

BORNEAN TREEPIE (*Dendrocitta cinerascens*) – Quite common in the highlands, usually in big family groups. Our first were a noisy gang working through some downslope treetops near the Tambunan Rafflesia Center. We had others with the mixed laughingthrush flock we found on several days along the Kinabalu park road (and around our cabins). [E]

SLENDER-BILLED CROW (SLENDER-BILLED) (*Corvus enca compiler*) – Regular throughout, recorded nearly every day of the tour -- including a jumped-up flock mobbing a Changeable Hawk-Eagle along the Kinabatangan River late one afternoon.

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

PACIFIC SWALLOW (*Hirundo tahitica*) – Common and widespread, seen in good numbers on most days of the tour, with particularly good studies of adults and recently-fledged youngsters on posts in the Kinabatangan River near our lodge. We found plenty of nests too, including some stuck to the rafters on the ground floor of the main building at BRL. [N]

Stenostiridae (Fairy Flycatchers)

GRAY-HEADED CANARY-FLYCATCHER (*Culicicapa ceylonensis*) – We spotted our first along BRL's canopy walkway on our first visit there, flitting through the trees and occasionally landing on bits of the suspension bridges themselves. We found another near the BRL entrance gate the following morning, and spotted a third along the road near the Masakob Waterfall Garden in the Crocker Range.

Sittidae (Nuthatches)

VELVET-FRONTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta frontalis*) – A noisy family group clambered around in some of the biggest trees around the BRL canopy walkway, and others did the same on trunks along the BRL entrance road. We had our closest looks along the road in the Crocker Range, where a couple of birds crawled around on branches nearly over our heads. What stunners!

Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)

PUFF-BACKED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus eutilotus*) – Two worked through some low trees along the edge of the Menanggul River, not far from the fruiting trees where we found our close barbets.

BLACK-HEADED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus atriceps*) – Quite common in the lowlands, typically in small flocks. Some perched up along the Menanggul, and others seemed to favor the BRL entrance road. Though also black and yellow, this species much less colorful than the Bornean Bulbul.

STRAW-HEADED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus zeylanicus*) – An afternoon ramble along the river end of BRL's Hornbill trail, near where it joined the River trail, proved to be fertile ground for a couple of these big bulbuls, which flicked through branches over the water, singing as they went. Their beautiful songs are part of what's leading to their decline; their numbers have been decimated by the caged-bird trade.

BORNEAN BULBUL (*Pycnonotus montis*) – Great looks at a half-dozen or so at a couple of spots in the Crocker Range, including some feasting in a fruiting tree along the road near the Masakob Waterfall Garden. This is one of Borneo's newer endemics, split from the former Black-crested Bulbul complex. [E]

SCALY-BREASTED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus squamatus*) – Scope views of one of these canopy dwellers from the BRL canopy walkway, in the same huge emergent tree that held our Bar-bellied Cuckooshrikes. This is definitely one of Borneo's fancier bulbuls.

YELLOW-VENTED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus goiavier*) – Particularly common around the Sepilok Nature Resort and nearby RDC, with another pair on a wire fence near the start of the Gunung Alab road. The dark eye line of this pale-faced species -- along with its yellow vent -- is a useful field mark.

OLIVE-WINGED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus plumosus*) – A trio chased each other through trees near the chalets at Poring Hot Springs, pausing briefly on a few branches and a telephone wire before disappearing behind one of the buildings.

CREAM-VENTED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus simplex*) – Adzel got a few folks on one in a fruiting tree along the BRL entrance road (when many were busy trying to get a look at a Dark-throated Oriole), and we had longer looks at another in one of the fruiting trees near the BRL dining balcony.

RED-EYED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus brunneus*) – Easily the most common bulbul of the tour, seen in big numbers every day in the lowlands -- but missing completely from the highlands.

SPECTACLED BULBUL (*Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos*) – Regular, though in small numbers, in the lowlands, particularly around BRL. The diagnostic yellow "spectacles" (really just an eye ring) on this species is only visible from fairly close range.

HAIRY-BACKED BULBUL (*Tricholestes criniger*) – Best seen in that very convenient fruiting tree just off the BRL balcony, where a trio entertained us during one afternoon's birding. Some saw others along the Gomantong Caves road.

FINSCH'S BULBUL (*Alophoixus finschii*) – One of these uncommon bulbuls along the BRL entrance road, with another in plain sight in the fruiting tree (and on the knee-high rope fence) off the BRL dining balcony.

OCHRACEOUS BULBUL (*Alophoixus ochraceus*) – Daily in the highlands, typically with mixed flocks, including a couple with a group swirling along the road through the Crocker Range and another pair entertaining us on Kinabalu's breakfast restaurant's balcony one rainy morning.

GRAY-CHEEKED BULBUL (*Alophoixus bres*) – A little group spinning through some fruiting trees near the entrance gate to the Danum Valley were nicely cooperative. We saw others elsewhere on the BRL entrance road the following day.

YELLOW-BELLIED BULBUL (*Alophoixus phaeocephalus*) – One hunting in the canopy near the new set of stairs up to the BRL canopy walkway (darting out again and again to pluck berries from a viny tangle around a huge trunk) with another pair along the BRL entrance road for those who trekked around the Hornbill trail one afternoon. We had another in Poring Springs.

