This custom tour visited all of our usual areas but was deliberately easy paced with plenty of time at each site and the harder treks missed, targeting species not seen on previous PNG trips. Two outings near Sorong gave us some of our targets including Spotted Honeyeater and Ruby-throated Myzomela, both of which were completely eclipsed by a magnificent New Guinea Harpy-Eagle. We next made our way over to the island of Waigeo where the clear and undisputed highlights were Wilson’s and Red Birds-of-paradise, and the regal Western Crowned Pigeon. Raja Ampat Ptochui was the best of the others although Papuan Boobook, Papuan & Marbled Frogmouths were excellent.

Next destination was the Arfak Mountains, the toughest destination for our ‘easy’ tour, but by avoiding the long hike to higher altitudes and not camping we made it as easy as could be. This didn’t impact much on the birding though and we still found many of the special birds including Western Parotia, Magnificent BOP, Long-tailed Paradigalla, Vogelkop Melidectes, Bronze Ground Dove, Vogelkop Bowerbird, an amazing Masked Bowerbird, roosting Mountain Owlet Nightjar and Mottled Berryhunter, the latter a much-desired endemic monotypic family.

A short overnight stop in Sentani was sufficient for three smart mannikins; Grand, Hooded and Chestnut-breasted, before we headed up into the Snow Mountains. We spent just three nights camping and avoided difficult high-altitude walks but still found many of the megas; Snow Mountain Quail, Western Alpine Mannikin, Spendid Astrapia, Archbold’s Nightjar, New Guinea Woodcock, Salvadori’s Teal and confiding Greater Ground Robin being the highlights. Nearer Wamena we also found Black-breasted Mannikin, Ornate Melidectes and the recently-split Balm Whistler. The steamy lowlands at Nimbokrang never give up their birds easily but we did well with Twelve-wired and King BOPs, Pale-billed Sicklebill, Jobi Manucode, Streak-headed Mannikin, Salvadori’s Fig Parrot and several other targets. We finished on Biak where we cleaned up on all endemics including such beauties as Biak Monarch and Biak Paradise Kingfisher, the little-known Biak Leaf Warbler, and the difficult Biak Scops Owl.
Our tour started in Jakarta with a long overnight flight to Sorong, on the tip of West Papua’s Birds Head Peninsula. We had allowed an extra day to recover from the flight and by afternoon we were fully rested and ready to head out to the nearby forest patches. Much time was spent avoiding heavy rain shower but in between we were able to find Olive-capped Flowerpecker, a West Papua endemic new for all, plus bonus species like Zoe’s Imperial Pigeon, Shining Flycatcher, Rufous-bellied Kookaburra, Large-billed Gerygone, Black Butcherbird and a smart set of Yellow-faced Mynas. Glossy Manucode, a nicely perched Orange-bellied Fruit Dove and a displaying Grey-headed Goshawk finished our first birding session nicely.

The next morning, we headed to a different spot and found some excellent bird activity with our first of many Palm Cockatoos, Sulphur-crested Cockatoos and Blyth’s Hornbills sharing the same trees. We also soon heard to distinctive, although distant, boom of a New Guinea Harpy-Eagle. It slowly seemed to come closer though so we went looking and were fortunate to spot this huge raptor perched in an open tree on the next ridge, staying long enough for scope views before moving on. We were lucky to find a suitable flowering tree which was a hive of activity including two of our targets; Spotted Honeyeater and Ruby-throated Myzomela which joined the more regular Tawny-breasted Honeyeater, New Guinea Friarbirds and Red-flanked Lorikeets. Other birds during the morning included a fast-flying Papuan Spintailed Swift, Boyer’s Cuckooshrike, Grey-headed Cicadabird, Golden Monarch, Pinon Imperial Pigeon, Brown Oriole, and we managed to see just one of the many calling Yellow-billed Kingfishers. A Dwarf Koel was persuaded to investigate us and then just sat around for as long as we wanted to watch it. Even as things warmed up we added some raptors with Variable Goshawk, Long-tailed Buzzard and Pygmy Eagle all soaring overhead before we had to head back to town for lunch and then the afternoon ferry across to the island of Waigeo.
On our first morning we headed out early to the forest, arriving just before dawn and in time to call in a pair of Papuan Boobooks for nice views. The main target for the morning, and indeed one of the most anticipated of the entire trip, was our visit to the display area of Wilson’s Bird-of-paradise. We split ourselves between 2 display grounds and both had amazing close views of the male Wilson’s ‘BOP’, cleaning their display areas and dazzling us with an amazing combination of red, yellow, blue and black, including perfectly curled tail feathers that changed colour at different angles, and the bulging blue ‘brains’. Having had our fill we enjoyed some roadside birding where we found Green-backed Honeyeater, the recently split Raja Ampat Pitohui, the rare and localised Brown-headed Crow, dazzling Golden Monarchs, Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Yellow-bellied Longbill, Rusty Pitohui, Little Bronze Cuckoo, and a Spotted-winged Monarch for some.

After lunch further visits to the Wilson’s BOP hides during ‘siesta time’ gave a surprise Cinnamon Ground Dove and Black-sided Robin. The afternoon session was typically quieter but a flyby Stephan’s Dove was new for the trip as was Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon and a Collared Sparrowhawk taking prey was impressive to see. We then headed back and finished the day with a Papuan Frogmouth perched by the roadside in the fading light.

We were back in the forest before dawn the next morning and were rewarded with a nicely perched Marbled Frogmouth and Papuan Boobook again. As daylight arrived we made a steep but short climb up to a display ground of Red BOP which put on an amazing display with up to 15 males swaying, swinging and hanging upside down with plumes and tail streamers all deployed to attract the attention of the watching females. The remainder of the morning was more roadside birding with Brown-headed Crow showing even better, a flyover Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo after playback, Yellow-bellied Longbill, Shining Bronze Cuckoo and our first Wompoo Fruit Dove among others. A post-lunch session in the hides was quieter today with only Puff-backed Meliphaga of note. A beautiful Common Spotted Cuscus was arguably the highlight of the afternoon before torrential rain forced an early close of play.

