

SOUTHERN THAILAND 2010

FRIDAY 8TH JANUARY TO SATURDAY 16TH JANUARY

HIGHLIGHTS: Either for rarity value, exceptional views or simply a group favourite:

- **Spoon-billed Sandpiper**
- **Nordmann's Greenshank**
- **Scarlet-rumped Trogon**
- **Rufous-collared Kingfisher**
- **Blyth's Hawk-eagle**
- **Rufous-winged Philentoma**
- **Chestnut-naped Forktail**
- **Fluffy-backed Tit-babbler**
- **Gurney's Pitta**
- **Maroon Woodpecker**
- **Black Hornbill**
- **Raffles's Malkoha**
- **Black-and-Yellow Broadbill**
- **Green-backed Flycatcher**
- **Scaly-breasted Bulbul**
- **Black-throated Babbler**
- **White-faced Plover**
- **Grey-and-Buff Woodpecker**
- **Banded Kingfisher**
- **Javan Frogmouth**
- **Spectacled Spiderhunter**
- **Siberian Blue Robin**
- **Thick-billed Warbler**
- **Green Broadbill**

TOUR SUMMARY:

Our new tour to Southern Thailand did what it said on the tin with amazing views of **Spoon-billed Sandpiper** and **Gurney's Pitta**. The whole trip was designed around these two extremely rare species and we ended up with prolonged views of both and were able to study them up close and personal. It was an amazing experience and everyone felt privileged to be able to get to grips with two of the most wanted birds in the world. As ever on a tour we managed to find a whole suite of colourful, rare, skulking and sought-after species by putting that little extra bit of effort into each day's excursions!

Our first port of call on arrival in Bangkok was Chong Lom Temple where inside this picturesque photo stop was a colony of **Germain's Swiftlets**. Leaving here we headed towards Samut Sakhon and spent a couple of hours birding around the mangroves. In no time at all we were watching **Black-capped** and **Collared Kingfishers**, **Golden-bellied Gerygone**, **Brown-throated Sunbird**, plus a good selection of all the usual herons and egrets. But it took us quite a while and a lot of perseverance before eventually getting decent views of our last target species here, **Mangrove Whistler**. One of the interesting things about birding in Thailand is the presence of numerous and more familiar Western Palearctic species and everyone was keen to get good looks at **Dusky** and **Yellow-browed Warblers**.



Classified as Critically Endangered by BirdLife International, Thailand is undoubtedly the easiest place on the planet to see the amazing Spoon-billed Sandpiper in action.



Classified as Endangered by BirdLife International, only a handful of pairs of Gurney's Pitta remain in southern Thailand. It is a real privilege to see them!

With the soaring temperatures making it a bit uncomfortable and the tiredness of our journey here so far beginning to catch up with us, we drove to a nice little restaurant for lunch before driving down towards Petchaburi. On the way we checked out a small wetland where both **Pheasant-tailed** and **Bronze-winged Jacanas** showed well, as did a single **Grey-headed Lapwing**. A small reedbed helped to hide both **Black-browed** and **Oriental Reed-warblers**, although a **Yellow-bellied Prinia** did show better. And from here it took just under an hour to reach a nice little resort situated right beside the beach where we had a bit of time to unpack and get settled in before some of us headed over to the salt pans. With a low tide, there weren't many waders to look at but we enjoyed fine views of numerous **Marsh Sandpipers** (50+), **Spotted Redshank**, **Kentish Plover**, a few **Red-necked Stints** and a distant **Long-toed Stint**. Much better views of these stints followed later at the Royal Project, along with **Pintail Snipe**, **Pacific Golden Plover**, lots of **Chinese Pond-herons**, 4 **Ruddy-breasted Crakes**, **Racket-tailed Treepie** and flocks of **White-vented Mynas**. Our first dinner was taken just down the road at a restaurant on the beach and we duly overindulged in the local cuisine and some well deserved ice cold beers!

So the big day had finally arrived and we had breakfast on the terrace overlooking the Gulf of Thailand, watching the sun eventually rise around 6.30am. Afterwards, we drove to Pak Thale salt pans and headed out into the middle of this huge expanse and hurriedly set up our scopes and began sifting through the multitude of waders present. With several scopes all scrutinising the saltpan in front of us we were expecting that the call would go up any second and the first of this week's 2 mega's would find its way onto our life lists. Well, a large flock of **Great Knots** were nice, both **Lesser** and a few **Greater Sandpipers** were good, 20+ **Broad-billed Sandpipers** take some beating and scores of **Marsh Sandpipers** and **Red-necked Stints** warranted a second glance. But the bird we were hoping for and had dreamed of for an eternity was nowhere in sight. So we continued scanning through numerous **Curlew Sandpipers**, and also found the odd **Dunlin** and even a **Red Knot** roosting with its larger cousin, but our target still remained elusive. After what seemed like forever, and with hopes dwindling rapidly, our downcast and concerned faces turned to ecstasy when the cry "**Spoon-billed Sandpiper**" went up and directions were hurriedly given. High fives and a general feeling of elation