CHARLOTTE'S BULBUL (*Iole charlottae*) – Nice views on half a dozen days scattered throughout the tour -- though not in the highlands. The pale eye on this one, which was a recently split from the Buff-vented Bulbul complex, helps to quickly distinguish it from the other mostly uniformly brownish bulbuls.

ASHY BULBUL (GREEN-WINGED) (*Hemixos flavala connectens*) – One with a mixed flock near the Masakob Waterfall Garden in the Crocker Range proved somewhat elusive before finally perching where we could see it. It seemed particularly fond of dense foliage!

Scotocercidae (Bush Warblers and Allies)

BORNEAN STUBTAIL (*Urosphena whiteheadi*) – Surprisingly, we heard the ultra-high-pitched song of this tiny endemic only once -- along the Mempening trail while we attempted to track down our first Snowy-browed Flycatchers. [E*]

YELLOW-BELLIED WARBLER (*Abrosopus superciliaris*) – A couple with our big mixed flock in the pullout below the Masakob Waterfall Garden with others along the park road in Kinabalu NP. This species is a "slope specialist", typically found between 1000 and 1800 meters (3300-5900 ft) in elevation.

MOUNTAIN TAILORBIRD (*Phyllergates cucullatus*) – One flicked through vegetation near the Timpohon Gate, distracting us briefly from our first Mountain Black-eyes, and we saw another very responsive bird right on the dining room balcony at our Kinabalu breakfast restaurant on one rainy

morning. The little rusty cap of this long-billed species (which isn't closely related to the other tailorbirds) is distinctive.

SUNDA BUSH WARBLER (*Horornis vulcanius*) – Lovely views of confiding birds on Gunung Alab and along the upper stretches of the Kinabalu park road. Fortunately for the neck muscles, this species is always quite low.

Phylloscopidae (Leaf Warblers)

MOUNTAIN LEAF WARBLER (MOUNTAIN) (*Phylloscopus trivirgatus kinabaluensis*) – Common in the highlands, with especially nice looks at several with mixed flocks near the Timpohon Gate. The subspecies found on Borneo is the endemic 'kinabaluensis'.

YELLOW-BREASTED WARBLER (*Seicercus montis*) – Satisfyingly common in the highlands, where they were a regular part of the mixed flocks we found. I still think these endearing little warblers should have been called "Pumpkin Heads", as their bright rusty heads are certainly their most notable feature!

Locustellidae (Grassbirds and Allies)

STRIATED GRASSBIRD (*Megalurus palustris*) – A fortuitous roadside stop along the road to Sukau led to us spotting one of these long-tailed birds singing from a utility wire behind the bus.

Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)

DARK-NECKED TAILORBIRD (*Orthotomus atrogularis*) – One along Sukau's boardwalk trail for some and along the BRL entrance road for others, but our best group views probably came near the confluence of the Menanggul and Kinabatangan rivers, where several flicked along through the tall grasses, having a serious dispute. We heard plenty of others.

ASHY TAILORBIRD (*Orthotomus ruficeps*) – The most common and widespread of the tour's tailorbirds, seen in good numbers daily in the lowlands, typically in little family groups. When we were exploring the various canopy walkways, they were often within arm's reach!

RUFOUS-TAILED TAILORBIRD (*Orthotomus sericeus*) – A few scattered individuals, generally low in the underbrush. We had especially nice looks at one mooching around on the grassy lawn outside the BRL dining room on morning, while waiting for everyone to gather for the day's walk.

YELLOW-BELLIED PRINIA (*Prinia flaviventris*) – Common and widespread, including several perched and singing in the tall reed grasses along the Kinabatangan and Telipok rivers, and others in the weedy areas along the BRL entrance road.

Zosteropidae (White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies)

CHESTNUT-CRESTED YUHINA (*Yuhina everetti*) – Abundant in the highlands, typically in big, noisy single-species flocks. The mob feeding at a fruiting tree near the Masakob Waterfall Garden gave us particularly good looks, as did the gang cleaning moths off the chainlink fence near the Timpohon Gate each morning in Kinabalu NP. [E]

MOUNTAIN BLACK-EYE (*Chlorocharis emiliae*) – Regular around the Timpohon Gate, particularly on our first morning in Kinabalu NP, when we found more than a dozen. This endemic is a true highland specialty, found only at elevations above [check]. [E]

Timaliidae (Tree-Babblers, Scimitar-Babblers, and Allies)

BOLD-STRIPED TIT-BABBLER (*Mixornis bornensis*) – Especially nice views of several working low through the trees along the edge of the Menanggul, with others heard (or seen fleetingly) along the Gomantong Caves road and the BRL entrance drive.

CHESTNUT-WINGED BABBLER (*Cyanoderma erythropterum*) – A bold little group of these social babblers foraged along the edge of RDC's Kingfisher trail, showing their bright rusty wings to perfection. We saw others along the Menanggul and BRL's entrance road.

RUFOUS-FRONTED BABBLER (*Cyanoderma rufifrons*) – It's actually more of a rufous CROWN than a rufous front, but that name was already taken! We saw a couple of these in the canopy of some mid-height trees near the start of the BRL canopy walkway on our first visit there.