The next morning, we couldn’t resist the opportunity for more time watching the Wilson’s BOP, undoubtedly one of the world’s best birds and literally a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most visitors! They didn’t disappoint with two males again actively cleaning the dancing grounds, one of which attracted a female and launched into an amazing display, clinging vertically to a stem with iridescent breast shield fanned, flashing his yellow mantle shield. It was then time to continue our search for the elusive Mambruk – Western Crowned Pigeon – which some was seeming increasingly unlikely after many hours of fruitless searching. Our persistence paid off though as we pulled up the 4WD ready for another search only to find a crowned pigeon perched in trees right next to the vehicle! There were three in total, and we had some amazing views just in time before heavy ended the birding for the morning again.

We headed back to town delighted with our success and in the afternoon took the ferry back across to Sorong for an overnight stop. A short flight the next morning brought us to the town of Manokwari, the start point of our trip way up into the mountains, and our attempts at birding resulted in no bird activity at all. We arrived before lunch at our guesthouse at Syoubri – and birding during lunch gave our first common species like Capped White-eye, Island Leaf Warbler, Brown-breasted Gerygone and Papuan Mountain Pigeons, before we headed below the village to a display ground of Magnificent Bird-of-paradise. The rained eased and occasionally almost stopped but sadly the Magnificent BOP was clearly discouraged by the bad weather and didn’t visit. A brief Green-backed Robin was seen in the nearby forest though and we finished the day with Grey-green Scrubwren and Vogelkop Melidectes.

Fortunately, we woke the next day to starry skies and made our way down to a beautiful patch of forest below the village. We were settled in our brilliantly constructed hides overlooking a Western Parotia display area. Sadly, the parotia’s weren’t in the mood today, with just one seen and not descending to the ground, but we did later enjoy good views of several males and females in the surrounding forest. Also in the area we enjoyed three species of whistler with the regional endemic Vogelkop Whistler the most significant, Vogelkop Bowerbird including close looks at an intricately decorated bower, female Mountain Fruit Dove, Lesser Ground Robing, the diminutive Grey Thornbill, Black-breasted Boatbills and Vogelkop Scrubwren. A couple of flowering tree held lots of activity including both Red-collared and Red Myzomela, Yellow-billed, Fairy and Pygmy Lorikeets, and Ornate Melidectes. In the afternoon those
who hadn’t seen Magnificent BOP previously headed down again to the display area and were able to enjoy the male in full display to a visiting female. The rest of the group headed up one of the easier trails and were amply rewarded with comparisons of Rufous-throated and White-eared Bronze Cuckoos, several Western Smoky Honeyeaters, Black-breasted Boatbill, Vogelkop Melidectes, Vogelkop Bowerbird and Black Pitohui. A pair of Bronze Ground Doves sitting up a few meters from the ground were splendid enough but the male proceeded to perform a head-bobbing display to the female which was amazing to see. A pair of Modest Tiger Parrots feeding actively overhead but the star of the show was a fabulous male Long-tailed Paradigalla which appeared overhead then settled to preen for long views.

There were still several species, mostly found at slightly higher elevations, that we were still missing so the following day we made a long circuit into the mountains above our guesthouse in search of these and it turned out to be a great success. First birds of the morning were one of our most-wanted; a pair of very obliging Spotted Jewel Babblers who circled us several times and on occasion paused for nice looks. These were soon followed by a pair of Green-backed Robins which had been strangely absent from the BOP display grounds that they usually favour, then our first Fantail Monarchs. As we made our way up we were happy to call in an Ashy Robin since the form on the Vogelkop is sometimes split from those elsewhere on New Guinea. Tit Berryepecker and Rufous-sided Honeyeater followed, a Black-billed Cuckoo Dove perched up for nice studies, and a massive bonus came in the form of Mottled Berryhunter, now recognized as a monotypic family which is endemic to New Guinea but rarely seen in PNG.

We enjoyed a nice rest stop with accompanying chocolate biscuits while Zeth found a day-roosting Mountain Owlet Nightjar which we were able to view at point-blank range.

**Mountain Owlet Nightjar, Arfak Mountains**

Several Mountain Fruit Doves were typically shy but we managed a couple of perched views, and another Modest Tiger Parrot showed briefly. We spent much of the afternoon in the area we had enjoyed good success the previous day and it was again lively with our best views yet of Vogelkop Melidectes, a Bronze Ground Dove which showed several times, a delightful pair of Red-breasted Pygmy Parrots hanging upside-down on a small tree trunk, and a White-eared Bronze Cuckoo which was greatly appreciated by those who hadn’t done this walk the previous day. We then finished on a high with a furtive flock of Orange-crowned Fairywrens which we were able to follow for some time.

A dawn visit to a Black-billed Sicklebill dancing tree didn’t produce any sign the following day which was disappointing given it had been displaying a few days before when checked by Rob and Zeth. We instead made our way up for some roadside birding where in spite of the devastating roadworks aiming to unnecessarily widen this road into the highlands, we enjoyed some good activity including a very active pair of Black-bellied Cicadabirds, more Vogelkop Whistlers and our only Mid-mountain Berryepeckers of the trip. As the morning heated up and bird activity diminished we stuck with it and were suddenly rewarded with a flash of yellow heading into a nearby tree. We tracked it down and were rewarded with a stunning Masked Bowerbird which memorably passed right overhead in a riot of yellow, orange and black! Even in the heat of the day we added Marbled Honeyeater, Red Myzomela, Fairy Gerygone, improved views of Goldenface and New Guinea White-eye before heading back for lunch and preparing to leave this wonderful area. Having dodged road closures due to the construction work in the afternoon (we actually added Yellow-gaped Meliphaga and Black-fronted White-eye while waiting in the queue!) we spent a productive few hours at the lower levels of the road where although Long-billed Honeyeater and Black-chinned Robin frustrated us by calling unseen at close range, we did get looks at a pair of Boyer’s Cuckoo-shrikes, a pair of Grey Crows, Scrub Meliphaga, a female Lesser BOP, a large flock of Yellow-crowned Pygmy Parrots, and fantastic looks at Obscure Berryepecker, a species known from just a few spots across all of New Guinea. All too soon it was time to head down again to the lowlands although the hot showers and very comfortable beds in Manokwari made the transition a little easier!

