

# India - Assam, Darjeeling & Bhutan

Naturetrek Tour Report

4 - 25 November 2012

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Report compiled by Sujan Chatterjee

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	Kate Cherry	
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	Peter Penfold	
	Delphine Penfold	

## Day 1

**Sunday 4th November**

### In Flight

Departure from the UK today on a scheduled Emirates flight to Kolkata (formerly Calcutta), via Dubai

## Day 2

**Monday 5th November**

### Kolkata, India

Most arrived in Kolkata this morning except two clients who were picked up later in the evening. The day was spent in leisure in the Hyatt Hotel by most, while two others went sight-seeing.

## Day 3

**Tuesday 6th November**

### Fly to Paro, Bhutan drive to Thimpu

Today we took off early and reached the airport and boarded our Druk Airways flight to Paro. And what a spectacular flight we had, with clear skies and superb mountain views. We were greeted by Jatso and Pema at Paro airport. We drove to Thimpu and stopped twice for some photo ops. After a great lunch we visited the Tashi Dzong, the Nunnery and the Mothithang Takin Preserve. We did some bird watching today, and found a redstart and a Nutcracker amongst others. After 'handmade scarf' retail therapy we headed back to our beautiful Hotel Kisa.

## Day 4

**Wednesday 7th November**

### Thimpu to Punakha

We got up before dark and the moment we reached Do Chu la (3100mts) at sunrise, I could hear only gasps as the vast mountain range came in view. The golden light reflected off the snowy peaks while the deep valleys were shrouded in clouds. We walked on to our breakfast place, where hot bowls of porridge, dried yak meat and fried rice went down well with the guests.

We drove further down and stopped as we reached the broadleaf forests. We came across a hunting flock comprising of yuhinas, barwings, tits, nuthatches and minlas. Next we stopped for a big troop of Assamese Macaques. They gave us a brief photo opportunity. After a sumptuous lunch we drove to Damchen Resort situated on the banks of Punakha Chu River. Within five minutes of checking in, a pair of the Ibisbills, a most sought after bird, were spotted on the banks of our hotel grounds. Next stop was the magnificent Punakha Dzong situated on the confluence of the Mo & Pho Chu. Jatso took over from here while I stuck around strategizing about how to see a White-bellied Heron, which we haven't seen yet.

## Day 5

Thursday 8th November

### Punakha, Tashitang Valley Excursion

An early start today, we took off on the road to Jigme Dorji National Park. It was a bit overcast, but by the time we had breakfast, it had all cleared up. Some of us got a quick glance of a Wallcreeper as we drove up, and then we saw several Slaty-backed Forktails on wet patches along the road. We had great flocks of Yuhinas, Barwings, Warblers, Fantails and Black Bulbuls. We spotted a large troop of Assamese Macaques feeding on the other side of the Mo Chu River. We finished the morning with great views of a Black Eagle and a very obliging Wallcreeper.

After lunch, (on the advice of Jatso) we headed towards Pho Chu in the quest for the White-bellied Heron. After driving for some hours we spotted our first heron in the distance. After a satisfying view, the bird flew away from us. We drove further on and spotted it again. We stopped to see Shrikes and Spotted Munia (Nutmeg Manikins) and at a road bend we got a great view of the river and the heron. There we saw a second heron flying by (wow!). We all enjoyed a cup of 'cha' while looking down at the first heron fishing in the river. As light fell we left this heron and began to drive back and after a considerable distance we saw a third heron quite up close in the fading light - three White-bellied Herons in one go! What a way to finish a great day!

## Day 6

Friday 9th November

### Punakha to Phobjika Valley

We rose early and drove a short distance to look for the Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babblers. The bird was very obliging and appeared on queue. We walked around for a little while and returned to our hotel.

We left for Gangtey/Phobjika Valley after breakfast. First we stocked up on Red Panda Beer and drove through beautiful valleys and mountain roads. We stopped for a Wallcreeper, Green-tailed Sunbirds and Grey-crested Tits. The Yaks and the 'Baby La' were cute and posed for us. Next we went down the valley and saw our first Black-necked Crane family. We then drove on and spotted large flock of an estimated 130+ Cranes foraging in the valley marsh.

