over 100 at Laem Pak Bia

272 Red Knot *Calidris canutus canutus*

About 150 were on the salt pans at Khok Kham

273 Sanderling *Calidris alba*

Ten or so were at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

274 Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Calidris pygmeus*

One at Khok Kham fed along a small stretch of saltpan bank about 40 metres away for over half an hour, regularly chasing other birds away from its feeding territory, views through the scope were perfect. At Ban Pak Thale salt pans another individual was watched for about half an hour down to about 100m. Back in Bangkok we toasted the survival of this species

275 Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

Several hundred were at all the wader sites visited

276 Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

One at Khok Kham was followed by about 10 at Ban Pak Thale

277 Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

About 30 were at Khok Kham

278 Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus sibirica*

Up to 50 were at Khok Kham

279 Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*

Eight were at Ban Pak Thale

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus himantopus*

Hundreds were seen on various salt pans

280 Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*

Three were seen in flight from Laem Pak Bia Sandspit

281 Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus dealbatus*

Hundreds were at most sites visited, especially abundant at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

282 'White-faced' Plover *Charadrius* species

A male showed very well on Laem Pak Bia sandspit and appeared to be defending an area of beach from Malaysian and Kentish Plovers. Full details of the discovery of this newly described presumed species can be found at the Surfbirds website:

<http://www.surfbirds.com/Features/plovers1108/malyplovers.html>

283 Malaysian Plover *Charadrius peronii*

A pair at Laem Pak Bia sandspit were seen mating

284 Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus* (probably *atrifrons* group)

At least 200 were on the salt pans at Khok Kham, others may have been overlooked elsewhere as there was hardly time to scrutinise all the Sandplovers seen

285 Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii leschenaultii*

At least most of the 200 Sandplovers at Laem Pak Bia sandspit were this species

286 Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

One was at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus atronuchalis*

A handful were seen as we travelled

287 Brown-headed Gull *Larus brunnicephalus*

A few at Samut Sakhon were followed by over 100 at and around Laem Pak Bia with smaller numbers elsewhere

288 Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*

Six were noted at three sites

289 Lesser Crested Tern *Sterna bengalensis bengalensis*

One was at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

290 Great Crested Tern *Sterna bergii velox*

At least 10 were at and around Laem Pak Bia sandspit

291 Common Tern *Sterna hirundo tibetana* or *longipennis*

About 15 were at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

292 Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica affinis*

Two were at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

293 Little Tern *Sterna albifrons sinensis*

Several hundred were at Laem Pak Bia sandspit with others along the coast at our lunch stop and about 200 at Pak Thale

294 Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus javanicus*

Large numbers were on all waterbodies

295 Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

A couple were seen in flight from the bus

296 Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

One was seen in flight from the bus

Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*

Several were scattered about

Indian Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*

Rather more common than the last species

297 Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor*

Two were with Grey herons on salt pans just inland of Laem Pak Bia

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Several were seen in passing

298 Chinese Egret *Egretta eulophotes*

After some distant and fleeting views one eventually flew towards us and showed well at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

299 Pacific Reef Egret *Egretta sacra sacra*

A dark morph bird was at Laem Pak Bia sandspit

Great Egret *Casmerodius albus*

A handful were seen in passing

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Some rice paddies held concentrations

300 Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Six were with the Black-faced Spoonbills and a few more were scattered about

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

Small numbers were scattered about, mostly as we travelled through rice cultivation

Javan Pond Heron *Ardeola speciosa*

A breeding plumage bird showed well at Khok Kham

Little Heron *Butorides striatus*

One was in mangroves near Laem Pak Bia

Asian Openbill *Anastomus oscitans*

A handful were seen from the bus

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*

One was at the Germain's Swiftlet site in Samut Sakhon

Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*

A few were seen

Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos*

A couple were seen

301 Racket-tailed Treepie *Crypsirina temia*

Two were seen in flight over mangroves near Laem Pak Bia

Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javanica*

A couple were at our lunch stop

Oriental Magpie Robin *Copsychus saularis*

Singing birds were at the Germain's Swiftlet site in Samut Sakhon and a couple were at our lunch stop

Asian Pied Starling *Sturnus contra*

A handful were at Laem Pak Bia

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*
Small numbers were along the roads

White-vented Myna *Acridotheres grandis*
Small numbers were noted at a few sites

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*
A few were seen everywhere

Streak-eared Bulbul *Pycnonotus blanfordi*
Two at the Germain's Swiftlet site in Samut Sakhon were followed by three or four at Laem Pak Bia

Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius*
A couple were at our lunch stop

Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarinia jugularis*
A couple were at our lunch stop

'Eastern' Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla (flava) tschutschensis* etc
Ban Pak Thale held a few

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
A few were seen

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*
A few were seen