For those who like truly wild places, very localised speciality birds and a smattering of rare mammals, our tour southwards across the Tibetan plateau and culminating in the fabled Tibet where the fabulous Potala Palace rivalled any of the natural wonders seen during the tour. Many of the birds encountered have exotic names which pay homage to the early explorers of these remote lands; Roborovski’s Rosefinch, Kozlov’s Bunting and Babax, Szechney’s Monal Partridge, Güldenstädt’s Redstart and Przevalski with a partridge, redstart and most significantly for many, a finch which is now in its own bird family. In addition there were close encounters with Tibetan Sandgrouse, Gansu Leaf Warbler, Crested Tit Warbler, Henderson’s Ground Jay, Pallas’s Sandgrouse and the regal Black-necked Crane. Finishing in Tibet we had perfect encounters with Tibetan Eared Pheasant, Giant Babax, Prince Henri’s Laughingthrush and Lord Derby’s Parakeets. Mention should also be made of the mammals which this year included four species of endearing pika, Tibetan and Red Fox, Blue Sheep, Goitered and Tibetan Gazelle, Wolf, the rare Tibetan Antelope, Kiang and some impressive Wild Yak.

Our tour began with a drive north of Xining on the first morning, to a peaceful area of coniferous forest covered hills which got us off to a great start. Displaying Olive-backed Pipit and Grey-faced Woodpecker entertained us during breakfast, quickly followed by a nicely perched Eurasian Hobby.
As we entered the forest proper the action really started with most of our targets appearing in quick succession. Firstly a singing male Siberian Bluetail, here with a rather distinct voice and thus a potential future split. Soon after our first of many Gansu leaf Warblers appeared giving fantastic close views of this highly range-restricted *Phylloscopus*. Claudia’s, Hume’s and Chinese Leaf Warblers joined the action, before it was the turn of the nuthatches; first up a smart Przevalski’s Nuthatch came in closely to investigate us, then a short while later a rather dour Chinese Nuthatch struggled to compete despite giving even closer views. This brilliant spell of birding action was sealed by a gorgeous Crested Tit Warbler which offered several close views. Making our way into more open habitat we found both Pere David’s and Elliott’s Laughingthrush, Yellow-streaked Warbler and a fine male Siberian Rubythroat which eventually sang from an open perch, more than can be said for the singing White-bellied Redstarts which stayed steadfastly hidden in the thickets with only a dull female seen for our efforts. Last but not least as we made our way back a Chinese Thrush appeared right on cue and sang superbly from the treetops.

**Chinese and Przevalski’s Nuthatch, Dong Xia**

Our first Black-faced Buntings showed up outside the restaurant at lunch, and then we made our way into that rather less scenic rocky slopes about Xining city for our afternoon birding. Our main target – Pale Rosefinch – soon appeared and gave fine views feeding on seed heads at close range, and we saw several over the next couple of hours. Brown Accentors, Godlewski’s Bunting and an entertaining family of Little Owls kept things ticking over but it took more effort than usual to find Meadow Buntings in the windy conditions and a single, very dapper, Pied Wheatear was found. Highlight here though was the surprise
sighting of a pair of Przevalski’s Partridge which gave great views as they made their way slowly up a rocky slope in full view.

