

Sri Lanka - Wildlife & History

Naturetrek Tour Report

1st – 17th November 2025



Indian Hare



Sri Lanka Shama



Sigiriya



Malabar Red Muntjac

Tour report by Saman Kumar



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Tour participants: Saman Kumar (leader), Susantha Weerappuli, Chamara Abeywardhane and Dilshan Weerappuli (co-leaders) with 16 Naturetrek clients

Summary

The journey opened in the ancient heart of Sri Lanka, where guests were welcomed into a landscape alive with wildlife even before reaching Anuradhapura. Lakes and wetlands revealed Painted Storks, Black-headed Ibises, Lesser Whistling Ducks, Stork-billed Kingfishers, and flocks of egrets, while early morning walks later produced Malabar Pied Hornbills, Coppersmith Barbets, Indian Paradise Flycatchers, Indian Pittas and many more. Night drives added a thrilling edge, producing Jungle Cat, Grey Slender Loris, Indian Nightjar, Sri Lanka Frogmouth and several owl species emerging from the darkness. Alongside the wildlife, the group explored the sacred city of Anuradhapura and the serene rock temples of Mihintale, immersing themselves in the island's ancient Buddhist heritage.

As the tour moved through Sigiriya, Kandy, and the misty highlands of Nuwara Eliya, wildlife encounters continued to unfold in dramatic fashion. Sigiriya's forests revealed Brown-capped Babblers, Crimson-backed Flamebacks, Crested Hawk-Eagles and the shy Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, while the climb to the iconic Sigiriya Rock Fortress allowed guests to experience one of the world's greatest archaeological sites. Kandy offered the tranquillity of Udawattakele Forest, the beauty of Peradeniya Gardens, and a visit to the revered Temple of the Tooth. In the highlands, Horton Plains and Victoria Park delivered key montane endemics such as Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush, Sri Lanka Bush Warbler, Kashmir and Dull-blue Flycatchers, and Yellow-eared Bulbul. The descent to Tissamaharama brought fresh energy, with lakes filled with Black-necked Storks, Asian Openbills, Spot-billed Pelicans and crocodiles basking along the water's edge hinted at the adventures to come.

The southern wilderness brought some of the most memorable moments of the tour. Safaris in Yala, Bundala, and Udawalawe provided unforgettable views of Asian Elephants, Golden Jackals, Mugger Crocodiles, herds of Chital, Purple Herons, Lesser Adjutants, and, for many, the highlights: Sri Lankan Leopards and even a Sloth Bear. The final chapter in Sinharaja Rainforest immersed the group in the island's endemic bird treasure trove: Sri Lanka Blue Magpie, Red-faced Malkoha, Green-billed Coucal, Orange-billed Babbler, Ashy-headed Laughingthrush, Serendib Scops Owl and magnificent mixed-species feeding flocks filled with colour and sound. Forest-floor encounters with Sri Lankan Kangaroo Lizards, Hump-nosed Lizards, endemic tree frogs and butterflies added to the sense of a living, breathing rainforest. The main tour closed in Colombo, while an optional extension offered whale and dolphin watching, turtle conservation experiences, and bird-rich explorations of wetlands and river ecosystems. These made for an unforgettable finale to a journey filled with culture, wildlife, and adventure.

Day 1

Saturday 1st November

The Sri Lankan Airlines flight departed from Heathrow to Katunayake.

Day 2

Sunday 2nd November

Clients arrived at 1.00pm at Bandaranaike International Airport, and were met by Saman, Chamara, and Susantha. We began the tour with a bit of birding around the airport, where we spotted Brahminy Kite, Oriental Magpie-

Robin, Red-vented Bulbul, House Crow and Indian Palm Squirrel. We left the airport at 2.15pm and headed towards Anuradhapura.

En route, we stopped at Maha Wewa Lake, where we spotted Little Cormorant, Oriental Darter, Indian Pond Heron, Common Moorhen, Whiskered Tern, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Great Egret and Spot-billed Pelican.

