

Birding Andaman Islands

February 2018



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South Andaman Island, February 12th-17th 2018

Front cover

Asian Fairy-bluebird, *Irena puella andamanica*. Delightfully numerous. MG.

Participants

Måns Grundsten mans.grundsten@gmail.com (compiler and photos), Ola Sångberg (photos) from Sweden. More pictures from the trip can be found on Ola's page: http://www.pbase.com/olasan/andaman_island

Highlights

- Flock of wintering Grey-headed Lapwings from our hotel balcony at White Coral.
- Full day birding and hiking Mt Harriet – introduction to endemics.
- Perched Andaman Wood Pigeon at Chiriya Tapu Biological Park.
- Rewarding owling at Chiriya Tapu.
- Andaman Crane at Kalatang.
- Waders and Andaman Teals at Ograbraij.
- Siberian winter-guests: e.g. Daurian Starling, Arctic Warbler, Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler.
- Beach Stone-curlew at a remote breeding site.
- Ruddy Kingfisher in extensive mangroves at Shoal Bay.
- Slaty-breasted Rail foraging in a small pond.
- Impressive Andaman Woodpeckers.
- Finding a vagrant Amur Paradise Flycatcher at Kalatang. AFAWK first documented record in Andaman Islands (and India?), see short report in coming BirdingASIA.

General birding and strategy

South Andaman Island is a fantastic destination not only for birding but for tropical sceneries. Large tracts of the islands are unexploited, forested and few foreign tourists have come this far (yet). At arrival at Port Blair you're kindly asked to fill in some papers and you get a special permit and a stamp in your passport, this is only necessary for foreign visitors. There are currently 20 accepted endemics found on South Andaman Island, add to that off limit Narcondam Hornbill on isolated Narcondam Island and another 9 endemics on Nicobar Islands. Nicobar Islands are still only open for Indian visitors (however that might change in the (near?) future).

Of the 20 Andaman endemics all are found around Port Blair. And could possibly be found on only 1-2 days if you're lucky. Most groups go for three days. Beside the endemics there are a load of other endemic taxa, interesting winter guests from the north and home to a few other specialities (especially from an Indian point of view, such as Beach Stone-curlew). There is a remote touch to the islands and many birds have their only occurrence in India here.

Historically most birders went to Mt Harriet and maybe also Chiriya Tapu to see the endemics. Today some newer sites have become popular, such as Kalatang where many endemics are much easier. Of nightbirds, Andaman Masked Owl (by some considered dubious taxonomically, because of its close resemblance to regular Barn Owls) is the tricky one. We visited a known site close to Port Blair at a school, but drew blank on four(!) tries. The rest of the nightbirds are surprisingly easy around Chiriya Tapu. Andaman Scops Owl maybe a bit more difficult.

We're entirely happy with our outcome and setup. I don't think we would have birded any different in retrospect. Beside seeing the endemics we spend a lot of time searching waders and northern winter-guests.

Logistics

General

There would be quite easy to see all endemics independently. However a few birds still need local expertise. We chose a mixed set-up. Doing birding on our own on our first and last half-days and also a full-day visit to Mt Harriet. And we hired a local guide for three full-days including transport and nightbirding. On recommendation from British birder Ian Merrill we contacted Jijo Mathew, he was not available but helped us get in contact with Sabu Kinattukara of Nest India Birding Tours who booked us for three days with guide Dhanesh Thankachan.

Jijo: indiaowls@yahoo.co.uk, Sabu: sabupost@gmail.com, +919526833322 WhatsApp
 Dhanesh: danishnature@rediffmail.com, +919061693349 WhatsApp

Accommodation

White Coral, close to Sippighat. 284 USD, Double room, 5 nights. Via booking.com. Maybe possible to get in direct contact with the hotel (for a better price?). <http://www.thewhitecoral.com>, thewhitecoral@gmail.com. Mobile: +919647542277. The birding was great just outside the hotel. The room was clean, staff friendly and helpful. The restaurant was excellent with the chef preparing different dishes each night. We had almost all lunches and dinners here. The wifi was extremely slow, and only one of us was able to connect at all, albeit sporadically.

