Sulawesi and Halmahera

8th – 28th September 2013

Leader: Robert Hutchinson

Participants: Alan Brown, David Clugston, John Eyre, Doug Ormston, Mike Shaw, Dorothy and Peter Webster

Sulawesi and Halmahera is an essential tour for anyone seeking rare Indonesian endemics with even the most ardent world-birders guaranteed in excess of 100 new species and more importantly, they include some of Asia’s, indeed the world’s, most desirable birds.

The attractiveness of the tour is surely helped by the ever improving infrastructure, with accommodation ever improving and particularly fine accommodation now available on Halmahera, if travelling with Birdtour Asia! The Wallace’s Standardwing lek is less strenuous than previously and the chance to enjoy the amazing display of this unique bird-of-paradise with such ease is an opportunity not to be missed. The birds made us work hard as usual, but they performed beautifully with particular highlights on Sulawesi being the rare Geomalia, the soon-to-be-described Sulawesi Brown Flycatcher, Sulawesi Thrush, Purple-bearded Bee-eater, Maleo, Matinan Flycatcher, Diabolical Nightjar, Sulawesi Crested Myna, some stunning endemic kingfishers (out of a total of 15 kingfishers during the tour), a great set of endemic night-birds with both distinctive forms of the recently described Cinnabar Boobook the best, and three endemic Accipiters. Several Hylocitrea were well received, particularly by the family collectors in the group, but surely the highlight and indeed our bird-of-the-trip were two obliging Blue-faced Rails, one of the most difficult Sulawesi endemics to find and indeed we became the first tour company to do so!

Our success continued on Halmahera with all endemic night-birds seen (plus amazing views of Moluccan Scrubfowl which is very much a night-bird!), Wallace’s Standardwings at a spectacular lek site, great views of Ivory-breasted Pitta, Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove and the difficult Purple Dollarbird. Moluccan King Parrot, Barking Owl and ‘Halmahera’ Leaf Warbler were among the less regular species found.
After meeting up in the metropolis of Makassar in southern Sulawesi, excited for our adventure in some of the most endemic-rich areas of Indonesia, the first morning found us amidst the towering limestone karst forests of Karaenta. The most important bird here – Black-ringed White-eye – is restricted to this southern area of Sulawesi and although quite common, it took us longer than usual to locate but repaid the effort with particularly close views. Other targets obliged and within a couple of hours we had bagged our other targets like sanfordi Sulawesi Dwarf Hornbill, albicolis White-necked Myna and leucops Hair-crested Drongo, a very brief Piping Crow and some fly-over Golden-mantled Racquet-tails, and excellent looks at a restricted range primate; Moor Macaque. We were also excited to get good views of at least two ‘Sulawesi Brown Flycatchers’, actually a species that has yet to be formally described more than 15 years after they were first discovered.

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**Sulawesi Dwarf Hornbill and Black-ringed White-eye, Karaenta Forest**

A detour on the way to the airport took in a productive area of fishponds where White-shouldered Triller was quickly added, a roosting Savanna Nightjar allowed a close approach, and a modest array of waders and water-birds included good numbers of Javan Plover as the key target, accompanied by White-headed Stilts, Little Terns, Common Greenshank and Common Redshank. Our flight to Palu in central Sulawesi was a little delayed so there was little time to stop along the way before arriving in the evening at our friendly guesthouse close to Sulawesi’s oldest National Park – Lore Lindu. No sooner had we sat down for dinner than a calling Speckled Boobook had us darting outside again for excellent views of this endemic *Ninox*, a superb finish to our first day.

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**Purple-bearded Bee-eater, Lore Lindu**
We were back up in the forest early the next morning excited by the rush of birds, and opting to spend our first day up the famed Anaso track to avoid two other birding groups who would be birding lower elevations that day.

The Anaso track is still a key birding area here, although sadly not as easy to visit as it was in the past as vehicles can no longer access the damaged former logging track. Fortunately the walk up is usually rewarded with some fine birding and indeed not long after dawn we were adding our first endemics and specialities like Blue-faced Parrotfinch, Fiery-browed Myna, Streak-headed White-eye, Sulawesi Leaf Warbler, Yellow-vented Whistler and the first of many Golden-mantled Racquet-tails for the day. An immature Small Sparrowhawk gave prolonged studies in the 'scope, was followed just a short while later by an adult, and a delightfully pair of Diabolical Nightjars, roosting side-by-side, and blending brilliantly with their surroundings. Higher up the trail a Grey-headed Imperial Pigeon flew over and White-eared Myza was added as were two shy skulkers, a male Maroon-backed Whistler and a shy Great Shortwing for some.

**Hylocitrea and Pygmy Cuckooshrike, Lore Lindu**

A well situated, extended lunch break finally gave us the much desired Hylocitrea munching on red berries, a great relief for the family-listers to have this species, formerly included within the whistlers, under the belt at this early stage. Also here we had both Cerulean and Pygmy Cuckooshrikes, Rusty-breasted Cuckoo, Sulawesi Myzomela, our first Mountain Serin sightings, sadly just fly-overs, and Crimson-crowned Flowerpecker. Making our way back down in the afternoon we had another Maroon-
backed Whistler, our first Malia, a Sulawesi Thrush that appeared briefly, ‘crippling’ views of two more Hylocitrea, and finished the day with superb views of a tail-wagging Purple-bearded Bee-eater. The next day got off to a brilliant start before dawn as we called in a Cinnabar Boobook for superb views, noting the characteristic scaled white belly of this central Sulawesi form which looks likely to be elevated to a full species in its own right when it is finally described. After breakfast the murky weather kept things quiet but more Malia, Sulawesi Drongo and another Sulawesi Myzomela kept things ticking over before some careful scanning revealed a distant pair of Purple-bearded Bee-eaters and a calling Spot-tailed Goshawk bring our tally of endemic Accipiters to three in two days! Blue-fronted Flycatcher and Yellow-billed Malkoha were duly added, and most of us scored good views of a male Giant Shortwing that circled around but a singing Sulawesi Thrush frustrated us by refusing to come closer, although a circling Sulawesi Hawk Eagle was more obliging. Circling Sulawesi Honey Buzzard and Spotted Kestrel greeted us when we arrived back to the guesthouse for lunch, then the afternoon as slightly lower altitudes added Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher, Pal Blue Monarch, Island Verditer, Ivory-backed Woodswallows and a superb pair of Knobbed Hornbills. Many White-bellied Imperial Pigeons were conspicuous in a huge fruiting tree, but the accompanying Grey-cheeked Green Pigeons and Sulawesi Hanging Parrots were harder to spot.