The next morning it was time to head up onto the Tibetan Plateau proper and almost immediately we started to see the likes of Hume’s Ground-Tit, whose entertaining antics were to become a common feature of the next few weeks. First stop of the day was the immense inland salt lake of Koko Nor and it couldn’t have started better when a pair of Black-necked Cranes gave close views by the roadside on the lake shore. We spent some time scanning the bird-rich marshes where among the commoner water-birds were treats like Ferruginous Duck, numerous Black-necked Grebes and handsome Bar-headed Geese. Surrounding grasslands were not neglected as we found our first Hume’s Short-toed Larks and Isabelline Wheatear. As we made our way around the south side of the lake, a timely roadside stop produced our first Mongolian Larks and the localised Pere David’s Snowfinch. Another lakeside stop after lunch gave us some excellent views of breeding plumaged Pallas’s Gulls and bulky Tibetan Larks and our first Rufous-necked Snowfinch. Final birding stop for the day was for one of the key birds of the tour. On the scrub covered hillsides we found no less than 3 Przevalski’s Finches, including two males which simply glowed pink in the late afternoon sunshine, and one even treated us to a close display flight as he flew high in the air before parachuting back down again with his luminous pink tail raised as he returned to terre ferma, a thrill for all of us but particularly for Dick who completed all the world’s bird families with this excellent sighting. Also present here were many Alpine Leaf Warblers, a few Smoky Warblers (the *weigoldi* form which used to be a Dusky Warbler is now allied with Smoky), a distant
Streaked Rosefinch, Black-winged as the latest addition to the snowfinch list, Kessler’s Thrush, both Robin and Rufous-breasted Accentor, some smart Rosy Pipits and an obliging White-browed Tit. On the way to our overnight stop a pair of Henderson’s Ground Jays appeared on the roadside to top a fantastic day.

Przevalski’s Redstart and Pine Bunting, Chaka

Przevalski’s Finch and Kessler’s Thrush, Chaka

After a comfortable night in Chaka, the next morning was dedicated to another special bird of this area, for this is the core breeding range of Przevalski’s Redstart, yet another Chinese breeding endemic. The day started well with an Asian Badger skipping past in front of the bus, then a small group of frolicking Goitered Gazelle ‘scoped as we enjoyed a picnic breakfast among impressive scenery. The walk out to our chosen valley produced our first Mongolian Lark, several Pine Buntings and a flushed pair of Daurian Partridges which landed on a slope offering good views to those in the right spot. A Tibetan Grey Shrike perched obligingly atop a crag and almost as soon as we reached the designated spot, a female Przevalski’s Redstart appeared briefly, then a male performed superbly as he sang from various nearby treetops, often at close range. A very close flyover Lammergeier completed an excellent morning.

The afternoon was spent scouring the semi-desert east of Chaka where in addition to more sightings of Pere David’s Snowfinch, we found our first Blanford’s Snowfinch, Lesser Sandplover, and after more effort than usual to find a Henderson’s Ground Jay, it was more than worthwhile, putting on a superb performance for us.

The next morning was spent in another valley near Chaka where we had much improved views of Daurian Partridge in the grasslands, while nearby rocky slopes had excellent numbers of Przevalski’s Partridge including a group of eight feeding together. Our first White-throated Redstart of the trip was found and a
Wallcreeper foraging among the boulders was excellent. Good mammal sightings including very close views of Blue Sheep and a Mountain Weasel on a distant slope. The afternoon was spent back in the barren semi-desert near Chaka, where after some time our first Pallas’s Sandgrouse were found, soon to be followed by an excellent, even closer flyby, and eventually sightings totalled at least seven. More Blanford’s Snowfinch and Mongolian Lark showed up, Isabelline Shrike in nearby scrub and excellent close flight views of pekanensis Common Swifts, surely a good split from the European birds.

Henderson’s Ground Jay at Chaka, and Mongolian Finch at Gonghe

Henri’s Snowfinch and Roborovski’s Rosefinch, Er La

Having completed the special birds of the area we returned again the next morning to indulge in more views of Przevalski’s Finch, and were treated to even better views and it was little surprise that this brilliant bird went on to top our bird-of-the-trip vote! Also present was an obliging Severtov’s Tit Warbler, Smoky Warbler and Rosy Pipit. Arriving for an overnight stay in Gonghe, we headed out birding after lunch in the dry, rocky gorges outside town, where Mongolian Finch gave superb close views just in time, before we were engulfed in high winds and torrential rain, which brought a premature end to any productive birding for the day.

