

BEST OF BORNEO

AUGUST 6 – 19, 2010



Great Argus © Susan Myers

LEADER: SUSAN D. MYERS

Compiled By: Susan D. Myers

**VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.
2525 WALLINGWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 1003
AUSTIN, TX 78746
WWW.VENTBIRD.COM**

Best of Borneo

August 6 - 19, 2010

Borneo is without doubt one of the best and most enjoyable birding destinations in the world, and this tour again lived up to high expectations. There were many, many birding, wildlife, and natural history highlights, of course, but there was also the pleasure of experiencing this wonderful island.

Borneo is quite rightly regarded as one of the great storehouses of our planet's incredible biological diversity. Charles Darwin called Borneo, "one great, wild, untidy, luxuriant hothouse made by nature herself." What a fabulous summation of this remarkable place! It succinctly conjures an image of a Henri Rousseau jungle painting. In reality, much of the rich and verdant rainforest of Borneo has been lost forever, given up to our greed for fuel and comfort. This third largest island in the world is rapidly being taken over by oil palm plantations and timber companies. The Malaysian state of Sabah in the north harbors the largest remaining tracts of lowland and montane rainforest in Borneo. From here the towering spinal mountain range dominated by Mount Kinabalu emanates, and the teeming, complex rainforests still fan out below to the lowlands and ultimately to the coast. The wildlife of this remarkable island is incomparable. With a host of enticing birds (including 51 endemics), a charismatic mammal fauna, many strange and unusual reptiles, the world's largest flower—the rafflesia, and the largest collection of carnivorous pitcher plants, it's not surprising that naturalists are irresistibly drawn to the island.

We visited the three major birding and wildlife sites of Borneo: Mount Kinabalu, the Kinabatangan River, and the Danum Valley. Mount Kinabalu is one of those truly memorable mountains that seem to burst from the ground. It dominates the west coast and is pivotal to the identity of the local people. The cool montane forests on the slopes of Kinabalu and the surrounding Crocker Ranges are home to most of Borneo's endemic species. By contrast, the meandering passage of the lazy Kinabatangan River feeds the low-lying swamp forests that harbor rambunctious troops of the unlikely proboscis monkey, gibbons, and leaf-monkeys, and a vast array of wonderful birds including eight species of hornbills. At the Gomantong Caves we had a couple of sightings of the amazing red ape, the truly wild orangutan. To complete the picture, we traveled to the remote Danum Valley, one of the largest remaining stands of primary forest in Borneo, where luxuriant forests host a dazzling cast of pittas, babblers, trogons, barbets, broadbills, and many other very exciting birds!

We started our trip by heading up to the Crocker Ranges via Tambunan and then to the spectacular Mount Kinabalu. We spent the next few days in cooler climes tracking down some of the very special Bornean montane endemics. Of special note on Mount Kinabalu and at Tambunan were many outstanding and rarely seen birds, including breathtaking views of Mountain Wren-Babbler, Short-tailed Green Magpie, Bornean Treepie, Eyebrowed Jungle-Flycatcher, and more. One particular standout sighting was that of a group of the endemic Red-breasted Partridge almost at our feet!

At Sukau we took it easy, as we boated around the Kinabatangan River and its tributaries. In this magical area we had more wonderful sightings including Lesser Fish-Eagles, a number of species of hornbills, many Stork-billed Kingfishers, and that improbable endemic primate, the proboscis monkey. A side trip to the Gomantong Caves was very successful with great sightings of orangutans and Rhinoceros Hornbills, as well as Bat Hawks and others.

Danum Valley is one of the premier birding and wildlife destinations in Asia, so our long stay here offered a rare opportunity to experience the intricacies of this most complex of ecosystems—the

Sundaic tropical lowland rainforests. Every day brings new discoveries here. Certainly there was never a dull moment! There were just too many amazing birds, mammals, reptiles, butterflies, and other insects to detail them all, even in this full list of sightings, but some of the more memorable moments included great sightings of brilliant Blue-headed and Black-and-crimson pittas; an amazingly cooperative Great Argus; some gorgeous Red-naped Trogons; Raffle's Malkohas; and a tricky Black-throated Wren-Babbler. Of course, there were also hornbills, spiderhunters, and babblers, as well as remarkably close Bornean orangutans and red leaf-monkeys. The backdrop to all this was, of course, the simply amazing and beautiful forest itself.

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead this wonderful tour. As always I'd like to thank my good friends Osman, Pol, Junaidi, and others for all their efforts. Lastly and most importantly, thanks again to you all for your great company and lots of laughs! I hope to see you again sometime soon.