Weather & timing

We had a few hours of rain on our day at Mt Harriet. Otherwise completely fine with mostly blue skies and not particularly windy. It was mostly pleasant temperatures, seldom hot. The best time to visit the Andamans would be during the northern winter maybe between November and March.

Literature & Internet

- Birds of South Asia: The Ripley Guide, Rasmussen PC, Anderton JC. First edition. 2005.
- A Birdwatchers' Guide to India, Kazmierczak K, Singh R. 1998.
- Trip-reports from www.cloudbirders.com (Campbell 2016, Collaerts 2015, Cox 2014, Hopkins 2013, Weiss Pryde 2011, Lister 2010, Rheindt 2007, Hornbuckle 2007, Woodward 2004, Babic 2004)
- Ebird.org (hotspots and species maps)

Itinerary

- 12.2 Arrived Port Blair with IndiGo from Kolkata and Delhi at 10.30 AM. Took a cab to our hotel **White Coral** just S of Sippighat. Walked to **Sippighat** and birded there from 15.00-18.00.
- 13.2 Left White Coral 04.30 with a cab. Drove 70 min to base of Mt Harriet. Birded all day at **Mt Harriet**, it rained for 1,5-2 h in the afternoon. Walked to Bamboo Flat and took the shuttle ferry to Chatam Jetty at Port Blair. Took an auto-rickshaw back to White Coral.
- 14.2 Pick-up at White Coral 04.40. Birded all morning along road to **Chiriya Tapu**. Then further at Chiriya Tapu Biological Park. Lunch break at White Coral 13-15. Afternoon at mudflats and marsh **N of Sippighat** 15.20-16.45. Evening back at **Chiriya Tapu** and owling until 21.15.
- 15.2 Pick-up at 04.45. Drove to Chatam Jetty, ferry to Bamboo Flat, transport to **Kalatang**. All morning here. Via **Jirgatang** to **Ograbraij** wetlands. Lunch break at White Coral 14-15.30. Late afternoon around **Sippighat**.
- 16.2 Pick-up at 04.00, another negative try for Andaman Masked Owl. Ferry to Bamboo Flat. Birding **Bimberiganj** then on to **Kalatang**. Drove further north to where road ends at **Shoal Bay**. Birded extensive mangrove here. Lunch break at White Coral 11.30-13.30. Drove to **Dera Beach**. Late afternoon at **Ograbraij** wetlands.
- 17.2 Two morning hours birding around **White Coral** before transport to Airport and flight via Kolkata to Delhi.



Beach Stone-curlew, Dera Beach. MG.



Andaman Cuckooshrike, Kalatang. MG.

Maps



Map 1. South Andaman Island birding sites (Note: Tilted map).



Map 2. White Coral (SW of Sippighat).



Map 3. Sippighat Temple area.