An early start the next day bought us to Er La on a glorious sunny morning. A fine Güldenstädt’s Redstart started things off brilliantly and Henri’s Snowfinch was soon added. The key species here is Roborovski’s Rosefinch which fortunately didn’t require much of a climb and we all enjoyed excellent views of a couple of males with their harem of females in attendance. Some of us then continued onto the high scree slopes for a long and thorough search which failed to yield any Tibetan Sandgrouse but we knew there would be.
more chances and were happy with Plain and Brandt’s Mountain Finches, Saker, Lammergeier, close views of Blue Sheep and our first Tibetan Gazelle. As we drove to our overnight stop more Tibetan Gazelle were added together with our first Kiang, or Tibetan Wild Ass, some of which were close by the road.

Ibisbill and Kiang, Nangqian

Kozlov’s Bunting and Tibetan Partridge, Nangqian

The drive south the next day to Nangqian included several roadside birding stops, the highlights of which included Red Fox, our first long studies of White-rumped Snowfinch, Streaked Rosefinch, many White-capped Redstarts, a switch from Amur to Himalayan Wagtails and our first proper looks at Salim Ali’s Swifts. Almost as soon as we reached suitable rivers, some fine spotting found an Ibisbill and we all piled out for great views of this amazing wader, the second new bird family of the tour for some of the group. Our first day in the area was dedicated to yet another very localised mega but the first new bird of the day turned out to be a Tibetan Partridge perched on the roadside as we made our way through dramatic craggy scenery to a high road pass where the stunning Kozlov’s Bunting could be watch even as we ate breakfast! We went on to get quite amazing close views of the bunting and for those that made their way onto the higher slopes there were also Red-fronted Rosefinch, Alpine Accentor, Snow Pigeon and a pair of Grandala including a wonderful shimmering-blue male. The calling Tibetan Snowcocks took some spotting but once found, prolonged 'scope views were the order of the day. As we headed lower into the valleys, a suitable area of scrub added Himalayan Rubythroat but even better was a perfectly chosen lunch location where the adjacent valley allowed us prolonged views of a pair of Szechney’s Monal Partridge calling manically from the rocky slopes, a group of Kozlov’s Babax hopping around in an open meadow, a Golden Eagle eerie on a nearby crag, White-winged Grosbeak and our first Sichuan Tit in adjacent scrub.
In the afternoon a pleasant walk along a side valley found White Eared-Pheasants dotting the surrounding hills, with at least 13 tallied. Our final birding stop of the day produced amazing views of two different Tibetan Partridge, which simply posed fearlessly for us to admire.

Having already seen the major targets of the area, the next day’s visit to Baizha Forest allowed us some relaxed birding amid wonderful pine forests and as always there were excellent birds to be found. Over breakfast we began with our first Slaty-backed Flycatcher, Hodgson’s Redstarts and the dark local *funebris* form of Three-toed Woodpecker.

![Blue Sheep and Alpine Accentor, Nangqian](image1)

![Saker and Upland Buzzard, both with Plateau Pika!](image2)

Moving into the forest things were a little slow to get going but as soon as the sun started to warm up the numerous Sichuan Leaf Warblers became active as well as Elliot’s Laughingthrush, Common Rosefinch and after some persuasion a pair of Giant Laughingthrush gave fine viewing. Smaller birds feeding nearby quickly included a pair of Crested Tit Warblers, Grey-crested Tits, a singing Himalayan Bluetail, Rufous-vented Tits, Rufous-breasted Accentor, Blue-fronted Redstart and close views of a single Chinese Fulvetta. Nearby scrub produced our first of several Sichuan Tits for the day and back at a picturesque clearing at least six White Eared Pheasants dotted the surrounding hillsides, a pair of Black Woodpeckers sat out and an Olive-backed Pipit displayed nearby.