One of the 2 key species of our Southern Thailand tour, this Spoon-billed Sandpiper gave incredibly good views at Pak Thale. When you consider the huge numbers of other waders present at this site, it surely ranks as one of the top avian spectacles on the planet!



Finding a flock of 44 Nordmann's Greenshanks at Petchaburi salt pans was another major highlight and we found it hard to walk away!



1000's of Great Knots can be seen roosting at Petchaburi. Our wader extravaganza resulted in a total of 36 species, with most affording excellent views.

followed as this bird, which is undoubtedly the world's most wanted wader, was grilled from every angle for over an hour. What a cracker and for most of the group their most wanted bird ever had finally been nailed to the wall!

But no time to rest on our laurels as a short while later we had our scopes trained on a flock of 44 **Nordmann's Greenshanks** and after walking a bit closer towards them ended up giving pretty good views. There were also a few commoner waders, as well as **Gull-billed** and **Caspian Terns**, and a big flock of 700+ **Great Knots**, plus all the regular waders as well. A return visit to the Royal Project produced our first **Thick-billed Warbler** perched in a small bush, as well as crippling views of **Long-toed Stints**, **Wood** and **Marsh Sandpipers**, a few more **Ruddy-breasted Crakes** and we flushed a few **Pintail Snipes** from the grass as well. Inland from Petchaburi we began scouring the open, grassy fields finding **Greater Spotted** and **Steppe Eagle**, **Plaintive Cuckoo** and **Long-tailed Shrike**. The marshes here held even more waders, several **Yellow Bitterns**, 6+ **Pink-necked Green-pigeons** and a cooperative **Oriental Reed-warbler**. We ended the day watching millions of **Asian Wrinkle-lipped Bats** leaving their day roost in a huge limestone crag and they duly attracted a few raptors for a late supper including 8 **Grey-faced Buzzards** and several **Shikras**.

The following day we boarded a couple of small boats and headed out through the mangroves and into the Gulf of Thailand. Not far offshore is a sand spit where after quite some searching we finally found a single **White-faced Plover**. The subtle whiter face than the accompanying **Malaysian Plovers**, with hardly any dark markings behind the eye and paler mantle were quite distinctive in the scope. Also present here were **Chinese** and **Pacific Reef Egrets** and a **Great Black-headed Gull**. And that was it for the coastal sites as later that day we flew south to Krabi and the magnificent bird rich forests.

It was with much anticipation that we boarded our minibus early the next morning and set off on the short drive to the Morakot Resort, situated on the edge of the world famous Khao Nor Chuchi or to give it the proper name, Khao Pra Bang Khram Wildlife Sanctuary. After eating our packed breakfast we saw 3 **Great Eared Nightjars** flying overhead, uttering their distinctive call and shortly after Yotin arrived and led us to his stakeout for **Gurney's Pitta**. We split into 3 small groups to visit his hide where a pair of absolutely stunning **Gurney's Pitta's**



Over 30 Malaysian Plovers were present at Laem Pak Bia sand spit with a single White-faced Plover as well.



It really does not get any better than watching a male Gurney's Pitta and this year we had our best ever views of a pair feeding right outside the hide.



The female Gurney's Pitta is a stunning bird in its own right and from a secluded hide at Khao Nor Chuchi we were treated to these fine views.

