INDIA BHARATPUR, PANGOT & CORBETT

JANUARY 9th - 23rd DANIEL BRANCH

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Flights

We flew with Turkish Airlines from London Gatwick to Delhi via Istanbul. Our flights cost within the region of £350, although this varied due to different trip members purchasing at different times. We departed London midmorning, arriving in Delhi at 6am. This helpfully meant we were able to make the most of our first day.

Travelling around

Taxis were used for all of our travelling. India is such a cheap country that there was no great expense in this method, even for long journeys; such as between Bharatpur and Pangot, an overnight journey of nine hours. As we were such a large group we often had to divide into two parties, but for longer journeys we hired minibuses. Indian road sense is all but none existent, and driving yourself is really not an option.

Food

Most of the accommodation we stayed at provided food, which was always excellent. The only exception was at 'Camp Big Cat' at Ramnagar, where we ventured to a nearby hotel for evening meals. As a group we were very conscious about the risk of 'Delhi Belly' so used a vast amount of alcoholic hand gel and always made sure that the food we ate was as hot as possible. Despite our precautions a number of our team did suffer upset stomachs.

Money

Because Rupees are a closed currency we were only able source them once we had arrived in India. We took out money at the airport, and then took further withdrawals whenever we found an ATM. ATM's were present in most of the places we stayed, but we sometimes found them lacking in cash to withdraw. A number of our party had an issue withdrawing money, in that certain banks would not allow the withdrawals, and suspended cards.

Vaccines

Before our trip we made sure that our Typhoid and Hepatitis B jabs were up to date, although we had to pay through the roof for Hep B due to a national shortage. One of our team was bitten by a dog in Pangot, so had a rabies jab in India. Fortunately this was organised by the hotel, and was extremely cheap.





Mugger Crocodile Crocodylus palustris Chambal River D.Branch

Hotels

Jungle Lodge; Bharatpur:

27.207565, 77.513119

Our first digs was a small hotel just ten minutes' walk from the Keoladeo National Park at Bharatpur. The owners were extremely helpful during our trip, organising taxis and providing both breakfast and an evening meal. Breakfast was always at half 7, so often we did not make it into the park until after 8.00. The roof of the hotel was an excellent vantage point to watch birds fly in and out of the park, so most of our mornings were spent there.

Nature Drops; Pangot:

29.422157, 79.404901

Rather than a building with rooms, the Nature Drops set up involved large tents with beds inside. The staff made every effort to make us feel as at home as possible, as well as making sure that we experienced the best of Indian culture (Including an Indian disco!). Birding was easy from right outside our lodgings, and when we wanted to travel further afield the staff would provide a taxi service.

Hotel de Floresta; Corbett:

29.360600, 79.188858

This was more up-market than the other digs we stayed at, but it was part of the packet for our tours in the Corbett National Park. The farms and woodland immediately around the hotel were excellent for birding. Our timetable here was more restricted due to the schedule of tours within the park, but we still had plenty of time for casual birding. Food was excellent, with a buffet style restaurant, where serving times coincided with the times of our tours.

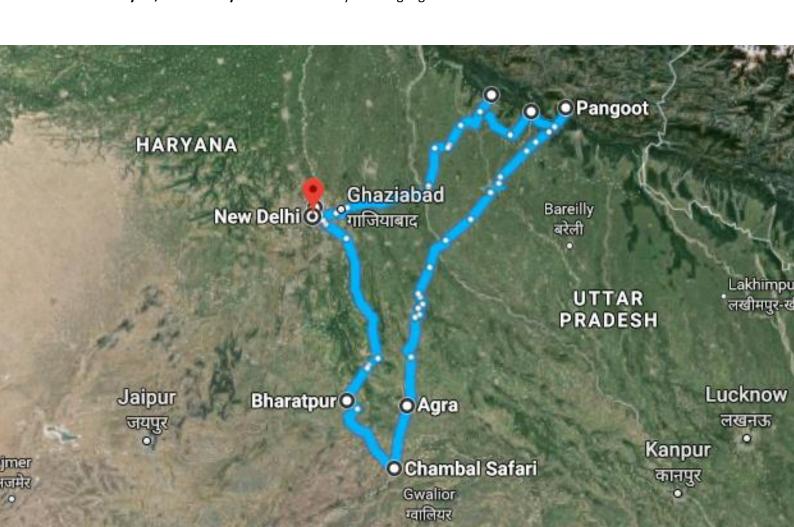
Camp Big Cat; Ramnagar:

29.469063, 79.150191

Our final hotel was right alongside the Kosi River in Ramnagar. We were able to bird straight from the hotel, as it had an awesome rooftop vantage point from which we were able to set up scopes and scan a large area of the valley. This was the only place where we stayed that meals were not provided. As always they were as helpful as possible in making sure that we were able to get out to as many sites as we could, although the owner seemed keener to make sure his brother did the taxiing, which did cost us some time.

Itinerary

Day 1; 9 th January	Arrival in India. Travel from Delhi to Bharatpur. Afternoon	
	birding Keoladeo National Park	
Day 2; 10 th January	Spend all day birding Keoladeo National Park	
Day 3; 11 th January	Morning visit to Kumher. Afternoon birding Keoladeo	
	National Park.	
Day 4; 12 th January	Chambal River cruise early morning. Afternoon spent at	
	Taj Mahal. Overnight drive to Pangot	
Day 5; 13 th January	Arrival in Pangot mid-morning. Afternoon birding around	
	Nature Drops	
Day 6; 14 th January	Birding around Nature Drops	
Day 7; 15 th January	Birding around Pangot	
Day 8; 16 th January	Early morning visit to Cheer Point. Afternoon birding	
	around Shaolin Temple	
Day 9; 17 th January	Morning birding around Shaolin Temple. Afternoon travel	
	Hotel de Floresta	
Day 10; 18 th January	Morning and afternoon jeep safari in Corbett National	
	Park. Birding around Hotel de Floresta in between	
Day 11; 19 th January	Morning jeep safari in Corbett National Park. Afternoon	
	relocate to Camp Big Cat, Ramnagar	
Day 12; 20 th January	Birding along Kosi River	
Day 13; 21 st January	Morning visit to Kumeria. Birding along Kosi River in	
	afternoon.	
Day 14; 22 nd January	Early morning birding along Kosi River. Relocate to Delhi	
	in afternoon	
Day 15; 23 rd January	Birding around Delhi. Visit Okhla Bird Sanctuary	
Day 16; 24 th January	Early morning flight from Delhi	



Bharatpur: Keoladeo National Park

27.203673, 77.506704

The first three days of our trip we spent birding the Keoladeo National Park in Bharatpur. The park is not right to roam so all the birding is done from the main track through the park. Half the park was closed in 2018, due to the presence of a man eating Leopard. For our time here we hired a guide, which was not really necessary, but did help us with some day roosting owls and other birding outside the park. Keoladeo is absolutely enormous, it has to be said. The first kilometre goes through arid, scrubby habitat, followed by an area of woodland before it opens out into the main wetland area of the reserve. The wetland is extremely expansive, covering most of the park. Further along towards the restricted area there was an area of grassland which was also extremely productive for birding. In order to make the most of our time in the park, after our first day we hired rickshaws to make sure we were able to explore new areas. These were quite cheap and saved us a lot of time.

The monsoon had been poor the previous season so as a result the water levels were much lower than usual and, according to our guide; there were 50% less birds. This was staggering to comprehend as there were still thousands of birds in the park. Wildfowl, Herons and other waterbirds were abundant in every body of water; every tree had warblers, flycatchers and chats whilst overhead circled raptors of a huge variety of species. The birding was truly phenomenal!

Highlights

Sarus Crane - One of the main target species for a birding trip to Bharatpur are these impressive cranes, the tallest flying bird in the world, standing at just less than two metres tall. The reduced water level and subsequent lack of birds meant we only saw two very distant pairs.

Painted Snipe - With help from our guide we saw two males in the centre of Bharatpur town itself (27.226113, 77.503016). The location was something to be appreciated; a sulphurous ditch littered with rubbish and sewage. Fortunately the

viewing conditions meant we were able to watch the birds feed out in the open without disturbing them.