We then stopped at Anawilundawa Wetland Sanctuary, a Ramsar site teeming with birdlife. In the late afternoon light, we walked along the water's edge, spotting Painted Stork, Asian Openbill, Great Cormorant, Eurasian Coot, Lesser Whistling Duck, Cotton Pygmy Goose, White-throated Kingfisher, Asian Palm Swift, Crested Serpent Eagle, Loten's Sunbird, Purple and Grey Herons, Grey-headed Swamphen, Indian Peafowl, Spotted Dove, Black-headed Ibis, Rose-ringed Parakeet, Black-hooded Oriole, Common Myna, Asian Brown Flycatcher and Indian Roller. We also observed Toque Macaque, Grizzled Giant Squirrel, Indian Flying Fox and Least Pipistrelle.

After an hour of birding and a washroom break, we arrived at Rajarata Hotel at 8.00pm. With a long day behind us, we headed straight to dinner at 8.30pm and then called it a night.

Day 3

Monday 3rd November

We started off at 6.00am for an early morning birding session, during which we recorded 22 species: Sri Lanka Junglefowl, Asian Koel, White-breasted Waterhen, Red-wattled Lapwing, Indian Cormorant, Black-crowned Night Heron, Little Swift, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Sri Lanka Grey Hornbill, Common and Stork-billed Kingfishers, Brown-headed Barbet, Black-rumped Flameback, White-bellied Drongo, Barn and Sri Lanka Swallows, White-browed Bulbul, Yellow-billed Babbler, Pale-billed Flowerpecker, Purple-rumped Sunbird, Scaly-breasted Munia and Indian White-eye, along with an Indian Grey Mongoose.

At 7.30am, after breakfast, we headed to explore the first capital city of Sri Lanka: Anuradhapura, founded in the fourth century BCE and recognised today as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our first stop was the Sri Maha Bodhi, the sacred fig tree. We then viewed the ancient remains of the Brazen Palace. From there, we visited the towering Ruwanwelisaya. We also stopped at the Moonstone, the Twin Ponds, and the monumental Abhayagiriya Stupa. During our walk through the ancient city, we spotted Coppersmith Barbet, Indian Cuckoo, Asian Woolly-necked Stork, Oriental Honey Buzzard, Indian Paradise Flycatcher, Tufted Grey Langur and a Bengal Monitor.

We returned to the hotel for lunch at 1.00pm, and after a short rest, we left for Mihintale at 3.30pm. There, we saw Black-capped Bulbul, Purple-faced Langur, Bronze-green Little Skink, Spotted Garden and Common Skinks, and Indian Skipper Frog.

Day 4

Tuesday 4th November

At dawn, we set out on a pre-breakfast birding walk around the village, where we recorded Indian Pitta, Tawny-bellied Babbler, Shikra, and Plain and Grey-breasted Prinias. We returned to the hotel for breakfast at 7.30am, checked out at 9.00am, and continued towards Sigiriya.

On the way, we visited the Aukana Buddha Statue. At the site, we observed Black Drongo, Ashy Woodswallow, and, tucked away in an unused room, a small roost of Schneider's Leaf-nosed Bats.

We checked into Hotel Sigiriya at 1.30pm, and went for lunch. After a short rest, we headed to Thalkote Lake at 3.00pm for an afternoon of birding, where we saw the Baya Weaver, Plain Prinia, Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Alexandrine Parakeet, Black-hooded Oriole and Malabar Pied Hornbill. On our way back to the hotel, we encountered an Asian Elephant by the roadside.

Day 5

Wednesday 5th November

The day began with a pre-breakfast birding session from 6.00am to 7.00am, during which we recorded Orange-headed Thrush, Oriental Magpie-Robin, Common Emerald Dove, Sri Lanka Green Pigeon, and both Brown-breasted and Tickell's Blue Flycatchers. We returned to the hotel for breakfast at 7.00am, and at 8.00am we visited the Sigiriya Rock Fortress.

At Lion Rock, we observed Sri Lanka Shama, Crimson-fronted and Coppersmith Barbets, Indian Blue Robin, Small Minivet, Black-naped Monarch, Green Warbler, Indian White-eye and Jerdon's Leafbird.

We returned to the hotel for lunch at 12.30pm, and after a short rest, we visited the Sigiriya Sanctuary at 4.00pm. Here, we saw Orange-headed Thrush, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Alexandrine Parakeet, Sri Lanka Green Pigeon and Purple-faced Langur.