fed unconcerned by our presence on a small slope opposite us. There was also a female **Siberian Blue Robin** and an **Orange-headed Thrush** hanging around the hide as well, but these paled into insignificance with the pitta that only has a toehold in southern Thailand with just a few pairs remaining. The surrounding forest here is excellent and whilst consuming snacks we saw a **Streak-breasted Woodpecker**, **Lesser Green Leafbird** attending its nest, a **Purple-throated Sunbird** flew in and a **Crested Goshawk** flew over. A nearby trail was very good to us as first of all a pair of **Green Broadbills** gave us the run around for ages before the female was scoped by everyone. Then at the end of the trail we decided to sit and watch the surrounding huge trees and our patience was rewarded when first of all a **Chestnut-winged Babbler** came in close, followed by a **Red-billed Malkoha**, then a **Dark-throated Oriole** appeared and best of all a beautiful **Red-bearded Bee-eater** flew in and literally seared our eyeballs with its brilliance! Later in the day, Yotin led us along a stream to an area which is attractive to numerous birds during the hottest days and we took up positions at a couple of different spots and settled down in our camp chairs for a lengthy vigil. Birds came in spurts, dominated by 9 species of bulbul all coming down to drink! There was also another **Green Broadbill**, both **Little** and **Grey-breasted Spiderhunters**, **Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker**, **Dark-necked Tailorbird**, **Rufous-winged Phylentoma**, **Asian Paradise-flycatcher** and **Black-naped Monarch**. This was one of the most exciting sessions of the tour as we just didn't know what to expect but was cut short when an unexpected heavy shower prompted a quick exit and we headed back to the minibus. The rain didn't last long though and after driving back up the road a short way we stopped at a special site where another unexpected bird was found in the shape of a superb adult **Blyth's Hawk-eagle** perched near the road. We ended a fantastic day with scope views of a **Javan Frogmouth** before heading back to our hotel for a late dinner.

After yesterday's success we had the luxury of half an hour extra in bed but were still at the Morakot Resort well before 7am and consuming our packed breakfast. We then headed into the main entrance of Khao Nor Chuchi and began walking along one of the many trails. With no **Banded Pitta** to occupy us we decided to bird a nearby trail and began with an **Abbott's Babbler** and a superb female **Banded Kingfisher** showing quite well, followed by a little flurry of activity when **Arctic**, **Eastern Crowned** and



Sitting quietly along a trail in Khao Nor Chuchi produced this stunning Red-bearded Bee-eater which gave walk away views.



Our sighting of a fine adult Blyth's Hawk-eagle was a real bonus at the end of a superb day's birding.



Banded Kingfisher is always a popular bird and this female took some finding in the canopy above a trail at Khao Nor Chuchi.

Pale-legged Leaf Warbler appeared simultaneously. Then Yotin pointed out a **Green-backed Flycatcher** perched nearby, quite a scarce bird here. But overall the forest was very quiet and apart from a brief **Orange-breasted Trogon**, and both **Hairy-backed** and **Yellow-bellied Bulbuls** there wasn't any activity at all. The afternoon session was much better than this morning and a **Dark-sided Flycatcher** showed well beside the path to get the ball rolling. An open area gave us a pair of **Raffle's Malkoha**, **Red-throated Sunbird** and a superb **Grey-and-Buff Woodpecker** was scoped. Then a **Maroon Woodpecker** began calling nearby but only gave flight views before we spent an age searching for **Black-and-Yellow Broadbill**, which we eventually found perched on the slope above us. We also had fine views of a very attractive **Black-throated Babbler** to round the day off.

With bleary eyes we boarded our minibus at 4am the following morning for the long drive to Krungching Forest, passing through superb habitat consisting of rolling, forested hills for the last 30 kms and arrived just after dawn. Parking up beside the HQ our team soon had tables and chairs set up, with hot drinks and our breakfast ready but we were a little distracted. The reason was a huge fruiting tree directly opposite us that was simply alive with birds and we spent a magical hour picking up many new species, as well as enjoying fantastic views of everything. In no particular order we had both **Brown** and **Gold-whiskered Barbets**, several **Scaly-breasted Bulbuls**, as well as **Stripe-throated**, **Red-eyed**, **Spectacled**, **Grey-cheeked**, **Grey-eyed** and **Buff-vented Bulbuls**, several **Asian Fairy-bluebirds**, 2 **Black-and-Yellow Broadbills** (after many hours of searching yesterday – unbelievable!), **Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker**, **Asian Drongo Cuckoo**, **Thick-billed Green-pigeon** and at least 3 **Dark-throated Orioles**. The nearby trees also held **Green Iora**, **Ashy Minivet**, **Dark-sided Flycatcher** and **Grey-breasted Spiderhunter**. The steep path that takes you up into this amazing forest was a little slippery as the brooding, dark clouds overhead finally produced some rain but it was so warm that only umbrellas were needed. We took it slowly and began picking off some of the specialties straight away with amazing looks at a pair of **Maroon Woodpeckers**. Then some movement beside the path led us to a couple of **Grey-headed Bblers** and as we watched these a **Rufous-winged Philentoma** was found. Higher up the hill a **Chestnut-winged Babbler** and brief **Sultan Tit** were seen between the showers but that was it until we reached the plateau. Pausing for a rest, Yotin picked up a **Scarlet-rumped Trogon**



After giving us the run around at KNC, a pair of Black-and-Yellow Broadbills were found in a fruiting tree at Krungching Forest.