Orange-headed Thrush - Always likely to be a tricky species to see, as they do not winter at the park every year, when we did find one just before dark on our first day it did not disappoint. The wooded area a few kilometres into the park, before the wetland, seemed to be the preferred area for them.

Nilgai - Are the largest Asian antelope and are really impressive beasts. Having seen a few briefly on the drive up it was nice to get a proper look at these substantial animals as males, females and calves all came out to feed on the marsh.

Keoladeo temple - Just round the corner from the temple is a small picnic area, and it was a brilliant place to stop (27.165302, 77.525253). Brahminy Starlings, Bank and Common Myna would all come down stupidly close if you threw out food, and Jungle Babblers would take food from your hands if you offered it. House Crows and Rufous Treepies would also come down, but were a bit more wary. It was also a relaxing location to scope for raptors flying over.





Top left: Yellow-footed Green Pigeon *Treron phoenicoptera* Bharatpur **D.Branch.** Top right: Little Cormorant. *Microcarbo niger* Bharatpur **D.Branch.** Middle left: Yellow Monitor *Varanus flavescens* Bharatpur **D.Branch.** Middle right: Yellow-crowned Woodpecker *Leiopicus mahrattensis* Bharatpur **D.Branch.** Bottom left: Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis* Bharatpur **T.Jones**. Bottom right: Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* Bharatpur **J.Fisk.**

Species List:

Keoladeo National Park: Indian Peafowl, Grey Francolin, Bar-headed Goose, Greylag Goose, Cotton Pygmy Goose, Knob-billed Duck, Ruddy Shelduck, Lesser Whistling Duck, Eurasian Teal, Garganey, Pintail, Shoveler, Gadwall, Spot-billed Duck, Ferruginous Duck, Little Grebe, Black bittern, Striated Heron, Indian Pond Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Purple Heron, Great White Egret, Intermediate Egret, Little Egret, Grey Heron, Asian Openbill, Black-necked Stork, Woolly-necked Stork, Painted Stork, Black-headed Ibis, Glossy Ibis, Spoonbill, Dalmatian Pelican, Asian Darter, Little Cormorant, Indian Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Shikra, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Black Kite, Western Marsh Harrier, Indian Vulture, Egyptian Vulture, Eastern Imperial Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Indian Spotted Eagle, Bonelli's Eagle, Booted Eagle, Crested Serpent Eagle, White-tailed Sea Eagle, Ruddy-breasted Crake, Sarus Crane, Common Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, Grey-headed Swamphen, White-breasted Waterhen, White-tailed Lapwing, Grey-headed Lapwing, Bronze-winged Jacana, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Red-wattled Lapwing, Black-winged Stilt, Painted Snipe, Common Snipe, Greenshank, Green Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Common Redshank, Spotted Redshank, Ruff, Laughing Dove, Eurasian Collared Dove, Red Collared Dove, Yellow-footed Green Pigeon, Feral Pigeon, Ring-necked Parakeet, Common Kestrel, Black-rumped Flameback, Yellow-crowned

Woodpecker, Spotted Owlet, Dusky Eagle Owl, Common Hawk Cuckoo, Greater Coucal, Little Green Bee-eater, Indian Roller, White-breasted Kingfisher, Pied Kingfisher, Common Kingfisher, Indian Grey Hornbill, Hoopoe, Brown-headed Barbet, Coppersmith Barbet, Little Swift, Indian Golden Oriole, Black Drongo, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, Long-tailed Shrike, Bay-backed Shrike, Eastern Jungle Crow, House Crow, Rufous Treepie, Blyth's Reed Warbler, Siberian Chiffchaff, Greenish Warbler, Hume's Leaf Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat, Plain Prinia, Ashy Prinia, Common Tailorbird, Barn Swallow, Wire-tailed Swallow, Red-rumped Swallow, Grey-throated Martin, Redvented Bulbul, White-cheeked Bulbul, Oriental White-eye, Jungle Babbler, Large Grey Babbler, Common Babbler, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Orange-headed Thrush, Indian Robin, Oriental Magpie Robin, Bluethroat, Black Redstart, Brown Rock Chat, Pied Bushchat, Siberian Stonechat, Brahminy Starling, Bank Myna, Common Myna, Pied Myna, Purple Sunbird, Baya Weaver, Red Avadavat, Indian Silverbill, House Sparrow, Olivebacked Pipit, Paddyfield Pipit, White Wagtail, Grev Wagtail, Citrine Wagtail, Golden Jackal, Nilgai, Sambar, Spotted Deer, Large Indian Mongoose, Rhesus Macaque, Five-lined Palm Squirrel, Indian Flying Fox, Yellow Water Monitor, Yellow-green House Gecko, Brahminy Terrapin, Indian Softshell Turtle, Common Rat Snake, Plain Tiger, Red Helen, Pioneer, White Orange Tip, Large Salmon Arab, White Arab,

Black-necked Stork Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus Bharatpur T.Jones



27.341084, 77.3662806

Whilst staying in Bharatpur we had only one mornings birding away from the National Park, which we spent around the dry fields of Kumher, roughly 20km from Bharatpur. The guide we had hired was extremely useful for providing us information about the site, specifically referring to Indian Courser. The area was little more than dry arable fields, with a very arid, desert like feel to it. The birding mainly involved scoping through the haze across the fields. There were good numbers of larks and wheatears, as well as all of our target species in this area.

Highlights

Indian Courser - Our guide took us to two different locations to look for this species. At our first stop, after some time, two coursers dropped in and began feeding. But then at our next stop we were given a real treat with double figures scattered across the roadside fields. We were generally restricted to distant scope views, the birds being very wary of our presence and keeping distant.

White-browed Bushchat - Not one of the most colourful birds we saw, but apparently one of the rarest. Even our guide was excited to see it hopping around us. Normally found in more western India, it is a species that is often specifically targeted on tours.

Species List:

Kumher: Egyptian Vulture, Green Sandpiper, Blackwinged Stilt, Yellow-wattled Lapwing, Indian Thickknee, Indian Courser, Ring-necked Parakeet,
Spotted Owlet, Greater Coucal, Hoopoe, White-throated Kingfisher, Isabelline Shrike, Long-tailed Shrike, Southern Grey Shrike, House Crow, Crested Lark, Greater Short-toed Lark, Indian Bushlark,
Bimaculated Lark, Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark,
Lesser Whitethroat, Red-vented Bulbul, Common Babbler, Large Grey Babbler, Indian Robin, Black
Redstart, Desert Wheatear, Isabelline Wheatear,
White-browed Chat, Pied Bushchat, Common Myna, Indian Silverbill, Tawny Pipit,

12.01.2018

Chambal River Cruise

26.770195, 78.646865

The advice we had been given was to arrive at the Chambal River as early as possible before people came out and flushed the birds, so our river cruise embarked at 08.00 under the orange glow of sunrise. As a consequence of our early start there were good numbers of waders and wagtails around, but there was a distinct lack of crocodiles, it still being too cool for them to emerge from the river. In total the cruise lasted for about an hour and a half.

After the boat trip we spent a bit of time birding the adjacent riverbank. We checked all areas of scrub and open land with many good birds found. Sadly our time birding there was cut short after we were advised to return to the river, as gangs apparently operate in that area!

Highlights

Ganges River Dolphin - One of the highlights for the trip was a very showy performance from this very rare cetacean. We first spotted it when we were nearing the end of our boat tour along the river. It took a while for everyone to connect, such were its brief appearances, but soon everyone did. It continued to perform for the rest of the morning, and whilst we were birding the nearby bank we frequently saw its profile emerge and disappear.

Top left: Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schach Kumher D.Branch. Top right: Pied Bushchat. Saxicola caprata Kumher D.Branch. Middle left: Indian Bushlark Mirafra erythroptera Kumher D.Branch. Middle right: Yellow-wattled Lapwing Vanellus malabaricus Kumher D.Branch. Bottom left: Paddyfield Pipit Anthus rufulus Chambal River D.Branch. Bottom right: White-browed Bushchat Saxicola macrorhynchus Kumher D.Branch.





