



# birdtourASIA

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## Sichuan, China

20<sup>th</sup> May - 8<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Leader: Frank Lambert

Participants: Peter and Rosemary Royle, John and Jan Jones,  
Howard Ackford, Robert Jones and Michael Frost.



*Tibetan Snowcock, Balang Shan*

© tour participant, John Jones

China is rapidly becoming a top birding destination, and within this huge country, and indeed the Asian region, there are very few birding areas that rival Sichuan. Despite last minute changes to the itinerary due to the closure of Labahe, our Sichuan tour this year recorded a total of 292 species (of which seven were heard only) including an incredible 16 species of galliform, 13 species of laughingthrush, nine rosefinches, eight parrotbills, 27 warblers and three species of snowfinch. We managed to find all of the main target species, including such highly wanted birds as Sichuan Treecreeper, Sichuan Jay, Verreaux's Monal Partridge, Grandala, Emei Liocichla, Przewalski's and Chinese Nuthatches, Pere David's Tit, Chinese Fulvetta and Rufous-headed Robin, although the last of these proved to be not only one of the most incredible birds in this region, but also one of the shyest, and it took a huge effort to track down and see a singing male.

On our first morning we made a pre-breakfast trip to a local park, a mere five minutes walk from our hotel in central Chengdu. Here, amongst the noisy early morning fitness fanatics, we quickly found Chinese Blackbirds, already feeding fully fledged young, along with White-browed Laughingthrushes and a pair of Chinese Grosbeaks attending a nest. Vinous-throated Parrotbill took a little more effort but showed itself readily in response to playback.

Leaving Chengdu after a rather filling breakfast, our bus took us along the highway to the base of Emei Shan. A brief walk around the garden produced a Swinhoe's Minivet but not much else, although when we returned to our car we discovered that the driver and our local guide had gripped us off with a pair of Chinese Bamboo Partridges in the parking lot! We managed to glimpse the birds, but after another half hour or so gave up trying to see them in the heat of the day and headed for lunch in the city. Afterwards, we visited the lower part of Mt Emei, birding along several rough-stone paved trails which produced some excellent birds, including Rufous-faced Warbler, Slaty-backed Forktails (including one fully grown juvenile), Black-streaked Scimitar Babbler, Eurasian Jays and a couple of very confiding Ashy-throated Parrotbills. Then, along the main road, we found two Chinese Hwamei vigorously singing in adjacent territories. Howard was the first to spot a Chinese Bamboo Partridge fly across the road and land nearby, after which it was quickly relocated just meters away, giving great views before flying back across the road and perching completely in the open. Certainly bird of the day for most of us...

On our second full day, since we had seen almost all of the lowland birds, we decided to make the long trip up to the top of Emei Shan, even though we would only have a couple of hours birding. This proved to be an excellent decision because, despite the large number of visitors, there were still plenty of new birds. Our main target was the highly localized Grey-hooded Parrotbill, and this we saw incredibly well after about an hour of searching its stunted bamboo habitat. We also had stunning views of a male Golden Bush Robin in the same area, and we found a magnificent and highly responsive male White-bellied Redstart that sat in full view only meters away. Later we had similar excellent views of Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler in the understory as they sang in competition with the various noises of this crowd-pulling tourist attraction. The pines were full of warblers too, and we saw our first of many Sichuan Leaf Warblers, Greenish and Large-billed Leaf Warblers, Buff-barred Warblers and Bianchi's Warblers. Other birds included Rufous-breasted Accentors, some Vinaceous Rosefinches, the local race of Coal Tit (very unlike those one sees in Europe) and our first Green-backed Tits. The weather was uncharacteristically clear and we had magnificent views of 7,000m high snow-covered peaks some 100km to our north, along with the sheer cliffs below the Golden Temple. All in all this was a great experience, and well worth the five hours return journey! After an excellent lunch near the cable car we headed back down and continued our journey south to stay near Laojunshan National Park.

This was the first visit to Laojunshan National Park, this year included in the itinerary because some of the other sites we had originally planned to visit had been closed for the upgrading of facilities or due to the recent earthquake. The drive up to Laojunshan follows a rough dirt track, at first through arable land and plantation, and later through logged-over forest. We found a number of interesting species along the road including Crimson-breasted Woodpecker, Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon, Collared Finchbill, Red-tailed Minla, Alstrom's Warbler and on our final morning in the mist and rain, both Silver and Lady Amherst's Pheasants. We even met Per Alstrom, having just seen the warbler named after him! Above the end of the road the forest was a little more mature, although still not primary, and we birded the trails here near to the accommodation block, under construction at the time of our visit.

These trails and the clearing around the building produced many good birds, most notably Emei Liocichla, Red-winged, Buffy and White-throated Laughingthrushes, Lesser and Hodgsons' Hawk Cuckoo, Pygmy Wren Babbler, Kloss's, Grey-crowned and White-spectacled Warblers, and an amazing number of Red-billed Liothrix, a species that is abundant in this area. We all heard the endangered Sichuan Partridge, but despite numerous attempts to see one, only Jan managed to get a view of this elusive species through the understorey as it scuttled past us. Another bird briefly seen by a couple of people was Temminck's Tragopan, two of which we flushed from a tree along one of the trails. Our wet morning got wetter and wetter and we soon gave up our search and headed back to town and onto our next destination, Longcanggou. This was another site added to the itinerary at the last moment, in replacement for Labahe which had been closed to build a cable-car system!