Possibly one of the hardest bulbuls to find, this superb Scaly-breasted Bulbul was feeding in a fruiting tree at Krungching Forest with a multitude of other birds.



This Ferruginous Babbler was scoped at Krungching Forest, where it remained motionless on a branch beside the path.

perched quietly nearby and as we enjoyed fine views in the scope a **Ferruginous Babbler** called nearby and that too was scoped. Further on we spent ages tracking down a pair of superb **Black Hornbills** and our perseverance was justly rewarded with repeated views of a pair high in the canopy above us. This is a very scarce bird in this part of Thailand and Yotin had only seen it a handful of times in all his years birding here! There was also a pair of **Great Pied Hornbills** flying over as well, which helps to prove the richness of this forest. Further on, we hit a double-whammy of scarce birds when a pair of superb **Fluffy-backed Tit-babblers** were called in and performed admirably beside the path. Whilst watching these, an even rarer **Maroon-breasted Philentoma** appeared overhead at the same spot and we scoped it high above our heads. Lunch was taken at a small shelter and after a rest we spent the remainder of the afternoon searching for **Malaysian Rail-babbler** which called repeatedly but was not seen despite our best efforts. We finished on a high with a couple lucky people seeing a **Chestnut-naped Forktail** along a small stream and scope views for everyone of a **Rufous-collared Kingfisher**. What a day!

We spent our last morning around the mangroves near Krabi beginning with a couple of **Great Eared Nightjars** flying over the trees across the river from us. The boardwalk was very quiet so we boarded a couple of longtails and headed upriver and into some narrow channels. A group of 3 **Black-and-Red Broadbills** showed very well in the trees above us but **White-chested Babbler** and **Ashy Tailorbird** were only heard in the distance. Several very nice **Brown-winged Kingfishers** allowed a close approach and there was also **Collared** and **Black-capped Kingfishers**, **Pacific** and **Striated Swallows**, **Dusky Crag-martin**, **Ruby-cheeked Sunbird**, **Ashy Minivet** and several **Dollarbirds**. Unfortunately, we only heard 4 **Mangrove Pittas** but the birds never came in to the tape or else called from dense vegetation and were impossible to see. By late morning we returned to the hotel, packed our bags and headed for what was probably our best meal (of many, many good ones this week) at a nearby restaurant. Afterwards we checked out a small patch of forest on our way to the airport where a **Spectacled Spiderhunter** performed well in a large tree right above us. On arrival in Bangkok we transferred to a rather luxurious hotel where we had our last meal together before returning to the UK.

Many thanks to Sukanya, Patcharee, and Yotin for making this tour such a success.

Nick Bray



A boat ride through the mangroves along the Krabi River is always exciting, not only for the wildlife but the stunning scenery as well.



One of the key species of the boat ride is Brown-winged Kingfisher and this year we found several obliging individuals perched quietly in the mangroves



A family of Smooth-coated Otters was sunbathing beside the Krabi River.

BIRDLIST FOR SOUTHERN THAILAND

	SPECIES NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMENTS KNC refers to Khao Nor Chuchi
1	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	15+ counted on our first day along the gulf of Thailand and a few seen at other sites.
2	Eurasian Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Roger found one at Petchaburi perched in a tree beside the road.
3	Rufous Piculet	<i>Sasia abnormis</i>	Heard at KNC.
4	Grey-and-buff Woodpecker	<i>Hemicircus concretus</i>	Single showed well at KNC.
5	Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus macei</i>	Kevin spotted this at Petchaburi.
6	Streak-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridanus</i>	Found at KNC by Kevin but it didn't hang around too long.
7	Maroon Woodpecker	<i>Blythipicus rubiginosus</i>	Only flight views at KNC but excellent close views at Krungching Forest.
8	Gold-whiskered Barbet	<i>Megalaima chrysopogon</i>	One showed well at the fruiting tree at Krungching Forest.
9	Red-crowned Barbet	<i>Megalaima rafflesii</i>	Heard at KNC and Krungching.
10	Red-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima mystacophanos</i>	Heard at KNC and Krungching.
11	Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima australis</i>	Heard at a few sites in the south.
12	Brown Barbet	<i>Calorhamphus fuliginosus</i>	1 seen at the fruiting tree at Krungching.
13	Great Hornbill	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>	1 flew over Krungching Forest.
14	Black Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros malayanus</i>	The pair at Krungching forest was only the 5 th time Yotin has seen this species in 20 years birding these forests. A good one!
15	Indian Roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	Single in roadside fields at Petchaburi.
16	Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	Several perched in the mangroves during our boatride at Krabi.
17	Scarlet-rumped Trogon	<i>Harpactes duvaucelii</i>	Pair posed nicely at Krungching Forest.
18	Orange-breasted Trogon	<i>Harpactes oreskios</i>	Heard and seen briefly at KNC.
19	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Singles seen at various sites.
20	Banded Kingfisher	<i>Lacedo pulchella</i>	Heard several times and then we found a female at KNC.
21	Brown-winged Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis amauropterus</i>	At least 4 were seen during our morning's boat ride through the mangroves at Krabi.
22	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	A regular sighting at most sites visited.
23	Black-capped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon pileata</i>	First seen in the mangroves along the Gulf of Thailand and quite common around the Krabi mangroves.
24	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todirhamphus chloris</i>	Seen along the Gulf of Thailand and Krabi mangroves as well.
25	Rufous-collared Kingfisher	<i>Actenoides concretus</i>	Heard at KNC and an obliging bird scoped at Krungching Forest.
26	Banded Bay Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>	Heard at Krungching Forest.