Another hike up the Anaso track the next morning, again saw us intently focussed on finding Geomalia but met with no success. We were happy though with much improved views of White-eared Myza, more flyover Mountain Serins, an obliging pair of Chestnut-backed Bush Warbler, Red-eared Fruit Dove, and the
highlight, quite brilliant views of Sulawesi Thrush. The Diabolical Nightjars were again roosting, now looking rather bedraggled after a very heavy downpour!

After enjoying our first Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker back down at the main road, an enjoyable couple of hours near picturesque Lake Tambing produced excellent views of Yellow-and-Green Lorikeets and our first Finch-billed Myna. Tawny Grassbird in the lower valley finished off another excellent days birding.

Most of the group opted for a 'third-time-lucky' assault on the Anaso Track on the last morning, setting out in the dark to the sounds of Sulawesi Cuckoo, sadly unattainable as usual! Two more Hylocitrea were added to our tally on the climb up but there was really only one bird on our minds as we pushed on. Our efforts were rewarded in style as before 7am we had located one of Sulawesi's most enigmatic endemics, Geomalia, out feeding on the trail. Not only that, it stuck around for nearly 30 minutes as we enjoyed it from a discrete distance, for some of or best ever views. After all the efforts we were thrilled by the encounter and the bird went on to win the closely fought bird-of-the-trip vote!

Making our way back down yet more Hylocitrea were added, including an attractive immature with orange-streaked throat, Pygmy and Cerulean Cuckooshrikes and a very responsive pair of Ashy Woodpeckers. More views of Purple-bearded Bee-eater, Maroon-backed Whistler, Blue-fronted Flycatcher and our best views of Red-eared Fruit Dove. The rest of the day was spent in the areas of the forest where Piping Crow failed to make any more appearances but we did find our first Sulawesi Cicadabirds, perched Sulawesi Hawk Eagle, more Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpeckers and our only Sulawesi Swiftlets were finally located after some searching, offering distant but acceptable 'scope views. Then it was time to head for the luxury of our Palu hotel and its 'real' hot showers and celebrate our successes over some beers and another fine meal.

The next day was mostly a travel day as we took an early flight to Makassar to connect with a flight to Manado in the far north-east of the island. The few birds logged included Pale-headed Munias just outside the waiting room at Palu airport and a stop at some rice fields during our drive south-westwards to Kotamobagu which included many Wood Sandpipers, Common Redshank, several Javan Pond Herons with some in fine summer dress, Sunda Teal and good numbers of non-native Java Sparrows.

Our first morning in this area was spent at the Maleo reserve at Tambun, and indeed it was one of the first birds to appear, a pair of these huge pink-flushed megapodes were perched up in a tall tree and gave excellent 'scope views. An excellent procession of new birds then appeared with Red-backed Thrush particularly obliging, Ashy Woodpecker, Pale Blue Monarch, Bay Coucal, Yellow-billed Malkoha, Sulawesi Hanging Parrots, Sulawesi Triller, a very distant perched Yellow-breasted Racquet-tail, a Sulawesi Black Pigeon which launched into a flight-display before perching up, and most importantly an Oberholser's Fruit Dove (part of a recent 3-way split of Maroon-chinned) a key species which is only possible in this area during our tour. We also spent some time scouring the forest trails for Blue-faced Rail which had been seen recently, but although this drew a blank, we did add Red-bellied Pitta, a pair of Purple-winged Rollers and confiding Green-backed Kingfishers.

As we made our way away from the reserve, roadside stops found Spotted Harrier, Sulawesi Hawk Eagle, and several Black Eagles, one of which was being mobbed by a Sulawesi Honey Buzzard. After lunch a short stop at a nearby marsh found Wandering Whistling Ducks and Sunda Teal, then another Spotted Harrier.

Our target destination for the afternoon though was the scrappy forest at Torout accessing the forest trail via an entertaining river crossing on our custom made raft! We battled away on the trails for a while,
seeing little before emerging into some nearby gardens where we had a good view of the adjacent forest edge. Here we were thrilled to find much better bird activity and a stream of good birds were seen, all in perfect evening light; Pied Cuckooshrikes flew around in an excited group, colourful groups of Ornate Lorikeets, Yellow-breasted Racquet-tails showed both in flight and perched, Knobbed Hornbills visiting a nearby fruiting tree offered perfect flight views and a group of Purple-winged Rollers were continually on view. Careful scanning of tree tops found more Sulawesi Cicadabirds, Sulawesi Trillers and Pygmy Hanging Parrots.

_**Pied Cuckooshrike and Yellow-breasted Racquet-tail, Tambun**_

As we made our way back, Ochre-bellied Boobooks began calling even before dusk and we couldn’t resist hanging around. They gave only brief views but a Sulawesi Masked Owl was much more obliging, perching nearby for long views. Some roadside birding was in order the next morning as we tried to catch up with our missing targets. Good early morning activity included many of the species seen the previous day including cicadabird, trillers, Sulawesi Black Pigeon, and Yellow-billed Malkoha, with only Black-naped Fruit Dove new. No Sulawesi Crested Mynas appeared so we set off walking a different stretch of road. As things were heating up and things not looking promising, a distant call drew our attention and within minutes we had a pair of stunning mynas perched at close range, the iridescence of the black head feathers and glittering white neck-patches highlighted perfectly by the mid-morning sunlight. After enjoying Rufous-bellied Eagle, Sulawesi Hawk Eagle and Sulawesi Serpent Eagle here in quick succession we moved on, chuffed with our

_**Red-backed Thrush and Green-backed Kingfisher, Tambun**_
success. In the late morning we again visited our marsh site were a pair of Isabelline Bush-hens gave fine views and the resident *hispidoides* Common Kingfishers, a potential split, showed well. After lunch, just as we were contemplating a rest during the heat of the day came news from the Tambun ranger that the Blue-faced Rail was back and showing well, the twitch was on! Amazingly within an hour we were in position and watching a stunning Blue-faced Rail strutting its stuff in the open for us, one of Sulawesi most difficult endemics and we were the first ever tour group to get it! After soaking up this and yet more Red-backed Thrush views we finished the day at a nice marsh where White-rumped Cuckooshrike was the star but there was plenty more to see including Dusky and Common Moorhen side-by-side, Black-backed Swamphen, White-browed Crakes and Sacred Kingfisher. We then made our way back for a relatively early dinner and sleep ready for a particularly early start the next morning.