We arrived at Longcanggou at dusk, too late to bird, but set out early the following morning in the hope of a tragopan on the road. Sadly we saw none, probably because the weather was just too good, and after our usual field breakfast we headed up from the end of the drivable road in search of parrotbills and other birds. One of the first birds we saw was a Grey-hooded Parrotbill, and we later saw another two on our way back at lunch time, but both Great and Brown Parrotbills proved elusive and we failed to hear or see any. Bush Warblers, on the other hand, were in abundance, and we saw Brownish-flanked, Aberrant, Yellowish-bellied, Spotted and Brown - five species in a couple of hours! Other birds we saw before fog settled in to ruin our views included a very close Black-faced Laughingthrush.

After lunch we headed down the road but the fog was by now blanketing everything and the birding was very slow. Birds we did see, however, included Grey-hooded Fulvetta and Claudia's Leaf Warbler, both new for the trip. Later in the afternoon, when the fog had cleared, we were fortunate to see a female Temminck's Tragopan and two tiny

chicks – the latter were unable to climb a tall mud bank to join their mother and we watched them for some time, with the mother in attendance and continuously calling to them from the bamboo at the top of the bank. Eventually they struggled to the top of the bank and rejoined the female before disappearing into the dense bamboo.



**Chinese Bamboo Partridge and Silver Pheasant**



**© tour participant, Peter Royle**

On our second morning at Longcanggou we headed off early again but the weather was too good for any pheasants on the road. Heading up again to look for parrotbills we encountered very few birds and by 11am still had not seen anything significant. Things were looking grim! But our luck soon changed, and by the end of the day we had had amazing views of Three-toed and Great Parrotbill, Emei Liocichla and a gorgeous male Firethroat. The Firethroat was truly amazing, singing close by and sitting in the open almost too close to focus on! What a superb bird. To top off the afternoon two Speckled Wood Pigeons flew over our heads and instead of doing their usual disappearing act landed very close by in perfect light – wonderful.

Our final morning at Longcanggou was also a great success. With only a couple of hours birding before we had to begin the long drive to Wolong, we managed to see Golden Parrotbill, a male Lady Amherst's Pheasant, Chinese Blue Flycatcher, and the *artemisiae* race of Spotted Laughingthrush, a likely future split. Our drive to Wolong took us about eight hours – the short route – involving transferring to two vehicles and having the van driven by a policeman for the last two hours of the journey because of rules relating to road conditions. We passed through a long, spectacular gorge where rock falls must occur daily, if not hourly, before entering the serene upper end of the valley where the small town of Wolong is located.

On our first day in the Wolong area we drove up towards the Balangshan pass before dawn to witness the display of Wood Snipe, several of which were heard before it got light, doing their ritual of calling and swooping over the meadows in which they breed. As it got light we could clearly see at least one bird, but as soon as it was properly light the show was over. We then turned our attention to finding some pheasants, and were soon listening to at least four Koklass Pheasants calling nearby, but they proved impossible to see. A pair of Verreaux's Monal Partridges started calling not far off and these crossed the road for us, giving brief but reasonable views. Asian House Martins and Snow Pigeons were also seen nearby, as well as Chinese White-browed and Dark-breasted Rosefinch, and shortly afterwards we heard the distinctive call of one of our main targets, a male Chinese Monal. Within a few minutes we had spotted it on a rock but it soon flew down into the valley and we walked towards it. It flushed up and flew towards our vehicle, landing close to where our abandoned breakfast was laid out on the ground, and then proceeded to walk up slope, still calling and giving wonderful views before it suddenly spotted our driver, Mr Pun, and flew off again. Very satisfied, we returned to breakfast, and at this point found yet another male Chinese Monal in full view up the slope, this time displaying to a female, with its tail raised right in the air. Fantastic! White Eared Pheasants proved more elusive but we eventually spotted three on a distant slope, walking around in the open pasture.

Heading up to the top of the pass, at 4,487m, we passed through the clouds that had been rolling in since dawn and into the most wonderful scenery with jagged snow-capped peaks all around us. This area supports a whole new set of birds, and we were soon watching Rosy Pipits, Alpine Choughs and the occasional Plain Mountain Finch and Alpine Accentor. A majestic Lammergeier and several Himalayan Griffon glided over the slopes on which we

were concentrating as we searched for Grandala, Tibetan Snowcocks and Snow Partridges. Incredibly we discovered a pair of snowcock no more than 20m from our vehicle, feeding amongst the rocks and seemingly unalarmed by the array of binoculars aimed at them. Such incredible views were in contrast to those we managed to get of Snow Partridges, way in the distance, and of Grandalas. The weather was changing, with fog rolling in near the peak, and we headed back down to look for other birds nearer Wolong. Half way back we stopped to gaze down on an open meadow where a superb male Golden Pheasant was seen feeding in the open, and Chinese Babax and Buff-throated Warblers flitted around nearby bushes. We also unexpectedly found Chinese Fulvetta and Black-browed Tit along the roadside, and had a brief view of a Himalayan Bluetail. Few other birds of note were seen in the afternoon, but most of us saw a male Common Pheasant and heard Indian Blue Robin, Firethroat and Chinese Leaf Warblers, whilst Rosemary and Peter had more views of male Golden Pheasant.