27	Plaintive Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>	A couple at Petchaburi was the only ones.
28	Drongo Cuckoo	<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>	Present at the large fruiting tree at Krungching forest.
29	Violet Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>	Heard at a few sites but distantly.
30	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	Seen near Bangkok,
31	Raffles's Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus</i>	Pair showed well at KNC.
32	Red-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus javanicus</i>	Seen well at KNC.
33	Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>	A few people saw this late in the day at Krungching Forest.
34	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	A few seen.
35	Red-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis amictus</i>	Great views at Khao Nor Chuchi
36	Little Green Bee-eater	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	Seen during the beginning of the tour around Bangkok and Petchaburi.
37	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>	Some nice prolonged flight views near Bangkok,
38	Vernal Hanging-Parrot	<i>Loriculus vernalis</i>	Heard only at KNC and Krungching.
39	Germain's Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia germani</i>	The breeding colony at Chong Lom Temple was quite a spectacle,
40	Silver-rumped Needletail	<i>Rhaphidura leucopygialis</i>	A few flew over Krungching Forest.
41	Asian Palm-Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>	Seen on 3 dates at various sites.
42	House Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	Seen over Bangkok.
43	Brown Wood-owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	Heard at Krungching Forest.
44	Javan Frogmouth	<i>Batrachostomus javensis</i>	Seen well at KNC.
45	Great Eared Nightjar	<i>Eurostopodus macrotis</i>	3 flew over the Morakot Resort on our first day at KNC and a couple seen flying over the mangroves at Krabi.
46	Large-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>	Heard only.
47	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Seen on 3 dates.
48	Red Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	Nice views on our first day,
49	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Common.
50	Zebra (Peaceful) Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	Common.
51	Pink-necked Green-pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>	6+ in trees near Petchaburi were the only ones seen this year.
52	Thick-billed Green-pigeon	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>	A couple were feeding in the large fruiting tree at Krungching Forest.
53	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	First seen at the Royal Project at Petchaburi.
54	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	A pair was present in the marshes inland from Petchaburi.
55	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Regularly seen during the first two days of the tour.
56	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>	Single observed along the Ramatu Road marshes.
57	Bronze-winged Jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	Common.
58	Ruddy-breasted Crane	<i>Porzana fusca</i>	4 birds seen well at the Royal Project.
59	Pintail Snipe	<i>Gallinago stenura</i>	Seen in flight at the Royal Project.

60	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Seen in flight at the Royal Project.
61	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Seen in small numbers at Pak Thale.
62	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	A flock of 100+ present at Pak Thale.
63	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Seen on our last morning along the Krabi River.
64	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	A few were noted at the start of the tour.
65	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	We counted 25+ present near Petchaburi.
66	Common Sandpiper	<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>	Seen on 4 dates in small numbers.
67	Spotted Redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	Our biggest count was 50+ on the first day at Petchaburi.
68	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	A few seen on our first day.
69	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	We counted 30+ on consecutive days around Petchaburi.
70	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Seen in small numbers around Petchaburi.
71	Nordmann's Greenshank	<i>Tringa guttifer</i>	We found a flock of 44 at Petchaburi which was quite a spectacular sighting.
72	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Just a couple seen at Pak Thale salt pans.
73	Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	Common around Petchaburi, with most sites having flocks of 200+.
74	Spoon-billed Sandpiper	<i>Euryornhynchus pygmeus</i>	Wow! This is the big one and after scrutinising the wader flocks at Pak Thale we found a lone individual which gave amazing views for over an hour. Bird of the tour.
75	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	Single found at the Royal Project.
76	Long-toed Stint	<i>Calidris subminuta</i>	Extremely close views on our first evening at the Royal Project. The following day we counted over 30 at various sites.
77	Great Knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	Very common at Petchaburi/Pak Thale with an estimated 1000+ present on 10 th January.
78	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Single bird found amongst the numerous Great Knot flocks.
79	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Single bird at Pak Thale.
80	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Present in small numbers (30+) at Pak Thale.
81	Broad-billed Sandpiper	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	20+ at Pak Thale.
82	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	Maximum count of 200+ at Petchaburi.
83	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	A few seen at the Royal Project.
84	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	Small numbers around Petchaburi Salt pans.
85	Malaysian Plover	<i>Charadrius peronii</i>	At least 30 were present near Petchaburi.
86	White-faced Plover	<i>Charadrius dealbatus</i>	A single bird was observed on the sandspit near Petchaburi.
87	Mongolian Sandplover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	60+ was the highest count at Petchaburi.
88	Greater Sandplover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	20+ at Petchaburi.
89	Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	2 on our first visit to the Royal Project, with 10 seen at Petchaburi the following day.