Our flight across the northern coast of West Papua to Sentani the next morning gave fantastic views of the vast, untouched forests which still cover much of the island, although Sentani itself is a very bustling town. In the afternoon we spent some pleasant hours wandering through the grasslands near Lake Sentani, although our main target – Grand Mannikin – was easily sighted before we even left the vehicles! We had many more excellent looks at these together with the even more attractive Hooded and Chestnut-breasted Mannikins, and many Crimson
Finches. Australasian Swamphen, Lesser Black Coucal, Streak-headed Honeyeater, White-bellied Cuckooshrike and a flyby Spotted Whistling Duck completed a successful afternoon.

Another flight across untouched forest bought us to the upland town of Wamena the next morning and we were soon loaded into 4WD’s and on our way into the Snow Mountains. Much of the rest of the day was spent at the higher elevations of the road where we had some good birding including excellent close views of both Subalpine & White-winged Robins, some delightfully cute New Guinea Thornbills, colourful Orange-billed and Plum-headed Lorikeets, Grey-streaked Honeyeater, two active groups of Black Sittella, and a nicely posed Painted Tiger Parrot.

Some heavy late afternoon rain cleared just in time for us to head out and try for two special night-birds; first up was New Guinea Woodcock which called back as dusk arrived before popping up to perch on an open branch in the spot-light. After that success we couldn’t resist a try for Archbold’s Nightjar which likewise quickly gave us a long flyby in the torch, and with impeccable timing before an almighty downpour that lasted late into the night.

Fortunately, the next morning dawned beautifully clear an we soaked in the fantastic scenery as we headed down into the top of the Ibele Valley. After a brief view of McGregor’s Honeyeater we heard the unmistakable and beautiful song of Greater Ground Robin from the valley below so we made our way towards the source. It was calling well off the trail so we crept into the amazing, dwarf forest covered in dense mosses. This proved a great decision when a pair of ground robins soon responded and treated us to prolonged views down to just a few meters. The same area produced our first Western Crested Berrypecker and then a wonderful male Splendid Astrapia. Although a calling Black-throated Robin didn’t want to show we did have excellent close views of Lorentz’s Whistler at the forest edge, and a pair of active Short-bearded Melidectes to round off a very productive morning.

In the afternoon we drove down the road and trekked out to Lake Habbema in rather inclement weather but fortunately it cleared to beautiful sunshine when we arrived and we were able to ‘scope Pacific Black Duck and...
Salvadori’s Teal among the numerous Eurasian Coot on the lake. Papuan Harriers showed well as they quartered the margins of the lake, several Orange-cheeked Honeyeaters were conspicuous in the lakeside trees and we lucked into a group of 3 Western Alpine Mannikins as they flew by and we were able to relocate them feeding nearby. Papuan Grassbird was added in the nearby grasslands but a long walk along the road didn’t produce our hoped for quails.

Greater Ground Robin & Splendid Astrapia, Snow Mountains

Plum-faced Lorikeet & Ornate Melidectes, Snow Mountains

A slow drive along the nearby roads again failed to produce any quails the next morning but a Speckled Dasyure slowly crossing the road was a bonus. The weather was rather inclement again so we headed to lower altitude collecting our first Great Woodswallow on the way. The weather soon cleared lower down allowing us to enjoy good numbers of Black-breasted Mannikins, Red-capped Flowerpecker and several of the recently-split Balim Whistler. We also birded along a forest trail but sadly the rampant logging during the last year had really taken its toll with almost all the large trees removed and we found only a large flock of Tit-Berrypeckers, a brief Brown Sicklebill, nest-building Papuan Flyrobin, and some very fast flybys of Goldie’s Lorikeet. Our afternoon target was improved views of McGregor’s Honeyeater which refused to show even though the weather was perfect, but yet another male Splendid Astrapia, some great views of an amorous group of four Painted Tiger Parrot, Stella’s Lorikeet, some photogenic Belford’s Melidectes, and our first Sooty Honeyeater were excellent compensation before Rob and our local helpers tried very hard to flush up some quails without success.

We were determined though so we made another drive along the roadsides the next morning and right at the last moment struck lucky with a pair of Snow Mountain Quail feeding quietly by the roadside and showing well from the comfort of the vehicle, much better than the typical flushed views. We then spent the rest of the morning failing to get improved views of McGregor’s Honeyeater although point-blank views of feeding Plum-faced Lorikeets were some compensation and we added Nankeen Kestrel, here the only resident population on the whole island of New
Guinea! After lunch we headed down again to Wamena and out to a pleasant birding spot on the edge of the valley where we quickly add some very attractive Ornate Melidectes, more Black-breasted Mannikins and a pair of Superb BOP’s with the make displaying beautifully in the ‘scope. Then it was back down into the steamy lowlands with a morning flight to Sentani and a drive into the trans-migration settlement of Nimbokrang which despite rampant logging is still one of the most accessible place to find a whole range of lowland rainforest species. We headed out in the afternoon and had a very birdy session which included our first Ochre-collared Monarchs and Lowland Peleasts, but a Papuan Hawk Owl calling in the distance refused to cooperate.

