



Unique Fishes of Thailand

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Blacktail Angelfish (*Centropyge eibli*)

Gray body and thin orange bars, black tail and rear dorsal fin. Orange ring around eye. Juvenile Indian Mimic Surgeonfish is a mimic.

Up to 4.5". Photo by: Fernando Lison Martin
Aka Eibl's Angelfish in A&E app.



Brown Pygmy Angelfish (*Centropyge multispinis*)

Most common pygmy angel in Andaman Sea region. Dark body with thin black bars. Dark black ear patch. Pectoral fin is clear (not colored like similar Yellowfin Pygmy).

Up to 3.5". Photo by: Paul Humann
Aka Many-spined Angelfish in A&E app
Restricted to Andaman Sea, Indian Ocean, Red Sea.



Andaman Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon andamanensis*)

Bright yellow with thin faint stripes, dark spot at base of tail. Dark eye bar is edged in blue.

Up to 6". Photo by: Frank Bossen
Similar to Bluespot Butterflyfish in CIP, but lacks blue.
Restricted to Andaman Sea.



White Collar Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon collare*)

Dark gray to black with reticulated pattern on side of body. White color around head and red tail. Usually in pairs, in coral rich areas.

Up to 6.25". Photo by: Frank Bossen
Similar to Reticulated Butterfly in CIP/SOP/HAW
Also found in parts of East Indies (incl. western Indo and Philippines)



Black Pyramid Butterflyfish (*Hemitaurichthys zoster*)

Dark body with white pyramid in middle (vs. yellow bodied in regular Pyramid). Forms large aggregations that feed on plankton.

Up to 6.25". Photo by: Paul Humann
Similar to Pyramid Butterfly in CIP/SOP/HAW



Indian Sailfin Tang (*Zebrasoma desjardini*)

Dark gray body with bars along body, yellow spots scattered on head and belly. When dorsal fin is extended, tall sail-like fin has thin lines in arc pattern (vs. criss-cross in Pacific species). Pointed nose.

Up to 16". Photo by: Paul Humann

Similar to Sailfin Tang in CIP/SOP/HAW/TEP

Restricted to Andaman Sea, Indian Ocean, and Red Sea.



Indian Mimic Surgeonfish (*Acanthurus tristis*)

Adult has dark brown body with gray face. Black edge along operculum. White margin on tail. Juvenile can mimic Blacktail Angelfish (or other pygmy angel depending on area); lacks cheek spine.

Up to 10". Photo by: Mark Rosenstein



Powderblue Surgeonfish (*Acanthurus leucosternon*)

Blue body and black head, yellow dorsal fin and spine. Can be found in large foraging groups.

Up to 9". Photo by: Mark Rosenstein



Tennent's Surgeonfish (*Acanthurus tennentii*)

Brownish gray body, pair of black streaks behind eye. Spine is covered in dark splotch ringed in thin blue. White margin on tail.

Up to 12". Photo by: zsispeo/Flickr

Aka Doubleband Surgeonfish in A&E app



Lubbock's Coralblenny (*Ecsenius lubbocki*)

Brownish body with pale stripes. Gold iris and dark margin on gill. Perches on coral and rock.

Up to 1.5". Photo by: Frank Bossen

Restricted to Andaman Sea.



Red Saddleback Anemonefish (*Amphiprion ephippium*)

Red to orangish body with black splotch on back half of body (blotch gets larger with age). No white bar through eye in adult, but present in small juveniles. Typically found in silty bays and protected waters.

Up to 4.75". Photo by: Paul Humann

Restricted to Andaman Sea.



Indian Half-and-Half Chromis (*Chromis fieldi*)

Black front half, white back half. B&W delineation is curved and diffuse. More muted than Pacific or Red Sea species.

Up to 3.5". Photo by: Sally Polack

Aka Twotone Chromis in A&E App.

Similar to Pacific Half-and-Half in CIP/SOP/HAW, but b&w demarcation is less distinct. Picture in book is Red Sea species (*C. dimidiata*).

Restricted to Andaman Sea and Western Java and Bali.



Doublebar Chromis (*Chromis opercularis*)

Dark body with uneven pale markings, and often with yellowish saddle on tail. Black bar on gill cover and second broad dark bar behind head. Classic Chromis body with forked tail. Nuptial color is paler with bright yellow peduncle area and/or tail.

Up to 6.75". Photo by: Rick Stuart-Smith

Similar to Paletail Chromis in CIP/SOP, but lacks white tail.

Andaman Sea, Maldives, Indian Ocean.



Malayan Chromis (*Chromis flavipectoralis*)

Light brown body with orange pectoral fin pit. White on back of body.

Up to 3". Photo by: Frank Bossen

Similar to Ambon Chromis in CIP, but white caudal peduncle, tail, anal.

Andaman Sea, Southwest Indonesia, and Maldives.



Flame Anthias (*Pseudanthias ignitus*)

Orange-yellow body with reddish dorsal fin (with yellow edge at base, vs. blue in Redfin Anthias). Diagonal orange band extending through eye. Red to pink forked tail.

Up to 3". Photo by: Frank Bossen

Similar to Redfin Anthias in CIP/SOP.

Andaman Sea and Maldives.



Yellow-back Anthias (*Pseudanthias evansi*)

Purple body with yellow/orange along back. Yellow speckles on body in Male. Found in large, plankton-feeding schools.