![Blue-faced Rail, Tambun](image1)

Our reason for rising in the middle of the night was a visit to Gunung Ambang and the early start was well worthwhile as we were up in the forest at before dawn and our persistence was finally rewarded as a Cinnabar Boobook appeared right at the last moment when it already seemed too light, an important ‘insurance’ bird as they are quite distinct from the Lore Lindu birds and could well be split. Scaly Kingfishers typically called in the dark but then didn’t appear, but after a replenishing breakfast we tried another spot and this time one began to call back and after so fast flybys was spotted flicking up onto a perched, visible through the tiniest of holes in the vegetation but amazingly it stuck around for us all to

![Malia and Matinan Flycatcher, Gunung Ambang](image2)
have first, and second views! Biggest surprise of the morning was a Sulawesi Ground Dove which appeared on the trail in the half-light, allowing half of us views as it waddled away, then another flight view as it flushed up from further along. Thereafter the weather deteriorated into showers and it took some time before we finally found Matinan Flycatcher but then found yet another pair and enjoyed great views. Also seen were a brief Spot-tailed Goshawk and fantastic views of Malia, here of the race *recondita* but a calling Sombre Pigeon was just too far to see.

After lunch and a siesta we again headed out to our favourite marsh where the White-rumped Cuckoooshrikes again performed along with the same array of water-birds, and this time we hung around until dusk, easily enjoying excellent views of Sulawesi Scops Owl.

The next morning we opted for a return to the excellent Tambun reserve, arriving early enough for a close flyover from a Sulawesi Nightjar. An enjoyable few hours around the reserve found no less than two Blue-faced Rails, the pair of Red-backed Thrush, Purple-winged Rollers, Green-backed Kingfisher, Bay Coucal and a delightful Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher for some of us.

In the afternoon we headed back to the luxury of Manado with the highlight a stop at our favourite area of rice fields where found Pacific Golden Plovers among the more regular waders, Sunda Teal and several Java Sparrows.

*Knobbed Hornbill and Oberholser’s Fruit Dove*

*Moluccan Scops Owl and Moluccan Scrubfowl, Galela, Halmahera*

Early the next morning, some of us passed on the lie-in and were on the slopes of a picturesque volcano above Manado by dawn, to enjoy a stunning sun-rise. Our main target here was Crimson-crowned
Flowerpecker which had only offered brief views until now. Fortunately we easily found a couple of pairs and other birds in the area were Sulawesi Myzomela, Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher, Citrine Canary Flycatcher and Superb Fruit Dove, before it was time to make our way back to Manado airport for our short flight to Ternate, the short distance belying the fact that we had crossed Weber's line into a completely new avifaunal region. After a quick lunch, the crossing to Halmahera included a close view of Bulwer's Petrel, and as we approached, a fine Beach Kingfisher along the mangrove-lined shore. Upon arrival we headed straight out north along the island, seeing many Willie Wagtails and with some stops for roadside birds like Blue-and-White Kingfisher. After checking into our hotel and dinner we continued north again to the village of Galela which is famed as the largest nesting colony of Moluccan Scrubfowl on the island, although even here it is now rare due to human overexploitation. Having prepared ourselves for a long, long night we were thrilled to find a scrubfowl already on the beach when we arrived, an amazing scene with the beach soaked in light from the full moon and volcanoes across the bay providing a spectacular backdrop. A short while later the bird flew in close to us and we enjoyed some excellent views in the spotlight from a discrete distance before leaving it to continue egg-laying further down the beach. On the way back two pairs of Moluccan Scops Owls gave cracking close-range views to round off a very successful, and thankfully early night!

Moluccan Owlet Nightjar and Barking Owl, Halmahera

The next day we drove south a little way before taking a boat out across the way, a shortcut to our next birding destination but also a chance to catch up with some more seabirds. We found some good feeding groups which included Common, Roseate, White-winged Black, Whiskered, Bridled and a few Aleutian Terns, the later confirmed from photos upon later study. There were also a few Brown Noddy and good numbers of Lesser Frigatebird wheeling overhead. In the afternoon we eagerly headed out for our birding at a nearby forested pass, where despite the heat of the day we were quickly finding new birds including the recently split Halmahera Golden Bulbul, White-streaked Friarbird, Long-billed Crow, Moustached Treeswift, Dusky Honeyeater, Common Ciacidabird, Halmahera Cuckooshrike, Moluccan Monarch, Halmahera Flowerpecker, Halmahera Oriole and an obliging Cream-throated White-eye. Our first Gurney's Eagles passed overhead, then as things started to cool the pigeons and parrots came out to play with the innumerable Red-cheeked Parrots joined by several sightings of Chattering Lory, Violet-necked Lory, Moluccan Hanging Parrot, and the very desirable Moluccan King Parrot which came in to perch nearby. Great Cuckoo Dove gave two flybys and both Moluccan and Cinnamon-bellied Imperial Pigeons eventually gave fine views. Huge and clumsy Goliath Coucals provided much entertainment as the blundered around, a group of White-throated Needletails zoomed through as we were studying the finer points of Halmahera Swiftlet ID, and we added two species of bird-of-paradise, although Paradise Crow is widely acknowledged as the dullest of the family and all the Wallace’s Standardwings were females or immatures, better to come for sure! We hung around here until after dark and had some outstanding success, firstly a Halmahera Boobook posing for 'scope views, then a pair of Barking Owls, and finally a lovely rufous-morph Moluccan Owlet Nightjar giving perfect views. A clean sweep of the endemic night-birds!

We were back up in the same area the next morning and many of the same birds were on show but we also added Golden Whistler, Superb Fruit Dove, Blue-capped Fruit Dove, Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove and excellent perched views of Chattering Lory. After some time we also had excellent views of ‘Halmahera’ Leaf Warbler, a sure-fire split from others in the Island Leaf Warbler complex.
The rest of the day was spent driving to our next destination, a birding gem with accommodation and food which is positively luxurious by Halmahera standards. Along the way we found many roadside Moustached Treeswifts and Blue-and-White Kingfishers plus Spotted Kestrel and our first Pied Imperial Pigeons. After a couple of false alarms from Common Dollarbirds, we scored with the rare Purple Dollarbird perched up in the 'scope, a big bonus to get this bird so soon! At the same spot a Sombre Kingfisher gave excellent close views at eye level to finish another fine day.