We arrived back at the hotel at 7.00pm, met for the checklist, and after dinner we headed out for a night safari at 9.00pm. During the excursion, we observed Sri Lanka Frogmouth, Jerdon's Nightjar, Brown Fish and Brown Wood Owls, Grey Slender Loris, White-spotted Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Chital, Indian Hare, Indian Bush Rat and Indian Flying Fox.

Day 6

Thursday 6th November

We started the day with breakfast, checked out of the hotel at 9.00am, then set off for Kandy. En route, we visited the Dambulla Cave Temple. Around midday, we stopped at a spice garden, where we enjoyed lunch.

At 5.00pm, we arrived at our hotel, allowing time for relaxation, while five clients attended a traditional cultural show. Later, we gathered for our checklist session, followed by dinner at 7.30pm.

Day 7

Friday 7th November

We began the day with an early breakfast at 6.30am, before heading into the heart of Kandy to explore Udawattakele Forest Sanctuary. Here, we recorded Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher, Indian Blue Robin, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Spot-winged Thrush, Sri Lanka Hanging Parrot, White-rumped Shama, Forest Wagtail, Orange Minivet, Brown-breasted Flycatcher and Malabar Red Muntjac.

Our cultural journey continued with a visit to the Temple of the Tooth. A leisurely lunch at the hotel provided a welcome break, before we spent the afternoon at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya. While exploring, we spotted Changeable Hawk-Eagle, Common Hawk-Cuckoo, and Indian Swiftlet.

Day 8**Saturday 8th November**

At first light, our birding adventure began at 6.00am around Kandy Lake. During our walk, we recorded Stork-billed Kingfisher, Little, Indian and Great Cormorants, Oriental Darter, Little, Medium and Great Egrets, Black-crowned Night Heron, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Spot-billed Pelican, Indian Flying Foxes and Water Monitors.

After breakfast and check-out, we set off for Nuwara Eliya, stopping en route at a tea factory. Around the factory, we spotted Hill Swallow, Cinereous Tit and Sri Lanka White-eye. We arrived at our hotel by 1.30pm for lunch. Due to heavy rain, we visited the Seetha Amman Temple. At 6.00pm, we returned to the hotel to relax, before dinner at 7.30pm.

Day 9**Sunday 9th November**

At 5.00am, we embarked on an early morning expedition to Horton Plains National Park. The morning provided excellent birding opportunities, with sightings of Hill Swallow, Dull-blue Flycatcher, Tricolored Munia, Paddyfield Pipit, Dark-fronted Babbler, Sri Lanka Scimitar Babbler, Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher, Yellow-eared Bulbul, Cinereous Tit, Sri Lanka White-eye, Zitting Cisticola, Indian Blackbird, Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, Large-billed Leaf Warbler, Sri Lanka Wood Pigeon, Sri Lanka Bush Warbler, Crimson-backed Flameback, Black Eagle, Black-winged Kite and Pied Bush Chat.

We also observed reptiles and mammals, including Rhino-horned Lizard, Common Rough-sided Snake, Purple-faced Langur, Dusky-striped Squirrel, and Sambar Deer moving gracefully through the misty landscape. After a rewarding morning, we returned to the hotel for lunch at 4.00pm. We met again at 7.30pm for the checklist and dinner.

Day 10**Monday 10th November**

Starting the day with a pre-breakfast birding session at Victoria Park, we recorded Kashmir Flycatcher, Indian Blue Robin and Forest Wagtail. We returned for breakfast at 7.30am, checked out at 8.45am, and headed to Tissamaharama. En route, we stopped at Hakgala Botanical Garden. Here, we observed a range of dragonflies, butterflies, and amphibians, along with the Purple-faced Langur, Toque Macaque, and Sri Lanka Wood Pigeon.

For lunch, we stopped at Ella Mount Heaven. During the break, we did some birding and spotted Sri Lanka Hanging Parrot, Crimson-fronted Barbet, Sri Lanka Swallow, Common Iora, Tawny-bellied Babbler, Scaly-breasted Munia and a Painted-lip Lizard.

We then visited Ravana Falls. At 4.30pm, we stopped at Debarawewa for owl watching, where we saw Brown Hawk-Owl, Jungle Owlet and Indian Scops Owl. Later, we visited a large bat colony as the bats left their roost. While there, we also observed Mugger Crocodile, Eurasian Spoonbill, and several other birds.

