

Brahmaputra Cruise

Naturetrek Tour Report

8 - 26 December 2009



Kaziranga National Park



Chital Deer



Country Boat



Great Pied Hornbill



Black-capped Kingfisher



Bengal Florican

Report and images compiled by Sujan Chatterjee



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Day 0

Tuesday 8th December

Departure from the UK

Day 1

Wednesday 9th December

The team arrived at Kolkata. We honked our way to our hotel Hyatt Regency through the ever busy roads of Kolkata. Bob and Frances joined us later as they flew on a flight from Mumbai. In the afternoon we drove through the city, taking in the sights and sounds of my 300 year old hometown. We arrived at the 150 year old Indian Botanic Gardens in Howrah, Kolkata's sister town on the other side of Hooghly. The Garden has been recently renamed as 'Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose Botanic Gardens'. We drove inside to the Great Banyan Tree. From here we strolled through the park and saw some of the common city birds like the tiny Coppersmith Barbets, very large Stork-billed Kingfishers, ever so noisy Red-breasted Parakeets, Booted Eagles and many others. We returned to Hyatt on sundown for a well deserved rest.

Day 2

Thursday 10th December

After a good breakfast we were ready for our flight to Jorhat. On arrival at the airport we found that we were delayed by more than an hour due to bad weather at Guwahati. After all the delay we finally reached Jorhat to be received by the ever smiling Imran who was to be our local guide and ground organiser. We were welcomed in traditional Assamese style with the 'Gamcha' or the towel. We then drove to the Neemati Ghat (jetty) through the busy town of Jorhat. On arrival we boarded the country boat and sailed to the grand 'Sukapha' which was to be our home for the next eleven days. We were warmly welcomed on board by Kunal and his crew. Before dinner we were given an introduction of the boat by Kunal and a demo of how to wear the life float, which I know has never touched anything wet in its working life! We settled into our boat for the evening...

Day 3

Friday 11th December

Today we had an early start and had a 20 minute ride to the shore. We then boarded our waiting vehicle and drove for an hour to a Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary.

We drove through Jorhat town, a small town Moriani, and various tea gardens. We arrived at the sanctuary at 7:15am and hit the trail in search of India's only ape - the Hoolock Gibbon. We carried on and birded for a while but no gibbons. We found our way back to the base where 2 gibbons awaited our arrival and standing on dry ground we all had good views of the agile man of the forest! A pair of Malayan Giant Squirrels also put up a great show while we attacked the breakfast spread out on the table before us by the Sukapha crew. Post breakfast we again strolled through the forest looking at the magnificent butterflies, birds and the trees. Then we suddenly heard a faint 'oo' 'oo' call and some shaking of branches on a tree. And what appeared in sight was not what we expected, Pig-tailed Macaques. They very quickly tried to move out of view into the canopy but not before we all got to see this extremely rare primate.

Our walk ended at 11am and we drove back from the sanctuary and stopped at two wetlands on the way to the jetty. We spotted a rare Fulvous Whistling Duck among a few hundred Lesser Whistling Duck in the first wetland. In the second wetland we were greeted by large flocks of Purple Swamphen, Glossy Ibis, White-vented Myna, Lesser Adjutant and even a White-rumped Vulture. After returning to Sukapha we sailed for couple hours and anchored on the banks of the world's largest river-island Majuli. We took a short impromptu walk through a small hamlet, spotted a few birds like Bee-eaters, Shrikes, Kestrels, Wagtails and saw our first Flying Foxes flying out of the village.

Day 4

Saturday 12th December

Today was the day of some birding and more culture. We took the country boat and landed at the Kamalabari Ghat in Majuli Island. We drove to the large Sakuli Bheel, filled with waders, ducks, pochards, teals and cormorants. This was the only place where we saw the beautiful Pheasant-tailed Jacanas. We then drove on to visit first monastery, the Auniati Monastery. We walked around the monastery, watched the monks performing their daily prayers. We then walked through monk's quarters as they went about their daily life. Finally we visited a museum.

After this, drove to the second monastery, Uttar Kamalabari Monastery. Here we sat inside the temple and watched the superb Sattriya Dance Drama performed by the young monks. The dancing, drumming, the co-ordination of the movements and the clashing of the large cymbals kept us mesmerized throughout. We left this monastery and came back aboard Sukapha and sailed further westward. We anchored on the edge of a village 'Bokaduar' in the evening.