Susan Myers
August 2010

Susan Myers
Unit 21, 93-103 High Street
Preston VIC 3072
Australia
myers_susan@yahoo.com.au

Annotated Bird List

Bold = endemic
Near Endemic = (NE)

I have classified near endemics as species that occur in Borneo and otherwise only on Sumatra, the Malay Peninsula or the Philippines. Additionally there were many Sundaic specialities, in other words those species found only on the Thai-Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java and Borneo. Of course, on top of this we saw a number of species that are rare or difficult to find elsewhere, for example Wallace's Hawk-Eagle, Bat Hawk, Helmeted Hornbill and so on. Where the trinomial is given, this is an endemic subspecies.

NON-PASSERINES

1. **Red-breasted Partridge** *Arborophila hyperythra*
amazing close looks at this very shy species on Mount Kinabalu; heard at Mount Kinabalu and Tambunan.
2. Chestnut-necklaced Partridge *Arborophila charltonii*
heard in the Sukau area and in the Danum Valley.
3. **Crimson-headed Partridge** *Haematortyx sanguiniceps*
heard only on Mount Kinabalu, very elusive.
4. Great Argus *Argusianus argus grayi*
we were able to get so close to a bird we could almost touch him! Heard almost daily in Danum Valley.
5. Storm's Stork *Ciconia stormi* (NE – Sumatra, now gone from the Thai-Malay Peninsula)
a few individuals of this rare and declining stork were seen over the Kinabatangan River on different occasions. This species is globally endangered; recent assessments put the worldwide population at under 1,000 individuals.
6. Lesser Adjutant *Leptopilos javanicus*
up to three seen very well in flight over the Kinabatangan.
7. Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus*
common in rural areas around Kota Kinabalu and surrounds.

8. Great-billed Heron
seen in Danum Valley.
9. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*
common on the Kinabatangan.
10. Great Egret *Ardea alba*
seen on the Kinabatangan River.
11. Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
seen on the Kinabatangan.
12. Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*
common and seen daily on the Kinabatangan River; a few seen on the Segama River in the Danum Valley.
13. **White-fronted Falconet** *Microhierax latifrons*
this was a good trip for this scarce bird, which is often missed, with two sightings, one along the Kinabatangan and another at Tambunan. Very cute!
14. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*
one seen hunting bats over the Gomantong Caves.
15. Jerdon's Baza *Aviceda jerdoni borneensis*
one seen on the entrance road at BRL in Danum Valley.
16. Oriental Honey-Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*
a couple sightings of this migratory species in the Danum Valley.
17. Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus*
definitely a trip highlight! We watched a pair perched and hunting in flight at the Gomantong Caves. Truly an amazing bird!
18. Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus*
one or two seen as we travelled between Sukau and Lahad Datu.
19. Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*
a common bird along the Kinabatangan.
20. Lesser Fish-Eagle *Ichthyophaga humilis*
we enjoyed a couple of very nice looks of this bird on a couple of occasions during our stay at Sukau.
21. Crested Serpent-Eagle *Spilornis cheela pallidus*
a few of this sensational raptor were recorded during our stay at Sukau and in the Danum Valley.
22. **Mountain Serpent-Eagle** *Spilornis kinabaluensis*
excellent views of this scarce endemic at Tambunan.
23. Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus microstictus*
a couple of good flight views.
24. Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis*
good looks at this impressive raptor in flight at Tambunan.
25. Changeable Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus limnaeetus*
a couple of sightings of dark phase birds, which predominate in Borneo, at Danum Valley.
26. Wallace's Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus nanus*
we had a great tour for this species with a number of excellent sightings along the Kinabatangan and at Danum. This is a species with a small, rapidly declining population due to habitat loss.
27. White-breasted Waterhen *Amauornis phoenicurus*
one seen near Mesilau.
28. Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
a few seen along the Kinabatangan River.