Our afternoon walk added White-throated Redstart and Hodgson’s Treecreeper to the tally before heavy rain stopped play and we began a slow drive back. The rain had stopped outside the forest and here we found of first Tibetan Wagtails, White-rumped Snowfinch, and both Upland Buzzard and Saker perched on nearby posts.
As we headed back north the next morning a perfect location for a picnic breakfast had several endearing Glover’s Pika’s on view, as well as many active Kessler’s Thrushes. The next stop in a picturesque gorge had a pair of nesting Wallcreeper, more Salim Ali’s Swifts, close views of Snow Pigeon and entertaining Blue Sheep. At the final stop of the morning it was at the very last minute that our target – Great Rosefinch – appeared, along with a perched Saker, an Upland Buzzard predating a pika and another Little Owl. After another excellent lunch we started our journey across some of the wilder areas of the plateau where Upland Buzzard already became much more abundant, several Black-necked Cranes inhabited the marshes and we were thrilled with our first encounters with both Tibetan Fox and Wolf. The next day took us across the remotest parts of the high plateau yet visited, and far from being just a travel day, we were treated to spectacular views of the diverse landscape and a thrilling series of wildlife encounters. Our mammal encounters began with Tibetan Gazelle which would number more than 70 during the day, another Tibetan Fox, 170 Kiang, a thrilling close sighting of a Wolf and in the afternoon about 39 rare Tibetan Antelope were a real treat. The birds were not to be outdone though and among the usual high altitude regulars like White-rumped and Black-winged Snowfinch, Raven and innumerable Upland Buzzard we found several pairs of majestic Black-necked Cranes in the marshes, a very close roadside Golden Eagle, several close Saker sightings and we finished the day with a thorough search of an area of flat, stony desert that eventually gave us a close Tibetan Sandgrouse.

The next morning was something of an adventure as we birded amongst yet more spectacular surroundings in the shadow of the snow-capped 6224m Yuzhu Feng. We secretly hoped that the area might turn up the mega-rare Sillem’s Mountain Finch which had been rediscovered just the previous year in the same mountain range but instead had to content ourselves with four more Tibetan Sandgrouse.
(particularly appreciated by those who hadn't trekked around the previous afternoon!), a frisky Saker family group, Güldenstädt's Redstart, Blanford's Snowfinch and a couple of pairs of Roborovski's Rosefinch. Arguably though it was the mammals that took centre stage with yet more Tibetan Gazelle, Tibetan Antelope and finally, after seeing many of the domesticated form, these remote valleys yielded a group of Wild Yak, including a huge male which dwarfed the accompanying Kiang's with his impressive bulk. In the late afternoon we began our drive south and additional roadside sighting included Desert Wheatear and many more mammal sightings bringing us day counts of 114 Kiang, 143 Tibetan Gazelle and 34 Tibetan Antelope.

The next day we travelled south across the snowy wonderland of Tanggu Pass which marked our arrival into true Tibet, a real treat and quite a relief considering the recent problems accessing the area and we arrived into the fabled city of Lhasa in the evening.

The next morning the scrubby slopes of a monastery outside Lhasa were full of birds, making our long journey here more than worthwhile. Even as we enjoyed our picnic breakfast, an Eurasian Eagle Owl flew out across the valley to seek a day roost as all around us our targets performed. Prince Henri's Laughingthrush were particularly common and sang from exposed perches all around, the supposedly skulking Giant Babax hopped on the open ground nearby, bulky Tibetan Blackbird were busily feeding as were a gorgeous part of Hoopoe nesting in a nearby wall. As we enjoyed the likes of Streaked Rosefinch and Tibetan Partridge, loud calls from the adjacent slope announced the presence of a Tibetan Eared Pheasant and before long he was located and as we watched he swooped down across the valley towards us for even closer views! Those with the energy climbed higher towards the monastery where the scrub was alive with yet more babax and laughingthrush, Alpine Leaf Warbler, brief Crimson-browed Finch, Hodgson’s and White-throated Redstarts, and even better, a lose group of 8 adult and 5 juvenile Tibetan Eared Pheasants which gave us quite outstanding close views that it was little wonder they ranked so highly in the bird-of-the-trip voting! Amazingly when we returned down the original pheasant had been joined by 6 friends, and more great views completed a fine mornings birding. The afternoon drive took us east of Lhasa with Ibisbill probably the pick of the birds during several roadside stops.