Day 11**Tuesday 11th November**

Beginning the day with an early check-out at 5.00am, we set out for Lunugamwehera National Park. By 7.00am, we had arrived at the park. We were first greeted by a Sloth Bear and a Stripe-necked Mongoose. Birdlife was

abundant, and we recorded Marshall's Iora, Crimson-backed Flameback, Jungle Prinia, Oriental Honey Buzzard, Indian Paradise Flycatcher, Jerdon's Bush Lark, Paddyfield Pipit, Malabar Pied Hornbill, Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark and Lesser Adjutant, among others.

The park also offered sightings of Asian Elephants, Water Buffaloes and Chital. By 6.00pm, we had reached Cinnamon Wild Yala, where we conducted a checklist review before dinner at 7.30pm.

Day 12

Wednesday 12th November

We began with another early start at 5.30am, setting off for a half-day safari in Yala National Park, which immediately rewarded us with bird sightings including Black-headed Cuckooshrike, Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark, Oriental Skylark, Black-necked Stork, Booted Eagle, Eurasian Hoopoe, Rosy and Brahminy Starlings, Wood Sandpiper and Pacific Golden Plover.

The highlight of the morning was a Sri Lankan Leopard resting across a tree branch. Shortly after, we watched a mother Asian Elephant and her calf joyfully bathing in a lake. We also saw Sambar, Chital and Ruddy Mongoose.

At noon, we returned to the hotel for lunch. In the afternoon, we birded around the lake next to the hotel, spotting Little Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Pied Kingfisher, Kentish and Tibetan Sand Plovers, Common Redshank, Spot-billed Pelican and Small Pratincole.

Day 13

Thursday 13th November

Embarking on a day dedicated to birding, we checked out of the hotel at 6.15am and headed to Bundala National Park. At dawn, the wetlands came alive with sightings of the Yellow and Cinnamon Bitterns, Greater Crested, Lesser Crested, Caspian, Common and White-winged Terns, Osprey, Grey Plover, Red-necked Phalarope, Clamorous Reed Warbler, Sand Martin, Glossy Ibis, Indian Roller, Collared Dove, Garganey, Little Grebe, Indian Stone-curlew, Whimbrel, Black-tailed Godwit, Pin-tailed Snipe and Curlew Sandpiper.

Around midday, we departed Bundala and continued to Udawalawe, arriving around 2.00pm for lunch. In the afternoon, we enjoyed a leisurely walk around the reservoir near the hotel at 4.30pm.

Day 14

Friday 14th November

We began the day with a 6.00am jeep safari into Udawalawe National Park. During the safari, we observed Asian Elephants foraging and interacting in their natural habitat. Birdwatching added to the morning's excitement, with sightings including Sirkeer Malkoha, Jacobin and Grey-bellied Cuckoos, Yellow-wattled Lapwing, Barred Buttonquail, Lesser Adjutant, Asian Woolly-necked Stork, Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, Marshall's Iora and Sri Lanka Woodshrike.

After a rewarding morning, we returned to the hotel for lunch and checked out at 1.00pm, setting off for Sinharaja Rainforest. We eventually arrived at Blue Magpie Lodge around 4.30pm. In the evening, we did some birding around the lodge, spotting Plum-headed Parakeet, Slaty-legged Crake, Sri Lanka Drongo and Square-tailed Bulbul.

Day 15**Saturday 15th November**

The day began with breakfast at 5.30am, preparing us for a jeep drive into the heart of Sinharaja Rainforest. Along the rainforest trails, we observed a variety of birds, including Sri Lanka Spurfowl, Common Emerald Dove, White-faced Starling, Legge's Flowerpecker, Layard's Parakeet, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Sri Lanka Blue Magpie, Yellow-browed and Square-tailed Bulbuls, Sri Lanka Grey Hornbill, Spot-winged and Sri Lanka Thrushes, Sri Lanka Frogmouth, Crimson-backed Flameback, Sri Lanka Hill Myna, Orange-billed Babbler, Malabar Trogon and Ashy-headed Laughingthrush.

Reptiles and amphibians were also active. We recorded Sri Lankan Kangaroo Lizard, Hump-nosed Lizard, Common Bronze-back, Green Vine Snake and Oriental Rat Snake, as well as small frogs and skinks. We returned to the hotel by 3.00pm for a rest, then went on an evening stroll around the lodge at 5.00pm.