Day 5

Sunday 13th December

After breakfast we took the country boat to get off at a suitable spot to visit the Village of Bokaduar. This village is occupied by an oriental tribe the 'Mishing'. The long thatched houses built on stilts, the handmade textiles, the little piglets, Udit's demonstration of the de-husking the rice and other day-to-day activities, and finally buying of some local rice beer was most fascinating. At 11am, we started to sail further downstream towards Kaziranga. We floated towards westwards along the vast sandbanks of the Brahmaputra. We kept crossing large flocks of Ruddy Shelducks, Barheaded Geese, Great-crested Grebes and an occasional Gangetic Dolphin... We anchored close to the eastern range in the late afternoon alongside a river island. Some of us promptly went for a stroll. We came across some Barking Deer hoof prints, large prints of the Adjutant Storks, and some Sand Larks.

The darkness set in but not before a massive flock of Bar-headed Geese flew over our head and settled on the edge of the sand bank.

Day 6

Monday 14th December

An early day today - we took the country boat to the shore and got on to our waiting safari vehicles. We drove 20 minutes through the morning mist to the gates and entered Kaziranga through its eastern or Agratoli Range. Big game was the word of the day. After a stop for Spotted Owlets we came to this vast swamp filled ducks, waders, storks including the rare Black-necked and Greater Adjutant. Along with the birds were Hog Deer, Swamp Deer and Water Buffaloes. We carried on with the ride and then we came across our first Rhino. At one wetland we came across a family of pachyderms busy feeding on grass from a swamp. The young mothers scampered off with their babies between their legs while the older matriarchs stayed put, busy feeding and bellowing towards the herd.

We carried on driving until we reached the banks of the Brahmaputra and a familiar sight of Sukapha moored on the other side of the channel. We then made a climb down the slope to board the country boat (a short cut taken to save on time due to less daylight hours). We then sailed downstream for Silghat. In the late afternoon however....we got grounded. Various techniques were used to get us free. In the end, the heavy weights were brought into action which included the 350 kilo anchor and the slightly lighter tour leader to counter-balance the anchor on the country boat. We finally managed to winch ourselves out of the sand bar and sailed to Silghat in darkness.

Day 7

Tuesday 15th December

A very early start today and the long awaited elephant ride! We drove for hour at dawn and arrived at the Kohora or the Central gate of Kaziranga. We got really close to many massive Rhinos, dainty Hog Deer, big horned Swamp Deer, scruffy Wild Pigs, and a large Water Buffalo. We swayed our way through the swamps and grassland. We searched for the rare Bengal Florican but to no avail. After an hour's ride we returned back to base. After the ride we visited a local lodge for breakfast and to use the facilities. Post breakfast we got on to our safari vehicles and entered the same range for the morning ride. We visited a watchtower and drove through the grasslands and swamps looking at more Rhinos, Elephants and Buffaloes. We came up to Daflang wetland which had fallen logs covered with Assam Roof Turtles of various sizes. After a while we got a call from Imran, who was ahead of us, about a pair of Great Hornbills. We drove up to the spot and wow what a sight it was, this pair of gigantic birds sitting placidly on the branch and gobbling figs every few minutes. We stood there shooting pictures until we had to go due to lack of time. We came out of the park at noon and drove to the beautiful Diphlu River Lodge for some lunch. And some lunch it was! We were also entertained by our tour leader who tried washing a large bull elephant and was promptly rewarded by some large dollops of elephant p*&!! We then drove back to Sukapha with plans of an afternoon stroll. But we got too busy watching a family of seven Dolphins which put up a great show close to the boat. The evening closed around us with a promise of another great day and a final leap from the blind River Dolphin.

Day 8

Wednesday 16th December

A third visit was made to Kaziranga. This time we made a visit to the Bagori or the western range of the park.

The western range is primarily grassland, and here we got some brief views of a Kalij Pheasant, and some Swamp Francolins. On the way out we came across pile of dark coils in the scrub. A head emerged from the coils and identified itself as a fine specimen of a King Cobra.

At the end of the safari we got on the Donga tower which overlooks of a large body of water. From the tower we could see 17 Rhinos, several Buffaloes, Swamp Deer., Indian Flatfishes kept breaking the surface, Ospreys swooped at fishes, waders, ducks, geese, pelicans, etc - what a great spectacle of activity! We were treated to a Pallas's Fish Eagle's aerial display while harrying a large flock of Bar-headed Geese. We then said goodbye to some more Rhinos close to the track and let Kaziranga for the last time. We returned to Sukapha and start sailing further downstream for Tezpur. We sailed beneath 4km long Koliabor Bridge which connects the north and south banks of the river. We anchored close to Tezpur. Udit took over as leader for the evening. Some of the members visited the local Shiva temple, Maha Bhairab Mandir, and the local market. Everybody came back with a smile on their faces and little bags full of trinkets from the local market.