Up to 4". Photo by: Paul Humann

Andaman Sea, Maldives, Indian Ocean.

	<p>Ochreband Wrasse (<i>Leptojulius chrysotaenia</i>) TP has greenish head with angled brown bar on head from eye to mouth. Green to pale yellow body with salmon/brown along back and body bars, sometimes with dark stripe along mid-body.</p>
	<p>Photo by: John Randall</p> <p>IP is pale gray or white with orange/brown mid-body stripe. Both phases have some brownish bars on green head. Juvenile is pale with dark brown mid-body stripe; ocellated spot on dorsal distinguishes it from similar species. Found on sand slopes.</p>
	<p>Up to: 4.25". Photo by: Gerry Allen Not in book, only in A&E app.</p> <p>Bartail Parrotfish (<i>Scarus caudofasciatus</i>) TP greenish-blue body with pink scale margins. Green band runs under eye. Distinct lunate tail with pink interior and blue margins. Outer reefs.</p>
	<p>Photo by: Gerry Allen Similar to Tricolor Parrotfish in CIP.</p> <p>IP is dark in front and greenish on back, with alternating irregular dark and light bars along body.</p>
	<p>Up to 20". Photo by: Gerry Allen Andaman Sea, Maldives, Indian Ocean only.</p> <p>Fivesaddle Parrotfish (<i>Scarus scaber</i>) TP is bluish-green with dark upper head. Broad green stripe from snout to pectoral fin.</p>
	<p>Photo by: Gerry Allen TP similar to Darkcapped Parrotfish in CIP/SOP.</p> <p>IP is light yellow with 3-4 darkish bars along back. Dark line under eye. Found in coral-rich shallow areas.</p>
	<p>Up to: 15". Photo by: Frank Bossen Not in book, only in A&E app. IP similar to Yellow-barred Parrotfish in CIP/SOP.</p>

 <p style="font-size: small; text-align: right;">© Robert F. Myers</p>	<p>Greenlip Parrotfish (<i>Scarus viridifucatus</i>) TP is greenish with pink scale margins. Distinct green-blue batch on side of cheek above mouth. Relatively shallow species.</p> <p>Photo by: Robert Meyers Aka Roundhead Parrotfish Similar to Greensnout Parrotfish in CIP/SOP.</p>
	<p>IP is dark brown with dark reddish head. Sometimes with five faint and irregular pale bars on body.</p> <p>Up to: 13". Photo by: John Randall</p>
	<p>Spotfin Parrotfish (<i>Scarus maculipinna</i>) TP is overall purplish blue, with green on back and a smidge of yellow mid-body. Broad green stripe below eye to above pectoral fin.</p> <p>Photo by: Gerry Allen Similar to Yellowfin Parrot in CIP.</p>
	<p>IP is usually pale (but can be dark reddish) with three dark stripes from snout to tail. Pale belly. (looks just like IP Striped Parrot in TWA). Black spot on anal fin. Shallow reef areas and slopes.</p> <p>Up to 12". Photo by: Gerry Allen Not in book, only in A&E app</p>

Unless otherwise noted, all fish presented in this Fishinar are restricted in range to include parts or all of the Andaman Sea, Indian Ocean, Red Sea, and western edge of Sumatra and Java. These species are not found in the CIP or SOP regions.

Others to know that are unique to Andaman Sea/Indian Ocean:

- Indian Redfin Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon trifasciatus*) - similar to Redfin Butterfly in CIP/SOP (Oval in HAW), but more blue on back and reddish anal and caudal fin; aka Melon Butterflyfish
- Indian Vagabond Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon decussatus*) – similar to Vagabond Butterfly in CIP/SOP/HAW, but has more black on rear stripe
- Indian Teardrop Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon interruptus*) – similar to Teardrop Butterfly in CIP/SOP/HAW, but yellow body instead of white

- Saddleback Butterflyfish (*Chaetodon falcula*) – similar to Pacific Double-saddle Butterflyfish in CIP/SOP
- Phantom Bannerfish (*Heniochus pleurotaenia*) – similar to Humphead Bannerfish in CIP/SOP
- Smith’s Fangblenny (*Meiacanthus smithi*)
- Elegant Unicornfish (*Naso elegans*) – similar to Orangespine Unicornfish in CIP/SOP/HAW
- Yelloweye Bristletooth (*Ctenochaetus truncatus*) – similar to Goldring Surgeon in HAW
- Bicolored Toby (*Canthigaster smithae*) - note that ‘Toby’ is missing from uw paper
- Variable-lined Fusilier (*Caesio varilineata*)
- Kaleidos Wrasse (*Pseudojuloides kaleidos*) – similar to Smalltail Wrasse in CIP
- Neil’s Hogfish (*Bodianus neilli*)
- Bullethead (Indian) Parrotfish (*Chlorurus sordidus*) - similar to Bullethead (Pacific) Parrotfish in CIP/SOP/HAW; not in book, only in A&E app
- Indian Triggerfish (*Melichthys indicus*) – looks just like Black Durgon with white edge on tail
- Bengal Snapper (*Lutjanus bengalensis*) and Bluestriped Snapper (*Lutjanus kasmira*) are both present; need to look for belly streaks, darkness of snout, and spot at base or pectoral
- Starry Grouper (*Cephalopholis polyspila*) – looks similar to Peacock Grouper, which is also present