After checking in at the Gaikling Resort, we drove down to see them up close. We also saw large flocks of Red-billed Choughs, Oriental Skylarks, Hen Harrier and a Winter Wren. After a hot cup of coffee in a local tea shop with a great view, we retired for the day.

**Day 7****Saturday 10th November**

## Gangtey to Paro

We went out early to try for a closer look at the cranes. We did find some closer than yesterday along with a distant male Hen Harrier. We had a long journey today to get back to Paro, so we left at 8am and drove down the valley via Wangdue and reached Paro at 6:30 in the evening.

**Day 8****Sunday 11th November**

## Paro: Chele La and Tiger's Nest Monastery

We had a very early start. We carried packed breakfast and headed for the 12400ft Chele La Pass. This is the highest driveable road in Bhutan leading to Ha. As we approached the pass we drove through forests. In the early morning light we spotted three female Himalayan Monals. They were very close to the road and gave us good views as they scurried up the slope. We also spotted the male but at a distance. We then drove on in the quest for Blood Pheasants but they eluded us on this trip. We saw large flocks of Plain Mountain Finches, White-winged Grosbeaks, Snow Pigeons and a pair of White-throated Redstarts. Before breakfast we spotted another pair of Monals for a very brief period. After spending some time at the pass, photographing the magnificent peaks, we headed back and this time we saw the male Monal along with his harem.

After lunch three of us went for the Tatsang Monastery Trek, while rest went for a rendezvous with Paro. The afternoon walk along the river produced a Besra, Long-legged Buzzard, Red-billed Choughs and River Lapwing.

**Day 9****Monday 12th November**

## Phuntsholing, Bhutan

Early this morning we had a short walk along the river; several Hodgson's Redstarts were sighted along with a Durian Redstart.

After breakfast we left for Phunsholing with a stop at Paro Dzong and a bit of retail therapy in Paro town. We had great drive down via the scenic route. We reached Druk Hotel which has been recently done up very well. A few birds we added to our list were Crested Serpent Eagle, Rufous Sibilias and a Verditer Flycatcher.

**Day 10****Tuesday 13th November**

## Phuntsholing to Darjeeling

Before breakfast we had spotted two pairs of Alexandrine Parakeets nesting in a nearby tree. We departed Bhutan after saying goodbye to Jatsho and Pema. After immigration on the Indian side, we drove on broken roads for 35 kms. Then the roads improved and our new adventure began. At Jorbunglow we had a rare sight of Kanchenjunga in the middle of the day. Next stop was the fantastic Mayfair Hotel. After a superb lunch we walked on the mall for a stroll until sundown. Later we enjoyed the Diwali fireworks in Darjeeling town.

**Day 11/12****Wednesday 14th/ Thursday 15th November**

We spent two wonderful days in Darjeeling. We had crystal clear days, and superb views of the Kanchenjunga Range. We walked up to the mall to see the sunrise along with some good bird watching. We visited the Tiger hills later in the day and saw Brown Parrotbills. Later in the day we visited the Tibetan refugee centre and the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute and the Darjeeling Zoo, famous for its Red Panda breeding and conservation program. The next morning we took a ride on the famous Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (the engineers could not keep up with repairs, so we had to make do with a diesel engine rather than a steam engine). It was a delightful journey nevertheless, with the glorious snow peaks of Kanchenjunga looking down at us. Next stop was a tea garden, tea-tasting and tea shopping. We spent the rest of the day looking at the Tibetan cultural program held at the mall bandstand. We even had a Kanchenjunga sunset which was my first ever.

**Day 13****Friday 16th November****Kaziranga National Park & Tiger Reserve**

Today we left Darjeeling and proceeded to the airport at Bagdogra to fly to Guwahati in Assam. On the way we stopped at Makaibari for another tea hunt. At Guwahati we were greeted by our guide 'Jintu'. The flight was on time, so we made a little detour to the famed Guwahati rubbish tip to see thousands of migratory Black-eared Kites and 70-80 rare and endangered Greater Adjutant Storks. Everybody was in awe at the sight of the birds. Next we drove for four and half hours to Wild Grass Resort with a stop for brownies!