Crocodiles - There are two species at this site, and both are easy to see. However, because of our early boat trip hardly any crocodiles had emerged from the water. It wasn't until we were exploring the riverbank that we saw Gharial. We were able to get close to a few Mugger Crocodiles that emerged towards the end of our trip.

Indian Skimmer - One of the main avian targets for this stage of the trip. A large flock of some 100+ birds was settled on one of the emergent sand banks in the river, and with the boat we were able to get quite close. They did not do much besides sleep however, and we saw very few in flight.

Species List:

Chambal River Cruise: Grey Francolin, Indian Peafowl, Bar-headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Grey Heron, Painted Stork, Egyptian Vulture, Shikra, Black-winged Stilt, Kentish Plover, Little Ringed Plover, Common Sandpiper, Greenshank, Painted Snipe, River Lapwing, Red-wattled Lapwing, Great Stone Curlew, Brown-headed Gull, Pallas's Gull, River Tern, Indian Skimmer, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Feral Pigeon, Laggar Falcon, Sirkeer Malkhoa, Pied Kingfisher, White-breasted Kingfisher, House Crow, Brookes Leaf Warbler, Common Babbler, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Indian Robin, Black Redstart, Blue Rock Thrush, Greythroated Martin, Red-rumped Swallow, White Wagtail, Western Yellow Wagtail, White-browed Wagtail, Paddyfield Pipit, Tree Pipit, Ganges River Dolphin, Gharial, Mugger Crocodile,

Taj Mahal

27.179888, 78.042093

A trip to India wouldn't be complete without visiting this famous landmark! Because we went on a Friday the main gardens were closed so our viewing was restricted to the back garden, and unfortunately the beauty was somewhat lost. That being said, the back garden was a good place for birds, and there were quite a few migrants in the garden's fruit trees.

Species List:

Taj Mahal: Lesser Adujanat, Eastern Cattle Egret, Egyptian Vulture, Black Kite, Black-winged Stilt,

Pied Avocet, Ruff, Whiskered Tern, Eurasian
Collared Dove, Laughing Dove, Ring-necked
Parakeet, Hoopoe, Little Swift, Black Drongo,
House Crow, Rufous Treepie, Purple Sunbird, Large
Grey Babbler, Oriental White-eye, Hume's Leaf
Warbler, Siberian Chiffchaff, Red-breasted
Flycatcher, Taiga Flycatcher, Common Myna,
Western Yellow Wagtail, Grey-throated Martin,
Barn Swallow, Five-striped Palm Squirrel, Common
Tiger,

Pangot

29.423995, 79.427184

We drove overnight from Agra to Pangot, a small village in the foothills of the Himalayas. We enjoyed excellent birding from immediately around our accommodation, which was a good few kilometres down the valley from Pangot. It was more open than most of the area around Pangot itself, being surrounded more by small plots of farmland than the thick woodland that grew on the mountainsides that surrounded us. The roads provided the best routes through the woods around Pangot, and exploring them yielded a wide range of species.

Most of our information about specific wintering birds was from Jungle Lore (29.423879, 79.427112), another hotel closer to Pangot village than Nature Drops. Many guides from tour companies stopped at the Lore, providing us with up to date information and the best sites to visit. The knowledge we gained here helped us connect with a number of our target species.

One of the best sites we were referred to was a Shaolin temple (29.421678, 79.393376) eight kilometres down the valley from Pangot, but helpfully not too far from Nature Drops. This area offered some extremely productive birding. A small river flowed passed the temple; Upstream the scrub opened up, with agricultural fields above it, where downstream the river descended into thick woodland.

Highlights

Kalij Pheasant - These extravagant birds were extremely abundant along the roadside as we drove up towards Pangot, but their preference for forest meant we did not see many around the accommodation.

Spotted Forktail - Without doubt a trip highlight. On our second day we followed a track from Nature Drops down to the bottom of the valley below (29.419497, 79.411123). There was a small river here, which from a distance we thought

looked ideal for Spotted Forktail. We worked our way down and eventually arrived at a nice wooded valley with good ground level shrubbery. And we were right, as we found two Forktail territories along the stream.

Long-billed Thrush - Unfortunately only a couple of the team saw this bird, as it was extremely elusive and disappeared quickly after being found. It was certainly an odd beast, with its bizarre posture and peculiar bill shape.

Golden Bush Robin - Our first encounter was with a female which was wintering in the garden at Jungle Lore itself. It was a particularly skulky individual and never really showed well. Our second encounter was quite the opposite! At the Shaolin Temple we encountered an adult male in all its glory. The bird itself was easy to keep track of from its growling call emanating from the undergrowth. The birds colour was mind blowing, so ridiculously bright, and without doubt the standout bird from the whole trip.

Himalayan Rubythroat - The Shaolin temple site really was the place to be. Not long after we first encountered the Golden Bush Robin we enjoyed superb views of a stunning male Himalayan or White-tailed Rubythroat, another of our most wanted to see species.

Crimson Sunbird - Fortunately for us, when we encountered this species it was an extremely gaudy male, which showed nicely in a blossomed tree near the Shaolin temple. The only catch was that it did not stop, and was always on the move.

Chestnut-headed Tesia - These bizarre little birds are notoriously difficult to see, especially when we heard numerous individuals calling from the scrub all around us. Fortunately we were able to catch glimpses of a few birds as they scuttled through the undergrowth.



Top left: Slaty-blue Flycatcher Ficedula tricolor Pangot D.Branch. Top right: Spot-winged Grosbeak. Mycerobas melanozanthos Pangot D.Branch. Middle left: Himalayan Rubythroat Luscinia pectoralis Pangot D.Branch. Middle right: Rufous-bellied Woodpecker Dendrocopos hyperythrus Pangot T.Jones. Bottom left: Rufous-breasted Accentor Prunella strophiata Pangot J.Fisk. Bottom right: Grey Bushchat Saxicola ferreus Pangot T.Jones.

Species List:

Pangot: Kalij Pheasant, Black Francolin, Besra, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Steppe Eagle, Indian Black Eagle, Mountain Hawk Eagle, Himalayan Griffon Vulture, Spotted Dove, Oriental Turtle Dove, Feral Pigeon, Asian Barred Owlet, Speckled Piculette, Brown-fronted Woodpecker, Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Grey-headed Woodpecker, Rufousbellied Woodpecker, Himalayan Woodpecker, Slaty-headed Parakeet, Great Barbet, Little Swift, White-throated Fantail, Yellow-bellied Fantail, Long-tailed Minivet, Spangled Drongo, Bronzed Drongo, Grey-backed Shrike, Long-tailed Shrike, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Grey Treepie, Blackheaded Jay, Eurasian Jay, Large-billed Crow, Northern Raven, Coal Tit, Green-backed Tit, Blacklored Tit, Black-throated Tit, Yellow-browed Tit, Striated Prinia, Grey-breasted Prinia, Common Tailorbird, Lesser Whitethroat, Aberrant Bush Warbler, Grey-sided Bush Warbler, Chestnutheaded Tesia, Siberian Chiffchaff, Buff-barred Warbler, Lemon-rumped Warbler, Hume's Leaf Warbler, Ashy-throated Warbler, Grey-hooded Warbler, Whistler's Warbler, Black-faced Warbler, Barn Swallow, Black Bulbul, Himalayan Bulbul, Red-vented Bulbul, Oriental White-eye, Whiskered Yuhina, Rufous Sibia, Jungle Babbler, Rustycheeked Scimitar Babbler, Black-chinned Babbler, Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush, Striated Laughingthrush, Streaked Laughingthrush, Whitetailed Nuthatch, Bar-tailed Creeper, Spotted Forktail, Long-billed Thrush, Grey-winged Blackbird, Blue Whistling Thrush, Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush, Himalayan Bluetail, Small Niltava, Rufous-bellied Niltava, Blue-fronted Redstart, Blue-capped Redstart, Himalayan Rubythroat, Golden Bush Robin, White-capped Water Redstart, Plumbeous Water Redstart, Grey Bushchat, Siberian Stonechat, Rufous-gorgeted flycatcher, Slaty-blue Flycatcher, Common Myna, Fire-tailed Sunbird, Green-tailed Sunbird, Crimson Sunbird, Black-throated Accentor, Rufous-breasted Accentor, Scaly-breasted Munia, House Sparrow, Russet Sparrow, Olive-backed Pipit, Grey Wagtail, Yellow-breasted Greenfinch, Spot-winged Grosbeak, Scarlet Rosefinch, White-capped Bunting, Hanuman Langur, Rhesus Macaque, Indian Muntjac, Himalayan Agama, Sorrel Sapphire, Common Emigrant, Blue Pansy, Pallas Sailor, Indian Red Admiral, Indian Tortoiseshell, Chocolate Pansy, Common Punch, Common Copper, Hummingbird Hawkmoth,