**Severtzov's Tit Warbler and Grey-hooded Parrotbill**

© tour participant, Peter Royle

Our second day at Wolong started off very well with a roadside Koklass Pheasant, tame Brandt's Mountain Finches by the roadside and both Streaked and Red-fronted Rosefinches giving close views at the Balangshan pass. Grandalas had also moved down the mountain, perhaps because the weather was changing, and the stunning colours of the males contrasted sharply with the bleak rocks and patches of snow. Later, at lower elevation, we found some responsive Giant Laughingthrushes, and even better, a fantastic Barred Laughingthrush that was picked up on voice in bushy roadside habitat, not the bamboo that one usually associates with this species. Another unexpected find was a nice Small-billed Scaly Thrush. After a lot of searching we finally found a male Slaty Bunting along with Chinese Leaf Warblers.

The following morning we said goodbye to Wolong and headed up towards Balangshan pass once more, there were plenty of rosefinches along the road and we had good views of Common, Dark-breasted and Chinese White-browed Rosefinches. After driving up above the clouds and down the other side of the mountain we found some singing Himalayan Rubythroats and had the most marvelous views of this spectacular bird. Moving down towards the town of Rilong we found a succession of great birds, including Pink-rumped, Chinese Beautiful and Streaked Rosefinches, a superb Przewalski's Nuthatch, Maroon-backed Accentor (though sadly not seen by all), Grey-crested, Rufous-vented and Sichuan Tit and a host of *Phylloscopus* warblers including Hume's, Greenish, Alpine, Sichuan, Buff-barred and Claudia's Leaf Warblers. We also had excellent views of an adult Lammergeier, Hill and Snow Pigeons and, for Howard, a male Three-banded Rosefinch that put in a brief appearance.

The following morning we headed to an area that holds several special birds, and within a very short time were watching some superb Long-tailed Rosefinches, of the distinctive central Chinese race *henrici*, followed shortly afterwards by a pair of Wallcreeper that were feeding young in a nest near the road. Hodgson's Redstarts, Yellow-streaked Warblers, Snow and Hill Pigeons were all also seen in the vicinity. Driving onwards to Mengbishi, at 4,100m, we spent the afternoon birding in the beautiful valley above Maerkang. Although slow at first, we were soon watching some very close Sichuan Jays, followed by a singing Long-tailed Thrush atop a pine tree, at least seven White Eared Pheasants and, just before it started to rain, a pair of lovely Crested Tit-Warblers. This had been another incredible day, with exceptional views of many species, and fine weather – in sharp contrast to the weather experienced on our Sichuan 2012 scheduled tour.

Overnight, however, the weather changed, and the following morning we were a little surprised to find the entire upper part of the Mengbishan valley white with snow, but snow is not always a bad thing when birding, forcing birds down to lower elevations or to the edge of their habitat, and on the way up the valley we saw two groups of Blood Pheasant, totaling at least 8 birds, along the roadside. Bird activity was low at the higher elevations, and apart from a Collared Grosbeak skulking in the understorey we found very little and after a while we moved to the lower slopes. Here we found more activity, and most notably a pair of Three-banded Rosefinches which gave great views for a few minutes before disappearing. More Sichuan Jays were also seen, along with another Crested Tit-Warbler. The middle of the day was very slow, but returning to the higher elevations, where the snow had now all but disappeared, we tried our luck at calling out Verreaux's Monal Partridge. At the last moment we had a response and eventually had incredible views of a pair, one of which perched in full view near the road on top of a tree stump, calling loudly and excitedly for several minutes.

Leaving Maerkang early in the morning, we started our journey to the town of Ruergai on the Tibetan Plateau. Our first birds of the day included a couple of nice corvids, Azure-winged Magpies and Daurian Jackdaw, as well as two distant flying Ibisbill that were seen by some of the group. Further along our journey, after some searching on the windswept slopes, we found a nesting pair of White-browed Tits and, whilst watching the tits, a colourful but diminutive Severtzov's Tit-Warbler that came to investigate us. Continuing our journey we stopped to look at a nest of Saker Falcon, with one adult sitting nearby and five almost fully-grown young in the nest – presumably this year's high density of pikas were benefitting this raptor. Later we found three species of snowfinch along our route – Black-winged, Rufous-necked and White-rumped, all of which gave us stunning views as they nested by the roadside. To finish off what had been a very birdy trip into the picturesque plateau area, we stopped to watch a pair of Tibetan Grey Shrikes attending a nest with three large chicks – clearly visible through a scope at 30m. Our journey also produced our first views of many Black-necked Cranes – some very close to the road, many Ruddy Shelduck, Alpine and Greenish Warblers, an adult male Tibetan Wagtail and our first Upland Buzzard.