Day 9

Thursday 17th December

Today we had plans for a different kind of adventure – rafting! We got off Sukapha and landed on the Ghats of Tezpur. We then drove northwards for an hour and arrived at the beautiful fishing camp close to the Nameri Tiger Reserve. The weather had been a bit dodgy since morning and by the time we reached the camp, large drops had started to fall on us. As we got off the bus we looked up at the large ficus tree in the car park and saw a treeful of Capped Langurs sitting huddled in the gloomy weather. We had breakfast while it rained but thankfully it cleared up. We drove a few kilometres from the camp and came to the sand bank of the beautiful Jia Bhoreli River (also famous for its Golden Mahasheer game fishes) from where we boarded our rubber dinghies. We floated downstream through the spectacular landscape. We saw some birds while trying to save our camera and binoculars from the splashes of the river. We saw some Great Thickknees, Goosanders, and had distant views of seven Wreathed Hornbills. We dipped out on the Ibisbill which took off from one of the shingle beds before anybody got a glimpse of them.

After a two hour rafting trip we got picked up close to the camp. Wet feet and wet bottoms was the talk of the day as we drove back to the camp and were greeted by our most charismatic (and slightly eccentric) camp manager, and later enjoyed some hot soup. We changed into some dry clothes and went to check out the release centre for the rare Pygmy Hog. We checked out the enclosures and got a good view of one of the inmates. We got great views of the troop of Capped Langurs clamouring about the trees showing off their beautiful golden red colours and dark caps. We said goodbye to the camp and headed back to our home Sukapha and started sailing further downstream for Orang National Park. Post lunch we stood on the deck looking at more flotillas of Ruddy Shelducks, and Gadwalls. While scanning the sand banks I found this large heron standing bang in the middle of a shallow between two sand banks, standing tall and majestic - the very rare and enigmatic 'White-bellied Heron'! Wow, what a bird!

Day 10

Friday 18th December

Another day of our safari, and our final one too... We got on to the country boat to arrive at the back entrance of the Orang National Park. We clamoured up the sandy slope and walked through the grassland to reach our waiting jeeps.

We stopped after a few minutes to see a harrier floating on top of the short grass. And what did it flush? A superb male Bengal Florican! It circled all around us for several minutes and what a view it was. We then drove through the grassland and came up to a huge male Rhino. We drove on through this beautiful park grassland interspaced by woodlands and wetlands.

We carried on up to a rest house for a facility break. We spent some time here looking at a tiny gem of the forest, the Crimson Sunbird, which kept flitting in and out of view from the canopy of a eucalyptus tree. We carried on from here to the forest range office and stopped to get some paper work sorted. Kunal our ship's manager beckoned me to look at a creature stuck in the bars of an iron door in the office. A closer look later revealed it as a Greater False Vampire Bat. The poor creature was stuck and needed some help, so I had to catch it by the nape and release it from the bars. After a good close inspection of the bat by the team it was released and it flew away to everybody's relief.

We then carried on with our ride and came up to a pair of elephant backs. Barely visible in the scrub the backs finally turned into two large bull elephants! They rambled in and out of view and finally hid under a fruiting tree. The duo put up a great show of strength. They thrashed and shook this large tree like a flimsy twig trying to shake all the berries off it. Finally satisfied there was not much else left to eat, they slowly vanished from view. We then drove back to the sand bank and got on to the country boat. After a great view of a pair of large White-tailed Eagles gorging on a fish on the sandbank, we sailed till sundown and anchored close to our next destination the Ganesh Pahar.

Day 11

Saturday 19th December

Today was a relaxing day. Breakfast, a ride on the country boat, and a stroll in a petite village named Sonoka of Ganesh Pahar. We walked through the village full of smiling kids and welcoming households. We were allowed to see how they went about their day-to-day life. We finally ended up in a small hut where a lady gave us a demo of some old fashioned textile weaving. We returned after a couple of hours and sailed in to Guwahati. We stopped at the Peacock Island to visit the Umananda Temple and take a look at the cake-eating Golden Langurs. Kunal tried hard to feed some cakes to one of the langurs but he only got steely stares and later we found out that some may have shifted to a diet of veggie noodles! We then sailed downstream for the final parking of Sukapha at Pandu Ghat of Guwahati. After lunch we made a journey to the city dump to look at the large congregation of Greater Adjutant Storks. The mountains of garbage and the rare storks - what a combination! It took a lot of persuasion to get the group back on the bus but very little persuasion for the ladies to go shopping!! The evening ended with the crew appearing in elegant dress, a photo shoot, and a farewell dinner.