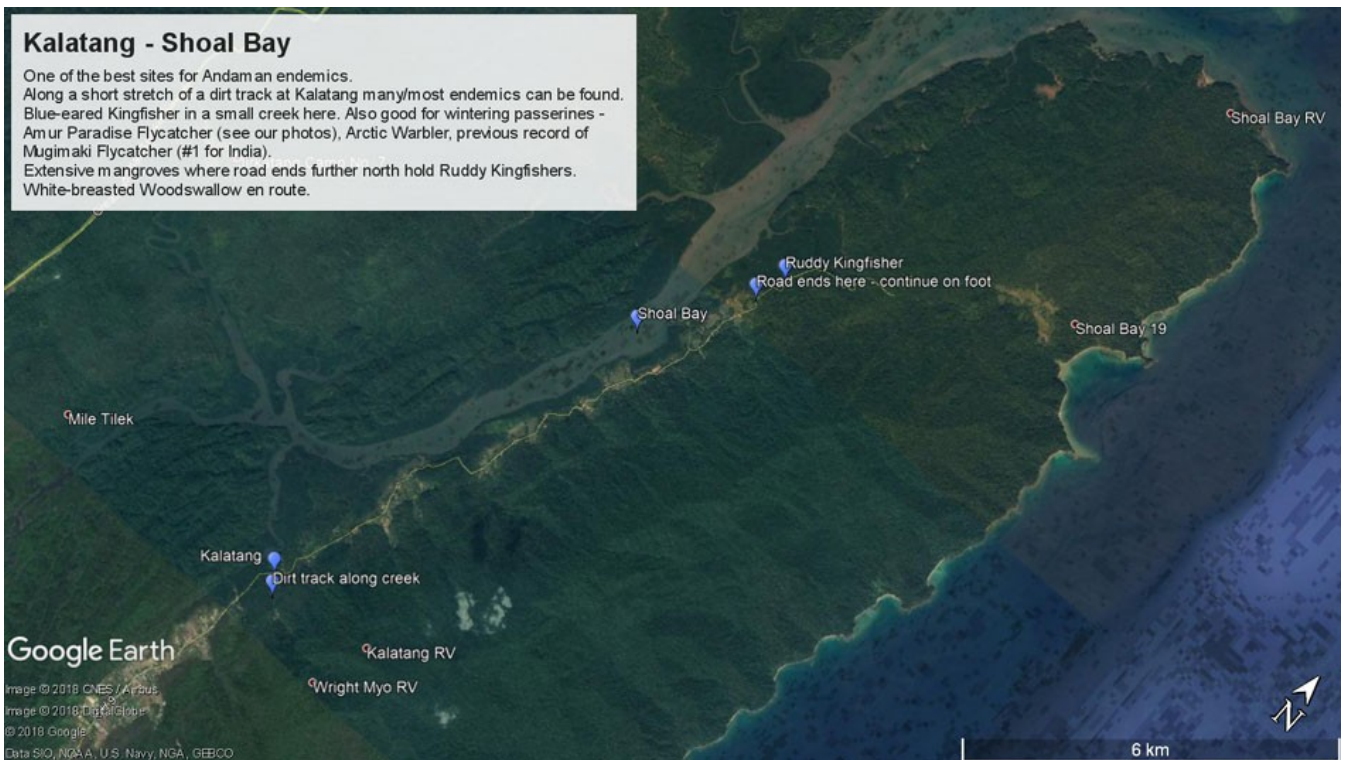
Map 4. Mudflats and marsh NE of Sippighat.



Map 5. Ograbraj wetlands.



Map 6. Bimberiganj, N of Bamboo Flat.



Map 7. Kalatang and Shoal Bay.



Map 8. Dera Beach, site for Beach Stone-curlew.



Map 9. Some nightbirds at Chiriya Tapu.



Hume's Hawk-Owl, Chiriya Tapu. MG.



Andaman Hawk-Owl, Chiriya Tapu. MG.



Oriental Scops Owl, Chiriya Tapu. MG.



Andaman Nightjar, Chiriya Tapu. MG.

List of birds: South Andaman Island, February 12th-17th 2018

Following IOC World Bird List 8.1 (January 2018) (www.worldbirdnames.org). In total: 136 species (1 heard only), 19 endemics, 11 species on The IUCN Red List for Threatened Species (2014.3). Subspecies notations are foremost literature-based.