Before dawn the next day we were picking our way along a short forest trail in the dark, with roosting Moluccan Monarchs and a pair of sleeping Sombre Kingfishers along the way. As we waited in the dark it wasn't long before the first raucous calls of Wallace's Standardwings were ringing through the forest and even in the half-light we could see them jumping around with there white 'standards' glowing in the dark. As good light arrived we were treated to a spectacular display by more than ten male and two female standardwings as they jumped around, wings flapping and 'standards' on the wings raised. Periodically they would launch themselves into the air, before parachuting down on spread wings to returning to their favourite perch. Certainly an experience that every birder should make the effort to witness!

In the same area we eventually secured 'scope views of a lethargic Common Paradise Kingfisher perched in the canopy, but the Ivory-breasted Pitta gave us more of a run-around with only brief views for some, we decided to wait for a more obliging bird! Some time in the afternoon was spent searching unsuccessfully in some nearby Sago Swamp for Drummer Rails, the first of several unsuccessful sorties!
We did though get great views of both Drab Whistler and White-naped Monarch which were both new, and another Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove was seen. We finished the day with a perched Grey-throated Goshawk and our first Moluccan Cuckoo-shrike showed.

We headed to an old logging road for our birding the next morning and this proved an instant hit, as we were soon hearing a pair of Ivory-breasted Pitta at close range, and in a short time one of these striking beasts flew right over our heads to perch at close range in full view as we admired his dapper ‘penguin suit’ with black upperparts and face contrasting with persil-white underparts, save for a blood-red stripe up the belly. Little surprise it was voted as one of the top 5 birds by almost everyone in the group! The same area gave several brief views of a furtive Shining Flycatcher and further along the trail a much more obliging Slaty Flycatcher.

A male Black Bittern in a small marsh was something of a surprise, before we finally got our other big target here when some carefully positioning allowed prolonged views of a pair of Dusky Scrubfowl, then another added not long after. Another Sombre Kingfisher and more Chattering Lory followed but a White Cockatoo was only showed to some of us so we made this a priority in the afternoon and eventually found several from a wonderful viewpoint over the untouched forests below.

With our targets almost completed on our final day we spend more time in the marshes, still no Drummer Rail and we now decided that the alternative name – Invisible Rail – was much more appropriate! Azure Kingfisher was new and we had good ‘scope views of Torresian Crows and a pair of Rufous-tailed Bush-hen which were teased into the open for excellent viewing.

We left early to fit in some birding on the way back to Ternate the next morning, seeing Ivory-breasted Pitta on the roadside and having excellent views of some of the commoner species, Red-flanked Lorikeet in particular being present is good numbers. A Variable Dwarf Kingfisher sadly only flashed across the road ahead of us but a seashore stop gave great looks at Beach Kingfisher. The boat crossing back to Ternate was choppier than usual but we still picked out two Bulwer’s Petrels and a close Great Frigatebird. Unfortunately a delay to our flight back to Sulawesi meant almost no birding time as we approached Tangkoko but we did squeeze in some very distant Silver-tipped Imperial Pigeons to ensure it wasn’t a ‘tick-free’ day.

Although we had already found some of the usual Tangkoko specialities earlier in the tour there were still some mega targets to keep us busy over the final two days of the tour and it was also nice to familiarise ourselves with some of the other Sulawesi endemics which we hadn’t seen for some days. Our first morning soon have us much improved views of Silver-tipped Imperial Pigeons and the likes of Sulawesi Black Pigeon, Yellow-billed Malkoha, Knobbed Hornbill and White-necked Myna were great to see again. A very close flyby Stephan’s Dove for those looking the right way, and crippling views of a male Black-naped Fruit Dove were arguably the highlights, although they had to vie for attention with a troop of Sulawesi Crested Macaques which were determined to get our attention as they jumped noisily on a nearby tin roof before bonking in full view! Things slowed somewhat as we entered the forest but the quality certainly outweighed the quantity as we tallied an obliging Green-backed Kingfisher, rare roosting views of a Great Eared Nightjar, close views of Sulawesi Lilac Kingfisher, followed by very close views of a delightful Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher, glowing orange in the under storey, its head with delicate lilac streaks, a bright blue rump and it’s crown similarly adorned with blue spangles. Our walk back through the forest provided more encounters with the charismatic Sulawesi Crested Macaques and, even better, a delightful family of

**Slaty Flycatcher and Cream-throated White-eye, Halmahera**

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Spectral Tarsiers sleeping in the open in the favourite strangler fig, offering unprecedented views. The morning finished with yet another new kingfisher for the trip, this time an obliging Ruddy Kingfisher. Thanks to Doug’s hospitality we were all able to enjoy a roosting Speckled Boobook during our lunch break by scaling a ladder one by one to peer into the loft of his cottage where the bird was roosting! The excitement even attracted some non-birding Dutch guests to enjoy this handsome bird.

Ochre-bellied and Speckled Boobook, Tangkoko, Sulawesi

Sulawesi Crested Macaque and Spectral Tarsier, Tangkoko

In the afternoon we again made our way up into the forest, finding another pair of Sulawesi Lilac Kingfishers and another confiding Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher. More views of the tarsiers as they left their roosting spots, then some night-birding but neither the Ochre-bellied Boobooks, which did call nearby, nor the rare Minahassa Masked Owl, wanted to give us views.
Not to be defeated, our hard-working local guides were out in the forest before dawn the next day, and found an exquisite pair of the Ochre-bellied Boobooks at their day-roost for us to enjoy. Good views of Tabon Scrubfowl were new for the trip before we enjoyed some easier walking along a nearby roadside with migrating Chinese Goshawks, a closely perched immature Sulawesi Goshawk, Bay Coucal, Ornate Lorikeets and Purple-winged Roller all enjoyed.
We finished the tour in very relaxed fashion as we took boats out along the picturesque coastline to visit a mangrove river channel in search of yet another impressive endemic kingfisher. This time it was the impressive Great-billed Kingfisher that was our target they couldn’t have been more obliging with one already perched up on arrival, and at least two birds offering several excellent views during our visit.
Also on offer here were migrant *bengalensis* Common Kingfishers, confiding Grey-tailed Tattler and Striated Heron, Little Bronze Cuckoo, another flyby Stephan's Dove, our only Pink-necked Green Pigeons of the tour and a Lesser Frigatebird over the sea.