***Plain Mountain Finch and Brandt's Mountain Finch***

***© tour participant, Peter Royle***

Our early morning stint in Baxi Forest was very productive, with superb views of two Blue Eared Pheasants miraculously spotted by Jan sitting in a tree nearby and preening, then sunning themselves, until 7am. This was followed by scope views of Sukatchev's Laughingthrush and good flight views, and for some brief views on the ground, of the elusive Chinese Grouse. Shortly afterwards we found several very confident Godlewski's Buntings as well as singing male Hodgson's Redstart and Olive-backed Pipit, both atop large pine trees. The area was full of Kessler's Thrushes and the odd Chestnut Thrush, as well as several species of leaf warbler. When we first arrived there was a Chinese Goral down one of the valleys, giving nice scope views, and shortly afterwards Rosemary spotted a lone Wolf on the opposite hillside.

Leaving Baxi Forest we headed up higher on the Tibetan Plateau, where we visited the very well managed Flower Lake. En route we saw at least 150 White-rumped Snowfinches, Oriental Skylarks, Horned Lark, Black Redstarts, Saker Falcons, Himalayan Griffons, a single Lammergeier and small numbers of Black-necked Cranes. The Lake itself held many birds – Greylag Geese, Red-crested Pochard, Ferruginous Duck, Great Crested and a single Black-necked Grebe, Brown-headed Gulls, Whiskered and White-winged Black Terns in immaculate breeding plumage, a few Grey Herons, a booming Eurasian Bittern and breeding plumage Lesser Sandpipers. In the surrounding fields we had close encounters with the impressively large Tibetan Lark. On our return to Ruergai we found Rock Sparrows and Twite, and as we prepared for dinner most of us saw a stunning Tiger Shrike near the hotel.

On our journey from Ruergai to Jiuzhaigou the following morning, after dropping from the sparsely vegetated wind-swept plains of the Tibetan Plateau we made a roadside stop for Siberian Rubythroat, and soon found a couple of singing males. One of these put on a magnificent show, sitting in full view and singing loudly away as we watched through our scopes. A wonderful bird! After lunch in Jiuzhaigou, we birded some areas further up the valley and found a few good birds. On a scrubby hillside we had good views of Spectacled Fulvetta, whilst along a forested trail we found, amongst other things, a Chinese Thrush.

Entering the stunningly beautiful Jiuzhaigou National Park the following morning, we headed up to an area known to support one of Asia's most beautiful birds, Rufous-headed Robin. We used the park's impressively efficient transport system – electric buses – to reach our destination, passing strikingly beautiful scenery on our route up towards Long Lake. Almost as soon as we arrived in the area we heard the nightingale-like song of the robin, and, as usual, this elusive creature lulled us into thinking we were about to see it. Of course, this was not to be – such a handsome robin does not give itself up so easily, and after a few invisible passes of the group, and as it started to rain, the robin stopped singing for the day. With very little chance of seeing this species when it is silent, we decided to search for another main target species – Sichuan Treecreeper. This too proved to be difficult to find: at one point a couple of Eurasian Nuthatches in the upper canopy gave us a false alarm, but the treecreepers were nowhere to be found, and not calling. Nevertheless, after a couple of hours of intensive searching we finally found a confiding pair of birds, much to everyone's relief as they fed close to the ground, presumably nesting nearby.



***Rufous-necked Snowfinch and Black-necked Cranes***

**© tour participant, Peter Royle**

The forests near Long Lake were bustling with birds, and we saw many interesting species. These included a couple of confiding Pere David's Tits in a forest clearing, and not long afterwards we came across a small group of Spotted Nutcracker sitting in the upper canopy, whilst some of our group also managed to see a male Indian Blue Robin, as well as a male Vinaceous Rosefinch. Since the park closes at 5pm our time was up, and we headed to a late lunch in the Tibetan Village – but just as we were about to board a bus Frank found a Chinese Nuthatch, and we aborted boarding to watch this endemic before finally getting a bus down the mountain valley for a quick but welcome lunch of pot noodles. Then, not long after our noodles, we had another piece of good luck as a passing feeding flock contained at least four Sooty Tits, another of the species we had hoped to find in Jiuzhaigou. Our final stop of the day, near the park entrance, where we found another important target bird – the charismatic Spectacled Parrotbill. Small numbers were seen very easily as we walked along the lakeside. Our final bird of the day we found outside the park – a nice Brown Dipper clinging on to a rock besides a very fast flowing river.

On our final day in Jiuzhaigou, with only one main target species to see, we headed back to the area in which we had heard Rufous-headed Robin the previous day. As we approached we heard two males singing – evidently some kind of territorial dispute – and within half an hour John had managed to see one of these amazingly secretive birds. During the next five hours or so we tried very hard to get views of the birds, but in the end most of us had seen one reasonably well – how these robins sing from one place and then seconds later from another place and move without being detected is hard to conceive, and something one needs to experience! We had to give up mid afternoon and tried another couple of spots for the birds in a different part of the park, but heard none in those areas. At one point our hopes had been lifted as we heard the distinctive song, but it turned out to be some other birders playing a tape!