29. Great Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*
a few seen in the Sandakan Bay.
30. Rock Dove *Columba livia*
31. Little Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia ruficeps nana*
many seen and heard on Mount Kinabalu, also at Tambunan.
32. Spotted Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia chinensis* (intro)
very common in all lowland rural areas, especially in the oil palm plantations.
33. Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*
one or two looks at the Gomantong Caves.
34. Zebra Dove *Geopelia striata* (intro)
a few seen Tanjung Aru.
35. Jambu Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus jambu*
a few seen in flight near a fruiting tree in the Danum Valley.
36. Green Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula aenea*
very common around Sukau and Danum.
37. Mountain Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula badia*
a few seen at Mount Kinabalu and Tambunan.
38. Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot *Loriculus galgulus*
we had many flight views of this diminutive parrot perched at Danum.
39. Blue-rumped Parrot *Psittinus cyanurus*
fabulous scope looks at a perched bird along the entrance road at Danum Valley.
40. Long-tailed Parakeet *Psittacula longicauda*
fly over and perched views of a few at Sukau.
41. Moustached Hawk-Cuckoo *Hierococcyx vagans*
typically this bird is heard often but never even glimpsed – this was our experience again this year, sadly.
42. Sunda Cuckoo *Cuculus lepidus*
heard at Mount Kinabalu.
43. Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii*
one seen well in the Danum Valley.
44. Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus*
heard and seen in the Sukau area.
45. Violet Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*
flight views on the Menanggol River.
46. Raffles's Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus*
this excellent bird was seen almost daily in Danum Valley.
47. Chestnut-breasted Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*
a couple seen along the Menanggol River.
48. Short-toed Coucal *Centropus rectunguis*
one seen briefly in Danum Valley.
49. Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*
one or two seen and many heard throughout.
50. Reddish Scops Owl *Otus rufescens*
heard in Danum Valley.
51. Barred Eagle Owl *Bubo sumatranus*
unfortunately brief looks at a perched bird in Danum Valley.

- 52. Buffy Fish-Owl *Ketupa ketupu*
stunning views of two birds on the boat back from Gomantong to Sukau.
- 53. Glossy Swiftlet *Collocalia esculenta*
seen almost daily at all sites.
- 54. Mossy-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus salangana*
Gomantong Caves.
- 55. Black-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus maxima*
Gomantong Caves.
- 56. Edible-nest Swiftlet *Aerodramus fuciphaga*
Gomantong Caves.

NOTE: The above three species are impossible to differentiate in the field. All three occur in the Gomantong Caves and can be identified on the nests, which are distinctive.

- 57. Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*
a few seen in the rural areas.
- 58. Silver-rumped Needletail *Rhaphidura leucopygialis*
this very attractive swift was seen at BRL.
- 59. Brown-backed Needletail *Hirundapus giganteus*
three or four seen in flight in Danum Valley.
- 60. House Swift *Apus affinis*
a few seen around Tambunan.
- 61. Grey-rumped Treeswift *Hemiprocne longipennis*
a few seen at Danum.
- 62. Whiskered Treeswift *Hemiprocne comata*
this excellent and rather strange bird was seen many times at BRL in Danum, often allowing excellent close range views.
- 63. Red-naped Trogon *Harpactes kasumba impavodus*
one very bright bird was seen in flight on the Mennaggol but then we saw one exceptionally well in the Danum Valley.
- 64. Diard's Trogon *Harpactes diardii diardii*
seen quite well on the Menanggol River.
- 65. Scarlet-rumped Trogon *Harpactes duvaucelii*
this beauty was heard many times in Danum Valley and along the Menanggol River at Sukau with a couple of brilliant sightings on the Menanggol River and at BRL.
- 66. Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*
quite common along the Kinabatangan River.
- 67. Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*
a truly magnificent bird – that bill is certainly a standout! One or two daily on the Kinabatangan.
- 68. Collared Kingfisher *Todiramphus chloris*
common in lowland areas, one of the few birds that seems to thrive in the Oil Palm plantations.
- 69. Rufous-backed Dwarf Kingfisher *Ceyx rufidorsa*
heard at BRL.
- 70. Blue-eared Kingfisher *Alcedo meninting*
we had close looks at a few along the tributaries of the Kinabatangan River.
- 71. Red-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis amictus*
one was seen by Doug along the entrance road in the Danum Valley; otherwise heard only.
- 72. Blue-throated Bee-eater *Merops viridis*
common and gorgeous along the Kinabatangan, and at BRL, Danum Valley.