White-throated Fantail Rhipidura albicollis Hotel de Floresta D.Branch





Lammergeier Gypaetus barbatus Cheer Point T.Jones

Cheer Point

29.467259, 79.389370

About an hour's drive from Nature Drops, this was the place to see the rarer pheasant species as well as Lammergeier. The point itself was an area of upland grassland on the boarder of an area of woodland. From there you could overlook a huge area, all the way down to Corbett National Park on a good day. The best strategy, we were told, was to use a scope to scan the woodland edges to try and spot pheasants emerging early morning. We spent a morning here, present from first light, but sadly were unable to spot any pheasants.

Highlights

Lammergeier - The early start paid off, sadly not for pheasant but for Lammergeier. We had a superb near-adult bird fly out from the cliff below us, and then out into the valley. About five minutes later the bird reappeared gliding towards us at eye level before flying overhead at a phenomenally close range, giving views that were simply unbelievable. It then flew round the point itself, and was not seen again that day.

Species List:

Cheer Point: Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Steppe Eagle, Lammergeier, Himalayan Griffon Vulture, Altai Accentor, Common Kestrel, Peregrine, Large-billed Crow, Striated Prinia, Black Bulbul, Black-throated Tit, Crag Martin, Streaked Laughingthrush, Longtailed Thrush, Blue Whistling Thrush, Blue-capped Redstart, Rock Bunting, Himalayan Goral, Indian Muntjac, Rhesus Macaque, Himalayan Agama, Sorrel Sapphire,

Corbett National Park

29.442941, 79.064517

The park can only be accessed by organised tours. We booked two tours for first thing in the mornings and one in an evening. We figured this would give us the best chance at spotting tiger, as well as the most bird species. Our tour jeeps collected us from our hotel and dropped us off once our tours had finished. Tours lasted around two hours following tracks around different sections of the park.

The first of our tours was in the Jhirna zone of the park, the area that's better for birding. The tour took us through a wide variety of habitats; tall grassland, open riverbeds and dry woodland. Our birding was restricted as a result of the jeeps, but we still saw many species that we had not yet encountered on our trip. Each jeep safari provided a guide, and our guide for this particular tour was excellent, spotting a whole host of different species and really interacting with us. Sadly the other guides we got on later trips were less helpful.

Our other two tours took place in the Bijrani zone, which was better for targeting large mammals. Although we followed pug marks, and at one point were even able to smell one, we did not see a tiger. The Bijrani zone had a lot less to offer bird wise, although we were trying harder to spot tiger, so made sure that we covered more ground to give ourselves the best chance. Unfortunately, we did not see tiger.

Highlights

Asian Elephant - It took until our last trip but we finally saw one of the parks rare large mammals. The individual that we spotted was a large tuskless bull which was feeding away in the middle of a large patch of tall grass. It offered something in the way of compensation for missing out on Tiger.

Hornbills - We quickly connected with all three Hornbill species that can be seen at Corbett. Indian Grey was the most common, then Oriental Pied Hornbill which we saw perched up nicely and then Great Hornbill, the most impressive of the three, but which we found the most tricky to see.

Orange-bellied Leafbird - The most unexpected addition to our mornings birding! It was first noticed up in the canopy of a rather tall tree. It left us all a little puzzled, being unlike anything anyone on the trip had seen before.

Species List:

Corbett National Park: Red Jungle Fowl, Indian Peafowl, Ruddy Shelduck, Mallard, Striated Heron, Indian Pond Heron, Little Egret, Changeable Hawkeagle, Crested Serpent Eagle, Black-shouldered Kite, Hen Harrier, River Lapwing, Green Sandpiper, Spotted Dove, Feral Pigeon, Yellow-footed Green Pigeon, Ring-necked Parakeet, Plum-headed Parakeet, Great Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Greater Yellownape, Black-rumped Flameback, Streak-throated Woodpecker, White-throated Kingfisher, Crested Kingfisher, Coppersmith Barbet, Brown-headed Barbet, Blue-fronted Barbet, Crested Treeswift, Orange-bellied Leafbird, Long-tailed Minivet, Greater Racquet-tailed Drongo, White-bellied Drongo, Black Drongo, Plain Prinia, Grey-breasted Prinia, Hume's Leaf Warbler, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Red-vented Bulbul, Whitecheeked Bulbul, Oriental White-eye, Jungle Babbler, Blue Whistling Thrush, Black Redstart, Pied Bushchat, Siberian Stonechat, Grey Bushchat, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Common Myna, Blyth's Pipit, Five-striped Palm Squirrel, Hanuman Langur, Rhesus Macaque, Indian Elephant, Golden Jackal, Indian Muntjac, Spotted Deer, Sambar, Wild Boar,

Top left: **Great Eggfly** *Hypolimnas bolina* Hotel de Floresta **D.Branch.** Top right: **Common Mormon**. *Papilio polytes* Hotel de Floresta **D.Branch.** Middle left: **Striped Tiger** *Danaus genutia* Hotel de Floresta **D.Branch.** Middle right: **Dark Blue Tiger** *Tirumala septentrionis* Hotel de Floresta **D.Branch**. Bottom left: **Common Beak** *Libythea lepita* Hotel de Floresta **D.Branch**. Bottom right: **Baronet** *Euthalia nais* Hotel de Floresta **D.Branch**.



Hotel de Floresta

29.360600, 79.188858

Between our tours we had a good few hours to kill, so some time was spent birding around our hotel. The adjacent woodland was opened out in numerous places with smallholdings and fields, and this mosaic of habitats brought out a nice variety of species. Further down the path from the hotel we arrived at a more substantial river with rocky shoreline, which we followed for some distance. Each new habitat produced new species, many of which we had yet to see on the trip.

Highlights

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch - Further upriver from our hotel we found a small orchard with a mixed flock travelling through it. We filtered through the regular species and picked out Chestnut-bellied and a superb Velvet-fronted Nuthatch.

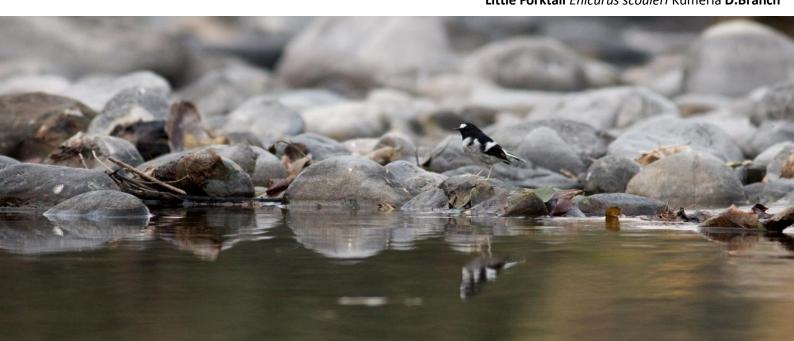
Verditer Flycatcher - In terms of blue birds, there is very little than can compare to the dazzling shade of blue that is the Verditer Flycatcher. Sadly we only saw one, briefly as it flew across the river, alighted in a tree and then dropped down. However, even from a distance you could appreciate just how stunningly bright this bird was.

Butterflies - Not only was there a large variety of butterflies but they were all extremely beautiful. Common Tigers were abundant, as were a number of white or blue tiger species. Each new garden we passed provided us with a new species to admire.