90	Grey (Black-bellied) Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Small numbers present at Petchaburi.
91	Grey-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cinereus</i>	Single bird observed well along the Ramatu Road marshes on our first day.
92	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	Common.
93	Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>	Common in suitable habitat.
94	Common Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	A few seen flying to roost at the Royal Project on our first evening.
95	Great Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ichthyaetus</i>	A 2 nd year bird present along the coast near Petchaburi.
96	Little Tern	<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	Seen near Petchaburi in small numbers.
97	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Just a couple around Petchaburi.
98	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Great views at the Royal Project with 5+ present around the lagoons.
99	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>	100's going to roost at the Royal Project, near Petchaburi.
100	Black-eared Kite	<i>Milvus lineatus</i>	Most authorities treat this as a distinct species from Black Kite <i>Milvus migrans</i> . Regularly seen during the first 3 days.
101	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	A regular sighting along the coastal areas.
102	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Single observed at Petchaburi.
103	Black-Shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	A couple seen in fields near Petchaburi.
104	Crested Serpent-eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	Heard on several occasions at KNC.
105	Eastern Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus spilonotus</i>	A few present near Petchaburi.
106	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	Singles at KNC.
107	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	Several at the bat caves near Petchaburi.
108	Japanese Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter gularis</i>	A perched female at KNC was the only one.
109	Grey-faced Buzzard	<i>Butastur indicus</i>	A few preying on bats at the limestone crags near Petchaburi.
110	Greater Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila clanga</i>	A few soaring over fields near Petchaburi.
111	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	5+ in the fields near Petchaburi.
112	Blyth's Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus alboniger</i>	Superb views of a peched adult at KNC were one of the highlights of the tour.
113	Wallace's Hawk-eagle	<i>Spizaetus nanus</i>	Frustratingly only heard at KNC.
114	Little Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	Common along the coast.
115	Indian Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax fuscicollis</i>	Small numbers seen at the Royal Project flying to roost in the evening.
116	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Seen on 4 dates.
117	Chinese Egret	<i>Egretta eulophotes</i>	At least 1 bird was present near the sandspit at Petchaburi.
118	Pacific Reef Egret	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	A few dark-morphs were present near the sandspit at Petchaburi.
119	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	Common in coastal areas.
120	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>	Relatively common around Petchaburi.
121	Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>	Common at Petchaburi and other coastal/wetland areas.