CHESTNUT-BACKED SCIMITAR-BABBLER (*Pomatorhinus montanus*) – We heard the loud hollow hoots of this species while we birded on the BRL canopy walkway one morning, but it was calling from way over on the far side of the road -- and we couldn't entice it across. [*]

BLACK-THROATED BABBLER (*Stachyris nigricollis*) – Skulking groups in the undergrowth along the Gomantong Caves road on each of our visits, with nice looks at some as they peered from the dense leaves and only fleeting flight views of others.

CHESTNUT-RUMPED BABBLER (*Stachyris maculata*) – A noisy group under the RDC canopy walkway played hard to get as we tried to see them from the Kingfisher trail; some of us were more successful at getting a look than others! The contrast between back and rump color is helpful in identifying this species.

GRAY-THROATED BABBLER (*Stachyris nigriceps*) – A busy little gang swarmed through roadside grasses near the Timpohon Gate one morning; their bold white moustache stripes are actually probably the most eye-catching thing about them.

Pellorneidae (Ground Babblers and Allies)

MOUSTACHED BABBLER (*Malacopteron magnirostre*) – A little group moved through the trees along the edge of the lower Hornbill trail as we watched for the Bornean Bristleheads to move back into a more open part of the tree overhead. Its little dark moustache stripe helps to distinguish it from the otherwise similar Sooty-capped Babbler.

SOOTY-CAPPED BABBLER (*Malacopteron affine*) – After hearing them for most of the days we were in the Danum Valley, we finally connected with a cooperative little flock of them near the start of the far end of the canopy walkway on our last morning there.

SCALY-CROWNED BABBLER (*Malacopteron cinereum*) – A group along the BRL entrance road, not far from where we found our first dwarf-kingfisher. This species is quite similar to the next in appearance, but is vocally quite different.

RUFOUS-CROWNED BABBLER (*Malacopteron magnum*) – Most common in the Danum Valley, where it was recorded daily, with others along the Gomantong Caves road. The larger size, grayer breast and throat and dark legs of this species help to separate it from the very similar previous species.

BLACK-CAPPED BABBLER (*Pellorneum capistratum*) – The only way we could have gotten closer to the one foraging along the edge of the trail at the Rainforest Discovery Center is if it had actually stood on somebody's foot! As it was, we could nearly have reached out and touched it as it strode past, calling loudly.

TEMMINCK'S BABBLER (*Pellorneum pyrogenys*) – One along the wooden "sidewalk" on the lower stretch of the Kinabalu park road played hard to get, showing well initially, but then diving into deeper cover when a noisy bus (and even noisier group of tourists) went past.

SHORT-TAILED BABBLER (*Pellorneum malaccense*) – Quick glimpses for a few of a noisy little group flitting through the trees some distance from BRL's upper Hornbill trail.

WHITE-CHESTED BABBLER (*Pellorneum rostratum*) – Our first -- along a little stream at RDC -- was rather shy, never sitting in the open for long. Fortunately, the noisy pairs along the Menanggul proved far more accommodating, striding along the banks in plain view as they searched tree roots and debris piles for tasty tidbits.