73. Bushy-crested Hornbill *Anorrhinus galeritus*
this species is often seen in largish, raucous flocks; we saw a wonderful group coming in to perch at Gomantong; we then had further sightings in Danum Valley.
74. Oriental Pied-Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris*
very common on the Kinabatangan River.
75. Black Hornbill *Anthracoceros malayanus*
we saw this great bird many times along the Kinabatangan River and in Danum Valley.
76. Rhinoceros Hornbill *Buceros rhinoceros borneoensis*
one of the world's most spectacular birds, we were fortunate to see this species a number of times (and exceptionally well) at the Gomantong Caves and in the Danum Valley.
77. Helmeted Hornbill *Buceros vigil*
we were fortunate to see this incredible and often scarce bird at a couple of times at BRL. The bizarre, memorable calls of this bird were heard in the Danum Valley. This is the only hornbill with a solid 'ivory' casque.
78. White-crowned Hornbill *Aceros cornatus*
we had a brief view of one on the Menanggol River.
79. Wrinkled Hornbill *Aceros corrugatus*
another spectacular hornbill, this one is declining but we saw a few this year on the tributaries of the Kinabatangan.
80. Wreathed Hornbill *Aceros undulatus*
many great views on a number of occasions at Sukau and at Danum.
81. Gold-whiskered Barbet *Megalaima chrysopogon chrysopsis*
frequently heard at Tambunan and Danum Valley, we had great looks at Danum.
82. Red-throated Barbet *Megalaima mystacophanos*
a couple seen briefly at Sukau, then one scoped in the Danum Valley.
83. **Mountain Barbet *Megalaima monticola***
while this is not Borneo's most attractive endemic, it has until recently been one of the most difficult to actually see. Although it is occasionally heard at Mount Kinabalu, it is rarely seen there but now that we visit Tambunan it has become a regular feature on our Borneo list. We scored spectacularly with excellent views of this scarce endemic at Tamabunan, one of our main targets there.
84. Yellow-crowned Barbet *Megalaima henricii brachyrhyncha*
although heard frequently this is always one of the most difficult barbets to actually see, we saw one only in Danum Valley.
85. **Golden-naped Barbet *Megalaima pulcherrima***
we had a few excellent sightings of this attractive endemic on Mount Kinabalu.
86. Blue-eared Barbet *Megalaima australis*
heard daily at Sukau and Danum Valley, we had one or two at Danum.
87. Brown Barbet *Calorhamphus fuliginosus tertius*
this unusual barbet was seen very well at Tambunan and Danum. It differs from other barbets in being highly sociable with rather dull plumage.
88. Rufous Piculet *Sasia abnormis*
this tiny and cute woodpecker was seen well in Danum.
89. Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopus canicapillus*
one seen in the Danum Valley.
90. White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javense*
fantastic looks at a pair feeding in a dead snag on the Kinabatangan River.
91. Checker-throated Woodpecker *Picus mentalis*
we had a couple of brief sightings of this excellent woodpecker on Mount Kinabalu.

- 92. Crimson-winged Woodpecker *Picus puniceus*
one seen briefly at Danum Valley.
- 93. Maroon Woodpecker *Blythipicus rubiginosus*
one or two responsive but frisky birds along the road on Mount Kinabalu; one along the entrance road in Danum Valley.
- 94. Buff-rumped Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tristis*
seen by everyone on the Kinabatangan.
- 95. Buff-necked Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tukki*
also seen very well by all in the Danum Valley.
- 96. Grey-and-buff Woodpecker *Hemicircus concretus*
great looks at a pair on the Menanggol River.

PASSERINES

- 97. Green Broadbill *Calyptomena viridis*
unfortunately only heard in the Danum Valley.
- 98. **Whitehead's Broadbill** *Calyptomena whiteheadi*
yet another standout sighting! An improbably green bird seen by a lucky few on Mount Kinabalu.
- 99. Dusky Broadbill *Corydon sumatranus brunnescens*
a group of this remarkable bird were seen on the Kinabatangan River. What a bill!
- 100. Black-and-red Broadbill *Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchus*
good looks at a pair on the Tennigang River.
- 101. Banded Broadbill *Eurylaimus javanicus brookei*
a family group scoped along the entrance road in Danum Valley.
- 102. Black-and-yellow Broadbill *Eurylaimus ochromalus*
this simply gorgeous bird is happily not uncommon along the Kinabatangan River and in the Danum Valley.
- 103. Hooded Pitta *Pitta sordida*
all pittas are a special treat and we eventually, after much effort, had some good views of one or two in the Sukau area.
- 104. **Black-and-crimson (Black-headed) Pitta** *Pitta ussheri*
another trip highlight with one amazing bird as it called and flew around us on the Hornbill Trail at Danum.
- 105. **Blue-headed Pitta** *Pitta baudii*
a truly wonderful bird, we saw it a couple of times in the Danum Valley. Definitely a contender for the most beautiful bird in Borneo.
- 106. White-browed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis robinsoni*
heard only at Tambunan and Mount Kinabalu.

NOTE: Recent molecular studies suggest that this species should be placed in the family Vireonidae (Vireos and allies).