- 1 **Lesser Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna javanica*
100+ Sippighat (12/2), 15 Sippighat (14/2), 200+ Sippighat (15/2).
- 2 **Cotton Pygmy Goose** *Nettapus coromandelianus coromandelianus*
c.40 Sippighat (12-16/2).
- 3 **Andaman Teal** *Anas albogularis* **VU Endemic**
1 Sippighat (12/2), 200+ Ograbraij (15/2), 50+ Sippighat (15/2), 800+ Ograbraij (16/2).
- 4 **Yellow Bittern** *Ixobrychus sinensis*
3-5+ seen on 5 days, in most wetlands, max 12 birds on one day (14/2).
- 5 **Cinnamon Bittern** *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*
Singles on 4 days. Less showy than previous species.
- 6 **Striated Heron** *Butorides striata spodiogaster*
2-6 seen on 4 days. Nice slaty colouration.
- 7 **Indian Pond Heron** *Ardeola grayii*
Seen on 4 days. Max 8 (16/2). See next species.
- 8 **Chinese Pond Heron** *Ardeola bacchus*
1 N Sippighat (14/2). Winter guest to the Andaman Islands, hard to separate from previous species.
- 9 **Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*
Seen in good numbers on 5 days.
- 10 **Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea cinerea*
3 Ograbraij (15/2).
- 11 **Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea manilensis*
1 Bimberiganj (16/2).
- 12 **Great Egret** *Ardea alba*
Seen in good numbers on 5 days.
- 13 **Intermediate Egret** *Ardea intermedia intermedia*
Seen in good numbers on 4 days.
- 14 **Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta garzetta*
Seen in good numbers on 4 days.
- 15 **Pacific Reef Heron** *Egretta sacra sacra*
2 Bamboo Flat (13/2), 5 different birds Chiriya Tapu (14/2).
- 16 **Chinese Egret** *Egretta eulophotes* **VU**
1 N Sippighat (14/2), 1 Sippighat (13/2). This mudflat specialist has just recently been found to winter on the Andamans.
- 17 **Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela davisoni*
Heard on 4 days. Eventually 1 seen Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 18 **Andaman Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis elgini* **VU Endemic**
1+1 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 19 **Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus citthatatus andamanensis*
1 Sippighat (12/2).
- 20 **Besra** *Accipiter virgatus abdulai*
1 male Mt Harriet (13/2).
- 21 **Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus indus*
1 juv Sippighat (12/2), 1 ad White Coral (14/2).
- 22 **White-bellied Sea Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*
Seen daily. Max 6 (16/2).
- 23 **Andaman Crane** *Rallina canningi* **Endemic**
2 heard Mt Harriet (13/2), 4 heard Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 2 seen + 3 heard Kalatang (15/2), 1 heard Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 24 **Slaty-breasted Rail** *Gallirallus striatus obscurior*
1 Bimberiganj (16/2), 2 heard White Coral (17/2).
- 25 **White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis phoenicurus insularis*
Seen on 5 days.
- 26 **Ruddy-breasted Crane** *Porzana fusca fusca*

- 1 Ograbraij (16/2).
- 27 **Watercock** *Gallicrex cinerea*
Max 5 White Coral (12-17/2), 1 Ograbraij (16/2), 1 Sippighat (16/2).
- 28 **Grey-headed Swampphen** *Porphyrio poliocephalus poliocephalus*
Max 30 Sippighat (14-17/2).
- 29 **Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus orientalis*
100+ Sippighat (12-17/2).
- 30 **Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra atra*
4 Sippighat (12/2), 1 Ograbraij (15/2), 1 Sippighat (15/2).
- 31 **Beach Stone-curlew** *Esacus magnirostris* **NT**
1 pair Dera Beach (16/2).
- 32 **Grey-headed Lapwing** *Vanellus cinereus*
7 White Coral (12&14/2), 1 White Coral (15/2), 1 Bimberiganj (16/2).
- 33 **Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*
Seen in good numbers at all mudflats and wetland-areas.
- 34 **Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius jerdoni*
1 Sippighat (12/2), 2 N Ograbraij (16/2).
- 35 **Lesser Sand Plover** *Charadrius mongolus*
100+ Sippighat (14/2), 30+ Sippighat (15/2), 5 Dera Beach (16/2).
- 36 **Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii*
2 Dera Beach (16/2).
- 37 **Pheasant-tailed Jacana** *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*
3 Sippighat (14/2), 3 Ograbraij (15/2).
- 38 **Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*
Singles daily at most coastal sites.
- 39 **Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata* **NT**
8 Sippighat (12/2), 5 Sippighat (14/2), 2 Sippighat (15/2).
- 40 **Ruff** *Calidris pugnax*
1 N Ograbraij (16/2).
- 41 **Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*
5 N Ograbraij (16/2).
- 42 **Long-toed Stint** *Calidris subminuta*
3 White Coral (12/2), 8 Sippighat (14/2), 25 N Ograbraij (15/2), 400+ N Ograbraij (16/2).
- 43 **Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis*
10 N Ograbraij (15/2), 300+ N Ograbraij (16/2).
- 44 **Pin-tailed Snipe** *Gallinago stenura*
Seen on 5 days. Max 15 White Coral.
- 45 **Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*
Seen on 3 days, less numerous than previous species.
- 46 **Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*
Seen daily.
- 47 **Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus*
Seen on 4 days.
- 48 **Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*
Max N Ograbraij (15-16/2).
- 49 **Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*
Seen on 4 days.
- 50 **Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*
Seen on 3 days.
- 51 **Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons sinensis*
1 N Ograbraij (15-16/2).
- 52 **Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida hybrida*
3 N Ograbraij (15-16/2).
- 53 **Rock Dove** *Columba livia (domestica)*
Seen daily.
- 54 **Andaman Wood Pigeon** *Columba palumboides* **NT Endemic**
1 Chiriya Tapu Biological Park (14/2). One of the hardest endemics. Also possible along road to Chiriya Tapu and at Kalatang. More difficult at Mt Harriet.
- 55 **Red Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia tranquebarica*