- FERRUGINOUS BABBLER** (*Pellorneum bicolor*) – One along Sukau's boardwalk trail cooperated pretty well, moving through trees not far from the path. We heard others in the Danum Valley.
- STRIPED WREN-BABBLER** (*Kenopia striata*) – Our afternoon encounter with one on BRL's lower Hornbill trail was fabulous, with long scope views of a bird singing from a skinny little branch at eye level not too far off the path. Wow!! That was a vast improvement over the one we found along the BRL entrance road, which had proved frustratingly elusive, flitting from one side of the road to the other and never sitting anywhere for long.
- HORSFIELD'S BABBLER** (*Turdinus sepiarius*) – Two along the Gomantong Caves road showed surprisingly well as they foraged through a small open tree.
- BLACK-THROATED WREN-BABBLER** (*Turdinus atrigularis*) – Scope views of two wren-babblers on the same day?? Spoiled, that's what you are! A pair near the BRL river trail were a bit flighty to start with, but one eventually settled onto a perch not far over the path and proceeded to serenade us, giving us the chance to study him in the scopes. [E]
- MOUNTAIN WREN-BABBLER** (*Turdinus crassus*) – Another shoe-tip bird, this time along the Mempening trail in Kinabalu NP. It came from a long way down the valley, walking steadily uphill (singing all the time) until it suddenly popped into view on a mossy log right in front of us. It then paraded past and carried on up the hill, singing all the while. [E]
- Leiothrichidae (Laughingthrushes and Allies)*
- BROWN FULVETTA** (*Alcippe brunneicauda*) – A few folks got on our first -- a pair flicking through a treetop near the top of the staircase up to the BRL canopy walkway -- but most had to wait until we found another pair at ground level along the entrance road a couple of days later. This species may not look like much, but it's sure got a great song!
- SUNDA LAUGHINGTHRUSH** (*Garrulax palliatus*) – Great looks at plenty of them in the mountains, particularly around the Timponon Gate. They're often in mixed flocks with Chestnut-hooded Laughingthrushes (and less often with Bare-headed Laughingthrushes).
- BARE-HEADED LAUGHINGTHRUSH** (*Garrulax calvus*) – Arg! We were oh-so-close, hearing several gabbling in the trees over our heads along the Kinabalu park road, but we just couldn't find a vantage point to actually see them. And when we found the flock again the next day, this species wasn't with them. [E*]
- CHESTNUT-HOODED LAUGHINGTHRUSH** (*Ianthocincla treacheri treacheri*) – Very common and widespread in the highlands, from the Crocker Range to the highest points we reached in Kinabalu. This is the smallest of the tour's laughingthrushes. [E]
- Irenidae (Fairy-bluebirds)*
- ASIAN FAIRY-BLUEBIRD** (*Irena puella*) – Our first were a flyby pair that zipped past as we birded from the BRL canopy walkway. Fortunately for those who didn't happen to be looking in the right direction when they sailed past, we had much better views of a couple of others sitting for long minutes on some dead snags at Poring Springs. Wow!
- Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)*
- ORIENTAL MAGPIE-ROBIN** (*Copsychus saularis*) – Seen well on scattered days, with especially nice views of a pair hunting around the RDC parking lot, perching on concrete walls and light poles.
- RUFOUS-TAILED SHAMA** (*Copsychus pyrropygus*) – Two near the BRL entrance gate were superbly cooperative, perching again and again right in the open as they hunted -- sometimes dropping to the ground only yards from where we stood!
- WHITE-RUMPED SHAMA (WHITE-CROWNED)** (*Copsychus malabaricus stricklandii*) – Regular in the lowlands, where their amazing songs were a regular part of the tour soundtrack. One hunting along the Gomantong Caves boardwalk -- and another along the entrance road a few days later -- showed well. And since they hunt in the understory, we didn't even have to stretch our necks!
- MALAYSIAN BLUE FLYCATCHER** (*Cyornis turcosus*) – Fine views of several pairs along the Menanggul River on each of our outings there, with another from the big bridge at Poring Hot Springs.
- BORNEAN BLUE FLYCATCHER** (*Cyornis superbus*) – Tougher to find than the previous species; this one made us work for it! After hearing one singing from the BRL dining balcony one afternoon, we finally caught up with one (after waiting out an inconvenient rain shower) on our last morning at BRL. [E]
- INDIGO FLYCATCHER** (*Eumyias indigo*) – Common and showy in the Crocker Range and Kinabalu NP, including some hunting right around our cabins and others checking for moths around the lights at the Timponon Gate.
- VERDITER FLYCATCHER** (*Eumyias thalassinus*) – One hunting in a roadside tree along the BRL entrance road was well-studied as it moved from sun to shade and back again. This was Alan's 3000th world bird!
- EYEBROWED JUNGLE-FLYCATCHER** (*Vauriella gularis*) – Probably one of our easier endemics, with a half dozen or more seen very well daily in Kinabalu NP -- including a briefly-heart-stopping one hunting from a guard rail right beside the road each morning we searched for thrushes. [E]
- WHITE-BROWED SHORTWING (BORNEAN)** (*Brachypteryx montana erythrogyna*) – We heard one singing very close to us at Gunung Alab, and another along the Kinabalu park road. Unfortunately though, only the guides actually laid eyes on it! [E*]
- BORNEAN WHISTLING-THRUSH** (*Myophonus borneensis*) – Nicely common in the mountains, particularly on our pre-breakfast "thrush search" excursions. One of the females near the Timponon Gate was wearing some very strange "booties" on both legs -- a banding experiment gone wrong? [E]
- WHITE-CROWNED FORKTAIL (WHITE-CROWNED)** (*Enicurus leschenaulti frontalis*) – One flashed along the BRL entrance road in front of our vehicle, disappearing over the edge into one of the valley's small creeks.
- WHITE-CROWNED FORKTAIL (BORNEAN)** (*Enicurus leschenaulti borneensis*) – Brief looks for some at one along Kinabalu NP's Silau-Silau trail or another along the river visible from the wooden "sidewalk" on the lower stretch of the park road. Some authorities split this subspecies into a separate species, based on its larger size, longer tail, darker crown (the white cap only extends to the peak of the crest) and the fact that it's found in the highlands rather than the lowlands.
- SNOWY-BROWED FLYCATCHER** (*Ficedula hyperythra sumatrana*) – After struggling to get any kind of look at our first -- a skulking male along Kinabalu's Mempening trail -- we were treated to lovely views of a pair dancing after bugs along the park road in the half-light one early morning. At one point, the male bravely (or foolishly) tackled a centipede that was half again as long as he was!
- PYGMY FLYCATCHER** (*Ficedula hodgsoni*) – We all heard one calling along the Kinabalu NP road late one afternoon, but only Alan -- who'd plunked his three-legged stool down in the perfect spot -- actually saw it. Fortunately, the rest of us caught up with it a few days later along the same stretch of road.

LITTLE PIED FLYCATCHER (*Ficedula westermanni*) – Regular in the highlands, including a soggy adult feeding moths to an even soggy youngster in a tree right off the Liwagu Restaurant balcony one rainy morning.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

ORANGE-HEADED THRUSH (*Geokichla citrina*) – A good example of persistence paying off! After three days of trawling the Kinabalu road with no luck at all, we were finally rewarded on the fourth day with not one, not two but THREE different birds. And what handsome little birds they are! The subspecies in the north Bornean mountains is 'aurata'.