Day 12

Sunday 20th December

A late start today and a visit to the most famous temple of Assam, the Kamaksya Temple... Udit took the lead in explaining the history of the temple as we walked barefoot on the cold stone floors amongst a large crowd of devotees. An hour or so was spent at the temple looking at the ancient architecture. We came back to Sukapha and after lunch bid adieu to the superb team of the boat which was our home for the last 10 days. We drove to the airport, said goodbye to Gurmeet who flew to Delhi, while we flew to Kolkata. We bid good bye to Frances and Bob who was received by their host in Kolkata; and we headed for the next leg of the journey, either the Sunderbans extension... or home to Heathrow!

Day 13

Monday 21st December

Kathy, Ken Terry and Irene left early for the airport. I picked up Sue, Angela, Ivan and Jenny at 8am and headed for the Sunderbans.

We drove through the narrow winding roads passing through vegetable gardens, leather tanneries, brick kilns, fish & shrimp ponds. We dodged many dogs, goats and geese to reach the jetty after three hours. Our boat 'Sundari' was waiting for us at the Godkhali Ghat. We boarded our comfortable boat and sailed for an hour to 'Sunderbans Jungle Camp' this was to be our home for next 5 days. As we sailed on we could see the devastation caused by the cyclone Ayila which hit this region in May. Several embankments had breached work was still on to reinforce the new bunds. We reached our idyllic camp, set on the banks of the Bidya River, before lunch. On the way we have already seen the Black-capped and Collared Kingfishers, the two mangrove Kingfishers. We also saw the pugmarks of a tiger.

In the afternoon we sailed to Sajnekhali to get our permits. We walked around while the paper work was being sorted. Two very large Water Monitors were seen on the banks of a pond which pulled a large crowd who kept referring them as crocodiles (I don't blame them - the creatures were really large!) We climbed on to the watchtower and was greeted by some fearless Bronze Drongos which sat really close to give great views. We then decided to head back for our camp. As we approached our camp an animal caught our eye...it was a beautiful Jungle Cat sitting quietly soaking in the sun!

Days 14 - 16

Tuesday 22nd – Thursday 24th December

Over the next few days we headed for day long cruising in the largest mangrove on earth. We sailed through the channels looking at the mudskippers, Long-billed Curlews and Whimbrels, graceful Egrets, and beautiful kingfishers, including the very rare and very large Brown-winged Kingfisher. Majestic White-bellied Sea Eagles and Brahminy Kites graced the skies. We also managed to spot a Saltwater Crocodiles, including some larger specimens. We also saw India's most beautiful deer; Chital or the Spotted Deer. This dainty deer was seen at various times as they ventured out on the muddy banks to browse the mangrove trees. This is such a tranquil mode of travel! We were entertained one evening by the presentation of some folklore by the local kids and their teachers.

Day 17

Friday 25th December

This was the last day in the sunderbans for us. After munching on some Christmas cakes in the lodge we decide to take a walk in the village. We managed to add several species of birds like Small Minivets, Orange-headed Thrush, Black-headed Cuckoo-shrikes etc. The walk ended in the market square where an inter-island Cricket tournament was getting ready to commemorate Christmas. Naturetrek was on the verge of taking on the last 3 years champion team but decided otherwise. So we plonked ourselves on an ingeniously built three-wheeled, generator-powered vehicle, to return to camp.

After some lunch we left for Kolkata via Amlabethi where we saw one more Jungle Cat and large flocks of wigeons, gadwalls and Lesser Whistling Duck. We bid goodbye to the sunderbans, the sundari boat and its ever-smiling staff, and drove back to Kolkata. The day ended at the Hyatt.

Day 18

Saturday 28th December

A day of rest and drove to the airport, said our goodbyes, and the clients flew back home in the evening.