**Day 14****Saturday 17th November**

Today was our first day in Kaziranga. We did a little birdwatching in the gardens before we went for breakfast. We visited the Kohora (Central) Range of the reserve and clocked up a list of 95 species of birds by the end of the day.

We visited the Bagori (western) range in the afternoon. The Donga Tower proved to be great as usual. The vast grassland had 47 Rhinos and equally large numbers of Buffalo, Hog Deer, and Swamp Deer. Large swarms of Barn Swallows had converged in Kaziranga, zipping up and down the grassland gorging on insects. As we looked for Rhinos and Buffalos, large flocks of Blossom-headed and Rose-ringed Parakeets flew past us at extraordinary speed. As we made our way towards the exit, we said goodbye to a pair of snorting Rhinos in the glowing sunset.

**Day 15****Sunday 18th November**

We started early for our elephant ride. We rode on these mighty beasts through the tall grassland. The scenery, the weather, the sky, the superb mountains were all in our favour. We squelched through soft mud and went up close and personal to the magnificent relics - the Great Indian One-horned Rhinoceros. Kaziranga proved itself as the world's best conservation site for these large herbivores. Swamp Deer stags in full regalia of horns battled out as the females looked on, and Wild Boar and Hog Deer scampered through the tall grass as we approached them. We finished off with a pair of Water Buffalos.

Next we drove to Agratoli (Eastern) Range of Kaziranga. The vast Sohola Bheel had started to receive its guests for the winter. Bar-headed and Greylag Geese honked as they flew in from the far north. We stopped to see Black-naped Monarchs, Junglefowl, and a leucostic Graylag Goose.

Our afternoon visit was at the Kohora Range, we tried hard to find the Chestnut-capped Babbler but got only fleeting glimpses. We closed our day with good views of Striated Babblers at the Daflang Tower and enjoyed a great sunset.

## Day 16

Monday 19th November

### Kaziranga Tiger Reserve, Assam

Today we decided to visit a less-visited part of the park, the Burrpahar Range. As we whizzed down the highway, we spotted a troop of Capped Langurs feeding very close to the highway. They gave us great views and some good shots as the youngsters pranced about on the tree. As we looked at the Langurs, we spotted a family of three Western Hoolock Gibbons on the other side of the highway. They were far but we got great views through the scope. We also clocked a few new birds for the trip like Black-crested Bulbul and Gold-fronted Leafbird. We added a Malayan Giant Squirrel which scampered through the canopy but not before giving us some great views.

In the afternoon we drove back to the Kohora Range for our final sunset in Kaziranga. As we waited on the Daflang Tower, we called in a few Chestnut-capped Babblers which gave us great views. We also called in a few Slender-billed Babblers but they teased us for a long time, before giving us some fleeting views. We closed our day with another great sunset, with a Buffalo crossing the Daflang Lake against a red sky.

## Day 17

Tuesday 20th November

### Transfer to Jorhat & Flight to Kolkata

Today was our last morning in Kaziranga. So with Jintu's assistance we scoured the resort area and added Puff-throated Babblers, Black-backed Forktail, Little Spiderhunters, Scarlet-backed Flowerpeckers, and Spangled Drongos to our list. In the tea garden, the highlight was a large flock of Rufous-necked Laughingthrushes and a very petite Asian-barred Owlet. We said goodbye to Wild Grass Resort and headed towards Eastern Range for a boat ride. The target species - Gangetic River Dolphin... We drove over the silt-laden banks and got on to a large boat. In a short while we spotted our first dolphin! Not everyone got good views so we tried again and eventually had success. We drove to Jorhat airport from there.

## Day 18

Wednesday 21st November

### Kolkata to Delhi, London & Sunderbans

Some of us left very early for Delhi (to do the Sunderbans extension), while some left for the UK at the end of the tour. Four of us; John, Hilary, Paul and myself left for a new adventure in the Sunderbans. Our usual road was under repair at various places, so we decided to take a different route via Canning (named after Lord Canning). We drove through some interesting towns and guava orchards.