We turned our attention to an hour of sightseeing in this most wonderful of parks, with its incredibly beautiful lakes, waterfalls and shoals. All the participants of the tour were in agreement that there are very few places in the world that can equal Jiuzhaigou in terms of its scenery – and despite the huge number of Chinese tourists visiting the park, the park authority has done an amazingly good job of preserving the area and controlling the camera-clicking tourists.

Leaving Jiuzhaigou after a leisurely breakfast on our final morning, we started our long journey back to Chengdu where we were to end this tour. On the way we stopped to look for a few birds, and we were lucky enough to find an adult and two young Collared Crows, now a scarce bird in China. At another random restroom stop we soon discovered a whole host of new birds for the trip, such as Red-billed Starling, Oriental Greenfinch and Plain Prinia, as well as other birds that most of us had already seen, such as Chinese Grosbeak, Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Rufous-faced Warbler and Speckled Piculet. So, even at the last moment we were still adding birds to the list in what is without doubt China's premier birding areas...we had had a superb time with great birding combined with good weather (not always guaranteed in Sichuan at this time of year!), excellent food and some of the most beautiful scenery on the planet.

For information regarding our scheduled tours to Sichuan please click [here](#). Alternatively please contact us via [e-mail](#) regarding organising a custom tour to Sichuan.

### Bird-of-the-tour

1. Blue Eared Pheasant
2. Chinese Monal
3. Barred Laughingthrush
4. Firethroat
5. Tibetan Snowcock
5. Wallcreeper

## Systematic List

### PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae

Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
Black-naped Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>

### ICTONIFORMES: Ardeidae

Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Eastern Great Egret	<i>Ardea [alba] modestus</i>
Intermediate Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Chinese Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola bacchus</i>
Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Eurasian Bittern	<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>

### ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae

Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>
Ferruginous Pochard	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>

### FALCONIFORMES: Accipitridae

Black Baza	<i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>
Black-eared Kite	<i>Milvus [milgrans] lineatus</i>
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>
Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>
Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Himalayan Buzzard	<i>Buteo burmanicus</i>

Upland Buzzard	<i>Buteo hemilasius</i>
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
Mountain Hawk Eagle	<i>Nisaetus nipalensis</i>

**FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae**

Eurasian Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
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**GALLIFORMES: Tetraonidae**

Severtzov's Grouse	<i>Bonasa sewerzowi</i>
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**GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae**

Snow Partridge	<i>Lerwa lerwa</i>
Verreaux's Monal Partridge	<i>Tetraophasis obscurus</i>
Tibetan Snowcock	<i>Tetraogallus tibetanus</i>
Sichuan Partridge	<i>Arborophila rufipectus</i>
Chinese Bamboo Partridge	<i>Bambusicola thoracica</i>
Blood Pheasant	<i>Ithaginis cruentus berezowskii</i>
Temminck's Tragopan	<i>Tragopan temminckii</i>
Koklass Pheasant	<i>Pucrasia macrolopha ruficollis</i>
Chinese Monal	<i>Lophophorus lhuysii</i>
White Eared Pheasant	<i>Crossoptilon crossoptilon</i>
Blue Eared Pheasant	<i>Crossoptilon auritum</i>
Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus suehschanensis</i>
Golden Pheasant	<i>Chrysolophus pictus</i>
Lady Amherst's Pheasant	<i>Chrysolophus amherstiae</i>
Silver Pheasant	<i>Lophura nycthemera omeiensis</i>

**GRUIFORMES: Gruidae**

Black-necked Crane	<i>Grus nigricollis</i>
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**GRUIFORMES: Rallidae**

Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae**

Lesser Sandplover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>
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**CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae**

Wood Snipe	<i>Gallinago nemoricola</i>
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Ibidorhynchidae**

Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>
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**CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae**

Brown-headed Gull	<i>Larus brunnicephalus</i>
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**CHARADRIIFORMES: Sternidae**

Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
White-winged Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>

**COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae**

Hill Pigeon	<i>Columba rupestris</i>
Snow Pigeon	<i>Columba leuconota</i>
Speckled Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba hodgsonii</i>
Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis orientalis</i>
Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron sphenura sphenura</i>

**CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae**

Large Hawk Cuckoo  
 Hodgson's Hawk Cuckoo  
 Common Cuckoo  
 Himalayan Cuckoo  
 Lesser Cuckoo  
 Asian Koel

*Cuculus sparverioides*  
*Cuculus nasicolor*  
*Cuculus canorus*  
*Cuculus saturatus*  
*Cuculus poliocephalus*  
*Eudynamys scolopacea*

**STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae**

Little Owl  
 Collared Scops Owl  
 Pere David's Owl

*Athene noctua inpasta*  
*Otus lettia*  
*Strix [uralensis] davidi*

Heard only  
 Heard only

**APODIFORMES: Apodidae**

Himalayan Swiftlet  
 White-throated Needletail  
 Pacific Swift  
 Salim Ali's Swift  
 House Swift