Seen daily.

- 56 Andaman Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia rufipennis andamanica* Endemic
1 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 2 pairs Kalatang (16/2).
- 57 Common Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica maxima*
1 pair Chiriya Tapu Biological Park (14/2), 1 Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 58 Andaman Green Pigeon** *Treron chloropterus* NT Endemic
50+ Mt Harriet (13/2), 5 Chiriya Tapu (14/2).
- 59 Green Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula aenea andamanica*
50+ Mt Harriet (13/2), 25 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 4 Kalatang (15/2), 5 Kalatang (16/2).
- 60 Andaman Coucal** *Centropus anadamanensis* Endemic
Seen daily. Max 5 Mt Harriet (13/2).
- 61 Asian Koel** *Eudynamys scolopaceus*
Heard on 3 days. 1 ad + 1 juv seen Chiriya Tapu (14/2).
- 62 Violet Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*
Heard on 3 days. 1 juv seen being fed by pair of Olive-backed Sunbirds, Kalatang (16/2).
- 63 Indian Cuckoo** *Cuculus micropterus* HO
Heard on 4 days.
- 64 Andaman Scops Owl** *Otus balli* Endemic
1 seen briefly and 3 heard Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 2 seen daytime Jirgatang (15/2) at location staked-out by Danish.
- 65 Oriental Scops Owl** *Otus sunia modestus*
3 heard White Coral (12/2), 1 seen and 4 heard Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 heard White Coral (16/2).
- 66 Hume's Hawk-Owl** *Ninox obscura* Endemic
3 seen and 1 heard Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 heard White Coral (16/2).
- 67 Andaman Hawk-Owl** *Ninox affinis* Endemic
2 seen Chiriya Tapu (14/2).
- 68 Andaman Nightjar** *Caprimulgus andamanicus* Endemic
2 seen Chiriya Tapu (14/2).
- 69 Plume-toed Swiftlet** *Collocalia affinis affinis*
Seen daily in good numbers.
- 70 Edible-nest Swiftlet** *Aerodramus fuciphagus inexpectatus*
Seen daily in fewer numbers than previous species.
- 71 Brown-backed Needletail** *Hirundapus giganteus indicus*
8 Mt Harriet (13/2).
- 72 Oriental Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis gigas*
2 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 2 Kalatang (15/2).
- 73 Stork-billed Kingfisher** *Pelargopsis capensis osmanstoni*
1 Sippighat (12/2), 1 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 3 Sippighat (15/2), 1 Kalatang (16/2).
- 74 Ruddy Kingfisher** *Halcyon coromanda mizorhina*
1 seen and 2 heard Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 75 White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis saturator*
Seen daily in good numbers.
- 76 Collared Kingfisher** *Todiramphus chloris davisoni*
Singles seen on 4 days.
- 77 Blue-eared Kingfisher** *Alcedo meninting rufigastra*
1 Kalatang (15-16/2).
- 78 Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*
Singles seen on 4 days.
- 79 Blue-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops philippinus*
5 White Coral (12/2), 15 Sippighat (15/2), 1 Sippighat (16/2).
- 80 Chestnut-headed Bee-eater** *Merops leschenaulti andamanensis*
10 Kalatang-Ograbraij (15/2), 6 Dera Beach-Ograbraij (16/2).
- 81 Freckle-breasted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos analis andamanensis*
3 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 3 Kalatang (15/2), 2 Kalatang (16/2).
- 82 Andaman Woodpecker** *Dryocopus hodgei* VU Endemic
1 heard Mt Harriet (13/2), 1 pair Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 2 Kalatang (15/2), 1 Kalatang (16/2), 1 Shoal Bay (17/2).
- 83 Red-breasted Parakeet** *Psittacula alexandri abbotti*
5 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 2 Kalatang (15/2).