*Top 5 Birds-of-the-trip*

1. Geomalia
2. Ivory-breasted Pitta
3. Blue-faced Rail
4. Wallace's Standardwing
5. Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher
More tour photos... (all photos © Rob Hutchinson/Birdtour Asia)

Savanna Nightjar near Makassar and Diabolical Nightjars at Lore Lindu

Island Verditer and Mountain White-eyes, Lore Lindu

Sulawesi Leaf Warbler at Lore Lindu and Isabelline Bush-hen at Dumoga Bone NP
Red-backed Thrush (male and female), Tambun

Sulawesi Scops Owl and White-rumped Cuckooshrike, Kotamobagu

Green-backed Kingfisher, Tambun
Ashy Woodpecker and Bay Coucal, Tambun

Purple-winged Roller and Hair-crested Drongo (leucops), Tambun

Barred Rail at Gunung Mahawu and Blue-faced Rail at Tambun
Brown Cuckoo Doves; left on Halmahera (albiceps) and right at Gunung Mahawu(albicapilla)

Bridled Tern and Bulwer’s Petrel, Halmahera

Moluccan Cuckoo Shrike and Common Cicadabird, Halmahera
Halmahera Leaf Warbler and Halmahera Golden Bulbul

Halmahera Oriole and Goliath Coucal, Halmahera

Sulawesi Lilac and Great-billed Kingfisher, Tangkoko
**Systematic List**

**PROCELLARIIDAE: Petrels and Shearwaters**
- Bulwer’s Petrel *Bulweria bulwerii*
- Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus*

**FRIGATIDAE: Frigatebirds**
- Great Frigatebird *Fregata minor*
- Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*

**ARDEIDAE: Herons**
- Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*
- Intermediate Egret *Ardea intermedia*
- Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
- ‘Eastern’ Cattle Egret *Ardea ibis coromandus*
- Javan Pond Heron *Ardeola speciosa*
- Striated Heron *Butorides striatus javanicus*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACCIPTRIDAE: Hawks, Eagles</strong></td>
<td><strong>And Allies</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Osprey</td>
<td><em>Pandion (haliaetus) cristatus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulawesi Honey Buzzard</td>
<td><em>Pernis celebensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Kite</td>
<td><em>Milvus lineatus affinis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahminy Kite</td>
<td><em>Haliaeetus leucogaster</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-bellied Sea Eagle</td>
<td><em>Spilornis rufiplectus rufiplectus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Harrier</td>
<td><em>Circus assimilis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulawesi Goshawk</td>
<td><em>Accipiter griseiceps</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Goshawk</td>
<td><em>Accipiter soloensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot-tailed Goshawk</td>
<td><em>Accipiter trinotatus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey-throated Goshawk</td>
<td><em>Accipiter [novaehollandiae] griseogularis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Sparrowhawk</td>
<td><em>Accipiter nanus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Eagle</td>
<td><em>Ictinaetus malayensis malayensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gurney's Eagle</td>
<td><em>Aquila gurneyi</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-bellied Eagle</td>
<td><em>Hieraaetus kienerriformosus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulawesi Hawk Eagle</td>
<td><em>Nisaetus lanceolatus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FALCONIDAE: Falcons and Allies</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Kestrel</td>
<td><em>Falco moluccensis moluccensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peregrine Falcon</td>
<td><em>Falco moluccensis microbalia</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Falco peregrinus ernesti</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DENDROCYGNIDAE: Whistling-ducks</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wandering Whistling Duck</td>
<td><em>Dendrocygna arcuata arcuata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANATIDAE: Ducks, Swans and Geese</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunda Teal</td>
<td><em>Anas gibberifrons</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Black Duck</td>
<td><em>Anas superciliosa</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MEGAPODIDAE: Megapodes</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabon Scrubfowl</td>
<td><em>Megapodius cumingii gilbertii</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky Scrubfowl</td>
<td><em>Megapodius freycinet</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moluccan Scrubfowl</td>
<td><em>Eulipoa wallacei</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maleo</td>
<td><em>Macrocephalon maleo</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TURNICIDAE: Buttonquails</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Junglefowl</td>
<td><em>Gallus gallus gallus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Introduced</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RALLIDAE: Rails</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buff-banded Rail</td>
<td><em>Gallirallus philippensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barred Rail</td>
<td><em>Gallirallus torquatus celebensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-faced Rail</td>
<td><em>Gymnocrax rosenbergii</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-browed Crane</td>
<td><em>Porzana cinerea</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-tailed Bush-hen</td>
<td><em>Amaurornis moluccanus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabelle Bush-hen</td>
<td><em>Amaurornis isabellinus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-breasted Waterhen</td>
<td><em>Gallinula tenebrosa frontata</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky Moorhen</td>
<td><em>Gallinula chloropus orientalis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Moorhen</td>
<td><em>Porphyrio [porphyrio] indicus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-backed Swamphen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RECURVIROSTRIDAE: Stilts and Avocets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-headed Stilt</td>
<td><em>Himantopus [himantopus] leucocephalus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHARADRIIDAE: Lapwings and Plovers</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Golden Plover</td>
<td><em>Pluvialis fulva</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Javan Plover</td>
<td><em>Charadrius javanicus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SCOLOPACIDAE: Sandpipers, Snipes and Allies</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whimbrel</td>
<td><em>Numenius phaeopus variegatus</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eurasian Curlew</td>
<td><em>Numenius arquata orientalis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Heard only</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Redshank</td>
<td>Tringa totanus eurhinus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Greenshank</td>
<td>Tringa nebularia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Sandpiper</td>
<td>Tringa glareola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Sandpiper</td>
<td>Actitis hypoleucos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey-tailed Tattler</td>
<td>Heteroscelus brevipes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STERNINAE: Terns**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Whiskered Tern</th>
<th>Chlidonias hybridus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White-winged Black Tern</td>
<td>Chlidonias leucopterus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Tern</td>
<td>Sterna hirundo longipennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roseate Tern</td>
<td>Sterna dougali ii gracilis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aleutian Tern</td>
<td>Sterna aleutica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridled Tern</td>
<td>Sterna anaethetus anaethetus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Tern</td>
<td>Sterna albitrons sinensis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Crested Tern</td>
<td>Thalasseus bergii cristata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Noddy</td>
<td>Anous stolidus pileatus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COLUMBIDAE: Pigeons and Doves**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)</th>
<th>Columba livia</th>
<th>Introduced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Collared Dove</td>
<td>Streptopelia tranquebarica</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Dove</td>
<td>Streptopelia chinensis tigrina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Cuckoo Dove</td>
<td>Macropygia amboinensis albicapa la</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Cuckoo Dove</td>
<td>Reinwardtoena reinwardti</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulawesi Black Pigeon</td>
<td>Turacoena manadensis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Emerald Dove</td>
<td>Chalchophas indica</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephan’s Dove</td>
<td>Chalchophas stephani wallacei</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zebra Dove</td>
<td>Geopelia striata</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulawesi Ground Dove</td>
<td>Gallicolumba tristigmata tristiga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pink-necked Green Pigeon</td>
<td>Teron vernans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey-cheeked Green Pigeon</td>
<td>Teron griseicauda griseicauda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-eared Fruit Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus fischeri fischeri</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oberholser’s Fruit Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus [subgularis] epius</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus bernsteinii</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Fruit Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus superbus temminckii</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-capped Fruit Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus monacha</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey-headed Fruit Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus hyogaster</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-naped Fruit Dove</td>
<td>Ptilinopus melanospila melanospila</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-bellied Imperial Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula forsteni</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey-headed Imperial Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula radiata</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Imperial Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula aenea paulina</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moluccan Imperial Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula perspicillata</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinnamon-bellied Imperial Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula basilica basilica</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pied Imperial Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula bicolor bicolor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver-tipped Imperial Pigeon</td>
<td>Ducula luctuosa</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sombre Pigeon</td>
<td>Cryptophaps poecilorroha</td>
<td>S Heard only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PSITTACIDAE: Parrots, Lories and Cockatoos**