FRUIT-HUNTER (*Chlamydochaera jefferyi*) – We heard the distinctive whistles of one from the darkening forest along the Kinabalu road late one afternoon, but couldn't spot the singer -- despite considerable efforts! [E*]

Sturnidae (Starlings)

ASIAN GLOSSY STARLING (*Aplonis panayensis*) – Regular in some of the more open lowland areas, including a few showy birds around the RDC parking lot and some along the Telipok River. The sexual dimorphism in this species is striking.

COMMON HILL MYNA (*Gracula religiosa*) – Most common around Sukau, with a few pairs seen well from the dining room while we waited out some of the passing rainstorms. The bold gold head wattles of this species help to separate them from the next.

JAVAN MYNA (*Acridotheres javanicus*) – Common around Sepilok and Sukau, including some striding around on a grassy lawn near the RDC parking lot and a big flock of 40 or so in a fruiting tree along the Kinabatangan. [I]

Chloropseidae (Leafbirds)

GREATER GREEN LEAFBIRD (*Chloropsis sonnerati*) – Our first was a female (distinguished by her yellow throat and eye ring) along the Menanggul. We found others (males and females) on the BRL canopy walkway and along the entrance road there, with others at Poring Springs. Males are much more difficult to separate from the next species.

LESSER GREEN LEAFBIRD (*Chloropsis cyanopogon*) – Seen on scattered days in the lowlands, particularly in Danum Valley; our first was a female along the RDC canopy walkway. Male leafbirds can be a real challenge to tell apart; fortunately females are easier!

BORNEAN LEAFBIRD (*Chloropsis kinabaluensis*) – Fine studies of a busy group feasting on berries in some fruiting trees along the road in the Crocker Range, not far from the Masakob Waterfall Garden. This species was split from the Blue-winged Leafbird. [E]

Dicaeidae (Flowerpeckers)

YELLOW-BREASTED FLOWERPECKER (*Prionochilus maculatus*) – Another species in surprisingly low numbers this year. We found one along the Sukau boardwalk and others in the garden visible from the BRL dining room.

YELLOW-VENTED FLOWERPECKER (*Dicaeum chrysorrheum*) – Great studies of one perched for long minutes below a mistletoe clump over our heads on the RDC walkway; in the scopes, we got repeated views of its striped chest and bright yellow vent.

ORANGE-BELLIED FLOWERPECKER (*Dicaeum trigonostigma*) – Probably the most common of the tour's flowerpeckers, seen well in various lowland locations, particularly in Danum Valley. The little male that had claimed the fruiting tree beside our table in the BRL dining room allowed especially close inspection.

PLAIN FLOWERPECKER (*Dicaeum minullum*) – We watched one of these small flowerpeckers feeding at some mistletoe clumps over the far end of the RDC walkway. Its name is certainly appropriate!

BLACK-SIDED FLOWERPECKER (*Dicaeum monticolum*) – Quite common in the highlands, with wonderful views of one berry-nibbling male in a roadside bush on Gunung Alab, and regular visitors to the flowering hedge planted outside our cabins at Kinabalu. [E]

Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)

RUBY-CHEEKED SUNBIRD (*Chalcoparia singalensis*) – Regular in the lowlands, including a male foraging just above eye level along one of the trails at RDC (not far from our first White-chested Babbler) and a female along the Gomantong Caves road. This one reminded a lot of us of a bright Tropical Parula.

PLAIN SUNBIRD (*Anthreptes simplex*) – This one's certainly appropriately named -- it's a study in drab olive! Our first made a quick appearance as we struggled to get a look at a couple of trogons along the Menanggul River late one morning, and we found others on the Gomantong Caves road and the BRL entrance drive.

PLAIN-THROATED SUNBIRD (*Anthreptes malacensis*) – Also known as Brown-throated Sunbird, this is one of the common species of second-growth and open areas, including the garden at Sepilok Nature Resort, the area around the parking lot at RDC and the edges of the Gomantong Caves road.

RED-THROATED SUNBIRD (*Anthreptes rhodolaemus*) – One along the Gomantong Caves road on our first visit. Though very similar to the previous species (to which it is closely related), this one has a reddish (rather than brownish) throat and face, and tends to be found in bigger, better forest.

VAN HASSELT'S SUNBIRD (*Leptocoma brasiliana*) – We dipped on this small canopy species along the RDC walkway (where they're typically most common), but lucked into a male along the Gomantong Caves road one morning. The small size and overall darkness of the male's plumage (with his navy blue throat) is distinctive.

OLIVE-BACKED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris jugularis*) – Small numbers along the Sukau road (singing from the roadside wires) with others in the park at Nabalu (where we looked for Pygmy White-eyes). This is an open-country species.

TEMMINCK'S SUNBIRD (*Aethopyga temminckii*) – Common in the highlands, including a male that had claimed a dead snag near our Kinabalu cabins as his singing perch. What a stunner!

CRIMSON SUNBIRD (*Aethopyga siparaja*) – The lowland replacement of the previous species, seen along the Gomantong Caves road and on the Menanggul. This one definitely rates as "eye candy"!