- 84 **Long-tailed Parakeet** *Psittacula longicauda tytleri* **NT**
3 Kalatang (15/2), 2 Kalatang (16/2).
- 85 **Alexandrine Parakeet** *Psittacula eupatria magnirostris*
2 Sippighat (12/2), 2 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 Dera Beach-Ograbraij (16/2), 1 White Coral (17/2).
- 86 **Vernal Hanging Parrot** *Loriculus vernalis vernalis*
7 Mt Harriet (13/2), 3 Chiriya Tapu Biological Park (14/2), 2 Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 87 **White-breasted Woodswallow** *Artamus leucorhynchus humei*
1 N Kalatang (16/2).
- 88 **Large Cuckooshrike** *Coracina macei andamana*
5 Mt Harriet (13/2), 2 Kalatang (15/2), 1 Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 89 **Andaman Cuckooshrike** *Coracina dobsoni* **NT Endemic**
1 Mt Harriet (13/2), 1 Kalatang (15/2), 2 Kalatang (16/2).
- 90 **Small Minivet** *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus vividus*
15 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 5 Kalatang (15-16/2).
- 91 **Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus speciosus andamanensis*
Seen on 4 days.
- 92 **Mangrove Whistler** *Pachycephala cinerea cinerea*
2 Ograbraij-Sippighat (15/2), 1 Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 93 **Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*
Up to 10 daily. Mostly grey-headed ssp. *lucionensis* but also a few brown-fronted ssp. *cristatus*.
- 94 **Indian Golden Oriole** *Oriolus kundoo*
1 imm N Kalatang (16/2).
- 95 **Black-naped Oriole** *Oriolus chinensis andamanensis*
Seen on 4 days.
- 96 **Black Drongo** *Dicrurus macrocercus*
1 N Sippighat (14/2), 1 N Kalatang (16/2).
- 97 **Andaman Drongo** *Dicrurus andamanensis andamanensis* **Endemic**
Seen on 4 days, max 8 Mt Harriet (13/2).
- 98 **Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus paradiseus otiosus*
Seen on 5 days, max 10 Mt Harriet (13/2).
- 99 **Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea tytleri*
Seen on 4 days. Max 5 Chiriya Tapu (14/2).
- 100 **Amur Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone incei*
1 Kalatang (15/2)
- 101 **Andaman Treepie** *Dendrocitta bayleii* **VU Endemic**
3 Mt Harriet (13/2), 2 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 5 Kalatang (15/2), 2 Kalatang (16/2).
- 102 **House Crow** *Corvus splendens*
Seen daily.
- 103 **Eastern Jungle Crow** *Corvus leuallantii*
Seen daily.
- 104 **Andaman Bulbul** *Pycnonotus fuscoflavescens* **Endemic**
8 Mt Harriet (13/2), 10 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 3 Kalatang (15/2), 1 Kalatang (16/2).
- 105 **Red-whiskered Bulbul** *Pycnonotus jocosus whistleri*
Commonly seen daily.
- 106 **Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*
Seen daily.
- 107 **Pacific Swallow** *Hirundo tahitica javanica*
Seen on 4 days.
- 108 **Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus fuscatus*
2 Sippighat (12/2), 4 Kalatang-Sippighat (15/2). Mostly in mangrove habitat.
- 109 **Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*
1 Mt Harriet (13/2), 3 Chiriya Tapu (14/2).
- 110 **Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis borealis*
1 Kalatang (15/2).
- 111 **Oriental Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus orientalis*
1 N Sippighat (14/2), 3 Bimberiganj (16/2), 1 White Coral (17/2).
- 112 **Clamorous Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus stentoreus*
1-2 White Coral (17/2).
- 113 **Black-browed Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*