We stopped at a place to buy some sweets for our dessert. We reached Godkhali safely and were greeted by Mahadev (our captain) and Babu (our guide). We boarded the newly built boat 'Mayer ashirwad' meaning mother's blessing. With a hot cup of tea in hand we set sail for the Bali Island. We clocked Pacific Golden Plover, Green Bee-eaters, Collared and Black-capped Kingfisher before we reached our camp. After an hour's sail we reached our jetty on the edge of Bali village. We had lunch as soon as we settled down, and at 3 pm we set sail for our permits at Sajnekhali. While permits were done, we took a look at the interpretation centre. We then sailed into a glorious sunset and returned to our camp.

## Days 19 - 21

## Thursday 22nd - Saturday 24th November

We left camp at 6am and headed for Sudhanyakhali watchtower. As we reached the jetty, we got the news that a Tiger had just crossed over to our side. With a lot of hope, we trotted up the watchtower. The wait began... Junglefowl sounded alarms, the grazing Chital stamped on the ground looking into the bushes. But the god of the forest did not relent and we had no show. But we saw a great deal of other stuff... three species of Sunbird, Black-winged Cuckooshrike, a dark phase of Changeable Hawk Eagle, Forest Wagtail, Chestnut-capped Babblers and a few warblers.

Next we set sail through the meandering creeks, clocking Brown-winged Kingfisher, Striated Heron, Common Redshank, Whimbrel, large Water Monitor and a medium sized Saltwater Crocodile. We returned to the same tower and witnessed a fight between two male Rhesus Macaques. As we set sail from the tower towards the camp we saw three forest patrol boats. We were told that the same Tiger had been trying to cross the river to head to the nearby village, so they were keeping an eye out, just in case. The next two days were spent sailing through the creeks, savouring great views of Brown-winged, Black-capped and Pied Kingfishers and great sunsets. Curlews, Terek Sandpipers, Brahminy Kites, and Peregrine Falcons were added to our list. Large Crocodiles and several Water Monitors were seen while on the cruise.

The second night we were invited to a wedding. The niece of one of our staff members was getting married, so we gate-crashed and had a good time photographing the wedding rituals and watched a dance by a local ladyboy! The last night we were entertained thoroughly by the villagers who enacted the play of the Goddess Bonobibi.

## Day 22

## Sunday 25th November

### Kolkata

This morning we took short walk in the village and met the kids. We even added a few birds like Blue-throated Barbet and Black-headed Cuckoo-Shrike. After lunch we said goodbye to our Jungle Camp and sailed to Godkhali to our waiting car. We then drove back to Kolkata airport and said farewell to each other...

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## Species List

Birds (✓ = recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	Kol	Paro/Thimpu	Punakha	Gangtey	TO Paro	Chele La Paro	to Phuntsholing	To Darjeeling	Darjeeling	to Assam	Kaziranga	To Kolkata	Sunderbans										
			November																						
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
1	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>			✓		✓								✓										
2	Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>											✓	✓	✓										
3	Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	✓																						
4	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓				✓		✓									
5	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	✓									✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
6	Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓					✓				
7	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>											✓	✓	✓										
8	White-bellied Heron	<i>Ardea insignis</i>				✓																			
9	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>											✓	✓	✓										
10	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>								✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓					
11	Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>								✓			✓	✓	✓	✓									
12	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓										✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
13	Indian Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>								✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
14	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>								✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓			
15	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>																✓	✓	✓					
16	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	✓																						
17	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	✓									✓	✓	✓	✓										
18	Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>											✓	✓	✓										
19	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>											✓	✓	✓										
20	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>										✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓				
21	Greater Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>										✓				✓									
22	Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>											✓	✓											
23	Lesser Whistling-duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>												✓	✓							✓			

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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>											✓	✓	✓							
25	Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>											✓	✓	✓							
26	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>			✓		✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓						
27	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>														✓						
28	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>												✓								
29	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>												✓	✓							
30	Common Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>											✓	✓	✓							
31	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>					✓							✓	✓							
32	Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>											✓	✓	✓							
33	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>											✓	✓								
34	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>												✓								
35	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>												✓								
36	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>												✓								
37	Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>						✓														
38	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			✓								✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		
39	Oriental Honey-buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>										✓		✓	✓	✓		✓				
40	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>											✓	✓	✓							
41	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓							✓		✓					✓					
42	Black-eared Kite	<i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>										✓										
43	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>																	✓	✓	✓	
44	Pallas' Fish-eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>											✓	✓		✓						
45	Grey-headed Fish-eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>											✓	✓	✓							
46	White-rumped Vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	✓																			
47	Slender-billed Vulture	<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>													✓							
48	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>											✓		✓							
49	Red-headed Vulture	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>											✓									