- 107. White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis zantholeuca*
seen by Julia in Danum Valley.
- 108. Golden-bellied Gerygone *Gerygone sulphurea*
heard in Danum Valley.
- 109. Bornean Whistler *Pachycephala hypoxantha*
seen daily on Mount Kinabalu.
- 110. Sunda Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina larvata*
seen very well in the carpark on Mount Kinabalu.

111. Bar-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina striata*
great looks at this rather scarce bird on the Menanggol River.
112. Lesser Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina fimbriata*
seen in the Danum Valley, excellent looks at males, females and juveniles.
113. Fiery Minivet *Pericrocotus igneus*
some lovely birds seen very well at Danum.
114. Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris*
many seen on Mount Kinabalu.
115. Black-and-crimson Oriole *Oriolus cruentus vulneratus*
a couple seen on Mount Kinabalu.
116. Dark-throated Oriole *Oriolus xanthonotus consobrinus*
a few in the Danum Valley.
117. Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus*
a couple seen along the Menanggol River.
118. White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*
common in lowland, open areas.
119. Common lora *Aegithina tiphia viridus*
seen on the Kinabatangan.
120. Green lora *Aegithina viridissima*
seen a few times in the Danum Valley, from the canopy walkway.
121. White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis kinabalu*
seen daily on Mount Kinabalu and at Tambunan. This replaces the following species at higher altitudes.
122. Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javanica*
Sukau; Danum Valley.
123. Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea*
common along the Kinabatangan and tributaries, and at Danum.
124. Asian Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*
we had some great looks at a white morph male with his shimmering tail at Danum Valley. The rufous morph is very rare in Borneo.
125. Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus stigmatops*
very common on Mount Kinabalu, also seen at Tambunan.
126. Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus borneensis*
a couple on Mount Kinabalu, also in Danum Valley.
127. Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*
some great views of this rather scarce endemic subspecies at Sukau.
128. Slender-billed Crow *Corvus enca*
common in all lowland areas.
129. Short-tailed Green Magpie *Cissa thalassina jefferyi*
for such a spectacular and brightly coloured bird, this magpie can be surprisingly difficult to see. Heard and seen daily on Mount Kinabalu.
130. **Bornean Black Magpie** *Platysmurus leucopterus*
fabulous looks at a responsive group in Danum Valley.
131. **Bornean Treepie** *Dendrocitta cinerascens*
seen and heard daily on Mount Kinabalu.

NOTE: Now treated as a separate species from Sumatran Treepie *D. occipitalis*.

- 132. **Bornean Bristlehead** *Pityriasis gymnocephala*
sadly heard only in Danum Valley.
- 133. Plain Sunbird *Anthreptes simplex*
a couple of sightings at Poring.
- 134. Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis borneana*
a few seen here and there in the Danum Valley.
- 135. Olive-backed (Yellow-bellied Sunbird) *Cinnyris jugularis*
Tanjung Aru.
- 136. Eastern Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*
one or two seen at Sukau and in the Danum Valley.
- 137. Temminck's Sunbird *Aethopyga temminckii*
this diminutive but spectacular gem was seen a few times at Tambunan and on Mount Kinabalu.
- 138. Purple-naped Sunbird *Hypogramma hypogrammicum*
two seen well in the Danum Valley.
- 139. Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter *Arachnothera affinis everetti* (NE - Java)
seen daily at Danum Valley.

NOTE: The name *A. affinis* was based on birds from Java and subsequently used for all streaked, grey-breasted spiderhunters in Borneo. However, recent work has shown that the Javan birds are the same as the montane Bornean birds *A. affinis* and that the smaller, less streaked birds of the Bornean lowlands represent a separate species *A. modesta*. The name Bornean Spiderhunter *A. everetti* has been incorrectly applied. See The Birds of Borneo by Smythies and Davison, 1999.

- 140. Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra buettikoferi*
ones or twos seen almost daily on the Kinabatangan and in Danum Valley.
- 141. Spectacled Spiderhunter *Arachnothera flavigaster*
one seen well at Danum Valley.
- 142. Yellow-eared Spiderhunter *Arachnothera chrysogenys*
seen in flowering trees in the gardens of our lodge in the Danum Valley.
- 143. Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker *Prionochilus maculatus*
a few seen at Sukau and in the Danum Valley.
- 144. **Yellow-rumped Flowerpecker** *Prionochilus xanthopygius*
one seen in the Danum Valley.
- 145. Orange-bellied Flowerpecker *Dicaeum trigonostigma dayakanum*
recorded in Danum Valley, especially around the lodge gardens.
- 146. **Black-sided Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum monticolum*
after many stratospheric flyovers we eventually connected with some great looks at a perched bird at Mount Kinabalu.
- 147. Greater Green Leafbird *Chloropsis sonnerati*
a few seen daily in the Danum Valley.
- 148. Lesser Green Leafbird *Chloropsis cyanopogon*
Danum Valley.
- 149. Asian Fairy-bluebird *Irena puella*
seen and heard in the Danum Valley.
- 150. **Dusky Munia** *Lonchura fuscans*
common in open areas at Sukau and in Danum Valley.
- 151. Chestnut Munia *Lonchura malacca*
Tanjung Aru.

152. Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*
throughout except in the Danum Valley.
153. Common Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa*
many seen at Sukau and Danum Valley.
154. Asian Glossy Starling *Aplonis panayensis*
a few around Lahad Datu.
155. Javan Myna *Acridotheres*
a few at Sandakan.
156. Orange-headed Thrush *Zosterops citrina*
great looks at one bird along the road on Mount Kinabalu.
157. **Everett's Thrush** *Zosterops interpres*
one seen briefly at Tambunan, which is a little unusual and unexpected.
158. **Fruit-hunter** *Chlamydochaera jefferyi*
this is not a bird we see on every trip so I was really glad that we found one in a fruiting tree at Tambunan.
A very interesting endemic.
159. **Bornean Whistling-Thrush** *Myiophonus borneensis*
super views of this endemic along the trails and roads on Mount Kinabalu.
160. White-browed Shortwing *Brachypteryx Montana erythrogyna*
heard only at Mount Kinabalu; this subspecies is typically very shy and skulking.
161. Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis adamsi*
Tanjung Aru; Sukau; Tawau Hills.
162. **White-crowned Shama** *Copsychus stricklandii*
this lovely songster is very common in lowland tropical rainforest, seen or heard daily on the Kinabatangan
River and in Danum Valley.
163. Ruous-tailed Shama *Trichixos pyrropyga*
heard only at Danum Valley.
164. **Bornean Forktail** *Enicurus borneensis*
a very shy bird but we enjoyed super views of a few birds along the trails on Mount Kinabalu.
- NOTE:** *E. borneensis* is found in the uplands (but sometimes down to 200 m) whilst the lowland *E. frontalis*
occasionally extends as high as 1050 m. The former species is larger, with a proportionally much longer tail.
Molecular studies have now shown that two species are involved.
165. Malaysian Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis turcosus turcosus*
a few seen on the Menanggol River and at BRL.
166. **Bornean Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis superbus*
heard at Danum Valley.
167. Large-billed Blue-Flycatcher *Cyornis caerulatus caerulatus* (NE – Sumatra)
one male was seen well at Danum.
168. Indigo Flycatcher *Eumyias indigo cerviniventris*
seen daily on Mount Kinabalu.
169. Ferruginous Flycatcher *Muscicapa*
one seen on the Mempening Trail on Mount Kinabalu.
170. Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra*
two seen on Mount Kinabalu.
171. Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni*
this very cute bird was seen very in the carpark on Mount Kinabalu.
172. **Eyebrowed Jungle-Flycatcher** *Rhinomyias gularis*
a total of three were seen on Mount Kinabalu.

173. Black-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus atriceps*
many were seen daily in the Danum Valley.
174. **Bornean Bulbul** *Pycnonotus montis*
two seen well at Tambunan. This is a split from Black-crested Bulbul. Features include the dark eye,
yellow throat and different shaped crest.
175. Black-and-white Bulbul *Pycnonotus melanoleucus*
although elusive we saw this species many times at Danum Valley this year.
176. Straw-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus zelanica*
heard daily on the Segama River at BRL, most people got good looks eventually.
177. Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus goiavier gourdini*
very common in open areas throughout Sabah.
178. Olive-winged Bulbul *Pycnonotus plumosus*
Sukau.
179. Cream-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus simplex*
Sukau.
180. Red-eyed Bulbul *Pycnonotus brunneus*
very common at Sukau and Danum Valley.
181. Spectacled Bulbul *Pycnonotus erythroptalmos*
a few seen well at Danum Valley.
182. Buff-vented Bulbul *Iole olivacea*
a couple seen at Sukau.
183. Hairy-backed Bulbul *Tricholestes criniger*
common in Danum Valley.
184. Finsch's Bulbul *Alophoixus finschii*
seen briefly near the canopy walkway in Danum Valley.
185. Yellow-bellied Bulbul *Alophoixus phaeocephalus*
two or three in the Danum Valley.
186. Ochraceous Bulbul *Alophoixus ochraceus*
two seen on Mount Kinabalu.
187. Cinereous Bulbul *Hemixos cinereus*
a total of four seen at Tambunan.
188. Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*
many on the Kinabatangan River.
189. Pacific Swallow *Hirundo tahitica*
daily throughout.
190. Mountain Tailorbird *Orthotomus cuculatus*
heard much more often than seen on Mount Kinabalu.
191. **Bornean Stubtail** *Urosphena whiteheadi*
the exceptionally high-pitched call was heard many times.
192. Sunda Bush-Warbler *Cettia vulcanian oreophila*
amazingly responsive and seen many times on the higher reaches of the Power Station Road on Mount
Kinabalu.
193. Yellow-breasted Warbler *Seicercus montis*
common and seen almost daily on Mount Kinabalu.
194. Mountain Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus trivirgatus kinabaluensis*
common and seen or heard many times on Mount Kinabalu.