| Violet-necked Lory              | Eos squamata riciniata           |
| Ornate Lorikeet                 | Trichoglossus ornatus            | S          |
| Yellow-and-green Lorikeet       | Trichoglossus flavoviridis meyeri | S          |
| Chattering Lory                 | Lorius garrulus garrulus        | M          |
| Red-flanked Lorikeet            | Charmosyna placentis intensior   |            |
| White Cockatoo                  | Cacatua alba                     | M          |
| Eclectus Parrot                 | Eclectus roratus vosmaeri        |            |
| Red-cheeked Parrot              | Geoffroyus geoffroyi cyanicollis |          |
| Yellow-breasted Racquet-tail    | Prioniturus flavicans            | S          |
| Golden-mantled Racquet-tail     | Prioniturus plumatus             | S          |
| Blue-backed Parrot              | Tanygnathus sumatranus sumatranus |          |
| Great-billed Parrot             | Tanygnathus megalorynchos        |            |
| Moluccan King Parrot            | Alisterus amboinensis hypophonius |          |
| Sulawesi Hanging Parrot         | Loriculus stigmatus             | S          |
| Moluccan Hanging Parrot         | Loriculus amabilis amabilis      | M          |
| Pygmy Hanging Parrot            | Loriculus exilis                 | S          |

**CUCULIDAE: Old world Cuckoos and Allies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sulawesi Cuckoo</th>
<th>Cuculus crassirostris</th>
<th>S Heard only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Himalayan / Oriental Cuckoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cuculus saturatus / optatus</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plaintive Cuckoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cacomantis merulinus</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rusty-breasted Cuckoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cacomantis sepulcralis virescens</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brush Cuckoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cacomantis variolosus variolosus</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cacomantis variolosus infaustus</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Little Bronze Cuckoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Chrysococcyx minitillus minitillus</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moluccan Drongo Cuckoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Surniculus [lugubris] musschenbroekii</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Black-billed Koel</strong></td>
<td><strong>Eudynamys melanorhyncha</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Channel-billed Cuckoo</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sphytophagoides novaehollandiae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yellow-billed Malkoha</strong></td>
<td><strong>Phaenicophaeus calyorhynchus calyorhynchus</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Phaenicophaeus calyorhynchus meridionalis</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CENTROPODIDAE: Coucals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Goliath Coucal</strong></th>
<th><strong>Centropus goliath</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lesser Coucal</strong></td>
<td><strong>Centropus bengalensis javanicus</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bay Coucal</strong></td>
<td><strong>Centropus celebensis celebensis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Centropus celebensis rufescens</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TYTONIDAE: Barn Owls and Masked Owls**

| **Sulawesi Masked Owl** | **Tyto rosenbergii rosenbergii** |

**STRIGIDAE: Typical Owls**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Sulawesi Scops Owl</strong></th>
<th><strong>Otus manandensis</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moluccan Scops Owl</strong></td>
<td><strong>Otus leucotis leucotis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barking Owl</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ninox connivens rufostigata</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cinnabar Boobook</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ninox ios ios</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ochi-bellied Boobook</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ninox ochracea</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Halmahera Boobook</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ninox hypogramma</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Speckled Boobook</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ninox punctulata</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AEGOTHELIDAE: Owlet-nightjars**

| **Moluccan Owlet-Nightjar** | **Aegotheles crinifrons** |

**CAPRIMULGIDAE: Nightjars**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Diabolical Nightjar</strong></th>
<th><strong>Eurostopodus diabolicus</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Great Eared Nightjar</strong></td>
<td><strong>Eurostopodus macrotis macropterus</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Large-tailed Nightjar</strong></td>
<td><strong>Caprimulgus macrurus schlegelli</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Savanna Nightjar</strong></td>
<td><strong>Caprimulgus affinis propinquus</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Caprimulgus affinis affinis</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APODIDAE: Swifts and Swiftlets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Uniform Swiftlet</strong></th>
<th><strong>Aerodramus vanikorensis aenigma</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Halmahera Swiftlet</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerodramus infuscata</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sulawesi Swiftlet</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerodramus sororum</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Glossy Swiftlet</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aerodramus esculenta manadensis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>White-throated Needletail</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hirundapus caudacutus</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Purple Needletail</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hirundapus celebensis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asian Palm Swift</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cypsiurus balasiensis</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HEMIPROCNIDAE: Treeswifts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Grey-rumped Treeswift</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hemiprocne longipennis wallacii</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moustached Treeswift</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hemiprocne mystacea confirmata</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HALCYONIDAE: Wood Kingfishers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Green-backed Kingfisher</strong></th>
<th><strong>Actenoides monachus monachus</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scaly Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><strong>Actenoides princeps erythrorhampus</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Common Paradise Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tanyosiptera galatea browningi</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sulawesi Lilac Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cittura cyanotis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Great-billed Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pelargopsis melanorhyncha</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Heard only
Ruddy Kingfisher  
Blue-and-white Kingfisher  
Sombre Kingfisher  
Collared Kingfisher  
Beach Kingfisher  
Sacred Kingfisher  