*Aerodramus brevirostris*  
*Hirundapus caudacutus*  
*Apus pacificus pacificus*  
*Apus salimalii*  
*Apus nipalensis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae**

Common Kingfisher

*Alcedo atthis*

**CORACIIFORMES: Upupidae**

Hoopoe

*Upupa epops*

**PICIFORMES: Capitonidae**

Great Barbet

*Megalaima virens*

Heard only

**PICIFORMES: Picidae**

Speckled Piculet  
 Darjeeling Woodpecker  
 Crimson-breasted Woodpecker  
 Great Spotted Woodpecker  
 Grey-faced Woodpecker  
 Bay Woodpecker

*Picumnus innominatus*  
*Dendrocopos darjellensis*  
*Dendrocopos cathpharius*  
*Dendrocopos major*  
*Picus canus sordidor*  
*Blythipicus pyrrhotis*

Heard only  
 Heard only

**PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae**

Tibetan Lark  
 Oriental Skylark  
 Horned Lark

*Melanocorypha maxima*  
*Alauda gulgula*  
*Eremophila alpestris khamensis*

**PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae**

Eurasian Crag Martin  
 Barn Swallow  
 Red-rumped Swallow  
 Asian House Martin

*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*  
*Hirundo rustica*  
*Cecropis daurica*  
*Delichon dasypus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae**

Black-backed Wagtail  
 Tibetan Wagtail  
 Eastern Yellow Wagtail  
 Grey Wagtail  
 Olive-backed Pipit  
 Rosy Pipit

*Motacilla alba alboides*  
*Motacilla [citreola] calcarata*  
*Motacilla tschutschensis macronyx*  
*Motacilla cinerea*  
*Anthus hodgsoni hodsoni*  
*Anthus roseatus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae**

Black-winged Cuckooshrike  
Swinhoe's Minivet  
Long-tailed Minivet

*Coracina melaschistos*  
*Pericrocotus cantonensis*  
*Pericrocotus ethologus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae**

Collared Finchbill  
Brown-breasted Bulbul  
Chinese Bulbul  
Mountain Bulbul  
Black Bulbul

*Spizixos semitorques*  
*Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*  
*Pycnonotus sinensis*  
*Ixos mccllellandii*  
*Hypsipetes leucocephalus leucothorax*

**PASSERIFORMES: Regulidae**

Goldcrest

*Regulus regulus yunnanensis*

**PASSERIFORMES: Cinclidae**

White-throated Dipper  
Brown Dipper

*Cinclus cinclus przewalskii*  
*Cinclus pallasii*

**PASSERIFORMES: Troglodytidae**

Winter Wren

*Troglodytes troglodytes szetschuanus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Prunellidae**

Alpine Accentor  
Rufous-breasted Accentor  
Maroon-backed Accentor

*Prunella collaris*  
*Prunella strophciata*  
*Prunella immaculata*

**PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae**

Blue Rock Thrush  
Blue Whistling Thrush  
Long-tailed Thrush  
Small-billed Scaly Thrush  
Chinese Blackbird  
Chestnut Thrush  
Kessler's Thrush  
Chinese Thrush  
White-browed Shortwing

*Monticola solitarius pandoo*  
*Myophonus caeruleus caeruleus*  
*Zoothera dixonii*  
*Zoothera dauma dauma*  
*Turdus mandarinus*  
*Turdus rubrocanus gouldi*  
*Turdus kessleri*  
*Turdus mupinensis*  
*Brachypteryx montana cruralis*

Heard only

**PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae**

Plain Prinia

*Prinia inornata extensicauda*

**PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae**

Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler  
Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler  
Aberrant Bush Warbler  
Yellowish-bellied Bush Warbler  
Spotted Bush Warbler  
Russet Bush Warbler  
Brown Bush Warbler  
Severtzov's Tit Warbler  
Crested Tit Warbler  
Dusky Warbler  
Alpine Leaf Warbler  
Buff-throated Warbler  
Yellow-streaked Warbler  
Buff-barred Warbler  
Sichuan Leaf Warbler  
Chinese Leaf Warbler  
Hume's Leaf Warbler  
Greenish Warbler  
Large-billed Leaf Warbler  
Claudia's Leaf Warbler

*Cettia major major*  
*Horornis fortipes davidiana*  
*Horornis flavolivacea intricata*  
*Horornis acanthizoides acanthizoides*  
*Locustella thoracicus thoracicus*  
*Locustella mandelli mandelli*  
*Locustella luteoventris*  
*Leptopoecile sophiae obscura*  
*Leptopoecile elegans*  
*Phylloscopus fuscatus robustus*  
*Phylloscopus [affinis] occisinensis*  
*Phylloscopus subaffinis*  
*Phylloscopus armandii armandii*  
*Phylloscopus pulcher pulcher*  
*Phylloscopus [chloronotus] forresti*  
*Phylloscopus yunnanensis*  
*Phylloscopus humei mandellii*  
*Phylloscopus trochiloides*  
*Phylloscopus magnirostris*  
*Phylloscopus claudiae*