195. Brown Fulvetta *Alcippe brunneicauda*
seen a few times in the Danum Valley.
196. **Chestnut-crested Yuhina** *Yuhina everetti*
one of the commonest birds at higher altitudes, we saw many large and mobile flocks on Mount Kinabalu and at Tambunan.
197. Black-capped White-eye *Zosterops atricapillus*
recorded daily on Mount Kinabalu and at Tambunan.
198. **Mountain Blackeye** *Chlorocharis emiliae*
a total of 14 seen on Mount Kinabalu.
199. Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps borneensis*
seen daily on Mount Kinabalu.
200. Chestnut-winged Babbler *Stachyris erythroptera bicolor*
one of the most common and conspicuous birds on the lowland rainforest of Borneo, its distinctive vocalisations were heard constantly and we had sightings almost daily.
201. Rufous-fronted Babbler *Stachyris rufifrons*
heard daily in Danum Valley.
202. Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus montanus*
two were seen in Danum Valley.
203. Bold-striped Tit-Babbler *Macronous bornensis montanus* (NE - Java)
seen or heard daily on the Kinabatangan, Gomantong and in the Danum Valley.

NOTE: Bornean and Sumatran birds bear little resemblance to South-East Asian Striped Tit Babblers *M. gularis* and are now split as Bold-striped Tit-Babbler.

204. Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler *Macronous ptilosus*
what a great name for a bird and a great bird! Fantastic looks at this excellent bird along the entrance road, Danum Valley.
205. Temminck's Babbler *Pellorneum pyrrogenys canicapillus* (NE – Java)
heard on Mount Kinabalu.
206. Black-capped Babbler *Pellorneum capistratum morelli*
although heard frequently in Danum Valley, this very attractive, ground-dwelling babbler is harder to see.
207. Moustached Babbler *Malacopteron magnirostre*
two seen in Danum Valley.
208. Sooty-capped Babbler *Malacopteron affine phoeniceum*
recorded daily, Danum Valley and on the tributaries of the Kinabatangan River.
209. Scaly-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron cinereum*
often associating with mixed feeding flocks, recorded in Danum Valley.
210. Rufous-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron magnum*
a few seen in Danum Valley.
211. White-chested Babbler *Trichastoma rostratum*
a common riparian bird along the Kinabatangan River and its tributaries in particular; also recorded in the Danum Valley.
212. Ferruginous Babbler *Trichastoma bicolor*
heard and seen in small numbers in the Danum Valley.
213. Short-tailed Babbler *Malacocincla malaccensis poliogenys*
seen in Danum Valley but heard frequently.
214. Striped Wren-Babbler *Kenopia striata*
a very responsive bird in Danum Valley.

215. **Black-throated Wren-Babbler** *Napothera atrigularis*
a fabulous endemic – a skittish group eventually gave good and prolonged close views in forest off the entrance road at BRL.
216. **Mountain Wren-Babbler** *Napothera crassa*
we enjoyed some very special close studies of this wonderful endemic as they cavorted around us on the trails of Mount Kinabalu.
217. Sunda Laughingthrush *Garrulax palliates schistochlamys* (NE - Sumatra)
common and conspicuous in mixed flocks on Mount Kinabalu.
218. **Chestnut-hooded Laughingthrush** *Rhinocichla treacheri*
very common on Mount Kinabalu, where they form large and raucous mixed flocks with other laughingthrushes as well as various other species. Also seen at Tambunan in the Crocker Ranges.
- NOTE:** Previously treated as a subspecies of Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush.
219. Ashy Tailorbird *Orthotomus ruficeps borneoensis*
a common bird of lowland areas, often near water; seen in the Sukau area.
220. Rufous-tailed Tailorbird *Orthotomus sericeus*
we saw this attractive species many times at Sukau and in Danum Valley.
221. Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis humphreysi*
seen very well a couple of times in the Danum Valley.
222. Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia flaviventris latrunculus*
the Bornean race of this species is confusingly plain! Common and seen or heard daily in lowland areas at Sukau and Danum Valley.