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Great Thicknees

Species Lists

Birds

	Common name	Scientific name	December																
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
1	Black francolin	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>										✓							
2	Swamp Francolin	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>								✓		✓							
3	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>						✓		✓							✓	✓	
4	Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>								✓									
5	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>									✓								
6	Fulvous Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>			✓							✓							
7	Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>			✓	✓						✓				✓		✓	
8	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									
9	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
10	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
11	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>						✓					✓						
12	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
13	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>								✓									
14	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
15	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
16	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>															✓		
17	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>				✓		✓	✓	✓			✓						
18	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>																	
19	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
20	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Rhodonessa rufina</i>				✓													
21	Ferruginous Pochard	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>				✓	✓		✓										
22	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>				✓							✓						
23	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>									✓								
24	Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>										✓							
25	Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>										✓							✓
26	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>							✓										
27	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>						✓		✓									
28	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>			✓							✓							
29	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>			✓	✓			✓		✓	✓							
30	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>										✓	✓						

	Common name	Scientific name	December																
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
31	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	✓		✓														
32	Great Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>							✓										
33	Wreathed Hornbill	<i>Aceros undulatus</i>									✓								
34	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>							✓	✓			✓				✓		
35	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
36	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Brown-winged Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon amauropterus</i>														✓		✓	
38	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon capensis</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	
39	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
40	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>													✓	✓	✓	✓	
41	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todirhampus chloris</i>													✓	✓		✓	
42	Crested Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>									✓		✓						
43	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
44	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>						✓		✓									
45	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
46	Large Hawk Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx sparveriioides</i>			✓														
47	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	✓																
48	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>						✓											
49	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>										✓				✓		✓	
50	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>										✓							
51	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>							✓	✓									
52	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
53	Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>								✓									
54	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>	✓					✓	✓	✓									
55	Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>					✓		✓				✓			✓		✓	✓
56	House Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	✓																
57	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>									✓								
58	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>							✓			✓							
59	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>						✓										H	
60	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>						✓		✓									
61	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>			✓	✓													

	Common name	Scientific name	December																
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
63	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>			✓												✓		✓
64	Pompadour Green Pigeon	<i>Treron pompadora</i>								✓									
65	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	✓					✓	✓	✓		✓							
66	Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>								✓	✓								
67	Bengal Florican	<i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>										✓							
68	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>			✓	✓									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
69	Purple Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>			✓	✓													
70	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			✓	✓		✓				✓							
71	Common Coot	<i>Fulicata atra</i>				✓					✓								
72	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>							✓	✓									
73	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>					✓					✓				✓	✓	✓	
74	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>														✓	✓	✓	
75	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>				✓		✓		✓						✓	✓	✓	
76	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									
77	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>										✓							
78	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>				✓		✓											
79	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>				✓			✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
80	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>						✓											
81	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>				✓													
82	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓						
83	Great Thick-knee	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>						✓			✓								
84	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>													✓				
85	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>					✓									✓			
86	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>						✓		✓									
87	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>															✓		
88	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>				✓	✓	✓		✓	✓								
89	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>									✓								
90	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>				✓		✓											
91	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓							
92	Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>					✓												
93	Pallas's Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>				✓													
94	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>			✓					✓			✓		✓	✓			

	Common name	Scientific name	December																
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
95	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>								✓									
96	Great-crested Tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>														✓			
97	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
98	Black Baza	<i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>										✓							
99	Oriental Honey-Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhyncus</i>										✓							
100	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>					✓												
101	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓			✓				✓	✓		✓						
102	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>													✓	✓	✓	✓	
103	Pallas's Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
104	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>															✓	✓	
105	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>										✓							
106	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓							
107	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>			✓														
108	Slenderbilled Vulture	<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>							✓										
109	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>						✓											
110	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>					✓					✓							
111	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>						✓	✓			✓							
112	Eurasian Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>				✓													
113	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>										✓							
114	Pied Harrier	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>				✓					✓								
115	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>			✓		✓						✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
116	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓	✓												
117	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>				✓							✓						
118	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>						✓											
119	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	✓																
120	Changeable Hawk Eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>					✓	✓		✓		✓				✓		✓	
121	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓							
122	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>														✓			
123	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						✓			✓								
124	Little Grebe	<i>Podiceps ruficollis</i>			✓	✓	✓												
125	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				✓	✓				✓								
126	Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						