LITTLE SPIDERHUNTER (*Arachnothera longirostra*) – In addition to the showy bird visiting the flowers right beside the tables at the Sepilok dining room (for those who arrived before sunset on our first day), we spotted others along the Sukau boardwalk trail, the Gomantong Caves road and the BRL entrance road. The bill on this one is surprisingly long -- though not as long as that of the much larger Long-billed Spiderhunter.

PURPLE-NAPED SPIDERHUNTER (*Arachnothera hypogrammicum*) – This was the Purple-naped SUNBIRD until quite recently, when DNA research showed it was more closely related to the spiderhunters than the sunbirds. The heavily-striped chest of this lowland species made it easy to identify, though its purple nape was considerably tougher to see.

WHITEHEAD'S SPIDERHUNTER (*Arachnothera juliae*) – WAHOO! This is one of the island's tougher endemics -- thin on the ground, and typically found high up in the canopy. Fortunately, a couple of calling birds along the road in the Crocker Range made a few passes back and forth

- overhead and then settled on open branches in a nearby treetop, giving us splendid scope views. That bright yellow vent is pretty snazzy! [E]
- YELLOW-EARED SPIDERHUNTER** (*Arachnothera chrysogenys*) – A few folks got a quick look at one Hamit spotted along the Kinabalu park road.
- SPECTACLED SPIDERHUNTER** (*Arachnothera flavigaster*) – One over the last trail we climbed at Poring Hot Springs proved nicely cooperative, allowing us to see it from BOTH sides of the bush.
- BORNEAN SPIDERHUNTER** (*Arachnothera everetti*) – One along the BRL entrance road showed its boldly striped underparts nicely. [E]
- Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)*
- PADDYFIELD PIPIT** (*Anthus rufulus malayensis*) – A couple strode around on the grassy edges of the runway at the Lahad Datu airport.
- Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)*
- EURASIAN TREE SPARROW** (*Passer montanus*) – Common around human habitation, including the entrance to the RDC and the main building at BRL. This introduced species fills the same niche that the House Sparrow does in much of the world. [I]
- Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)*
- DUSKY MUNIA** (*Lonchura fuscans*) – Easily the most common munia of the trip, seen in a variety of locations in the lowlands and hills; it was also one of the most regularly seen of the tour's endemics. The uniformly chocolate-brown plumage helps to quickly separate it from other small species found in tall, grassy habitats. [E]
- SCALY-BREASTED MUNIA** (*Lonchura punctulata*) – A little group foraged in tall reed grasses growing near the Telipok River on our final afternoon, showing nicely their intricately patterned plumage.
- CHESTNUT MUNIA** (*Lonchura atricapilla*) – Our first were rummaging along the weedy edge of the Sukau road -- nice spotting, Merrill! We found others feeding along the Telipok River on our way back to Kota Kinabalu.