Day 16**Sunday 16th November**

The day began with a picnic breakfast at 6.00am, followed by a visit to Kethalapathala Home Garden. Here, we observed Sri Lanka Spurfowl, Slaty-legged Crake, Oriental Magpie-Robin, Red-faced Malkoha, Green-billed Coucal and an Indian Grey Mongoose.

After returning to the hotel, we had lunch, marking the conclusion of our Sinharaja Rainforest adventure. As the group parted ways, six continued on a whale-watching extension, while the others returned to Colombo.

Day 17**Monday 17th November**

After breakfast the clients not taking the extension left for the airport to catch their flight back to the UK.

Post-tour Whale Extension**Extension Day 1****Sunday 16th November**

Following lunch, we made our way to Koggala Beach Hotel. The check-in process was completed by 4.30pm. Afterwards, we conducted a checklist review and then gathered in the dining room for our evening meal.

Extension Day 2**Monday 17th November**

Armed with a picnic breakfast, we departed from the hotel at 5.45am for a whale-watching expedition. The early morning skies were graced with a sighting of the Greater Crested Tern. Once at sea, we were delighted by Common Bottlenose Dolphins. Later, we observed a Fin Whale, moving gracefully through the deep blue waters.

Returning to the hotel by noon, we relaxed before lunch at 1.00pm. In the afternoon, we visited a turtle hatchery. This initiative highlights efforts to support the survival of species such as Olive Ridley and Green Turtles. Later, we explored Galle Fort.

Extension Day 3

Armed with a picnic breakfast, we departed from the hotel at 5.45am, embarking on a whale-watching expedition for the second day. The highlight of the morning was an incredible encounter with a Fin Whale, and a pod of energetic Common Bottlenose Dolphins. We also observed a pair of mating Olive Ridley turtles, and Lesser Crested Terns.

After lunch, we continued our exploration at Kirala Kele Sanctuary. Here, we spotted Black Bittern, and many of the avian species previously seen on the tour made reappearances.

Extension Day 4**Tuesday 18th November**

After savouring breakfast at 7.30am, we set off on a tranquil boat ride along the Nilwala River. As we glided through the water, we were fortunate to spot an Estuarine Crocodile basking along the riverbanks, while a variety of familiar birds moved through the surrounding foliage.

Following a leisurely lunch, we bade farewell to our serene retreat, and travelled to Vivanta Airport Garden Hotel. Gathering for our final meal together, we reflected on the incredible experiences of the past days.

Extension Day 5**Wednesday 19th November**

After breakfast we left for the airport for our flight back to the UK.

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Species lists (main tour)

Birds (H = Heard only)