Emei Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus emeiensis</i>
Kloss's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ogilviegranti disturbans</i>
Grey-crowned Warbler	<i>Seicercus tephrocephalus</i>
Bianchi's Warbler	<i>Seicercus valentini valentini</i>
Alstrom's Warbler	<i>Seicercus soror</i>
Marten's Warbler	<i>Seicercus omeiensis</i>
White-spectacled Warbler	<i>Seicercus affinis intermedius</i>
Rufous-faced Warbler	<i>Abroscopus albogularis fulvifacies</i>

#### **PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae**

Ferruginous Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa ferruginea</i>	
Dark-sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	
Slaty-backed Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hodgsonii</i>	
Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophciata</i>	
Slaty-blue Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula tricolor diversa</i>	
Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassina</i>	
Chinese Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis glaucicomans</i>	
Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	
Siberian Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>	
White-tailed Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia pectoralis tschebaiewi</i>	
Rufous-headed Robin	<i>Luscinia ruficeps</i>	
Firethroat	<i>Luscinia pectardens</i>	
Indian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia brunnea</i>	
Himalayan Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger rufilatus</i>	
Golden Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger chrysaesus</i>	
White-browed Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger indicus yunnanensis</i>	Heard only
Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros rufiventris</i>	
Hodgson's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>	
White-throated Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>	
Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>	
Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>	
White-capped Redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>	
Plumbeous Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	
White-bellied Redstart	<i>Hodgsonius phaenicuroides</i>	
White-tailed Robin	<i>Cinclidium leucurum</i>	
Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maura przewalskii</i>	
Grandala	<i>Grandala coelicolor</i>	
Slaty-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus schistaceus</i>	
White-crowned Forktail	<i>Enicurus leschenaulti sinensis</i>	
Grey Bushchat	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>	

#### **PASSERIFORMES: Timaliidae**

Buffy Laughingthrush	<i>Dryonastes berthemyi</i>	
White-throated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>	
Chinese Babax	<i>Babax lanceolatus</i>	
Chinese Hwamei	<i>Leucodioptron canorus</i>	
White-browed Laughingthrush	<i>Pterorhinus sannio</i>	
Pere David's Laughingthrush	<i>Pterorhinus davidi</i>	
Sukatshev's Laughingthrush	<i>Ianthocincla sukatschewi</i>	
Barred Laughingthrush	<i>Ianthocincla lunulatus</i>	
Spotted Laughingthrush	<i>Ianthocincla ocellatus artemisiae</i>	
Giant Laughingthrush	<i>Ianthocincla maximus</i>	
Elliot's Laughingthrush	<i>Trohalopteron elliotii</i>	
Black-faced Laughingthrush	<i>Trohalopteron affinis</i>	
Red-winged Laughingthrush	<i>Trohalopteron formosus</i>	
Emei Liocichla	<i>Liocichla omeiensis</i>	
Black-streaked Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus gravivox</i>	
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis</i>	
Pygmy Cupwing	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>	
Rufous-capped Babbler	<i>Stachyris ruficeps</i>	
Red-billed Leiothrix	<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>	
Golden-breasted Fulvetta	<i>Lioparus chrysotis</i>	
Chinese Fulvetta	<i>Fulvetta striaticollis</i>	

Spectacled Fulvetta	<i>Fulvetta ruficapilla</i>
Grey-hooded Fulvetta	<i>Fulvetta cinereiceps</i>
Blue-winged Siva	<i>Siva cyanouroptera</i>
Red-tailed Minla	<i>Minla ignotincta</i>
Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>
White-collared Yuhina	<i>Yuhina diademata</i>
Black-chinned Yuhina	<i>Yuhina nigrimenta</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Paradoxornithidae**

Great Parrotbill	<i>Conostoma oemodium</i>
Three-toed Parrotbill	<i>Cholornis paradoxus</i>
Grey-headed Parrotbill	<i>Psittiparus gularis</i>
Spectacled Parrotbill	<i>Sinornis conspicillatus</i>
Vinous-throated Parrotbill	<i>Sinornis webbiana</i>
Ashy-throated Parrotbill	<i>Sinornis alphonsianus</i>
Grey-hooded Parrotbill	<i>Sinosuthora zappeyi</i>
Golden Parrotbill	<i>Sinornis verreauxi verreauxi</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Aegithalidae**

Red-crowned (Black-throated) Tit	<i>Aegithalos concinnus concinnus</i>
Black-browed Tit	<i>Aegithalos iouschistos</i>
Sooty Tit	<i>Aegithalos fuliginosus</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Paridae**

Sichuan Tit	<i>Poecile [songarus] weigoldei</i>
White-browed Tit	<i>Poecile superciliosa</i>
Pere David's Tit	<i>Poecile davidi</i>
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater aemodius</i>
Rufous-vented Tit	<i>Periparus rubidiventris</i>
Yellow-bellied Tit	<i>Pardaliparus venustulus</i>
Grey-crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes dichrous</i>
Japanese Tit	<i>Parus minor minor</i>
	<i>Parus minor tibetanus</i>
Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>
Yellow-browed Tit	<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>
Ground Tit	<i>Pseudopodoces humilis</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Sittidae**