- 4 N Ograbraij (15-16/2).
- 114 Thick-billed Warbler** *Arundinax aedon aedon*
1 Mt Harriet (13/2).
- 115 Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella certhiola*
1 N Sippighat (14/2), 1 SE Sippighat (15/2).
- 116 Oriental White-eye** *Zosterops palpebrosus nicobaricus*
6 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 2 Kalatang (15/2).
- 117 Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella andamanica*
25+ Mt Harriet (13/2), 2 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 3 Kalatang-Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 118 Asian Glossy Starling** *Aplonis panayensis tytleri*
Seen in good numbers daily.
- 119 Common Hill Myna** *Gracula religiosa andamanensis*
6 Mt Harriet (13/2), 2 Kalatang (15/2).
- 120 Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*
Seen daily.
- 121 Daurian Starling** *Agropsar sturninus*
50+ N Sippighat (14/2).
- 122 White-headed Starling** *Sturnia erythropygia andamanensis* **Endemic**
10 Mt Harriet (13/2), 20 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 Kalatang (15/2), 1 Kalatang (16/2).
- 123 Orange-headed Thrush** *Geokichla citrina andamanensis*
2 Sippighat (12/2).
- 124 Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis andamanensis*
Singles seen on 5 days.
- 125 Andaman Shama** *Copsychus albiventris* **Endemic**
1 male Mt Harriet (13/2), 1 male Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 male Shoal Bay (16/2).
- 126 Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica*
2 Mt Harriet (13/2), 3 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 Kalatang (16/2).
- 127 Taiga Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicilla*
1 Sippighat (12/2).
- 128 Andaman Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum virescens* **Endemic**
15+ mostly around mistletoes at Mt Harriet (13/2), 2 Chiriya Tapu (14/2), 1 Kalatang (15/2), 1 Kalatang (16/2).
- 129 Olive-backed Sunbird** *Cinnyris jugularis andamanicus*
Seen daily.
- 130 House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*
Seen daily.
- 131 White-rumped Munia** *Lonchura striata fumigata*
1 White Coral (12/2), 10+5 Ograbraij-Sippighat (15/2).
- 132 Forest Wagtail** *Dendronanthus indicus*
1 trail to Mt Carpenter, Mt Harriet (13/2).
- 133 Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava thunbergi*
Seen on 5 days. Dark-headed birds.
- 134 Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutschensis tschutschensis*
Seen on 5 days. Birds with long white supercilium. More abundant than previous taxa.
- 135 Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea cinerea*
Three singles seen.
- 136 Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi*
3 White Coral (17/2).
- 137 Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*
8 N Sippighat (14/2), 2 Sippighat (15/2), 1 Ograbraij (16/2).

Comments on some other birds NOT seen

<i>Black Baza</i>	Resident. Sometimes seen at Chiriya Tapu or Kalatang.
<i>Nicobar Pigeon</i>	Resident on Little Andaman Is.
<i>Pied Imperial Pigeon</i>	Resident on smaller islands.
<i>Andaman Masked Owl</i>	Regular site at school in Port Blair outskirts empty on several attempts.
<i>Pale-footed Bush Warbler</i>	Claims, however no well documented modern record.

Additional record shots



Andaman Teals, Sippighat. MG.