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic	
Common name	Scientific name
Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>
Cotton Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>
Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>
Indian Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>
Sri Lanka Spurfowl - E	<i>Galloperdix bicalcarata</i>
Sri Lanka Junglefowl - E	<i>Gallus lafayettii</i>
Jerdon's Nightjar - N	<i>Caprimulgus atripennis</i>
Indian Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus asiaticus</i>
Sri Lanka Frogmouth	<i>Batrachostomus moniliger</i>
Crested Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne coronata</i>
Indian Swiftlet - N	<i>Aerodramus unicolor</i>
Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Green-billed Coucal - E	<i>Centropus chlororhynchos</i>
Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
Sirkeer Malkoha	<i>Taccocua leschenaultii</i>
Red-faced Malkoha - E	<i>Phaenicophaeus pyrrhocephalus</i>
Blue-faced Malkoha - N	<i>Phaenicophaeus viridirostris</i>
Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>
Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>
Grey-bellied Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis passerinus</i>
Common Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>
Indian Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
Sri Lanka Wood Pigeon - E	<i>Columba torringtoniae</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
Orange-breasted Green Pigeon	<i>Treron bicinctus</i>
Sri Lanka Green Pigeon - E	<i>Treron pompadoura</i>
Green Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula aenea</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Grey-headed Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>
Slaty-legged Crake	<i>Rallina eurizonoides</i>
Watercock	<i>Gallicrex cinerea</i>
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Barred Buttonquail	<i>Turnix suscitator</i>
Great Stone-curlew	<i>Esacus recurvirostris</i>
Indian Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus indicus</i>
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Yellow-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic	
Common name	Scientific name
Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
Tibetan Sand Plover	<i>Anarhynchus atrifrons</i>
Kentish Plover	<i>Anarhynchus alexandrinus</i>
Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>
Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>
Pin-tailed Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>
Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>
Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>
Painted Stork	<i>Mycteria leucocephala</i>
Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>
Asian Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
Oriental Darter	<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>
Little Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo niger</i>
Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Black-headed Ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephalus</i>
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
Cinnamon Bittern	<i>Botaurus cinnamomeus</i>
Yellow Bittern	<i>Botaurus sinensis</i>
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Little Heron	<i>Butorides atricapilla</i>
Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea coromanda</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
Spot-billed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus philippensis</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic	
Common name	Scientific name
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>
Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malaiensis</i>
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>
Shikra	<i>Tachyspiza badia</i>
Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>
White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Icthyophaga leucogaster</i>
Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Icthyophaga ichthyaetus</i>
Brown Boobook	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>
Jungle Owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>
Indian Scops Owl	<i>Otus bakkamoena</i>
Brown Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa zeylonensis</i>
Brown Wood Owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>
Malabar Tropic - N	<i>Harpactes fasciatus</i>
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>
Malabar Pied Hornbill - N	<i>Anthracoceros coronatus</i>
Sri Lanka Grey Hornbill - E	<i>Ocypterus gingalensis</i>
Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>
Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>
White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Asian Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>
Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>
Brown-headed Barbet	<i>Psilopogon zeylanicus</i>
Yellow-fronted Barbet - E	<i>Psilopogon flavifrons</i>
Crimson-fronted Barbet - E	<i>Psilopogon rubricapillus</i>
Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Psilopogon haemacephalus</i>
Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Yungipicus nanus</i>
Yellow-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Leiopicus mahrattensis</i>
Lesser Yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>
Black-rumped Flameback	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>
Red-backed Flameback - E	<i>Dinopium psarodes</i>
Crimson-backed Flameback - E	<i>Chrysocolaptes stricklandi</i>
Plum-headed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>
Layard's Parakeet - E	<i>Psittacula calthrapae</i>
Alexandrine Parakeet	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
Sri Lanka Hanging Parrot - E	<i>Loriculus beryllinus</i>
Indian Pitta	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>
Sri Lanka Woodshrike - E	<i>Tephrodornis affinis</i>
Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>
Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
Marshall's Iora	<i>Aegithina nigrolutea</i>
Orange Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>
Indian Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina macei</i>

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic	
Common name	Scientific name
Black-headed Cuckooshrike	<i>Lalage melanoptera</i>
Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
Sri Lanka Drongo - E	<i>Dicrurus lophorinus</i>
Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>
White-bellied Drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>
Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
White-browed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>
Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>
Indian Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>
Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>
Sri Lanka Blue Magpie - E	<i>Urocissa ornata</i>
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>
Cinereous Tit	<i>Parus cinereus</i>
Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix griseus</i>
Jerdon's Bush Lark - N	<i>Plocealauda affinis</i>
Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
Yellow-browed Bulbul - N	<i>Acritillas indica</i>
Square-tailed Bulbul - N	<i>Hypsipetes ganeesa</i>
Black-capped Bulbul - E	<i>Rubigula melanictera</i>
White-browed Bulbul - N	<i>Pycnonotus luteolus</i>
Yellow-eared Bulbul - E	<i>Pycnonotus penicillatus</i>
Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
Hill Swallow - N	<i>Hirundo domicola</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Sri Lanka Swallow - E	<i>Cecropis hyperythra</i>
Green Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus nitidus</i>
Large-billed Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>
Clamorous Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus stentoreus</i>
Sri Lanka Bush Warbler - E	<i>Elaphrornis palliseri</i>
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>
Jungle Prinia	<i>Prinia sylvatica</i>
Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
Yellow-eyed Babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>
Sri Lanka White-eye - E	<i>Zosterops ceylonensis</i>
Indian White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>
Tawny-bellied Babbler	<i>Dumetia hyperythra</i>
Dark-fronted Babbler - N	<i>Dumetia atriceps</i>
Sri Lanka Scimitar Babbler - E	<i>Pomatorhinus melanurus</i>
Brown-capped Babbler - E	<i>Pellorneum fuscocapillus</i>
Ashy-headed Laughingthrush - E	<i>Argya cinereifrons</i>
Orange-billed Babbler - E	<i>Argya rufescens</i>
Yellow-billed Babbler - N	<i>Argya affinis</i>
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta frontalis</i>
Sri Lanka Hill Myna - E	<i>Gracula ptilogenys</i>