122	Chinese Pond-heron	<i>Ardeola bacchus</i>	Abundant. All non-breeding <i>Ardeolas</i> were deemed to be this species.
123	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Common around Petchaburi.
124	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	A few seen near Petchaburi.
125	Striated / Little Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>	Singles seen during the first 3 days.
126	Black-crowned Night-heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Only seen on our first day.
127	Yellow Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>	Leader only sighting at the Royal Project, followed by at least 3 on a marsh near Petchaburi.
128	Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>	Small numbers seen near Petchaburi.
129	Banded Pitta	<i>Pitta guajana</i>	Only heard at KNC this year and we were unlucky it did not visit Yotin's stakeout during our visit there.
130	Gurney's Pitta	<i>Pitta gurneyi</i>	A pair of this endangered and range-restricted species performed incredibly well at KNC. Undoubtedly one of <i>THE</i> tour highlights with both male and female showing well.
131	Mangrove Pitta	<i>Pitta megarhyncha</i>	At least 4 heard at Krabi Mangroves.
132	Green Broadbill	<i>Calyptomena viridis</i>	Seen well at KNC after some hard searching
133	Black-and-red Broadbill	<i>Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos</i>	A group of 4 showed well in the mangroves during our boat ride.
134	Banded Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus javanicus</i>	Heard at KNC
135	Black-and-yellow Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>	Heard a few times and seen by some of the group at KNC before we all had excellent scope views in the fruiting tree at Krungching Forest.
136	Lesser Green Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cyanopogon</i>	Seen attending a nest at KNC.
137	Blue-winged Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>	Pair seen at KNC.
138	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	Only seen on our first day.
139	Green Iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>	A few were seen at Krungching Forest.
140	Great Iora	<i>Aegithina lafresnayeii</i>	A few seen at KNC on 2 dates.
141	Asian Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>	Kathryn found our first at KNC and some fine males seen at Krungching Forest.
142	Brown Shrike	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	Seen in small numbers along the coast.
143	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	One small area inland from Petchaburi held 3 individuals.
144	Rail Babbler	<i>Eupetes macrocerus</i>	We spent most of our afternoon at Krungching Forest searching for this species. We heard 3 individuals and came pretty close but eventually had to give up.
145	Racket-tailed Treepie	<i>Crypsirina temia</i>	Good views at the Royal Project.
146	Eastern Jungle Crow	<i>Corvus leuallantii</i>	A regular sight along the coast.
147	Dark-throated Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthonotus</i>	Seen well at KNC.
148	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>	Single observed by Julian and Ann at White-beach Resort.

149	Ashy Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus divaricatus</i>	Several sightings at KNC and Krungching.
150	Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	Common.
151	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	A couple seen near Krabi on the last day.
152	Crow-billed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus annectans</i>	Heard at KNC and seen briefly at Krungching Forest.
153	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	Seen a couple of times at KNC.
154	Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>	Only seen at KNC.
155	Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	Quite common and seen on 4 dates.
156	Mangrove Whistler	<i>Pachycephala grisola</i>	Seen very well on our first birding walk near Bangkok.
157	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	A couple seen at KNC on 2 dates.
158	Asian Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	Seen on 2 dates at KNC.
159	Rufous-winged Philentoma	<i>Philentoma pyrhoterum</i>	A few of us saw one visiting the drinking pool at KNC and also seen well at Krungching Forest.
160	Maroon-breasted Philentoma	<i>Philentoma velatum</i>	One of the highlights from our fantastic day at Krungching Forest.
161	Orange-headed Thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>	Present at the Gurney's Pitta site.
162	Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	Seen well at KNC & Krungching Forest.
163	Asian Brown Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>	Seen well several times at all forest sites visited.
164	Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	Heard only
165	Green-backed Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula elisae</i>	A rare sighting at KNC.
166	Blue-throated Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis rubeculoides</i>	A pair was present at KNC.
167	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>	Heard at KNC.
168	Siberian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>	A female was present at the Gurney's Pitta site.
169	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	A common bird throughout the tour.
170	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	Heard at Krungching Forest.
171	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata maura</i>	Several seen during the first 2 days.
172	Chestnut-naped Forktail	<i>Enicurus ruficapillus</i>	A few lucky people saw this along a small stream at Krungching Forest.
173	Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	The last trip tick as we drove to Krabi Airport.
174	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common.
175	White-vented Myna	<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>	Common.
176	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	Seen at KNC only.
177	Asian Pied Starling	<i>Sturnus contra</i>	Common around Petchaburi.
178	Sultan Tit	<i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>	A calling bird showed briefly as we walked up the steep path into Krungching Forest.
179	Plain Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	Common during the first couple of days.
180	Dusky Crag Martin	<i>Hirundo concolor</i>	Seen during our boat ride through the mangroves at Krabi.
181	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Common at most sites.
182	Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>	A few seen along the river near Krabi.