Amur Paradise Flycatcher, Kalatang. First documented record in Andaman Islands. MG.



White-headed Starling, Chiriya Tapu Biological Park. OS.



Ruddy Kingfisher, Shoal Bay. MG.



Andaman Scops Owl, day-roost, Jirгатang. MG.



Andaman Cuckoo-Dove, Kalatang. One of the more scarce endemics. MG.



Chinese Pond Heron, left (OS). Dusky tips to primaries. Pointed wing. Indian Pond Heron, right (MG). White wing tips. Rounded wing.



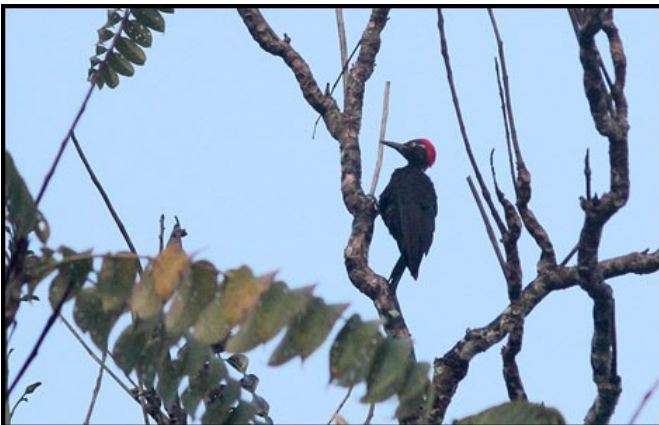
Slaty-breasted Rail, Bimberiganj. OS.



Clamorous Reed Warbler, White Coral. Note short primary projection and long pointed bill. MG.



Oriental Reed Warbler, NE Sippighat. Shorter bill. Longer primary projection. MG.



Andaman Woodpecker, Chiriya Tapu. MG.



Arctic Warbler, Kalatang. MG.



Besra, Mt Harriet. MG.



Grey-headed Lapwing, White Coral. MG.



Andaman Serpent Eagle, Chiriya Tapu. OS.



Andaman Treepie, Kalatang. OS.



Andaman Wood Pigeon, Chiriya Tapu Biological Park. MG.



Brown-backed Needletails, Mt Harriet. OS.



Chinese Egret, just recently found wintering around Port Blair. Tidal mudflats-specialist, dancing and running after fish. MG.



Blue-eared Kingfisher, Kalatang. MG.



Andaman Bulbul, Chiriya Tapu. MG.



Edible-nest Swiftlet, White Coral. OS.



Andaman Shama, Mt Harriet. MG.



White-bellied Sea Eagle, Sippighat. OS.

Additional trip shots



Ola at Sippighat. MG.



Dhanesh at Dera Beach at low tide. MG.



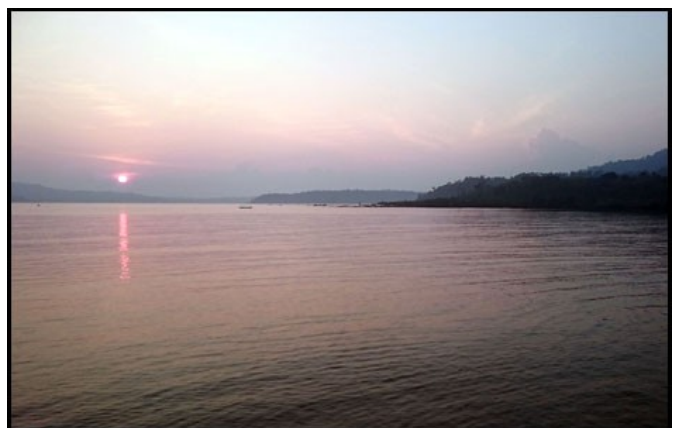
Måns at gate to Mount Harriet National Park. OS.



View from our hotel balcony at White Coral. MG.



Ola at Chiriya Tapu Biological Park. Phone-scoping Andaman Wood Pigeon. MG.



Chiriya Tapu sunset. MG.