MAMMALS

- COLUGO** (*Cynocephalus variegatus*) – One glided across the clearing over our cabins at BRL and stuck its landing on a big tree trunk. It was so smooth that we thought it was an owl gliding in to land! We had great up-close views of this bizarre, spotty mammal as it swiveled its head around, trying to decide where to go next.
- LESSER SHORT-NOSED FRUIT BAT** (*Cynopterus brachyotis*) – A small group hanging on the eaves of a dilapidated building at the edge of the Gomantong Caves parking lot were very approachable -- and very photogenic. They watched warily, ears swiveling, as we stood below. At least one had a baby tucked under her arm.
- WRINKLE-LIPPED FREE-TAILED BAT** (*Chaerephon plicatus*) – Thousands and thousands roosted in shifting, shuffling masses on the ceiling of the "black nest" cave at Gomantong Caves. Unfortunately, they didn't make their usual mass exodus on the evening we visited; perhaps they knew the heavy rain was coming!
- MOUNTAIN TREESHREW** (*Tupaia montana*) – Reasonably common along the park road in Kinabalu NP, with others on the Mempening trail. The long, pointy nose of this dark-furred species helps to distinguish it from the various small tree squirrels which share its habitat. [E]
- CRAB-EATING MACAQUE** (*Macaca fascicularis*) – Regular along the Kinabatangan and its tributaries, typically in big groups scattered among waterside trees, with others along the boardwalk trails around the Sukau lodge. Though they're generally less aggressive than their shorter-tailed cousins, they can be pretty intimidating when you come upon a gang of them in the path! Also known as Long-tailed Macaque.
- PIGTAIL MACAQUE** (*Macaca nemestrina*) – Surprisingly small numbers of this typically common species this year, all away from the lodges. The short tail and dark brown crest of this species help to separate it from the previous one.
- SILVERED LEAF MONKEY** (*Presbytis cristata*) – We found a little group of four along the Kinabatangan one afternoon, and a single golden animal (with a small infant) in a tree right across the river from the lodge one morning; unfortunately, the latter quickly fled as another boat approached. This poorly-known species is rare and declining in Borneo, and is now rated "near threatened" by the IUCN.
- RED LEAF MONKEY** (*Presbytis rubicunda*) – This endemic species, on the other hand, was gratifyingly common; it's thought to be the least-threatened colobine in Borneo. We found several big groups along the Gomantong Caves road (and the boardwalk trail out to the cave itself), with others around the BRL lodge and entrance road. This one is also known as Maroon Langur. [E]
- PROBOSCIS MONKEY** (*Nasalis larvatus*) – Multiple nice encounters with these endangered endemic monkeys along the Kinabatangan and Menanggul rivers -- including a few "Jimmy Durante" males and many pug-nosed females. Their distinctive long white tails were often the first sign we had of them, particularly on our night floats. A recent study shows the size of the male's nose affects his "sex appeal"; the bigger the male's nose, the bigger his harem! [E]
- GRAY GIBBON** (*Hylobates muelleri*) – We heard the eerie whoops of this endemic species on many days in the lowlands, but never spotted the animals themselves -- though we came mighty close along the Gomantong Caves road, where we could hear them moving quietly through the nearby trees. Also known as Bornean Gibbon. [E*]
- ORANGUTAN** (*Pongo pygmaeus*) – Seen on most days in the lowlands, including a young male hanging out near the entrance to the Gomantong Caves, a mother and youngster near one of the villas at the Sukau Rainforest Lodge and "King" -- a big adult male -- making his leafy bed in a tree right above some of the cabins at BRL. This is another endangered primate. Many biologists split the animals found on Borneo from those found on Sumatra. [E]
- PALE GIANT SQUIRREL** (*Ratufa affinis*) – A few encounters with single individuals, including one along the Sukau boardwalk trail and a couple along the BRL entrance road. These are the island's largest squirrel, rivaling some of the monkeys in size!
- PREVOST'S SQUIRREL** (*Callosciurus prevostii*) – Easily the most widespread of the tour's squirrels, seen regularly in the lowlands; one raiding a fruiting tree overhanging the Menanggul was especially cooperative. Its combination of black upperparts and rusty belly is distinctive.
- KINABALU SQUIRREL** (*Callosciurus baluensis*) – This is the highland replacement for the previous species; it's not quite as dark on the upperparts and has a distinctive pale stripe on the side. We found one sitting motionless on a branch along the Mempening trail one morning. [E]
- PLANTAIN SQUIRREL** (*Callosciurus notatus*) – A few scattered individuals along the Menanggul, where their striped sides were obvious as they scampered through the trees.
- BORNEAN BLACK-BANDED SQUIRREL** (*Callosciurus orestes*) – A handful in Kinabalu NP: some around the Timpohon Gate and others along the Mempening trail. This highland species is smaller than the similar lowland Plantain Squirrel, and has a white spot behind its ears. [E]
- JENTINK'S SQUIRREL** (*Sundasciurus jentinki*) – Plenty of these speedy little tree squirrels in Kinabalu NP, where they vastly outnumbered the other species. Given their speed and leaping ability, perhaps they should have been called JETPACK Squirrels! [E]

- BORNEAN MOUNTAIN GROUND-SQUIRREL** (*Dremomys everetti*) – We found some of these short-tailed ground-squirrels on each of our days in the highlands, particularly near the Timpohon Gate. [E]
- PLAIN PYGMY SQUIRREL** (*Exilisciurus exilis*) – There's something eminently appealing about tiny squirrels that are smaller than your thumb! We had great looks at a number of them in various lowland locations. [E]
- BLACK FLYING SQUIRREL** (*Aeromys tephromelas*) – Our first BRL night drive yielded one of these less-common flying squirrels along the entrance road; it peered down from a horizontal branch in a big emergent tree near the road. This is the longest-tailed of Borneo's flying squirrels.
- THOMAS'S FLYING SQUIRREL** (*Aeromys thomasi*) – We spotted one of these endemic flying squirrels along the BRL entrance road on our last night drive there. Unlike the larger (and generally more common Red Giant Flying Squirrel), this one lacks a dark tip to its tail. [E]
- LONG-TAILED PORCUPINE** (*Trichys fasciculata*) – One scuttled across the road in front of the truck on our first night drive. If faced with a predator, the porcupine can drop the white tuft at the end of its tail, which can distract the predator long enough for the porcupine to make its escape.
- MALAY CIVET** (*Viverra zangalunga*) – We saw our first along the BRL entrance road on one of our night drives, then found another right near the main lodge on our last night there. What a gorgeous animal!
- LEOPARD CAT** (*Felis bengalensis*) – Some glowing eyeballs in the spotlight beam along the Menanggul River eventually resolved into a couple of these small, spotty cats, which slunk off through the undergrowth.
- BORNEAN PYGMY ELEPHANT** (*Elephas maximus borneensis*) – A radio message during one afternoon's outing on the Kinabatangan changed our plans and sent us zooming upriver, where we found at least five of these small elephants browsing along the riverbank and (later) one taking a vigorous, splashing bath in the river itself. The subspecies borneensis, which is endemic to the island, is sometimes split out as a distinct species.
- BEARDED PIG** (*Sus barbatus*) – A female with at least seven piglets scurried across one of the trails at RDC, leaving her piglets behind in her haste to get out of view; after abandoning the little ones to mill around for a bit, she returned and led them to safety. Our best views came near the turnoff to the staff quarters at BRL, where a huge, bearded male dug slow, methodical trenches in a grassy strip with his powerful tusks.
- SAMBAR** (*Cervus unicolor*) – We found one on our night drive, resting on a bank along the BRL entrance road. It climbed to its feet and slowly walked off into the forest when we pulled abreast and stopped.