Chinese Nuthatch	<i>Sitta villosa bangsi</i>
Przewalski's Nuthatch	<i>Sitta przewalskii</i>
Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Tichodromidae**

Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>
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**PASSERIFORMES: Certhiidae**

Sichuan Treecreeper	<i>Certhia tianquanensis</i>
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**PASSERIFORMES: Remizidae**

Fire-capped Tit	<i>Cephalopyrus flammiceps</i>
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**PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae**

Mrs Gould's Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga gouldiae dabryi</i>
Fork-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga christinae latouchii</i>

**PASSERIFORMES: Dicaeidae**

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>	Heard only
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**PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae**

Chestnut-flanked White-eye  
Japanese White-eye

*Zosterops erythropleurus*  
*Zosterops japonicus simplex*

**PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae**

Tiger Shrike  
Long-tailed Shrike  
Grey-backed Shrike  
Tibetan Grey Shrike

*Lanius tigrinus*  
*Lanius schach schach*  
*Lanius tephronotus*  
*Lanius [sphenocercus] giganteus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae**

Black Drongo  
Ashy Drongo  
Hair-crested Drongo

*Dicrurus macrocercus*  
*Dicrurus leucophaeus salangensis*  
*Dicrurus hottentottus brevirostris*

**PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae**

Sichuan Jay  
Eurasian Jay  
Azure-winged Magpie  
Red-billed Blue Magpie  
Grey Treepie  
Eurasian Magpie  
Spotted Nutcracker  
Red-billed Chough  
Yellow-billed Chough  
Daurian Jackdaw  
Oriental [Carrion] Crow  
Large-billed Crow

*Perisoreus internigrans*  
*Garrulus glandarius sinensis*  
*Cyanopica cyana kansuensis*  
*Urocissa erythrorhyncha*  
*Dendrocitta formosae*  
*Pica pica bottanensis*  
*Nucifraga caryocatactes macella*  
*Pyrhacorax pyrrhacorax himalayanus*  
*Pyrhacorax graculus digitatus*  
*Corvus dauuricus insolens*  
*Corvus [corone] orientalis*  
*Corvus japonensis tibetosinensis*  
*Corvus japonensis colonorum*  
*Corvus torquatus*  
*Corvus corax tibetanus*

Collared Crow  
Common Raven

**PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae**

Crested Myna  
Red-billed Starling  
Common Starling

*Acridotheres cristatellus*  
*Sturnus sericeus*  
*Sturnus vulgaris*

**PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae**

White-rumped Munia

*Lonchura striata*

**PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae**

Slaty Bunting  
Godlewski's Bunting

*Emberiza siemsseni*  
*Emberiza godlewskii*

**PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae**

Plain Mountain Finch  
Brandt's Mountain Finch  
Common Rosefinch  
Chinese Beautiful Rosefinch  
Pink-rumped Rosefinch  
Vinaceous Rosefinch  
Three-banded Rosefinch

*Leucosticte nemoricola*  
*Leucosticte brandti*  
*Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus*  
*Carpodacus davidianus*  
*Carpodacus eos*  
*Carpodacus vinaceus*  
*Carpodacus trifasciatus*

Chinese White-browed Rosefinch  
Streaked Rosefinch  
Red-fronted Rosefinch  
Long-tailed Rosefinch  
Oriental Greenfinch  
Twite  
Tibetan Siskin  
Grey-headed Bullfinch

*Carpodacus dubius*  
*Carpodacus rubicilloides*  
*Carpodacus puniceus*  
*Uragus sibiricus henrici*  
*Carduelis sinica*  
*Carduelis flavirostris miniakensis*  
*Serinus thibetanus*  
*Pyrrhula erythaca*

Chinese Grosbeak  
Collared Grosbeak

*Eophona migratoria sowerbyi*  
*Mycerobas affinis*

**PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae**

Eurasian Tree Sparrow  
Rock Sparrow  
Black-winged Snowfinch  
White-rumped Snowfinch  
Rufous-necked Snowfinch

*Passer montanus*  
*Petronia petronia brevirostris*  
*Montifringilla adamsi*  
*Montifringilla taczanowskii*  
*Montifringilla ruficollis*

**MAMMALS**

Pallas's Squirrel  
Swinhoe's Striped Squirrel  
Himalayan Marmot  
Pere David's Rock Squirrel  
Siberian Chipmunk  
Plateau Pika  
Moupin Pika  
Woolly Hare  
Tibetan Fox  
Red Fox  
Wolf  
Domestic Yak  
Common Goral  
Blue Sheep

*Callosciurus erythraeus*  
*Tamiops swinhoei*  
*Marmota himalayana*  
*Sciurotamias davidianus*  
*Tamias sibiricus*  
*Ochotona curzoniae*  
*Ochotona thibetana*  
*Lepus oiostolus*  
*Vulpes ferrilata*  
*Vulpes vulpes*  
*Canis lupes*  
*Bos grunniens*  
*Naemorhedus griseus*  
*Pseudois nayaur*

**292 species recorded including 8 heard only**