Buff-faced Pygmy Parrot & King Bird-of-paradise, Nimbokrang

For our first full day at Nimbokrang we headed out to an old logging road which proved very active even in the overcast conditions and we were quickly logging new species. Coroneted Fruit Dove was soon teed up in the ‘scope, our first of several Lesser BOP’s was perched on an open spike, there was a confiding pair of Large-billed Gerygone, a Long-billed Honeyeater feeding on canopy flowers, both Black and Papuan Cicadabirds, a female Twelve-wired BOP, several flyover Dusky Lories, and after initially posing as a honeyeater, a bonus Long-billed Cuckoo. A calling Pale-billed Sicklebill gave a brief but good view but we were happy to later locate a pair feeding in a fruiting tree for better looks. We also enjoyed very close views of Buff-faced Pygmy Parrot, some shy Rusty Ptitohui’s, close studies of a Puff-backed Meliphaga showing off its pale rump sides, a finishing with a Jobi Manucode, looking particularly distinctive in flight with its short tail giving it a very front-heavy appearance. With things quietening down in the forest we headed to some nearby rice fields where several Streak-headed Mannikins were new for us as they fed with greater numbers of Grand and a single Chestnut-breasted Mannikin. A Rufous-tailed Bush-hen was also added in the grasslands as a flock of fast-flying Papuan Spinetailed Swifts proved good value before we headed back for lunch and siesta. Our afternoon excursion is perhaps best described as ‘memorable’! Hacking a trail through thick...
jungle in often torrential rain we eventually reached a well-appointed viewpoint, but it was well worth the effort for a pair of Salvadori’s Fig-parrots investigating a nesting hole and offering nice scope views with the Swarovski proving its worth in the low light. We finished the day scanning a large river where we latched onto a pair of Torrent Flyrobin just in time before they seemed to head to roost.

A nice flat walk into the forest the next morning and at dawn we were already soaking in very close views of a male Twelve-wired BOP calling on his display pole, and he stuck around for the light to improve for stunning views before departing for the day, on this occasion having failed to draw in a female. The rest of the morning was definitely quality over quantity with Pacific Baza and Azure Kingfisher new for the tour, and great views of a prehistoric looking Papuan Frogmouth guiding its fluffy youngster. We managed very reasonable views of one of our big targets; White-eared Catbird, and a delightful male King BOP with his cute tail-disks at his display tree. We finished the morning with a surprise White-crowned Koel sitting quietly in the forest, they are no usually that obliging! We got wet again in the afternoon but this time on a well maintained trail and fortunately it stopped when we reached our well-appointed viewpoint and we enjoyed some excellent activity. Orange-bellied Fruit Doves were abundant and we had nice views of our first Pink-spotted Fruit Doves. Lesser BOP’s including a full adult in breeding dress floating across the valley, Pale-billed Sicklebill again showed well, and we enjoyed our first Papuan Babbler, Meyer’s Friarbird and Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon of the tour.

We hiked into the forest well before dawn the next day in another attempt for the elusive Papuan Hawk Owl only to be thwarted by torrential rain which began as soon as we reached the owl site and continued for hours after dawn. Even after the rain eventually stopped bird activity was almost non-existent with most back at the forest edge where we added a pair of Red-fronted Lorikeets, a diminutive Dwarf Fruit Dove, several Orange-bellied and two Pink-spotted Fruit Doves.

Even after the rain eventually stopped bird activity was almost non-existent with most back at the forest edge where we added a pair of Red-fronted Lorikeets, a diminutive Dwarf Fruit Dove, several Orange-bellied and two Pink-spotted Fruit Doves. The afternoon in the same area gave fantastic perched views of Pacific Baza and Meyer’s Friarbird were followed by another big effort for Papuan Hawk Owl which never even uttered a sound, although point-blank views of Marbled Frogmouth were appreciated.

We spent our final morning along the logging road again with birds again very quiet in the heavily overcast conditions. We tried hard though and managed to drag out some new birds including stunning Emperor Fairywrens glowing in the understory, Wompoo Fruit Dove, a very responsive Sooty Thicket Fantail, White-bellied Thicket Fantail, Spectacled Longbill, a Greater Black Coucal that ventured out onto the road itself, and a group of three Brown-headed Crows. We then headed back to Sentani for a much appreciated pizza, because as much as the food on the tour had been excellent, we were all craving for something a little more familiar! A short flight delivered us to Biak the next morning, our final tour destination. Even though it was already mid-morning quite hot we couldn’t resist heading out for some birding when we arrived and chose a large flooded area caused by the 1996 Tsunami. Beach Kingfisher was one of the first species seen when we arrived and we went on to enjoy views of several. There was also a selection of egrets, Osprey, Moustached Treeswift and our first two endemics; Long-tailed Starlings with their surprisingly musical vocalisations and a colourful pair of Biak Lorikeets which circled us at close range.

The afternoon was mostly spent on relaxed roadside birding and in between downpours we enjoyed some excellent birding with additions like Biak Black Flycatcher, Geelvink Imperial Pigeon, several flyby Black-winged Lory, close views of a pair of Biak Triller, good views of Biak Gerygone, the stunning orange kordensis Golden Whistler, the attractively patterned Yellow-bibbed Fruit Dove, and the unique Biak White-eye. We finished the day trying for Biak Scops Owl but never got a peep in the forest which was still dripping and miserable for the afternoon rain.

The next morning the weather was much better but the scops owl didn’t appreciate the improved conditions and still remained silent. The diurnal birds were much more obliging fortunately and we were soon soaking up yet more endemics although the first – the skulking Biak Coucal – only showed to a few of us this time. A family of Biak Monarchs though were much more obliging and we had stunning views of one of the islands toughest endemics!
Much bird activity included several more Biak Gerygone, the beautiful Biak Paradise Kingfisher and the *rosenbergii* form of Hooded Pitta which is both visually and vocally distinct from other forms and undoubtedly due for elevation to 'Biak Pitta'. Another highlight was a displaying Great Cuckoo Dove, launching itself skywards in huge arches before plummeting back down towards earth! Calling Geelvink Pygmy Parrots frustrated us though as we failed to locate them on two occasions only to see them shoot out the trees we were searching. The afternoon birding was typically much quieter but two sightings of Biak Scrubfowl finally gave all of the group a sighting, Torresian Imperial Pigeons were new for the trip, and on this occasion Biak Scops Owl appeared right on cue just after dusk and gave a great performance until unceremoniously chased off by an immense Papuan Frogmouth.

The last morning of the tour arrived with just three remaining targets remaining; proper views of Biak Coucal and Geelvink Pygmy Parrot, and the little-known Biak Leaf Warbler. The first of these to appear was the Geelvink Pygmy Parrot, a pair of these charming little parrots gave progressively better views until they were eventually just above our heads, apparently investigating an old arboreal termite mound as a potential nesting site. Typically, these were then followed by a second pair not more than 15 minutes later! Next up Rob heard the extremely high-pitched song of the Biak Leaf Warbler and we were able to enjoy some very good views as it sang nearby, not the most colourful bird of the tour but we appreciated its bright yellow legs and long, orange bill.