	Common name	Scientific name	December																
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
127	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
128	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
129	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓	
130	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓				
131	White-bellied Heron	<i>Ardea signis</i>									✓								
132	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓										
133	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
134	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>				✓													
135	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
136	Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
137	Little Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>						✓								✓	✓	✓	
138	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>				✓													
139	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>						✓											
140	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			✓														
141	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>								✓									
142	Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓							
143	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						
144	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>				✓		✓											
145	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>				✓		✓	✓										
146	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓							
147	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓					✓	
148	Greater Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>						✓	✓	✓			✓						
149	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>				✓													
150	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach tricolor</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
151	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						
152	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓			✓		✓			✓	✓
153	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓										✓						
154	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
155	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>										✓							
156	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓
157	Large Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>						✓	✓			✓						✓	
158	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>										✓							

	Common name	Scientific name	December																
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
159	Black-headed Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina melanoptera</i>																	✓
160	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>																	✓
161	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>			✓		✓												
162	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>			✓			✓											
163	White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>			✓														
164	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
165	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>			✓														
166	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>			✓			✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	
167	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>			✓					✓	✓								
168	Greater Racket Tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>							✓										
169	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>										✓							
170	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>			✓							✓							✓
171	Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis gularis</i>										✓							
172	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>											✓						
173	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>																	✓
174	Red-throated Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>								✓					✓				
175	Large Niltava	<i>Niltava grandis</i>			✓														
176	Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>			✓	✓						✓							
177	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>				✓			✓		✓	✓							✓
178	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>								✓									
179	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureoreus</i>				✓													
180	White-capped Water Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>											✓						
181	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>									✓								
182	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
183	White-tailed Stonechat	<i>Saxicola leucura</i>						✓											
184	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓							✓
185	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sturnus contra</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
186	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
187	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>			✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
188	White-vented Myna	<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>			✓				✓	✓		✓							
189	Northern Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>			✓														
190	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>			✓														

	Common name	Scientific name	December																
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
191	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>			✓														
192	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>				✓					✓								
193	Sultan Tit	<i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>			✓														
194	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
195	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
196	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>							✓										
197	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>				✓		✓											
198	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
199	White-throated Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus flaveolus</i>			✓														
200	Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>										✓							
201	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>										✓							
202	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>				✓					✓	✓							
203	Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>				✓													
204	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>											✓					✓	✓
205	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>				✓													
206	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>				✓													✓
207	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>			✓														✓
208	Hume's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>				✓													
209	Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>									✓	✓	✓						
210	Chestnut-capped Babbler	<i>Timalia pileata</i>								✓									
211	Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>								✓		✓							
212	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	✓									✓	✓						✓
213	Rufous-winged Bushlark	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>						✓			✓								
214	Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>					✓												
215	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>			✓														
216	Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia zeylonica</i>													✓	✓	✓		✓
217	Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>				✓				✓		✓							
218	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
219	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>						✓											
220	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
221	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>				✓				✓			✓						
222	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>						✓					✓						

			December																
	Common name	Scientific name	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
223	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>				✓													

Mammals

1	Hoolock Gibbon	<i>Bunopithecus hoolock</i>			✓														
2	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Pig-tailed Macaque	<i>Macaca leonina</i>			✓														
4	Golden Langur	<i>Trachypithecus geei</i>											✓						
5	Capped Langur	<i>Trachypithecus pileatus</i>									✓								
6	Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>													✓			✓	
7	Swamp deer	<i>Cervus duvaucelii</i>						✓	✓	✓									
8	Indian Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>					H												
9	Hog Deer	<i>Axis porcinus</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓							
10	Spotted Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>													✓	✓	✓	✓	
11	Asiatic Wild Buffalo	<i>Bubalus arnee</i>						✓	✓	✓									
12	Wild Pig	<i>Sus scrofa</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓				✓		✓	
13	Asian Elephant	<i>Elephas maximus</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓		✓							
14	Greater One-horned Rhinoceros	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>						✓	✓	✓		✓							
15	Malayan Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa bicolor</i>			✓														
16	Five-striped Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus pennanti</i>	✓																
17	Hoary- bellied Himalayan Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>				✓		✓		✓	✓	✓							
18	Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>											✓						
19	Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus giganteus</i>			✓														
20	Greater False Vampire Bat	<i>Megaderma lyra</i>										✓							
21	Gangetic River Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>																	

Reptiles

1	Saltwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>														✓		✓	
2	Water Monitor	<i>Varanus salvator</i>	✓																
3	Bengal Monitor	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>										✓							
4	Assam Roof Turtle	<i>Batagur sylhetensis</i>							✓										
5	King Cobra	<i>Ophiophagus hannah</i>								✓									
6	Indian Rat Snake	<i>Ptyas mucosa</i>																	✓