Herps

- WALLACE'S FLYING FROG** (*Rhacophorus nigropalmatus* (Rhacophoridae)) – The white-chinned little green tree frog we found along the Sukau boardwalk trail on our night walk was probably this species.
- FILE-EARED TREEFROG** (*Polypedates otolophus* (Rhacophoridae)) – According to Hamit, the very large treefrog we spotted up in the Brown Boobook tree on our first evening together was likely to be this species. In fact, the eyes were so far apart that we thought it was the owl when we first spotted the eyeshine!
- SALTWATER CROCODILE** (*Crocodylus porosus*) – Regular in the Kinabatangan and its tributaries, particularly on our night floats, when we found several lurking along the river banks. We saw a few fairly small youngsters on the Menanggul.
- CRESTED GREEN LIZARD** (*Bronchocela cristatella*) – Merrill spotted one of these (and got a picture of it) along the Gomantong Caves road on our second visit.
- HORNED FLYING LIZARD** (*Draco cornutus*) – We spotted one of these our very first morning at RDC. They look like speedy little lawn darts as they zip across the path!
- RED-BEARDED FLYING LIZARD** (*Draco haematopogon*) – The flying lizards we saw in the Danum Valley and at Poring Springs were probably this species; they appeared far less green-backed than the Horned Flying Lizard.
- SMITH'S GIANT GECKO** (*Gekko smithii*) – We heard the deep barking of this foot-long species, which is also widely known as the Barking Gecko, on several days (and nights) in the lowlands. [*]
- COMMON SUN SKINK** (*Eutropis multifasciata*) – We found a few of these small lizards, including some in the forest at RDC and another along the BRL's Hornbill trail.
- WATER MONITOR** (*Varanus salvator*) – A scattered few along the Menanggul, including a few fairly small youngsters.

Other Creatures of Interest

- GIANT HONEY BEE** (*Apis dorsata*) – Many of the combs of these enormous bees -- the world's largest honeybee -- have disappeared from their former locations. Fortunately, we found one big comb, covered with bees, on a limb overhanging a maintenance parking lot at Poring Hot Springs.
- RAFFLESIA (PORING)** (*Rafflesia keithii*) – This species is currently the world's second largest flower; only *Rafflesia arnoldii* is bigger. Unfortunately, the latter, which grows in Indonesia, is seriously endangered, and *R. keithii* may soon take the crown. [E]
- PITCHER PLANT SP.** (*Nepenthes fusca*) – Though we couldn't get to some of the most famous pitcher plant sites -- some roads closed by the 2016 earthquake on Mount Kinabalu are still unopened -- we did find a few species under the park sign on Gunung Alab. This was the larger green one. [E]
- PITCHER PLANT SP.** (*Nepenthes tentaculata*) – And these were the tiny red ones twined among the previous species on Gunung Alab.
- BROWN LEECH** (*Haemadipsa zuelanica*) – Daily in the Danum Valley, where they outnumbered the next species. Fortunately, we didn't find TOO many, and the bloodletting was kept to a minimum! This species first injects a bit of primitive anesthesia into its victim, so you don't actually feel it biting -- sneaky!
- TIGER LEECH** (*Haemadipsa picta*) – A few on most days in Danum Valley. Also known as Painted Leech, this one dispenses with the anesthesia of the previous species -- hence the "tiger" of its name!
- BORNEAN PILL MILLIPEDE** (*Glomeris connexa*) – We found one of these huge millipedes curled up in the middle of the road in Danum Valley, looking rather like a gigantic wood louse.
- LONG-LEGGED CENTIPEDES** (*Scutigera* spp.) – The scores clinging to the walls of the Gomantong Caves are definitely nightmare inducing -- as are the thousands and thousands of cockroaches!
- GIANT FOREST ANT** (*Camponotus gigas*) – Seen on many days in the lowlands, either trundling along the paths or working their way up various tree trunks. It wouldn't take many of these to clean up a picnic!
- CHAN'S MEGASTICK** (*Phobaeticus chani*) – One brought to the young Whitehead's Trogon by its father put up a good fight before finally being consumed. I can't imagine it needed much else to eat that day!
- COMMON BIRDWING** (*Tioides helena* (Papilionidae)) – Dozens seen during the course of the tour, all in the lowlands. This was definitely a distraction during our search for various species; it's bigger than some of the birds we were looking for!

RAJAH BROOKE'S BIRDWING (*Trogonoptera brookiana* (Papilionidae)) – A few seen in the highlands, including one drifting over the park road on our very last morning. We weren't quite as overwhelmed by its beauty as Alfred R. Wallace was when he saw his first (he reputedly was overcome by a massive headache), but it was certainly very pretty.

COMMON TREE NYMPH (WOOD NYMPH) (*Idea stollii* (Nymphalidae)) – Abundant throughout the lowlands, where they floated like wisps of tissue paper through the forests.

CLIPPER BUTTERFLY (*Parthenos sylvia* (Nymphalidae)) – Another regular species in the lowlands. This fast-flying species is found in forested areas from India to New Guinea.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Totals for the tour: 252 bird taxa and 27 mammal taxa