**ALCEDINIDAE: Small Kingfisher**
- Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher  
- Variable Kingfisher  
- Azure Kingfisher  
- Common Kingfisher  

**Sombre Kingfisher**  
Halcyon funebris  

**Collared Kingfisher**  
Todiramphus chloris chloris  

**Beach Kingfisher**  
Halcyon saurophaga  

**Sacred Kingfisher**  
Todiramphus sanctus  

**ALCEDINIDAE: Small Kingfisher**
- Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher  
- Variable Kingfisher  
- Azure Kingfisher  
- Common Kingfisher  

**Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher**  
Ceyx fallax fallax  

**Variable Kingfisher**  
Ceyx lepidus uropygialis  

**Azure Kingfisher**  
Alcedo azurea affinis  

**Common Kingfisher**  
Alcedo atthis bengalensis  

**Common Kingfisher**  
Alcedo atthis hispidoides  

**MEROPIDAE: Bee-eaters**
- Blue-tailed Bee-eater  
- Purple-bearded Bee-eater  

**Blue-tailed Bee-eater**  
Merops philippinus  

**Purple-bearded Bee-eater**  
Meropogon forsteni  

**CORACIIDAE: Rollers**
- Purple-winged Roller  
- Common Dollarbird  
- Purple Dollarbird  

**Purple-winged Roller**  
Coracias temminckii  

**Common Dollarbird**  
Eurystomus orientalis orientalis  

**Purple Dollarbird**  
Eurystomus azureus  

**BUCEROTIDAE: Hornbills**
- Sulawesi Dwarf Hornbill  
- Knobbed Hornbill  
- Blyth's Hornbill  

**Sulawesi Dwarf Hornbill**  
Penelopides exarhatus exarhatus  

**Knobbed Hornbill**  
Aceros cassidix  

**Blyth's Hornbill**  
Rhyticeros plicatus  

**PUCICIDA: Woodpeckers**
- Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker  
- Ashy Woodpecker  

**Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker**  
Dendrocopos temminckii  

**Ashy Woodpecker**  
Mullueripicus fulvus fulvus  

**PICIDAE: Woodpeckers**
- Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker  
- Ashy Woodpecker  

**Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker**  
Dendrocopos temminckii  

**Ashy Woodpecker**  
Mullueripicus fulvus wallacei  

**PITTIDAE: Pitta**
- Red-bellied Pitta  
- Ivory-breasted Pitta  

**Red-bellied Pitta**  
Pitta erythrogaster celebensis  

**Ivory-breasted Pitta**  
Pitta maxima maxima  

**HIRUNDINIDAE: Swallows and Martins**
- Barn Swallow  
- Pacific Swallow  

**Barn Swallow**  
Hirundo rustica  

**Pacific Swallow**  
Hirundo tahitica  

**MOTACILLIDAE: Wagtails and Pipits**
- Eastern Yellow Wagtail  
- Grey Wagtail  

**Eastern Yellow Wagtail**  
Motacilla tschutschensis simillima  

**Grey Wagtail**  
Motacilla cinerea  

**CAMPEPHAGIDAE: Cuckooshrikes, Trillers and Minivets**
- Moluccan Cuckooshrike  
- Cerulean Cuckooshrike  
- Pied Cuckooshrike  
- White-rumped Cuckooshrike  
- White-bellied Cuckooshrike  
- Halmahera Cuckooshrike  
- Pygmy Cuckooshrike  
- Common Cicadabird  
- Sulawesi Cicadabird  
- Sulawesi Triller  
- White-shouldered Triller  
- Rufous-bellied Triller  

**Moluccan Cuckooshrike**  
Coracina fortis magnirostris  

**Cerulean Cuckooshrike**  
Coracina temminckii rileyi  

**Pied Cuckooshrike**  
Coracina bicolor  

**White-rumped Cuckooshrike**  
Coracina leucopygia  

**White-bellied Cuckooshrike**  
Coracina papuensis  

**Halmahera Cuckooshrike**  
Coracina parvula  

**Pygmy Cuckooshrike**  
Coracina abbotti  

**Common Cicadabird**  
Coracina tenuirostris grayi  

**Sulawesi Cicadabird**  
Coracina morio morio  

**Sulawesi Triller**  
Lalage leucopygialis  

**White-shouldered Triller**  
Lalage sueuri  

**Rufous-bellied Triller**  
Lalage aura  

**PYCNONOTIDAE: Bulbuls**
- Sooty-headed Bulbul  
- Halmahera Golden Bulbul  

**Sooty-headed Bulbul**  
Pycnonotus aurigaster aurigaster  

**Halmahera Golden Bulbul**  
Thapsinillas [longorostris] chloris  

**Introduced**
**DICRURIDAE: Drongos**
- Sulawesi Drongo: *Dicrurus montanus*
- Spangled Drongo: *Dicrurus bracteatus atrocaeruleus*
- Hair-crested Drongo: *Dicrurus hottentotus leucops*

**ORIOLIDAE: Old World Orioles**
- Halmahera Oriole: *Oriolus phaeochromus*
- Black-naped Oriole: *Oriolus chinensis celebensis*

**CORVIDAE: Crows**
- Slender-billed Crow: *Corvus enca celebensis*
- Piping Crow: *Corvus typicus*
- Long-billed Crow: *Corvus validus*
- Torresian Crow: *Corvus orru orru*

**PARADISAEIDAE: Birds of Paradise**
- Paradise Crow: *Lycocorax pyrrhopterus pyrrhopterus*
- Wallace’s Standardwing: *Semioptera wallacei halmaherae*

**TIMALIIDAE: Babblers**
- Sulawesi Babbler: *Trichastoma celebense celebense*
- Malia: *Malia grata stresemanni*  
  *Malia grata recondita*

**TURDIDAE: Thrushes and Chats**
- Great Shortwing: *Heinrichia calligyna calligyna*
- Geomalia: *Zoothera heinrichi*
- Red-backed Thrush: *Zoothera erythronota*
- Sulawesi Thrush: *Cataponera turdoides*
- Pied Bushchat: *Saxicola caprata albonotata*