Species List:

Hotel de Floresta: Greylag Goose, Little Cormorant, Eastern Cattle Egret, Little Egret, Shikra, Red-headed Vulture, Himalayan Griffon Vulture, European Black Vulture, Steppe Eagle, Black Kite, Red-wattled Lapwing, Green Sandpiper, Spotted Dove, Jungle Owlet, Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker, Himalayan Flameback, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Bluebearded Bee-eater, Pied Kingfisher, Lineated Barbet, Brown-headed Barbet, White-rumped Spinetail, Himalayan Swiftlet, Crested Treeswift, Yellow-bellied Fantail, White-throated Fantail, Common Iora, Ashy Drongo, Spangled Drongo, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, Brown Shrike, Rufous Treepie, Cinereous Tit, Plain Prinia, Common Tailorbird, Siberian Chiffchaff, Greenish Warbler, Barn Swallow, Grey-throated Martin, Dusky Crag Martin, Red-vented Bulbul, Redwhiskered Bulbul, Black Bulbul, Himalayan Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Indian Nuthatch, Velvetfronted Nuthatch, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, Oriental Magpie Robin, Indian Robin, Plumbeous Water Redstart, White-capped Water Redstart, Brown Rock Chat, Grey Bushchat, Verditer Flycatcher, Little Pied Flycatcher, Taiga Flycatcher, Long-billed Pipit, White-browed Wagtail, White Wagtail, Grey Wagtail, Citrine Wagtail, Common Leopard, Common Tiger, Glassy Tiger, Common Crow, Angled Pierrot, Common Pierrot Indian Red Admiral, Great Eggfly, Rustic, Baronet, Mottled Emigrant, Common Grass Yellow, Pallas's Glider, Common Beak, Common Mormon,

Little Forktail Enicurus scouleri Kumeria D.Branch





Ibisbill Ibidorhyncha struthersii Kosi River D.Branch

20.01.2018 - 22.01.2018

Ramnagar - Kosi River

29.468254, 79.153430

Once we had finished with our tours from Corbett we decided to stay a few extra days in the wider area exploring and catching up with our remaining target species. From our accommodation, Camp Big Cat, we could, with some difficulty, walk upstream along the Kosi River to the Girija Devi temple (29.494515, 79.140425) where Ibisbills are regularly seen. It was a walk of three kilometres, and although the path seemed fit to begin with, there were a number of occasions where access along the riverbank was extremely difficult. The temple was surrounded by small stalls, and there were a lot of people around, but that did not seem to bother the birds. We visited the temple on both our days staying in Ramnagar such was the variety in the assortment of species present at the site.

Away from the river, the woodland and villages we passed through were also excellent for birding. In particular we stopped off at a small tea stall just outside the Girija Devi temple complex (29.494943, 79.133734). This turned out to be one of the best birding sites of the whole trip, as the woods across were teeming with birds. As with

other woodland areas we had birded, it was very much a case of filtering through waves of birds looking for different species.

Highlights

Pallas's Fish Eagle - From our rooftop vantage point at Camp Big Cat we had daily sightings of this magnificent bird. Most of our sightings were during the early hours of the morning, and an early morning visit to the Kosi River would give incredible views as they flew low overhead.

Ibisbill - This charismatic wader was one of our key targets for the trip as a whole. The Girija Devi Temple was, according to every trip report we read, the site for them, and we were not disappointed. Just upstream from the temple we spotted two individuals feeding amongst the rocks. Despite their strong facial pattern, their body colour matched the rocks perfectly so they were not easy to pick out.



Top left: **Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia* Kosi River **D.Branch.** Top right: **White-browed Wagtail**. *Motacilla maderaspatensis* Kosi River **D.Branch.** Middle left: **Collard Falconet** *Microhierax caerulescens* Ramnagar **D.Branch.** Middle right: **Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis* Hotel de Floresta **D.Branch.** Bottom left: **Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus* Corbett National Park **T.Jones**. Bottom right: **Crested Kingfisher** *Megaceryle lugubris* Kosi River **J.Fisk.**

Collared Falconet - From the hotel roof we could scan for miles up the valley, so some of our group spent their days birding from there. From here one of these diminutive raptors was seen intermittently, but in the evening once we had all returned a rather smart individual came along and perched in the tree right next to us. For those that missed it, the following day one was also spotted hunting and flying with Hirundines at the Girija Devi temple.

Common Green Magpie - From the tea stall where we stopped we got quite a few new species for our trip list, but these were the highlight. They were extremely mobile and reclusive in the woodland, but eventually they made their way to forest edge. There were at least three individuals that we saw, but given how elusive they were, there could well have been more.

Wallcreeper - So many of our most wanted species could be found in this area, and this was another. All along the river bank we encountered individuals of this amazing bird. They would emerge from the riverside rocks, and then flutter like butterflies to a new perch.

Scaly Thrush - Also from the rooftop at Camp Big Cat we spotted this charismatic bird feeding on the hotel lawn. It showed well for on both days of our stay, but usually feeding in the undergrowth.



Species List:

Ramnagar - Kosi River: Indian Peafowl, Goosander, Little Cormorant, Little Egret, Eastern Cattle Egret, Great-white Egret, Indian Pond Heron, Striated Heron, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Steppe Eagle, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Egyptian Vulture, Black Kite, Ibisbill, River Lapwing, Red-wattled Lapwing, Little Ringed Plover, Greenshank, Green Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper, Emerald Ground Dove, Feral Pigeon, Red-breasted Parakeet, Ring-necked Parakeet, Common Kestrel, Peregrine, Collared Falconet, Jungle Owlet, Black-rumped Flameback, Greater Yellownape, Grey-headed Woodpecker, Greycapped Pygmy Woodpecker, Hoopoe, Bluebearded Bee-eater, Crested Kingfisher, Whitebreasted Kingfisher, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Pied Kingfisher, Common Kingfisher, Indian Grey Hornbill, Himalayan Swiftlet, Crested Treeswift, White-rumped Spinetail, Bar-winged Flycatchershrike, Common Iora, Yellow-bellied Fantail, White-throated Fantail, Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher, Maroon Oriole, Black Drongo, Spangled Drongo, Long-tailed Shrike, Large-billed Crow, Rufous Treepie, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Common Green Magpie, Western Crowned Warbler, Greenish Warbler, Siberian Chiffchaff, Hume's Leaf Warbler, Grey-hooded Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat, Common House Martin, Greythroated Martin, Dusky Crag Martin, Red-rumped Swallow, Barn Swallow, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Red-vented Bulbul, Himalayan Bulbul, Whitecheeked Bulbul, Oriental White-eye, Large Grey Babbler, White-headed Laughingthrush, Wallcreeper, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, Velvetfronted Nuthatch, Blue Whistling Thrush, Blackthroated Thrush, Scaly Thrush, Blue Rock Thrush, Grey-winged Blackbird, Oriental Magpie Robin, Plumbeous Water Redstart, White-capped Water Redstart, Black Redstart, Brown Rock Chat, Grey Bushchat, Small Niltava, Little Pied Flycatcher, Olive-backed Pipit, Paddyfield Pipit, Long-billed Pipit, Blyth's Pipit, Grey Wagtail, Citrine Wagtail, White-browed Wagtail, White Wagtail, Golden Jackal, Spotted Deer, Hanuman Langur, Rhesus Macaque, Common Mormon, Glassy Tiger, Blue Tiger,



Scaly Thrush Zoothera dauma Ramnagar D.Branch

Kumeria

29.535047, 79.167888

The only site which required motorised travel away from Camp Big Cat was a section of river well upstream of us in a region called Kumeria. The location, adjacent to The Den hotel, was recommended to us by another tour guide for Little Forktail and Brown Dipper. We parked up at the hotel and from there followed a track through woodland down to the bank of the Kosi River. The river was much less developed by humans than at Camp Big Cat, giving it a much more natural feel.

Highlights

Little Forktail - Our second Forktail species of the trip was a bit trickier to come by but we did find one at Kumeria. It always remained on the far side of the river to us, but through binoculars and scopes it showed extremely well, always feeding out in the open along the water's edge.