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			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
50	Crested Serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>							✓	✓			✓	✓	✓						
51	Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>				✓	✓							✓		✓					
52	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>											✓		✓					✓	✓
53	Besra	<i>Accipiter virgatus</i>						✓													
54	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓								
55	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>		✓				✓													
56	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>		✓	✓							✓									
57	Indian Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila hastata</i>											✓		✓						
58	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>											✓	✓							
59	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>												✓							
60	Changeable Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus cirrhatus</i>													✓			✓	✓		
61	Mountain Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus nipalensis</i>		✓																	
62	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓					
63	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>												✓					✓	✓	
64	Swamp Francolin	<i>Francolinus gularis</i>											✓	✓	✓						
65	Hill Partridge	<i>Arborophila torqueola</i>									H										
66	Himalayan Monal	<i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>						✓													
67	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>											✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
68	Black-necked Crane	<i>Grus nigricollis</i>				✓	✓														
69	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
70	Slaty-breasted Rail	<i>Gallirallus striatus</i>												✓							
71	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						✓					✓								✓
72	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>											✓	✓	✓						
73	Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>		✓																	
74	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>											✓								
75	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>											✓	✓							

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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
76	River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>						✓	✓													
77	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓						
78	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓						
79	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>															✓			✓		
80	Little Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>											✓		✓							
81	Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>																		✓		
82	Pin-tailed Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>					✓															
83	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>												✓								
84	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>																	✓	✓	✓	
85	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>																		✓	✓	
86	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>											✓	✓								
87	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>																	✓	✓	✓	
88	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>											✓									
89	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓						
90	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>							✓				✓	✓	✓							
91	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>												✓								
92	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>																			✓	
93	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			✓			✓					✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
94	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>											✓		✓							
95	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>																		✓	✓	
96	River Tern	<i>Sterna aurantia</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓						
97	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓															
98	Snow Pigeon	<i>Columba leuconota</i>						✓														
99	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓						
100	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓														✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
101	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	

	Common name	Scientific name	Kol	Paro/Thimpu	Punakha	Gangtey	TO Paro	Chele La Paro	to Phuntsholing	To Darjeeling	Darjeeling	to Assam	Kaziranga	To Kolkata	Sunderbans							
			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
102	Yellow-footed Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>											✓		✓							
103	Pin-tailed Pigeon	<i>Treron apicauda</i>								✓												
104	Green Imperial-pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>													✓	✓						
105	Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>								✓			✓	✓	✓	✓						
106	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>											✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
107	Blossom-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula roseata</i>											✓	✓	✓							
108	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>											✓									
109	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>													✓							
110	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>												✓						✓		
111	Lesser Coucal	<i>Centropus bengalensis</i>													✓							
112	Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>											H	✓		✓						
113	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>												✓							✓	
114	Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>				✓																
115	Asian Palm-swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>	✓										✓	✓	✓							
116	House Swift	<i>Apus nipalensis</i>									✓											
117	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			✓	✓									✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
118	Brown-winged Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis amauropterus</i>																✓	✓	✓		
119	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>											✓	H	✓	✓						
120	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>			✓	✓				✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
121	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>															✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
122	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todirhamphus chloris</i>														✓		✓			✓	
123	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
124	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>													✓							
125	Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>															✓			✓	✓	
126	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>																✓			✓	
127	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>								✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						