Early the next morning we were surrounded by pine cloaked hillsides, prime habitat for our last major target of the tour. Indeed after a few brief and unsatisfactory looks, we were soon enjoying 'scope views of perched and feeding Lord Derby’s Parakeet, Asia’s largest and most range-restricted parakeet, which has uniquely evolved to live at these inhospitable high altitudes. In an area with tight regulations and travel for foreigners, the next day and a half were mostly spent in this habitat and allowed us more views of the parakeets as well as additions like Himalayan Swiftlet, White-throated Needletail, Tibetan Siskin, Blyth's Leaf Warbler, Lemon-rumped Warbler, Green-backed Tit, Long-tailed Minivet, Indian Blue Robin, Chestnut-vented Nuthatch, Black-faced Laughingthrush, and another group of Tibetan Eared Pheasants venturing out onto the road. There were also many Greenish Warblers, Blue-fronted Redstarts, Pink-rumped and Chinese White-browed Rosefinch. A pair of Giant Laughingthrush gave a good performance, while an adult Tiger Shrike was somewhat out of its expected range, a prolonged stop for gasoline had the bonus of a pair of Black-headed Greenfinch, and the cute Large-eared Pika excited the mammal enthusiasts. Our journey back to Lhasa was enlivened by a pair of Crimson-browed Finch happily munching on buds by the roadside, superb views of Lammergeier, more Snow Pigeon and Russet Sparrow finally made it onto our lists.

No visit to Lhasa would be complete without a visit to the magnificent Potala Palace, and so on the last morning we immersed ourselves in a guided tour to see for ourselves the colourful history and magnificent 

[Tibetan Sandgrouse](#) © Tour participant Rob Tizard
architecture, a truly wonderful climax to a tour which produced a final count of 208 species, a low total compared to our other tours but including some of the most range-restricted specialities in Asia, among the most stunning scenery, and with the added bonus of some very special mammals.

Tibetan Eared Pheasant and Lord Derby’s Parakeet, Tibet

Giant Babax and Prince Henri’s Laughingthrush, Tibet

For information regarding our tours to Qinghai and Tibet, or other Chinese destinations, please click here. Alternatively please contact us via email or telephone us +441332 516254 regarding organising a custom tour.

Bird-of-the-tour

1 Przevalski’s Finch
2 Tibetan Eared Pheasant
3 Henderson’s Ground Jay
4 Tibetan Sandgrouse
5 Szechenyi’s Monal Partridge
More tour photos;

Hume’s Ground Tit and Hume’s Short-toed Lark

Smoky Warbler and Alpine Leaf Warbler

Godlewsiki’s Bunting and Przevalski’s Partridge
Pink-rumped Rosefinch and Przevalski’s Finch

Common Swift, ssp. pekinensis

Himalayan Griffon and Lammergeier
Roborovski’s Rosefinch, female and male

Blanford’s Snowfinch and Rufous-necked Snowfinch

White-rumped Snowfinch and Brandt’s Mountain Finch
Chinese Fulvetta and Sichuan Tit

Hill Pigeon and Daurian Jackdaw

Grandala (female) and Red-billed Chough
Snow Pigeon and Elliot’s Laughingthrush

Golden Eagle and Upland Buzzard

Streaked Rosefinch and Chinese White-browed Rosefinch
Salim Ali’s Swift and Himalayan Swiftlet

Tibetan Sandgrouse, with admirers!

Gansu Pika and Plateau Pika
## Systematic List

### Podicipediformes: Podicipedidae
- Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*
- Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

### Pelecaniformes: Phalacrocoracidae
- Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

### Ciconiiformes: Ardeidae
- Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*
- Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus*
- Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

### Anseriformes: Anatidae
- Greylag Goose *Anser anser*
- Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*
- Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*
- Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*
- Eurasian Teal *Anas crecca*
- Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope*
- Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*
- Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*
- Common Pochard *Aythya ferina*
- Ferruginous Pochard *Aythya nyroca*
- Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*
- Goosander *Mergus merganser*

### Accipitriformes: Accipitridae
- Black Kite *Milvus milvus lineatus*
- Lammergeier *Gypaetus barbatus*
- Himalayan Griffon *Gyps himalayensis*
- Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*
- Himalayan Buzzard *Buteo [buteo] burmanicus*
- Upland Buzzard *Buteo hemilasius*
- Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*