Brown Fish Owl - On our way back to the cars we were stopped short when a pellet landed right in

front of us. Looking up, we spotted this magnificent bird staring down at us, completely unfussed about us being there. We must have passed right under it on our walk down, so it's rather fortunate it regurgitated the pellet on our way back.

Species List:

Kumeria: Eastern Cattle Egret, Indian Pond Heron,
Little Cormorant, Little Fish Eagle, Pallas's Fish
Eagle, Green Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper,
Brown Fish Owl, Peregrine, Red-breasted Parakeet,
Great Slaty Woodpecker, Indian Grey Hornbill,
Crested Kingfisher, White-throated Kingfisher,
Common Kingfisher, Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike,
Yellow-bellied Fantail, White-throated Fantail,
Large-billed Crow, Little Forktail, Grey-hooded
Warbler, Oriental White-eye, White-capped Water
Redstart, Plumbeous Water Redstart, Brown
Dipper, Common Myna, Olive-backed Pipit, Grey
Wagtail, White-browed Wagtail, Wild Boar,
Spotted Deer,

Okhla Bird Sanctuary

28.551436, 77.318488

Delhi was a little overwhelming after spending most of our trip in the rural areas of India. Our initial plan for our day in Delhi was to visit Sultanpur reservoir, but that fell through when we found out that the reserve was closed on Tuesdays. Consequently we decided to go to Okhla bird sanctuary, a discount version of Sultanpur. Our journey across the city was eventful! We took three tuk-tuks, the metro and a substantial walk in the complete wrong direction, before we finally arrived at the reserve at around midday. The smog across the city made viewing difficult, and viewing soon worsened when a thunderstorm moved in, the only time we saw rain in India. Despite all this, we found it an amazing reserve with thousands of Wildfowl and Hirundines over a large body of water, with warblers in every bush and a nice selection of the species we had grown accustomed to over the last few weeks. We spent a good few hours birding the area before we moved off in the wake of the thunderstorm.

Highlights

Wildfowl - The massive numbers of wildfowl at the park were seriously impressive. The most common duck was Shoveler, but Wigeon, Pochard, Gadwall, Tufted Duck and a number of others were also

mingled among the rafts of birds. There were thousands of birds across the water. What was even more impressive was when they all took flight during the thunderstorm. Thousands of Ducks covered the sky in what was a really impressive spectacle.

Species List:

Okhla Bird Sanctuary: Grey Francolin, Bar-headed Goose, Common Shelduck, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Eurasian Teal, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, Tufted Duck, Common Pochard, Little Grebe, Grey Heron, Purple Heron, Great Cormorant, Black Kite, Western Marsh Harrier, Egyptian Vulture, White-breasted Waterhen, Common Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, Black-winged Stilt, Black-headed Gull, Feral Pigeon, Ring-necked Parakeet, Greater Coucal, Asian Koel, Black Drongo, House Crow, Rufous Treepie, Plain Prinia, Ashy Prinia, Siberian Chiffchaff, Common Tailorbird, Jungle Babbler, Red-vented Bulbul, Bluethroat, Bank Myna, Common Myna, Barn Swallow, Grey-throated Martin, Citrine Wagtail, Nilgai, Five-striped Palm Squirrel,

BIRDS

Lesser Whistling Duck Dendrocygna javanica Bharatpur

Bar-headed GooseAnser indicusBharatpur, Chambal RiverGreylag GooseAnser anserBharatpur, Hotel de Floresta

Common Shelduck Tadorna tadorna Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Knob-billed DuckSarkidiornis melanotosBharatpurCotton Pygmy GooseNettapus coromandelianusBharatpurGarganeySpatula querquedulaBharatpur

Northern ShovelerSpatula clypeataBharatpur, Okhla Bird SanctuaryGadwallMareca streperaBharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Eurasian Wigeon Mareca Penelope Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Indian Spot-billed Duck Anas poecilorhyncha Bharatpur

Mallard Anas platyrhynchos Common throughout

Northern PintailAnas acutaBharatpur, Okhla Bird SanctuaryEurasian TealAnas creccaBharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Common Pochard Aythya farina Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Ferruginous Duck Aythya nyroca Bharatpur

Tufted Duck Aythya fuligula Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Common MerganserMergus merganserKosi RiverBlack FrancolinFrancolinus francolinus1 Pangot

Grey Francolin Francolinus pondicerianus Bharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Red Junglefowl Gallus gallus 2 Corbett National Park

Kalij Pheasant Lophura leucomelanos Pangot

Indian Peafowl Pavo cristatus Common throughout

Little Grebe Tachybaptus ruficollis Bharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Painted Stork Mycteria leucocephala Bharatpur **Asian Openbill** Anastomus oscitans 1 Bharatpur **Woolly-necked Stork** Ciconia episcopus 1 Bharatpur **Black-necked Stork** Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus Bharatpur Lesser Adjutant Leptoptilos javanicus 2 Agra **Black-headed Ibis** Threskiornis melanocephalus **Bharatpur Glossy Ibis** Plegadis falcinellus Bharatpur **Black Bittern Dupetor flavicollis** 2 Bharatpur **Black-crowned Night Heron** Nycticorax nycticorax Bharatpur

Striated Heron Butorides striata Bharatpur, Corbett National Park

Indian Pond HeronArdeola grayiiCommon throughoutEastern Cattle EgretBubulcus coromandusCommon throughout

Eurasian Spoonbill Platalea leucorodia Bharatpur

Grey HeronArdea cinereaBharatpur, Okhla Bird SanctuaryPurple HeronArdea purpureaBharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Great Egret Ardea alba Bharatpur, Kosi River

Intermediate Egret Ardea intermedia Bharatpur

Bharatpur, Corbett National Park, Kosi

Little Egret Egretta garzetta River

Dalmatian PelicanPelecanus crispus1 Bharatpur

Little Cormorant Microcarbo niger Bharatpur, Kosi River



Asian Openbill Anastomus oscitans Bharatpur J.Fisk

Indian Cormorant	Phalacrocorax fuscicollis	Bharaptur
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	Common throughout
Oriental Darter	Anhinga melanogaster	Bharatpur
Western Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	Bharatpur
Black-winged Kite	Elanus caeruleus	Bharatpur, Corbett National Park

Bearded Vulture Gypaetus barbatus 1 Cheer Point **Egyptian Vulture** Neophron percnopterus Common throughout **Crested Honey Buzzard** Pernis ptilorhynchus 1 Corbett National Park Gyps indicus 1 Bharatpur

Indian Vulture Himalayan Vulture Gyps himalayensis **Cheer Point Griffon Vulture** Gyps fulvus **Cheer Point** Sarcogyps calvus **Red-headed Vulture** Hotel de Floresta **Cinereous Vulture** Hotel de Floresta Aegypius monachus

Crested Serpent Eagle Spilornis cheela Bharatpur, Corbett National Park, **Short-toed Snake Eagle** Circaetus gallicus Bharatpur

1 Corbett National Park Changeable Hawk-Eagle Nisaetus cirrhatus

Mountain Hawk-Eagle 1 Pangot

Nisaetus nipalensis

Black Eagle Ictinaetus malaiensis **Pangot Indian Spotted Eagle** Clanga hastata Bharatpur Bharatpur **Greater Spotted Eagle** Clanga clanga **Booted Eagle** Hieraaetus pennatus Bharatpur

Steppe Eagle Aquila nipalensis Bharatpur, Cheer Point **Eastern Imperial Eagle** Aquila heliaca Bharatpur

Bonelli's Eagle Aquila fasciata Bharatpur Shikra Accipiter badius Common throughout

Besra Accipiter virgatus 1 Pangot

Eurasian Sparrowhawk Accipiter nisus Occasional throughout

Western Marsh Harrier Circus aeruginosus Bharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Hen HarrierCircus cyaneus2 Corbett National ParkBlack KiteMilvus migransCommon throughout