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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
128	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				✓							✓							✓		
129	Oriental Pied-hornbill	<i>Anthraceros albirostris</i>											✓									
130	Great Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>							✓					✓								
131	Great Barbet	<i>Megalaima virens</i>					H		✓		✓	H										
132	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>											✓									
133	Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima asiatica</i>																				✓
134	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>											✓		✓							✓
135	Streak-throated Woodpecker	<i>Picus xanthopygaeus</i>												✓								
136	Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>													✓							✓
137	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>											✓	✓								
138	Bengal Bushlark	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>											✓	✓								
139	Sand Lark	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>															✓					
140	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>					✓	✓														
141	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>											✓	✓		✓						
142	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
143	Nepal Martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>				✓		✓	✓													
144	Forest Wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>																	✓		✓	
145	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓						✓
146	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>												✓	✓							
147	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>											✓	✓	✓							✓
148	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>							✓		✓		✓									
149	Oriental Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>															✓					
150	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>													✓		✓					
151	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>												✓								
152	Large Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>														✓						
153	Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina melaschistos</i>																		✓		

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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
154	Black-headed Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina melanoptera</i>																				✓
155	Small Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>																		✓	✓	
156	Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>												✓								
157	Short-billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>			✓																	
158	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>														✓						
159	Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>														✓			✓	✓		
160	Himalayan Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>										✓										
161	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
162	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>				✓						✓										
163	Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>														✓	✓					
164	Orange-bellied Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>				✓																
165	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>														✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
166	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓													
167	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>					✓				✓											
168	Rufous-breasted Accentor	<i>Prunella strophiata</i>						✓														
169	Chestnut-bellied Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>								✓												
170	Blue Rock-thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			✓																	
171	Blue Whistling-thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓						✓	✓					
172	Grey-winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>									✓											
173	Spotted Bush-warbler	<i>Bradypterus thoracicus</i>															H					
174	Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>														✓						✓
175	Blunt-winged Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus concinens</i>																		✓		
176	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>															✓		✓			✓
177	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>												✓	H	H						
178	Ashy-throated Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>			✓	✓	✓															
179	Pale-rumped Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>				✓		✓														

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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
180	Yellow-browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>																	✓		✓	
181	Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>				✓		✓														
182	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>																	✓	✓		✓
183	Blyth's Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>									✓								✓			
184	Grey-hooded Warbler	<i>Seicercus xanthoschistus</i>				✓	✓			✓												
185	Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>																				
186	Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophiatea</i>				✓																
187	Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>											✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	
188	Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>											✓	✓		✓						
189	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>								✓												
190	Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>											✓	✓	✓							
191	Oriental Magpie-robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
192	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>											✓									
193	Hodgson's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓													
194	White-throated Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>							✓													
195	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>			✓					✓										✓		
196	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochurus</i>																		✓		
197	Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>							✓													
198	White-capped Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓												
199	Plumbeous Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus fuliginosus</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓												
200	Little Forktail	<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>			✓	✓				✓												
201	Black-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus immaculatus</i>																		✓		
202	Slaty-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus schistaceus</i>				✓																
203	Spotted Forktail	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>					✓															
204	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura</i>				✓	✓						✓	✓	✓							
205	Grey Bushchat	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>																		✓		



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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
206	Yellow-bellied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>			✓	✓			✓													
207	White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>		✓	✓																	✓
208	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>												✓								
209	Striated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax striatus</i>			✓																	
210	Rufous-necked Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax ruficollis</i>														✓						
211	Black-faced Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax affinis</i>						✓														
212	Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>									✓											
213	Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>											H		✓							
214	White-browed Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps</i>																		H		
215	Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus erythrogenys</i>				✓																
216	Rufous-capped Babbler	<i>Stachyris ruficeps</i>								✓												
217	Chestnut-capped Babbler	<i>Timalia pileata</i>												✓	✓				✓			
218	Striated Babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>												✓								
219	Slender-billed Babbler	<i>Turdoides longirostris</i>													✓							
220	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>																			✓	
221	Red-billed Leiothrix	<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>								✓	✓											
222	Rusty-fronted Barwing	<i>Actinodura egertoni</i>				✓																
223	Hoary-throated Barwing	<i>Actinodura nipalensis</i>		✓																		
224	Chestnut-tailed Minla	<i>Minla strigula</i>		✓																		
225	Red-tailed Minla	<i>Minla ignotincta</i>									✓											
226	Rufous-winged Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>									✓											
227	White-browed Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe vinipectus</i>		✓				✓			✓											
228	Rufous Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓										
229	Whiskered Yuhina	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>			✓	✓			✓													
230	Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>		✓							✓											
231	Black-chinned Yuhina	<i>Yuhina nigrimenta</i>			✓																	