We had heard many Biak Coucals the day before, but had not yet come close to seeing one. This time we could hear a pair calling far away but managed to get much closer to them and after a lot of patience and hope that the bird would approach, it did indeed appear and we even obliged by sitting in the open.
This brought to an end a superb tour, with the ‘easy’ tag allowing us our final afternoon to rest having successful cleaned up on all the Biak endemics.

Biak Scops Owl & Biak Leaf Warbler, Biak

Geelvink Pygmy Parrot, Biak

The tour recorded a total of 320 species of which 23 were heard only. These included an impressive 203 New Guinea endemics, of which 37 are found only in West Papua. For further information on our tours to West Papua, please contact us via our e-mail or click here for our scheduled departure tours.

**Bird of the trip**

1 = Wilson’s Bird-of-paradise  
2 = Western Crowned Pigeon  
3 = Red Bird-of-paradise  
4 = Greater Ground Robin  
5 = Masked Bowerbird
Brown Oriole & Green-backed Honeyeater, Sorong

Long-tailed Buzzard & Pygmy Eagle, Sorong

Palm Cockatoo & Olive-crowned Flowerpecker, Sorong
Waigeo Cuscus, Waigeo & Black-billed Sicklebill, Arfak Mountains

Lesser Ground Robin, Arfak Mountains

White-eared Bronze Cuckoo & Red-breasted Pygmy Parrot, Arfak Mountains
Mottled Berryhunter & Western Smoky Honeyeater, Arfak Mountains

Obscure Berrypecker & Mid-mountain Berrypecker, Arfak Mountains

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin & Grand Mannikin, Sentani
New Guinea Thornbill & White-winged Robin, Snow Mountains

Alpine Pipit & Greater Ground Robin, Snow Mountains

Lorentz’s Whistler, Snow Mountains
Short-bearded Melidectes & Belford’s Melidectes, Snow Mountains

Painted Tiger Parrots, Snow Mountains

Snow Mountain Quail (Male & female), Snow Mountains
Plum-faced Lorikeet, Snow Mountains & Puff-backed Melpihaga, Nimbokrang

Papuan Spinetailed Swift & Papuan Frogmouth, Nimbokrang

Rufous-bellied Kookaburra & Zoe’s Imperial Pigeon, Nimbokrang
Marbled Frogmouth & Bat sp., Nimbokrang

Long-tailed Starling & Little Shrike Thrush, Biak

Biak Black Flycatcher & Biak Gerygone, Biak
**Systematic List**

**ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae**
- Spotted Whistling Duck: *Dendrocygna guttata*
- Salvadori’s Teal: *Salvadorina waigiuensis*
- Pacific Black Duck: *Anas superciliosa*

**GALLIFORMES: Megapodiidae**
- Red-billed Brushturkey: *Talegalla cuvieri cuvieri*
- Red-legged [Collared] Brushturkey: *Talegalla jobiensis jobiensis*
- Dusky Scrubfowl: *Megapodius freycinet*
- Biak Scrubfowl: *Megapodius geelvinkianus*

**GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae**
- King Quail: *Excalfactoria chinensis*
- Snow Mountain Quail: *Anurophasis monorthonyx*

**PELECANIFORMES: Ardeidae**
- Striated Heron: *Butorides striatus*
- Eastern Great Egret: *Casmerodius modesta*
- Intermediate Egret: *Mesophoyx intermedia*
- Little Egret: *Egretta garzetta*
- Pacific Reef-Egret: *Egretta sacra*

**SULIFORMES: Fregatidae**
- Lesser Frigatebird: *Fregata ariel*

**ACCIPITRIFORMES: Pandionidae**
- Eastern Osprey: *Pandion cristatus*

**ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae**
- Pacific Baza: *Aviceda subcristata obscura*
- Long-tailed Buzzard: *Aviceda subcristata stenozona*
- New Guinea Harpy-Eagle: *Hencipernis longicauda*
- Pygmy Eagle: *Harpyopsis novaeguineae*
- Variable Goshawk: *Hieraetos weiskei*
- Grey-headed Goshawk: *Accipiter hiogaster leucosomus*
- Collared Sparrowhawk: *Accipiter cirrocephalus papuanus*
- Papuan [Swamp] Harrier: *Circus [approximans] spilothorax*
- Whistling Kite: *Haliastur sphenurus*
- Brahminy Kite: *Haliastur indus girrenera*
- White-bellied Sea-Eagle: *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

**GRUIFORMES: Rallidae**
- Chestnut Forest Rail: *Ralicula rubra klossi*
- Rufous-tailed Bush-hen: *Amaurornis moluccana moluccana*
**White-browed Crake**  
Porzana cinerea  
Heard only

**Australian [Purple] Swamphen**  
Porphyrio [porphyrio] melanotus  

**Eurasian Coot**  
Fulica atra

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae**

New Guinea Woodcock  
Scolopax rosenbergii  
NG

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae**

Brown Noddy  
Anous stolidus

**COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae**

Rock Dove  
Columba livia  
Int

**CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae**

Great Crested Tern  
Thalasseus bergii

Common Tern  
Sterna hirundo

**COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae**

White-throated Pigeon  
Columba vitiensis halmaheira

Spotted Dove  
Streptopelia chinensis  
Int

**COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae**

Black-billed Cuckoo-Dove  
Macropygia nigrrostris

Brown Cuckoo-Dove  
Macropygia amboinensis doreya

Great Cuckoo-Dove  
Reinwardtoena reinwardtii griseotincta

Common Emerald Dove  
Chalcophas indicas minima

Stephan’s Emerald Dove  
Chalcophas stephani stephani

Bronze Ground Dove  
Alopecoenas beccarri beccarri

Western Crowned-Pigeon  
Goura cristata minor  
WP

Wompoo Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus de magnificus puella

Pink-spotted Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus perflatus plumbeicollis  
NG