183	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	Seen at either end of the tour.
184	Striated Swallow	<i>Hirundo striolata</i>	Quite a few present around the mangroves near Krabi.
185	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	Just one small group seen near Bangkok.
186	Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>	Seen a few times at KNC and Krungching.
187	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus caecilii</i>	A few seen at KNC.
188	Scaly-breasted Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus squamatus</i>	Several of these attractive bulbuls were visiting the fruiting tree at Krungching and this was a new species for the tour.
189	Grey-bellied Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cyaniventris</i>	Nice views of a few coming to the drinking pools at KNC.
190	Stripe-throated Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus finlaysoni</i>	Seen a few times at Krungching Forest.
191	Streak-eared Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus blanfordi</i>	The commonest bulbul and seen at most sites visited.
192	Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>	Several nice views at KNC & Krungching.
193	Spectacled Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos</i>	Good views at KNC & Krungching.
194	Ochraceous Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus ochraceus</i>	Another memorable bulbul species that showed well at KNC & Krungching.
195	Grey-cheeked Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus bres</i>	We finally caught up with this little beauty at Krungching Forest in the fruiting tree.
196	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>	Just a couple seen as we left KNC for lunch in company with the following species.
197	Hairy-backed Bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>	As we left KNC for lunch on our last day there, a couple of these flew up from the path and posed nicely in company with the preceding species.
198	Grey-eyed Bulbul	<i>Iole propinqua</i>	Quite common at KNC & Krungching.
199	Buff-vented Bulbul	<i>Iole olivacea</i>	One of the commonest bulbuls in the forests
200	Streaked Bulbul	<i>Ixos malaccensis</i>	This was one of the first species to come down to the drinking pools at KNC.
201	Yellow-bellied Prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	Several seen during the first couple of days.
202	Plain Prinia	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	Common during the first half of the tour.
203	Black-browed Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>	Several decent views, especially at the Royal Project.
204	Oriental Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>	The Royal Project was again good for this species.
205	Thick-billed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>	Superb views of a bird in a low bush below the minibus at the Royal Project.
206	Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>	Sukanya worked hard to get us very nice views in the mangroves near Bangkok.
207	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	A few seen.
208	Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>	We worked hard to see a couple really skulking birds at KNC.
209	Ashy Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>	Heard at Krabi Mangroves
210	Dusky Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>	Several good views this year, especially along the Ramatu Road near Petchaburi.

211	Yellow-Browed Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>	This species is calling all the times in the mangroves and we had many decent views.
212	Pale-legged Leaf-warbler	<i>Phylloscopus tenellipes</i>	Several showy individuals included a couple at KNC.
213	Arctic Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>	Eventually caught up with this species at KNC.
214	Eastern Crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i>	Great views of at least 2 birds at KNC on our last day there.
215	White-chested Babbler	<i>Trichastoma rostratum</i>	Heard at Krabi Mangroves.
216	Ferruginous Babbler	<i>Trichastoma bicolor</i>	An amazingly confiding bird was scoped as it sat singing at Krungching Forest, just after we had seen a Scarlet-rumped Trogon at the same spot.
217	Abbott's Babbler	<i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>	Regularly heard at KNC but it took us a while to see one, whilst making our abortive attempt at Banded Pitta.
218	Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>	Heard only and never close enough to come in to the tape.
219	Grey-headed Babbler	<i>Stachyris poliocephala</i>	Seen very well at the bottom of the path into Krungching Forest.
220	Black-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigricollis</i>	Great views of this very attractive species at KNC.
221	Chestnut-winged Babbler	<i>Stachyris erythroptera</i>	A couple very tape-responsive birds in the forests showed extremely well.
222	Moustached Babbler	<i>Malacopteron magnirostre</i>	Heard at KNC.
223	Striped Tit-babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>	Seen at KNC only.
224	Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous ptilosus</i>	A pair of this very attractive species gave point-blank views at Krungching where they remained beside the path for several minutes.
225	Indochinese Bushlark	<i>Mirafra marionae</i>	Single bird singing from telegraph wires at Petchaburi was the only one this year.
226	Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus maculatus</i>	Several birds seen well in the forests.
227	Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus percussus</i>	Nice views of a couple visiting the fruiting tree at Krungching Forest. In fact so many birds were present we renamed it "The Tree of Dreams"!
228	Yellow-vented Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum chrysorrheum</i>	A brief sighting at KNC.
229	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>	Quite common at KNC.
230	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>	Also common at KNC.
231	Purple-throated Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia sperata</i>	Common around the flowering trees at the Park HQ one lunchtime at KNC.
232	Red-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes rhodolaema</i>	A few present near the Morakot Resort.
233	Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>	Seen near Khok Kam and Petchaburi.
234	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>	Seen a couple of times at KNC and Krabi.
235	Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia jugularis</i>	Relatively common.
236	Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	Seen a few times at KNC.

237	Spectacled Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera flavigaster</i>	Very nice views of a pair in a large tree during a break in our journey to Krabi Airport.
238	Grey-breasted Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera affinis</i>	Seen very well at the KNC drinking pools, as well as a pair building a nest at Krungching Forest.
239	Eastern Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava macronyx</i>	Common along the coast.
240	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Only seen at Krungching Forest.
241	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	Several seen around the marshes and salt pans during the first half of the tour.
242	Plain-backed Sparrow	<i>Passer flaveolus</i>	This attractive bird was first seen in the gardens of Chong Lom Temple nr Bangkok.
243	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Common.
244	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	Seen near Petchaburi.
245	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	Seen near Petchaburi.