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic	
Common name	Scientific name
Southern Hill Myna - N	<i>Gracula indica</i>
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
Brahminy Starling	<i>Sturnia pagodarum</i>
White-faced Starling - E	<i>Sturnornis albofrontatus</i>
Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>
Sri Lanka Thrush - E	<i>Zoothera imbricata</i>
Spot-winged Thrush - E	<i>Geokichla spiloptera</i>
Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Geokichla citrina</i>
Indian Blackbird - N	<i>Turdus simillimus</i>
Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
Indian Robin	<i>Copsychus fulicatus</i>
Sri Lanka Shama - E	<i>Copsychus leggei</i>
Brown-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa muttui</i>
Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>
Dull-blue Flycatcher - E	<i>Eumyias sordidus</i>
Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>
Indian Blue Robin	<i>Larvivora brunnea</i>
Kashmir Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula subrubra</i>
Pied Bush Chat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>
Jerdon's Leafbird - N	<i>Chloropsis jerdoni</i>
Golden-fronted Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>
Legge's Flowerpecker - E	<i>Pachyglossa vincens</i>
Pale-billed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</i>
Purple-rumped Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma zeylonica</i>
Purple Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris asiaticus</i>
Loten's Sunbird - N	<i>Cinnyris lotenius</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>
Indian Silverbill	<i>Euodice malabarica</i>
Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>
Tricolored Munia	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>
Forest Wagtail	<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
Blyth's Pipit	<i>Anthus godlewskii</i>

Mammals

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic, I=introduced	
Common name	Scientific name
Asian Elephant	<i>Elephas maximus</i>
Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
Jungle Cat	<i>Felis chaus</i>
Small Indian Civet	<i>Viverricula indica</i>
Indian Grey Mongoose	<i>Urva edwardsii</i>
Indian Brown Mongoose	<i>Urva fusca</i>
Ruddy Mongoose	<i>Urva smithii</i>

E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic, I=introduced	
Common name	Scientific name
Stripe-necked Mongoose	<i>Urva vitticolla</i>
Eurasian Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
White-spotted Chevrotain - E	<i>Moschiola meminna</i>
Chital	<i>Axis axis</i>
Malabar Red Muntjac - N	<i>Muntiacus malabaricus</i>
Sambar	<i>Rusa unicolor</i>
Water Buffalo - I	<i>Bubalus bubalis</i>
Schneider's Leaf-nosed Bat	<i>Hipposideros speoris</i>
Indian Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus medius</i>
Least Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus tenuis</i>
Toque Macaque - E	<i>Macaca sinica</i>
Tufted Gray Langur	<i>Semnopithecus priam</i>
Purple-faced Langur - E	<i>Semnopithecus vetulus</i>
Grey Slender Loris	<i>Loris lydekkerianus</i>
Indian Hare	<i>Lepus nigricollis</i>
Layard's Palm Squirrel - E	<i>Funambulus layardi</i>
Dusky Striped Squirrel - E	<i>Funambulus obscurus</i>
Indian Palm Squirrel	<i>Funambulus palmarum</i>
Sri Lankan Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa macroura</i>
Indian Bush Rat	<i>Golunda ellioti</i>

Reptiles

Common name	Scientific name
Indian Star Tortoise	<i>Geochelone elegans</i>
Indian Black Terrapin	<i>Melanochelys trijuga</i>
Indian Flap-shelled Turtle	<i>Lissemys punctata</i>
Oriental Garden Lizard	<i>Calotes versicolor</i>
Green Forest Lizard	<i>Calotes calotes</i>
Black-cheeked Lizard	<i>Calotes nigrilabris</i>
Sri Lankan Kangaroo Lizard	<i>Otocryptis wiegmanni</i>
Common House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>
Bark Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus leschenaultii</i>
Keeled Indian Mabuya	<i>Eutropis carinata</i>
Bengal Monitor	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>
Common Water Monitor	<i>Varanus salvator</i>
Green Vine Snake	<i>Ahaetulla nasuta</i>
Oriental Rat Snake	<i>Ptyas mucosa</i>
Common Rough-sided Snake	<i>Aspidura trachyprocta</i>
Mugger Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>