**PARDALOTIDAE: Australian Warblers and Allies**
- Golden-bellied Gerygone: *Gerygone sulphurea flaveola*

**SYLVIIDAE: Old World Warblers**
- Chestnut-backed Bush Warbler: *Locustella castaneus castaneus*
- Gray’s Grasshopper Warbler: *Locustella fasciolata*
- Clamorous Reed Warbler: *Acrocephalus stentoreus celebensis*  
  (Heard only)
- Mountain Tailorbird: *Phyllogetes cucculus riedeli*  
  *Phyllogetes cucculus stentor*
- Sulawesi Leaf Warbler: *Phylloscopus sarasinorum*
- Halmahera [Island] Leaf Warbler: *Phylloscopus [poliocephalus] henrietta*  
  (M)
- Tawny Grassbird: *Megalurus timoriensis celebensis*

**CISTICOLIDAE: African Warblers**
- Zitting Cisticola: *Cisticola juncidis constans*

**MUSCICAPIDAE: Old World Flycatchers**
- Grey-streaked Flycatcher: *Muscicapra griseisticta*
- ‘Sulawesi Brown’ Flycatcher: *Muscicapra sp. nov.*  
  (S)
- Island Verditer: *Eumyias panayensis septentrionalis*
- Snowy-browed Flycatcher: *Ficedula hypertyra annalisa*  
  *Ficedula hypertyra jugosae*
- Little Pied Flycatcher: *Ficedula westermanni*
- Blue-fronted Flycatcher: *Cyornis hoeveli*  
  (S)
- Matinan Flycatcher: *Cyornis sanfordi*  
  (S)
- Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher: *Cyornis [rufigastra] omissa*  
  (S)

**MONARCHIDAE: Monarch Flycatchers**
- Pale-blue Monarch: *Hypothymis puella*  
  (S)
- White-naped Monarch: *Monarcha pileatus pileatus*  
  (S)
Moluccan Monarch  
Monarcha [trivirgatus] bimaculatus

Silaty Flycatcher  
Myiagra galeata galeata

Shining Flycatcher  
Piezorhynchus alecto alecto

**RHIPIDURIDAE: Fantails**

Willie Wagtail  
Rhipidura leucophrys melaleuca

Rusty-bellied Fantail  
Rhipidura teysmanni toradja

**PETROICIDAE: Australian Robins**

Citrine Canary Flycatcher  
Culicicapa helianthea helianthea

**PACHYCEPHALIDAE: Whistlers**

Maroon-backed Whistler  
Coracornis raveni

Yellow-vented Whistler  
Pachycephala sulfuriventer

Golden Whistler  
Pachycephala pectoralis mentalis

Drab Whistler  
Pachycephala griseonota cinerascens

**ARTAMIDAE: Woodswallows and Allies**

White-breasted Woodswallow  
Artamus leucorynchus albiventer

Ivory-backed Woodswallow  
Artamus leucorynchus leucopygialis

**STURNIDAE: Starlings and Mynas**

Moluccan Starling  
Aplonis mysolensis mysolensis

Short-tailed Starling  
Aplonis minor

Asian Glossy Starling  
Aplonis panayensis panayensis

Metallic Starling  
Aplonis metallica metallica

Sulawesi Crested Myna  
Basilornis celebensis

White-necked Myna  
Streptocitta albicollis albicollis

Fiery-browed Myna  
Enodes erythrophris

Finch-billed Myna  
Scissirostrum dubium

**MELIPHAGIDAE: Honeyeaters**

Dark-eared Myza  
Myza celebensis celebensis

White-eared Myza  
Myza sarasinorum chionogenys

White-streaked Friarbird  
Melitograis gilolensis

Dusky Myzomela  
Myzomela obscura simplex

Sulawesi Myzomela  
Myzomela chloroptera chloroptera

**NECTARINIIDAE: Sunbirds**

Brown-throated Sunbird  
Anthreptes malacensis celebensis

Black Sunbird  
Nectarinia aspasia grayi

Olive-backed Sunbird  
Nectarinia jugularis plateni

Crimson Sunbird  
Aethopyga siparaja flavostriata

**DICAEIDAE: Flowerpeckers**

Yellow-sided Flowerpecker  
Dicaeum aureolimbatum aureolimbatum

Crimson-crowned Flowerpecker  
Dicaeum nehrkorni

Halmahera Flowerpecker  
Dicaeum schistaceiceps

Grey-sided Flowerpecker  
Dicaeum celebicum celebicum

**ZOSTEROPIDAE: White-eyes and Dark-eyes**

Mountain White-eye  
Zosterops montanus montanus

Lemon-bellied White-eye  
Zosterops chloris mentoris

Black-ringed White-eye  
Zosterops anomalus

Cream-throated White-eye  
Zosterops atriceps

Black-fronted White-eye  
Zosterops atrifrons

Streak-headed Dark-eye  
Lophozosterops squamiceps stresemanni

Lophozosterops squamiceps heinrichi

Lophozosterops squamiceps striaticeps
**PASSERINAE: Sparrow**
Eurasian Tree Sparrow  
*Passer montanus*

**ESTRILDINAE: Estrildine Finches**
Blue-faced Parrotfinch  
*Erythrura trichroa sanfordi*
Black-faced Munia  
*Lonchura molucca*
Scaly-breasted Munia  
*Lonchura punctulata particeps*
Black-headed Munia  
*Lonchura atricipilla*
Pale-headed Munia  
*Lonchura pallida*
Java Sparrow  
*Padda oryzivora*

**HYLOCITREIDAE: Hylocitrea**
Hylocitrea  
*Hylocitrea bonensis*

**FRINGILLIDAE: Typical Finches and Allies**
Mountain Serin  
*Serinus estherae ssp. nov.*

**MAMMALS**
Whitish Dwarf Squirrel  
*Prosciurillus leucomus*
Sulawesi Dwarf Squirrel  
*Prosciurillus murinus*
Montane Long-nosed Squirrel  
*Hyosciurus heinrichi*
Lowland Long-nosed Squirrel  
*Hyosciurus ileile*
Dian's Tarsier  
*Tarsius dianae*  
Heard only
Spectral Tarsier  
*Tarsius spectrum*
Tonkean Macaque  
*Macaca tonkeana*
Moor Macaque  
*Macaca maura*
Sulawesi Crested Macaque  
*Macaca nigra*

*** Endemics are annotated with either; S = Species endemic to the Sulawesi Subregion, or M = Species endemic to the Moluccas.

Our total of 278 species recorded included 7 heard only

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