Pallas's Fish Eagle Haliaeetus leucoryphus 4 Kosi River White-tailed Eagle Haliaeetus albicilla 1 Bharatpur **Lesser Fish Eagle** Haliaeetus humilis 1 Kumeria **Grey-headed Fish Eagle** Haliaeetus ichthyaetus 1 Kosi River White-breasted Waterhen Amaurornis phoenicurus **Bharatpur Ruddy-breasted Crake** Porzana fusca 1 Bharatpur **Grey-headed Swamphen** Porphyrio poliocephalus Bharatpur

Common MoorhenGallinula chloropusBharatpur, Okhla Bird SanctuaryEurasian CootFulica atraBharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Sarus CraneAntigone antigone2 BharatpurIndian Stone-curlewBurhinus indicus4 KumherIbisbillIbidorhyncha struthersii2 Kosi River

Black-winged Stilt Himantopus himantopus Occasional throughout

Pied Avocet Recurvirostra avosetta 2 Taj Mahal

River Lapwing Vanellus duvaucelii Chambal River, Corbett National Park

Yellow-wattled LapwingVanellus malabaricusKumherGrey-headed LapwingVanellus cinereus2 Bharatpur

Red-wattled Lapwing Vanellus indicus Common throughout

White-tailed Lapwing Vanellus leucurus Bharatpur

Little Ringed Plover Charadrius dubius Chambal River, Kosi River

Kentish Plover Charadrius alexandrinus Chambal River

Greater Painted-snipe Rostratula benghalensis Bharatpur, Chambal River

Pheasant-tailed JacanaHydrophasianus chirurgusBharatpurBronze-winged JacanaMetopidius indicusBharatpur

Ruff Calidris pugnax Bharatpur, Taj Mahal

Temminck's StintCalidris temminckiiChambal RiverCommon SnipeGallinago gallinagoBharatpur

Painted Snipe Rostratula benghalensis Chambal River T.Jones



Common SandpiperActitis hypoleucosChambal River, Kosi RiverGreen SandpiperTringa ochropusOccasional throughout

Common RedshankTringa totanusBharatpurMarsh SandpiperTringa stagnatilisBharatpurWood SandpiperTringa glareolaBharatpurSpotted RedshankTringa erythropusBharatpur

Common Greenshank Tringa nebularia Occasional throughout

Indian Courser Cursorius coromandelicus 30 Kumher

Indian SkimmerRynchops albicollis70+ Chambal RiverBrown-headed GullChroicocephalus brunnicephalus1 Chambal RiverBlack-headed GullChroicocephalus ridibundusOkhla Bird SanctuaryPallas's GullIchthyaetus ichthyaetusChambal RiverRiver TernSterna aurantia3 Chambal River

River TernSterna aurantia3 Chambal RiveWhiskered TernChlidonias hybrida2 Taj MahalChestnut-bellied SandgrousePterocles exustusChambal River

Feral Pigeon Columba livia Common throughout

Oriental Turtle Dove Streptopelia orientalis Pangot

Eurasian Collared Dove Streptopelia decaocto Common throughout

Red Collared DoveStreptopelia tranquebarica 1 Bharatpur

Spotted Dove Spilopelia chinensis Pangot, Corbett National Park

Laughing Dove Spilopelia senegalensis Common throughout

Common Emerald Dove Chalcophaps indica 1 Kosi River

Yellow-footed Green Pigeon Treron phoenicopterus Bharatpur, Corbett National Park

Greater CoucalCentropus sinensisOccasional throughoutSirkeer MalkohaTaccocua leschenaultii1 Chambal RiverAsian KoelEudynamys scolopaceus1 Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Common Hawk-CuckooHierococcyx varius1 BharatpurCollared Scops OwlOtus lettia2 BharatpurDusky Eagle-OwlBubo coromandus1 BharatpurBrown Fish OwlKetupa zeylonensis1 KumeriaAsian Barred OwletGlaucidium cuculoidesPangot

Jungle Owlet Glaucidium radiatum Corbett National Park, Hotel de Floresta

Spotted OwletAthene bramaBharatpurIndian NightjarCaprimulgus asiaticus1 Camp Big Cat

Whiskered TreeswiftHemiprocne comataCorbett National Park, Hotel de FlorestaHimalayan SwiftletAerodramus brevirostrisCorbett National Park, Hotel de FlorestaWhite-rumped SpinetailZoonavena sylvaticaCorbett National Park, Hotel de Floresta

Little Swift Apus affinis Bharatpur, Pangot

Indian RollerCoracias benghalensisBharatpurStork-billed KingfisherPelargopsis capensis1 Kosi River

White-throated KingfisherHalcyon smyrnensisCommon throughoutCommon KingfisherAlcedo atthisOccasional throughout

Crested Kingfisher Megaceryle lugubris Corbett National Park, Kosi River

Pied KingfisherCeryle rudisOccasional throughoutBlue-bearded Bee-eaterNyctyornis athertoniHotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Green Bee-eater Merops orientalis Bharapur



Black-rumped Flameback Dinopium benghalense Kosi River D.Branch

Eurasian Hoopoe Great Hornbill

Oriental Pied Hornbill

Indian Grey Hornbill

Great Barbet

Brown-headed Barbet

Lineated Barbet

Blue-throated Barbet

Coppersmith Barbet

Speckled Piculet

Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker

Brown-fronted Woodpecker

Yellow-crowned Woodpecker

Rufous-bellied Woodpecker

Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker

Himalayan Woodpecker

Greater Yellownape

Streak-throated Woodpecker

Grey-headed Woodpecker

Himalayan Flameback

Black-rumped Flameback

Great Slaty Woodpecker

Collared Falconet

Common Kestrel

Laggar Falcon

Peregrine Falcon

Slaty-headed Parakeet

Plum-headed Parakeet

Upupa epops

Buceros bicornis

Anthracoceros albirostris

Ocyceros birostris

Psilopogon virens

Psilopogon zeylanicus

Psilopogon lineatus

Psilopogon asiaticus

Psilopogon haemacephalus

Picumnus innominatus

Yungipicus nanus

Yungipicus canicapillus

Dendrocoptes auriceps

Leiopicus mahrattensis

Dendrocopos hyperythrus

Dendrocopos macei

Dendrocopos himalayensis

Chrysophlegma flavinucha

Picus xanthopygaeus

Picus canus

Dinopium shorii

Dinopium benghalense

Mulleripicus pulverulentus

Microhierax caerulescens

Falco tinnunculus

Falco jugger

Falco peregrinus

Psittacula himalayana

Psittacula cyanocephala

Occasional throughout

Corbett National Park, Kumeria

Corbett National Park

Occasional throughout

Pangot

Occasional throughout

Hotel de Floresta

Corbett National Park

Bharatpur, Corbett National Park

1 Pangot

Hotel de Floresta

Pangot, Kosi River

Pangot

Bharatpur

Pangot

Paligot

Hotel de Floresta

Pangot

Kosi River

Corbett National Park

Pangot

Corbett National Park

Occasional throughout

1 Kumeria

1 Camp Big Cat, 1 Kosi River

Occasional throughout

1 Chambal River

Occasional throughout

Pangot

Corbett National Park

Red-breasted ParakeetPsittacula alexandriKosi RiverAlexandrine ParakeetPsittacula eupatriaBharatpur

Rose-ringed Parakeet Psittacula krameri Common throughout

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike Hemipus picatus 7 Kosi River

Common lora Aegithina tiphia Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Long-tailed Minivet Pericrocotus ethologus Pangot

Brown Shrike Lanius cristatus 1 Hotel de Floresta

Isabelline ShrikeLanius isabellinus1 KumherBay-backed ShrikeLanius vittatus1 Bharatpur

Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schach Occasional throughout

Grey-backed ShrikeLanius tephronotus1 PangotSouthern Grey ShrikeLanius meridionalisBharatpurIndian Golden OrioleOriolus kundoo1 BharatpurMaroon OrioleOriolus traillii1 Kosi River

Black DrongoDicrurus macrocercusCommon throughoutAshy DrongoDicrurus leucophaeusHotel de FlorestaWhite-bellied DrongoDicrurus caerulescensCorbett National Park

Bronzed Drongo Dicrurus aeneus Pangot

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo Dicrurus paradiseus Corbett National Park