MAMMALS

1. **Mountain Treeshrew** *Tupaia montana*
Mount Kinabalu.
2. Malayan Colugo *Cynocephalus variegates*
this amazing animal was seen in daylight from the canopy walkway.
3. **Maroon Leaf-Monkey** *Presbytis rubicunda*
this very attractive primate was seen regularly in Danum Valley.
4. Silvered Leaf-Monkey *Presbytis cristata*
Kinabatangan River.
5. **Proboscis Monkey** *Nasalis larvatus*
one of the most remarkable mammals of Borneo, this strictly riparian species is very common on the Kinabatangan River.
6. Long-tailed (Crab-eating) Macaque *Macaca fascicularis*
Kinabatangan River; Danum Valley.
7. Southern Pig-tailed Macaque *Macaca nemistrina*
one on the Kinabatangan.
8. **Bornean Gibbon** *Hylobates muelleri*
a highly charismatic animal whose calls are one of the most evocative of the Sundaic rainforests. Seen or heard daily in Danum. We had fantastic looks at this beautiful animal.
9. **Bornean Orang Utan** *Pongo pygmaeus*
wonderful sightings of totally wild animals along the Kinabatangan and in Danum Valley; we recorded a total of five individuals! Sumatran Orangutans are now considered to be a separate species *P. abelii*
10. Pale Giant Squirrel *Ratufa affinus*
Mount Kinabalu.

11. Prevost's Squirrel *Callosciurus prevostii*
Sukau; Danum Valley. This species is also quite common on Peninsular Malaysia but it differs markedly in pelage from the all black Bornean race.
12. **Kinabalu Squirrel** *Callosciurus baluensis*
not surprisingly, seen a few times on Mount Kinabalu!
13. Plain Squirrel *Callosciurus notatus*
seen a couple of times at Sukau.
14. Bornean Black-banded Squirrel *Callosciurus orestes*
seen at Tambunan and Mount Kinabalu.
15. Jentink's Squirrel *Sundasciurus jentinki*
two on Mount Kinabalu.
16. Bornean Mountain Ground Squirrel *Dremomys everetti*
seen daily raiding the rubbish bin on Mount Kinabalu.
17. Plain Pigmy Squirrel *Exilisciurus exilis*
recorded regularly in Danum Valley. This must be one of the world's cutest animals!
18. **Whitehead's Pygmy Squirrel** *Exilisciurus whiteheadi*
great looks at one on the Mempoening Trail, Mount Kinabalu.
19. House Rat *Rattus rattus*
in the Gomantong Caves.
20. Sun Bear *Helarctos malayanus*
one seen by Cindy and Barry as it crossed the road in Danum Valley. Very jealous!
21. Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula*
a trip highlight for me was a pair of this gorgeous animal crossing the road on Mount Kinabalu.
22. Malay Civet *Viverra zibetha*
one spotted at Danum.
23. Leopard Cat *Felis bengalensis*
this very handsome cat was seen along the entrance road at BRL.
24. Bearded Pig *Sus barbatus*
seen a few times in Danum Valley.
25. Lesser Mouse Deer *Tragulus javanicus*
Danum Valley.
26. Barking Deer *Muntiacus muntjac*
one seen on Mount Kinabalu; heard in Danum Valley.
27. Sambar *Cervus unicolor*
one seen in Danum Valley.

HERPS & others

Estuarine Crocodile *Crocodylus porosus*
 House Gekko *Hemidactylus frenatus*
 Salvator's Water Monitor *Varanus salvator*
 Draco flying lizard sp.
 Rafflesia flower *Rafflesia keithi*
 Nepenthes
 Lantern bug

Some of the butterflies we noted included:

Common Bluebottle, Tailed Jay, Mottled Emigrant, Island Rustic, Malayan Eggfly, Blue Pansy, Cycad Blue, Great Mormon, Grey Pansy, Palm King, Village Archduke, Malaysian Harlequin, Big Cruiser, Striped Blue Crow, Malayan Yeoman, Common Lancer, Tree Nymph, Yamfly, Clipper, Admiral, Rajah Brooke's Birdwing.

(if you would like more information on any of these species please visit my website <http://picasaweb.google.com/birdtourleader> where you'll find an album with many of my butterfly photos or just drop me a line).