Superb Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus superbus superbus  
Heard only

Coroneted Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus coronatus geminus  
NG

Beautiful Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus pulchellus pulchellus  
NG

Mountain Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus bellus  
NG

Yellow-bibbed Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus solomonensis speciosus

Claret-breasted Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus viridis geelvinkianus  
NG

Orange-bellied Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus iozonus jobiensis  
NG

Dwarf Fruit Dove  
Ptienopus nainus  
NG

Geelvink Imperial Pigeon  
Ducula geelvinkiana  
WP

Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon  
Ducula rufugaster rufugaster  
NG

Pinon Imperial Pigeon  
Ducula pinon pinon  
NG

Zoe’s Imperial Pigeon  
Ducula zoae  
NG

Torresian Imperial Pigeon  
Ducula spilorrhoa  
NG

Papuan Mountain Pigeon  
Gymnophaps albertisii albertisii

**CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae**

Greater Black [Ivory-billed] Coucal  
Centropus menbeki menbeki  
NG

Lesser Black [Black-billed] Coucal  
Centropus bernsteini  
NG

Pheasant Coucal  
Centropus phasianus propinquus

Biak Coucal  
Centropus chalybeus  
WP

Dwarf Koel  
Microdynamis parva griscens  
NG

Channel-billed Cuckoo  
Scythrops novaehollandiae novaehollandiae  
Heard only

Long-billed Cuckoo  
Chalcites ruficollis  
NG

Rufous-throated Bronze Cuckoo  
Chalcites plagasus  
NG

Shining Bronze Cuckoo  
Chalcites meyerii  
NG

White-eared Bronze Cuckoo  
Chalcites minutilus poecilurus

Little Bronze Cuckoo  
Caliechthrus leucopholus  
NG

White-crowned Cuckoo  
Cacomantis castaneiventris arfakianus

Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo  
Cacomantis flabelliformis excitus  
Heard only