### Falconiformes: Falconidae
- Eurasian Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*
Eurasian Hobby
Falco subbuteo

Saker Falcon
Falco cherrug

Peregrine Falcon
Falco peregrinus

**GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae**

Szechenyi's Monal Partridge
Tetraophasis szechenyii

Tibetan Snowcock
Tetraogallus tibetanus

Przevalski's Partridge
Alectoris magna

Daurian Partridge
Perdix dauurica

Tibetan Partridge
Perdix hodgsoniae

White Eared Pheasant
Crossoptilon crossoptilon

Tibetan Eared Pheasant
Crossoptilon harmani

Common Pheasant
Phasianus colchicus suehschanensis

**GRUIFORMES: Gruidae**

Black-necked Crane
Grus nigricollis

**GRUIFORMES: Rallidae**

Eurasian Coot
Fulica atra

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Ibitorhynchidae**

Ibisbill
Ibidorhyncha struthersii

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae**

Black-winged Stilt
Himantopus himantopus

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae**

Little Ringed Plover
Charadrius dubius

Kentish Plover
Charadrius alexandrinus

Lesser Sandplover
Charadrius [mongolus] atrifrons

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae**

Eurasian Curlew
Numenius arquata

Common Redshank
Tringa totanus

Green Sandpiper
Tringa ochropus

Common Sandpiper
Actitis hypoleucos

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae**

Pallas's Gull
Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus

Brown-headed Gull
Larus brunnicephalus

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Sternidae**

Common Tern
Sterna hirundo tibetana

**PTEROCLIDIFORMES: Pteroclididae**

Tibetan Sandgrouse
Syrrhaptes tibetanus

Pallas's Sandgrouse
Syrrhaptes paradoxus

**COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae**

Rock Dove
Columba livia

Hill Pigeon
Columba rupestris

Snow Pigeon
Columba leuconota

Eurasian Collared Dove
Streptopelia decaocto

Speckled Wood Pigeon
Columba hodgsonii

Oriental Turtle Dove
Streptopelia orientalis orientalis

**PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae**

Lord Derby's Parakeet
Psittacula derbiana

**CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae**
<table>
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<th>Family</th>
<th>Species</th>
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<td><strong>STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Owl</td>
<td>Athene noctua inpasta</td>
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<td>Eurasian Eagle Owl</td>
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<td><strong>APODIFORMES: Apodidae</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Himalayan Swiftlet</td>
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<td>White-throated Needletail</td>
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<td>Common Swift</td>
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<td>Salim Ali's Swift</td>
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<td><strong>CORACIIFORMES: Upupidae</strong></td>
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<td>Hoopoe</td>
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<td><strong>PICIFORMES: Picidae</strong></td>
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<td>Three-toed Woodpecker</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae</strong></td>
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<td>Tibetan Lark</td>
<td>Melanocorypha maxima</td>
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<td>Hume's Short-toed Lark</td>
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<td>Horned Lark</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae</strong></td>
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<td>Pale Martin</td>
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<td>Eurasian Crag Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Himalayan Wagtail</td>
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<td>Amur Wagtail</td>
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<td>Tibetan Wagtail</td>
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<td>Richard’s Pipit</td>
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<td>Olive-backed Pipit</td>
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<td>Rosy Pipit</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae</strong></td>
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<td>Long-tailed Minivet</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Regulidae</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Cinclidae</strong></td>
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<td>White-throated Dipper</td>
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<td>Winter Wren</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Prunellidae</strong></td>
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<td>Alpine Accentor</td>
<td>Prunella collaris</td>
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<td>Robin Accentor</td>
<td>Prunella rubeculoides</td>
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<td>Rufous-breasted Accentor</td>
<td>Prunella strophiata</td>
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<td>Brown Accentor</td>
<td>Prunella fulvescens</td>
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<tr>
<td>White-collared Blackbird</td>
<td>Turdus albocinctus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tibetan Blackbird
Turdus mandarinus maximus
Chestnut Thrush
Turdus rubrocanus gouldi
Kessler's Thrush
Turdus kessleri
Chinese Thrush
Turdus mupinensis

PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae
Severtzov’s Tit Warbler
Leptopoecile sophiae obscura
Crested Tit Warbler
Leptopoecile elegans
Smoky Warbler
Phylloscopus fulvigventer weigoldi
Alpine Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus occisinensis
Yellow-streaked Warbler
Phylloscopus armandii armandii
Buff-barred Warbler
Phylloscopus pulcher pulcher
Gansu Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus kansuensis
Lemon-rumped Warbler
Phylloscopus chloronotus chloronotus
Sichuan Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus [chloronotus] forresti
Chinese Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus yunnanensis
Hume’s Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus humei mandellii
Greenish Warbler
Phylloscopus trochiloides
Large-billed Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus magnirostris
Claudia’s (Blyth’s) Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus [reguloides] claudiae
Blyth’s Leaf Warbler
Phylloscopus reguloides
Whistler’s Warbler
Seicercus whistleri

PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae
Slaty-backed Flycatcher
Ficedula Hodgsonii
Siberian Rubythroat
Luscinia calliope
Himalayan Rubythroat
Luscinia pectoralis tschebaiewi
Indian Blue Robin
Luscinia brunnea
Siberian Bluetail
Tarsiger cyanurus alboceeruleus
Himalayan Bluetail
Tarsiger rufilatus rufilatus
Przevalski’s Redstart
Phoenicurus alaschanicus
Black Redstart
Phoenicurus ochruros rufiventris
Hodgson’s Redstart
Phoenicurus hodgsoni
White-throated Redstart
Phoenicurus schisticeps
Daurian Redstart
Phoenicurus auroreus
Güldenstädt’s Redstart
Phoenicurus erythrogaster
Blue-fronted Redstart
Phoenicurus frontalis
White-capped Redstart
Chaimarrornis leucocephalus
Plumbeous Redstart
Rhyacornis fuliginosus
White-bellied Redstart
Saxicola przewalskii
Siberian Stonechat
Saxicola rubicola
Grandala
Oenanthe isabellina
Pied Wheatear
Oenanthe pleschanka
Desert Wheatear
Oenanthe deserti

PASSERIFORMES: Timaliidae
Giant Babax
Babax waddelli
Kozlov’s Babax
Babax koslowi
Pere David’s Laughingthrush
Pterorhinus davidi
Giant Laughingthrush
Ianthocincla maximus
Elliott’s Laughingthrush
Garrulax elliotii
Prince Henri’s Laughingthrush
Garrulax henrici
Black-faced Laughingthrush
Garrulax affinis
Red-billed Leiothrix
Leiothrix lutea
Chinese Fulvetta
Alcippe striaticollis

PASSERIFORMES: Paridae
Willow Tit
Poecile montanus affinis
Sichuan Tit
Poecile [songarus] weigoldei
White-browed Tit
Poecile superciliosa
Rufous-vented Tit
Periparus rubidiventer
Grey-crested Tit
Lophophanes dichrous
Japanese Tit
Parus minor minor
Parus minor tibetanus
Green-backed Tit
Parus monticolus
Hume’s Ground Tit
Pseudopodoces humidis
PASSERIFORMES: Sittidae
Chestnut-vented Nuthatch  
Sitta nagaensis montium
Chinese Nuthatch  
Sitta villosa bangsi
Przevalski's Nuthatch  
Sitta przewalskii

PASSERIFORMES: Tichodromidae
Wallcreeper  
Tichodroma muraria

PASSERIFORMES: Certhiidae
Hodgson's Treecreeper  
Certhia hodgsoni

PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae
Tiger Shrike  
Lanius tigrinus
Isabelline Shrike  
Lanius isabellinus tsaidamenis
Grey-backed Shrike  
Lanius tephronotus
Tibetan Grey Shrike  
Lanius [sphenocercus] giganteus

PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae
Black Drongo  
Dicrurus macrocercus

PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae
Azure-winged Magpie  
Cyanopica cyanus kansuensis
Eurasian Magpie  
Pica pica bottanensis
Pica pica sericea
Henderson's Ground Jay  
Podoces hendersoni
Spotted Nutcracker  
Nucifraga caryocatactes macella
Red-billed Chough  
Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax himalayanus
Daurian Jackdaw  
Corvus dauricus insolens
Rook  
Corvus frugilegus pastinator
Oriental (Carrion) Crow  
Corvus [corone] orientalis
Large-billed Crow  
Corvus japonensis tibetosinensis
Common Raven  
Corvus corax tibetanus

PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae
Black-faced Bunting  
Emberiza spodocephala
Kozlov's Bunting  
Emberiza koslowi
Pine Bunting  
Emberiza leucocephalos
Godlewski's Bunting  
Emberiza godlewskii
Meadow Bunting  
Emberiza cioides

PASSERIFORMES: Urocynchramidae
Przevalski's Finch  
Urocynchramus pylzowi

PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae
Plain Mountain Finch  
Leucosticte nemorica
Brandt's Mountain Finch  
Leucosticte brandti
Mongolian Finch  
Bucanetes mongolicus
Crimson-browed Finch  
Pinicola subhimachalus
Common Rosefinch  
Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus
Chinese Beautiful Rosefinch  
Carpodacus davidianus
Pink-rumped Rosefinch  
Carpodacus eos
Pale Rosefinch  
Carpodacus synoicus beicki
Chinese White-browed Rosefinch  
Carpodacus dubius
Streaked Rosefinch  
Carpodacus rubicilloides
Spotted Great Rosefinch  
Carpodacus severtzovi
Red-fronted Rosefinch  
Carpodacus punicus
Roborovski's Rosefinch  
Carpodacus roborowskii
Red Crossbill  
Loxia curvirostra
Oriental Greenfinch  
Carduelis sinica
Black-headed Greenfinch  
Carduelis ambigua
Twite  
Carduelis flavirostris miniakensis
Tibetan Siskin  
Serinus thibetanus
Grey-headed Bullfinch  
Pyrrhula erythaca
White-winged Grosbeak  
Mycerobas carnipes
PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae

- Russet Sparrow: Passer rutilans
- Eurasian Tree Sparrow: Passer montanus
- Rock Sparrow: Petronia petronia brevirostris
- Henri’s Snowfinch: Montifringilla henrici
- Black-winged Snowfinch: Montifringilla adamsi
- White-rumped Snowfinch: Onychostruthus taczanowskii
- Père David’s Snowfinch: Pyrgiliauda davidiana
- Rufous-necked Snowfinch: Montifringilla blanfordi
- Henri's Snowfinch: Montifringilla blanfordi
- Rock Sparrow: Petronia petronia brevirostris
- Black-winged Snowfinch: Montifringilla adamsi
- White-rumped Snowfinch: Onychostruthus taczanowskii
- Père David’s Snowfinch: Pyrgiliauda davidiana
- Rufous-necked Snowfinch: Montifringilla blanfordi

MAMMALS

- Himalayan Marmot: Marmota himalayana
- Desert Hamster: Phodopus roborovskii
- Gansu Pika: Ochotona cansus
- Plateau Pika: Ochotona curzoniae
- Glover's Pika: Ochotona gloveri
- Long-eared Pika: Ochotona macrotis
- Woolly Hare: Lepus oiostolus
- Tibetan Fox: Vulpes ferrilata
- Red Fox: Vulpes vulpes
- Wolf: Canis lupus
- Mountain Weasel: Mustela altaica
- Asian Badger: Meles leucurus
- Kiang: Equus hemionus
- Tibetan Gazelle: Procapra picticaudata
- Goitered Gazelle: Gazella subgutturosa
- Domestic Yak: Bos grunniens
- Wild Yak: Bos mutus
- Tibetan Antelope: Pantholops hadgsonii
- Blue Sheep: Pseudois nayaur

Tibetan Eared Pheasant © Rob Hutchinson/Birdtour Asia