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			November																				
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
232	Brown Parrotbill	<i>Cholornis unicolor</i>									✓												
233	Black-browed Tit	<i>Aegithalos iouschistos</i>		✓	✓																		
234	Rufous-vented Tit	<i>Periparus rubidiventris</i>						✓															
235	Grey-crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes dichrous</i>			✓		✓	✓															
236	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>											✓			✓							
237	Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓										
238	Yellow-browed Tit	<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>			✓																		
239	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>														✓							
240	White-tailed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>			✓					✓	✓												
241	Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>				✓	✓		✓														
242	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>					✓																
243	Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma zeylonica</i>																		✓	✓	✓	✓
244	Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>																		✓			
245	Loten's Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris lotenia</i>																		✓	✓	✓	
246	Green-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>					✓				✓												
247	Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>															✓						
248	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>															✓						
249	Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>												✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓
250	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>									✓				✓				✓	✓			✓
251	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>				✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓						
252	Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓						
253	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	✓							✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓
254	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>														✓	✓				✓		
255	Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>														✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
256	Hair-crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>														✓							
257	Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>								✓						✓	✓						

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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
258	Black-billed magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>				✓	✓															
259	Gold-billed Magpie	<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>			✓		✓															
260	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
261	Eurasian Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓													
262	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>					✓	✓	✓													
263	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	✓	✓						✓		✓	✓				✓					
264	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
265	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>													✓							
266	White-vented Myna	<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>										✓	✓	✓								
267	Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>								✓			✓	✓	✓	✓						
268	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
269	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Gracupica contra</i>								✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	
270	Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓					✓	
271	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>								✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
272	Russet Sparrow	<i>Passer rutilans</i>				✓	✓		✓													
273	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓						
274	Nutmeg Mannikin	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>				✓																
275	Plain Mountain Finch	<i>Leucosticte nemoricola</i>						✓														
276	White-winged Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas carnipes</i>						✓														

## Mammals

1	Western Hoolock Gibbon														✓						
2	Assam Macaque	<i>Macaca assamensis</i>			✓	✓			✓	✓											
3	Rhesus Macaque	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>								✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	

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			November																			
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	Common Langur	<i>Presbytis entellus</i>				✓																
5	Capped Langur														✓							
6	Small Indian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes auropunctatus</i>													✓							
7	Indian Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsi</i>															✓					
8	Gangetic Dolphin	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>														✓						
9	Asiatic Elephant	<i>Elephas maximus</i>											✓	✓	✓							
10	Greater One-horned Rhino	<i>Rhinoceros unicornis</i>											1	✓	✓							
11	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>											✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
12	Muntjac (Barking Deer)	<i>Muntiacus muntjak</i>								✓												
13	Spotted Deer (Chital )	<i>Cervus axis</i>															✓	✓	✓	✓		
14	Hog Deer	<i>Cervus porcinus</i>											✓	✓	✓							
15	Swamp Deer	<i>Rucervus duvaucelii</i>											✓	✓	✓							
16	Wild Water Buffalo	<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>											✓	✓	✓							
17	Orange-bellied Squirrel	<i>Dremomys lokriah</i>				✓																
18	Himalayan Three-striped Squirrel	<i>Tamiops maclellandii</i>				✓					✓		✓									
19	Hoary- bellied Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>									✓				✓							
20	Malayan Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa bicolor</i>													✓							
21	Yellow-throated Marten	<i>Martes flavigula</i>						✓														

## Reptiles

1	Northern House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus flaviviridis</i>								✓			✓								
2	Rat Snake	<i>Ptyas mucosus</i>											✓					✓			
3	Bengal Monitor	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>											✓								
4	Assam Roof Turtle	<i>Pangshura sylhetensis</i>														✓					

	Common name	Scientific name	Kol	Paro/Thimpu	Punakha	Gangtey	TO Paro	Chele La Paro	to Phuntsholing	To Darjeeling	Darjeeling	to Assam	Kaziranga	To Kolkata	Sunderbans						
			November																		
			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
5	Water Monitor	<i>Varanus salvator</i>															✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Saltwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus porosus</i>																✓	✓	✓	

## Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!