Fan-tailed Cuckoo  
Cacomantis variolosus infaustus

Brush Cuckoo  
Cacomantis flabelliformis excitus

**STRIGIFORMES: Tytonidae**

Sooty Owl  
Tyto tenebricosa arkafi  
Heard only

**STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae**

Biak Scops Owl  
Otus beccarri  
WP

Papuan Boobook  
Ninox theomacha  
NG

Papuan Hawk-Owl  
Uroglaux dimorpha  
NG

**CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Podargidae**

Marbled Frogmouth  
Podargus ocellatus ocellatus
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>CAPRIMULGIFORMES:</strong> Caprimulgidae</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Papuan Frogmouth</strong></td>
<td><em>Podargus papuensis papuensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Archbold's Nightjar</strong></td>
<td><em>Eurostopodus archboldi</em></td>
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<td><strong>Large-tailed Nightjar</strong></td>
<td><em>Caprimulgus macrurus schlegali</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>APODIFORMES:</strong> Aegotheilidae</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mountain Owlet-Nightjar</strong></td>
<td><em>Aegotheles albertisi albertisi</em></td>
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<td><strong>APODIFORMES:</strong> Hemiprocnidae</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Moustached Treeswift</strong></td>
<td><em>Hemiprocne mystacea mystacea</em></td>
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<td><strong>APODIFORMES:</strong> Apodidae</td>
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<td><strong>Glossy Swiftlet</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Uniform Swiftlet</strong></td>
<td><em>Aerodramus vanikorensis waigeuensis</em></td>
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<td><strong>Papuan Spinetailed Swift</strong></td>
<td><em>Mearnsia novaeguineae buergersi</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CORACIIFORMES:</strong> Coraciidae</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oriental Dollarbird</strong></td>
<td><em>Eurystomus orientalis waigiouensis</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CORACIIFORMES:</strong> Alcedinidae</td>
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<td><strong>Hook-billed Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><em>Melidora macrorrhina jobiensis</em></td>
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<td><strong>Common Paradise-Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><em>Tanysiptera galatea galatea</em></td>
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<td><strong>Biak Paradise-Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><em>Tanysiptera [galatea] riedelii</em></td>
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<td><strong>Rufous-bellied Kookaburra</strong></td>
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<td><em>Syma megahyncha megahyncha</em></td>
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<td><strong>Papuan Dwarf Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><em>Ceyx [lepidus] solitarius</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Azure Kingfisher</strong></td>
<td><em>Ceyx azurea lessonii</em></td>
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<td><strong>Blue-tailed Bee-eater</strong></td>
<td><em>Merops philippinus salvadorii</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rainbow Bee-eater</strong></td>
<td><em>Merops ornatus</em></td>
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<td><strong>BUCEROTIFORMES:</strong> Bucerotidae</td>
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<td><strong>Blyth's Hornbill</strong></td>
<td><em>Aceros plicatus ruficollis</em></td>
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<td><strong>Brown Falcon</strong></td>
<td><em>Falco berigora novaeguineae</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PSITTACIFORMES:</strong> Cacatuidae</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Palm Cockatoo</strong></td>
<td><em>Probosciger aterrimus goliath</em></td>
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<td><strong>Sulphur-crested Cockatoo</strong></td>
<td><em>Cacatua galerita triton</em></td>
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<td><strong>PSITTACIFORMES:</strong> Psittacidae</td>
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<td><strong>Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrot</strong></td>
<td><em>Micropsitta keiensis chloroxantha</em></td>
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<td><strong>Geelvink Pygmy Parrot</strong></td>
<td><em>Micropsitta geelvinkiana misoriensis</em></td>
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<td><strong>Buff-faced Pygmy Parrot</strong></td>
<td><em>Micropsitta pusio beccarii</em></td>
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<td><strong>Red-breasted Pygmy Parrot</strong></td>
<td><em>Micropsitta bruijnii bruijnii</em></td>
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<td><strong>Black-winged Lory</strong></td>
<td><em>Eos cyanogenia</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dusky Lory</strong></td>
<td><em>Pseudeos fuscatus</em></td>
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<td><strong>Coconut [Rainbow] Lorikeet</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Blak Lorikeet</strong></td>
<td><em>Trichoglossus rosenbergii</em></td>
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<td><strong>Red-fronted Lorikeet</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Red-flanked Lorikeet</strong></td>
<td><em>Charmosyna placens ornata</em></td>
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<td>Species</td>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Fairy Lorikeet</td>
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<td>Psitirichus fulgidus</td>
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<td>Double-eyed Fig-Parrot</td>
<td>Cyclopsitta diophthalma diophthalma</td>
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<td>Psittaculiostris salvadorii</td>
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<td>PASSERIFORMES: Pittidae</td>
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<td>PASSERIFORMES: Ptilonorhynchida</td>
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<td>Masked Bowerbird</td>
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<td>PASSERIFORMES: Climacterida</td>
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<td>Emperor Fairywren</td>
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<td>Xanthotis polygramma poikilosternos</td>
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<td>Tawny-breasted Honeyeater</td>
<td>Xanthotis flaviventer fusiventer</td>
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<td>Meyer's Friarbird</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helmeted [New Guinea] Friarbird</td>
<td>Philemon bueroides novaequinae</td>
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<td>Giant Wattled [Macgregor's] Honeyeater</td>
<td>Macgregoria pulchra</td>
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<td>Western Smoky [Arfak] Honeyeater</td>
<td>Melipotes gymnops</td>
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<td>Sooty Honeyeater</td>
<td>Melionyx fuscus occidentalis</td>
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<td>Short-bearded Melidectes</td>
<td>Melionyx nouhuysi</td>
</tr>
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<td>Vogelkop Melidectes</td>
<td>Melidectes leucostephes</td>
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<td>Melidectes belfordi kinneari</td>
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<td>Common Name</td>
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<td>Meliphaga aruensis sharpei</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Goldenface</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Acanthizidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rusty Mouse-warbler</td>
<td>Crateroscelis murina murina</td>
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<td>Bicolored Mouse-warbler</td>
<td>Crateroscelis murina capitalis</td>
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<td>Mountain Mouse-warbler</td>
<td>Crateroscelis robusta peninsularis</td>
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<td>Pale-billed Scrubwren</td>
<td>Sericornis spliodera ferrugineus</td>
</tr>
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<td>Papuan Scrubwren</td>
<td>Sericornis papuensis buergersi</td>
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<td>Perplexing Scrubwren</td>
<td>Sericornis virgatus imitator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large Scrubwren</td>
<td>Sericornis nouhuysi cantans</td>
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<td>Buff-faced Scrubwren</td>
<td>Sericornis perspicillatus</td>
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<td>Vogelkop Scrubwren</td>
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<td>Sericornis arfakianus</td>
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<td>Gerygone [magnirostris] hypoxantha</td>
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<td>New Guinea Thornbill</td>
<td>Acanthiza murina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Pomatostomidae</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Papuan Babbler</td>
<td>Garritornis isidorei isidorei</td>
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<td>Obscure Berryfecker</td>
<td>Melanocharis arfakiana</td>
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<td>Fan-tailed Berryfecker</td>
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<td>Spectacled [Dwarf] Longbill</td>
<td>Oedistoma iiliolophus affine</td>
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<td>Yellow-bellied Longbill</td>
<td>Toxorhamphus novaeguineae novaeguineae</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Paramytiidae</strong></td>
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<td>Tit Berryfecker</td>
<td>Oreocharis arfaki</td>
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<td>Paramythia olivacea</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Psophodidae</strong></td>
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</tr>
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<td>Spotted Jewel-Babbler</td>
<td>Ptilorrhoa leucosticta centralis</td>
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<td>Blue Jewel-Babbler</td>
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<td>Machaeirirhynchus flaviventer albibrons</td>
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<td><strong>PASSERIFORMES: Artamidae</strong></td>
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<td>White-breasted Woodswallow</td>
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<td>Great Woodswallow</td>
<td>Artamus maximus</td>
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<td>Lowland Peltops</td>
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<td>Mottled Berryhunter</td>
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<td>Boyer's Cuckoooshrike</td>
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<td>White-bellied Cuckoooshrike</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grey-headed Cicadabird</td>
<td>Edolisoma schisticeps schisticeps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Black Cicadabird
Black-bellied Cicadabird
Edolisoma melas melas
Edolisoma montana montana
Edolisoma montana bicinia
Golden Cuckoo-shrike
Campochaera sloetii sloetii
Black-browed Triller
Lalage atrovirens
Biak Triller
Lalage leucoptera

PASSERIFORMES: Neosittidae
Black Sittella
Daphoenositta miranda frontalis

PASSERIFORMES: Oreoicidae
Rufous-naped Bellbird
Aleadyas rufinucha rufinucha

PASSERIFORMES: Pachycephalidae
Black Pitohui
Melanorectes nigrescens nigrescens
Vogelkop Whistler
Pachycephala meyeri
Grey Whistler
Pachycephala simplex griseiceps
Scatter's Whistler
Pachycephala soror soror
Balien Whistler
Pachycephala baim
Lorentz's Whistler
Pachycephala lorentzi
Regent Whistler
Pachycephala schlegelii schlegelii
Rusty Pitohui
Pseudorectes ferrugineus leucomelas
Sooty Shrikethrush
Colluricinclia tenenbrosa
Little Shrike-thrush
Colluricinclia megargyncha affinis
Raja Ampat Pitohui
Pitohui cerviniventris
Hooded Pitohui
Pitohui dichrous

PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae
Brown Oriole
Oriolus szalayi

PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae
Spangled Drongo
Dicrurus bracteatus carbonarius

PASSERIFORMES: Rhipiduridae
Willie Wagtail
Rhipidura levicollis valida
Northern Fantail
Rhipidura rufiventris gularis
Sooty Thicket Fantail
Rhipidura therothorax therothorax
White-bellied Thicket Fantail
Rhipidura leucothorax leucothorax
Black Fantail
Rhipidura atrax atrax
Friendly Fantail
Rhipidura albolimbata albolimbata
Dimorphic Fantail
Rhipidura brachyrhyncha brachyrhyncha
Rufous-backed Fantail
Rhipidura rufidorsa rufidorsa

PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae
Fantailed (Black) Monarch
Symposiachrus axillaris axillaris
Spot-winged Monarch
Symposiachrus guttula
Biak Monarch
Symposiachrus brehmii
Golden Monarch
Carterornis chrysomela melanomelas
Ochre-collared Monarch
Arses insularis
Frilled Monarch
Arses telescopthalmus batantae
Biak Black Flycatcher
Myiagra atrax
Shining Flycatcher
Myiagra alecto chalybeocephala

PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae
Brown-headed Crow
Corvus fuscicapillus fuscicapillus
Grey Crow
Corvus tristis
Torresian Crow
Corvus orru orru

PASSERIFORMES: Melampittidae
Lesser Melampitta
Melampitta lugubris rostrata

PASSERIFORMES: Paradisaeidae
Glossy-mantled Manucode
Manucodia ater
Jobi Manucode
Manucodia jobiensis
Long-tailed Paradigalla
Paradigalla carunculata carunculata
Splendid Astrapia
Astrapia splendidissima
Western Parotia - Parotia sefilata
Superb Bird-of-Paradise - Lophorina superba superba
Magnificent Riflebird - Ptiloris magnificus
Black Sicklebill - Epimachus fastuosus fastosus
Brown Sicklebill - Epimachus meyeri albicans
Black-billed Sicklebill - Drepanornis alberris
Pale-billed Sicklebill - Drepanornis bruijini
Magnificent Bird-of-Paradise - Diphyllodes magnificus magnificus
Wilson's Bird-of-Paradise - Diphyllodes repusicia
King Bird-of-Paradise - Cicinnurus regius coccineifrons
Twelve-wired Bird-of-Paradise - Seleucis melanolouca
Lesser Bird-of-Paradise - Paradisaea minor
Red Bird-of-Paradise - Paradisaea rubra

PASSERIFORMES: Petroicidae
Ashy Robin - Heteromyias albispecularis albispecularis
Black-chinned Robin - Heteromyias brachyurus brachyurus
Black-sided Robin - Poecilodryas hypoleuca steini
Black-throated Robin - Poecilodryas albonotata griseiventris
White-winged Robin - Peneothello sigilatus quadrimaculata
Blue-grey (Slaty) Robin - Peneothello cyanus cyanus
Green-backed Robin - Pachypelephopsis hattamensis hattamensis
Torrent Flyrobin - Monachella muelleriana muelleriana
Papuan (Canary) Flyrobin - Devioeca papuana
Garnet Robin - Eugerygone rubra rubra
Subalpine (Mountain) Robin - Petroica bivittata caudata
Greater Ground Robin - Amalocichla sclateriana occidentalis
Lesser Ground Robin - Amalocichla incerta olivaventor

PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae
Sooty-headed Bulbul - Pycnonotus aurigaster

PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae
Pacific Swallow - Hirundo tahitica
Tree Martin - Petrochelidon nigricans

PASSERIFORMES: Phylloscopidae
Island Leaf Warbler - Phylloscopus poliocephalus poliocephalus
Biak' Leaf Warbler - Phylloscopus poliocephalus giulianettii

PASSERIFORMES: Locustellidae
Papuan Grassbird - Megalurus macrurus alpinus

PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae
Golden-headed Cisticola - Cisticola exilis diminutus

PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae
Black-fronted White-eye - Zosterops atrifrons chrystolaeus
Biak White-eye - Zosterops mysorensis
Capped White-eye - Zosterops fuscicapilla fuscicapilla
New Guinea (Papuan) White-eye - Zosterops novaeguineae novaeguineae

PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae
Metallic Starling - Aplonis metallica metallica
Singing Starling - Aplonis cantoroides
Long-tailed Starling - Aplonis magna magna
Yellow-faced Myna - Mino dumontii

PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae
Island Thrush - Turdus poliocephalus versteegi

PASSERIFORMES: Tmuscicapidae
Pied Bushchat - Saxicola caprata belensis

PASSERIFORMES: Dicaeidae
Olive-crowned Flowerpecker - Dicaeum pectorale pectorale
Red-capped Flowerpecker - Dicaeum geelvinkianum misoriense

PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae
Black Sunbird
Leptocoma sericea cochrani
Leptocoma sericea sericea
Leptocoma sericea mysorensis

Olive-backed Sunbird
Cinnyris jugularis frenatus
Cinnyris jugularis idenburgi

**PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae**
Eurasian Tree Sparrow
*Passer montanus*

**PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae**
Mountain Firetail
*Oreostruthus fuliginosus pallidus*

Crimson Finch
*Neochmia phaetonevangelinae*

Blue-faced Parrotfinch
*Erythrura trichroa sigillifer*

Streak-headed Mannikin
*Lonchura tristissima tristissima*

Grand [Great-billed] Mannikin
*Lonchura grandis destructa*

Hooded Mannikin
*Lonchura spectabilis mayri*

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin
*Lonchura castaneothorax sharpii*

Black-breasted Mannikin
*Lonchura teerinki*

Western Alpine [Snow Mountain] Mannikin
*Lonchura montana*

**PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae**
Alpine Pipit
*Anthus gutturalis wollastoni*

**MAMMALS**
Speckled Dasyure
*Neophascogale lorentzi*

Waigeo Spotted Cuscus
*Spilocuscus papuensis*

Polynesian Rat
*Rattus exulans*

Mottled-tailed Giant Rat
*Uromys caudimaculatus*

Spectacled Flying-fox
*Pteropus conspicillatus*

Geelvink Bay Flying Fox
*Pteropus pohlei*

Biak Bare-backed Fruit Bat
*Dobsonia emersa*

Raffray’s Sheath-tailed Bat
*Emballonura raffrayana*

Diadem Leaf-nosed Bat
*Hipposideros diadema*

Rusa
*Cervus timorensis*

**Endemics**
NG = New Guinea Endemic
WP = West Papua Endemic
Int = Introduced / non-native Species
Heard = Species heard only
[Heard] = Subspecies heard only

Stunning scenery in the Snow Mountains with Mount Trikora and its endemic Snow Mountain Robin teasing us in the distance!