White-throated Fantail Rhipidura albicollis Pangot, Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Eurasian JayGarrulus glandarius2 PangotBlack-headed JayGarrulus lanceolatusPangotRed-billed Blue MagpieUrocissa erythrorynchaPangotCommon Green MagpieCissa chinensis3 Kosi River

Rufous Treepie Dendrocitta vaqabunda Common throughout

Grey Treepie Dendrocitta formosae 2 Pangot

House Crow Corvus splendens Common throughout

Large-billed CrowCorvus macrorhynchosPangotEastern Jungle CrowCorvus levaillantiiBharatpurNorthern RavenCorvus corax2 Pangot

Yellow-bellied Fantail Chelidorhynx hypoxanthus Pangot, Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher Culicicapa ceylonensis Bharatpur, Hotel de Floresta

Yellow-browed TitSylviparus modestus1 PangotCoal TitPeriparus aterPangot

Cinereous Tit Parus cinereus Hotel de Floresta

Green-backed Tit Parus monticolus **Pangot Himalayan Black-lored Tit** Machlolophus xanthogenys **Pangot** Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark Eremopterix griseus 2 Kumher **Indian Bush Lark** Mirafra erythroptera 1 Kumher Crested Lark Kumher Galerida cristata **Greater Short-toed Lark** Calandrella brachydactyla Kumher **Bimaculated Lark** Melanocorypha bimaculata 3 Kumher

Black-crested Bulbul Pycnonotus flaviventris 1 Hotel de Floresta

Red-whiskered Bulbul Pycnonotus jocosus Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Himalayan Bulbul Pycnonotus leucogenys Pangot, Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

White-eared Bulbul Pycnonotus leucotis Common throughout

Red-vented Bulbul Pycnonotus cafer Common throughout

Black Bulbul Hypsipetes leucocephalus Pangot, Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Grey-throated MartinRiparia chinensisBharatpur, Kosi RiverBarn SwallowHirundo rusticaCommon throughout

Wire-tailed SwallowHirundo smithiiBharatpurEurasian Crag MartinPtyonoprogne rupestrisPangot

Dusky Crag Martin Ptyonoprogne concolor Hotel de Floresta **Common House Martin** Delichon urbicum 1 Camp Big Cat **Red-rumped Swallow** Cecropis daurica Kosi River **Black-faced Warbler** Abroscopus schisticeps **Pangot Aberrant Bush Warbler** Horornis flavolivaceus 1 Pangot **Grey-sided Bush Warbler** Cettia brunnifrons 1 Pangot **Chestnut-headed Tesia** Cettia castaneocoronata 2 Pangot **Buff-barred Warbler** Phylloscopus pulcher **Pangot Ashy-throated Warbler** Phylloscopus maculipennis **Pangot**

Hume's Leaf WarblerPhylloscopus humeiCommon throughoutBrooks's Leaf WarblerPhylloscopus subviridis1 Chambal River

Lemon-rumped WarblerPhylloscopus chloronotusPangotWhistler's WarblerPhylloscopus whistleriPangot

Siberian ChiffchaffPhylloscopus collybita tristisCommon throughoutGreenish WarblerPhylloscopus trochiloidesOccasional throughout

Western Crowned Warbler Phylloscopus occipitalis 2 Kosi River

Grey-hooded Warbler Phylloscopus xanthoschistos Pangot, Kosi River

Blyth's Reed WarblerAcrocephalus dumetorumBharatpurStriated PriniaPrinia crinigeraPangotGrey-breasted PriniaPrinia hodgsoniiPangot

Ashy PriniaPrinia socialisBharatpur, Okhla Bird SanctuaryPlain PriniaPrinia inornataBharatpur, Okhla Bird Sanctuary

Common Tailorbird Orthotomus sutorius Occasional throughout

Rusty-cheeked Scimitar BabblerPomatorhinus erythrogenys1 PangotBlack-chinned BabblerStachyridopsis pyrrhopsPangot

Common BabblerTurdoides caudataBharatpur, KumherLarge Grey BabblerTurdoides malcolmiOccasional throughoutJungle BabblerTurdoides striataCommon throughout

White-crested LaughingthrushGarrulax leucolophusKosi RiverStriated LaughingthrushGarrulax striatusPangotStreaked LaughingthrushTrochalopteron lineatumPangotChestnut-crowned LaughingthrushTrochalopteron erythrocephalumPangotRufous SibiaHeterophasia capistrataPangot

Lesser Whitethroat Sylvia curruca Occasional throughout

Whiskered Yuhina Yuhina flavicollis Pangot

Oriental White-eyeZosterops palpebrosusCommon throughoutIndian NuthatchSitta castaneaHotel de FlorestaChestnut-bellied NuthatchSitta cinnamoventrisHotel de Floresta

White-tailed Nuthatch Sitta himalayensis Pangot

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch Sitta frontalis Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Wallcreeper Tichodroma muraria Kosi River **Bar-tailed Treecreeper** Certhia himalayana **Pangot**

Bank Myna Acridotheres ginginianus Bharatpur, Kumher **Common Myna** Acridotheres tristis Common throughout

Pied Myna Gracupica contra Bharatpur **Brahminy Starling** Sturnia pagodarum Bharatpur **Orange-headed Thrush** Geokichla citrina 2 Bharatpur **Long-tailed Thrush** Zoothera dixoni 1 Cheer Point **Scaly Thrush** Zoothera dauma 1 Camp Big Cat

Long-billed Thrush Zoothera monticola 1 Pangot

Grey-winged Blackbird Turdus boulboul 1 Pangot, 3 Kosi River

Black-throated Thrush 1 Kosi River Turdus atrogularis

Indian Robin Copsychus fulicatus Bharatpur, Kumher **Oriental Magpie-Robin** Copsychus saularis Occasional throughout 1 Corbett National Park Tickell's Blue Flycatcher Cyornis tickelliae

Rufous-bellied Niltava Niltava sundara 1 Pangot **Small Niltava** Niltava macgrigoriae **Pangot**

Verditer Flycatcher Eumyias thalassinus 1 Hotel de Floresta

Bluethroat Luscinia svecica Bharatpur **Himalayan Rubythroat** Calliope pectoralis 1 Pangot Himalayan Bluetail Tarsiger rufilatus 2 Pangot **Golden Bush Robin** Tarsiger chrysaeus 2 Pangot **Little Forktail** Enicurus scouleri 1 Kumeria **Spotted Forktail** Enicurus maculatus **Pangot Blue Whistling Thrush** Myophonus caeruleus **Pangot**

Ficedula strophiata **Red-breasted Flycatcher** Ficedula parva Occasional throughout

1 Pangot

Spotted Forktail Enicurus maculatus Pangot T.Jones

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher



Taiga Flycatcher Ficedula albicilla Taj Mahal

Little Pied Flycatcher Ficedula westermanni 1 Hotel de Floresta, 1 Kosi River

Slaty-blue FlycatcherFicedula tricolor2 PangotBlue-capped RedstartPhoenicurus coeruleocephalaPangot

Black Redstart Phoenicurus ochruros Occasional throughout

Blue-fronted Redstart Phoenicurus frontalis Pangot

Plumbeous Water RedstartPhoenicurus fuliginosusPangot, Hotel de Floresta, Kosi RiverWhite-capped Water RedstartPhoenicurus leucocephalusPangot, Hotel de Floresta, Kosi River

Blue Rock Thrush Monticola solitarius 1 Chambal River, 1 Kosi River

Chestnut-bellied Rock ThrushMonticola rufiventrisPangotWhite-browed Bush ChatSaxicola macrorhynchus1 Kumher

Siberian StonechatSaxicola maurusOccasional throughoutPied BushchatSaxicola caprataOccasional throughoutGrey BushchatSaxicola ferreusPangot, Hotel de Floresta

Isabelline WheatearOenanthe isabellinaKumherDesert WheatearOenanthe desertiKumher

Brown Rock Chat Oenanthe fusca Bharatpur, Kumher, Kosi River

Brown Dipper Cinclus pallasii 1 Kumeria

Golden-fronted Leafbird Chloropsis aurifrons 1 Corbett National Park

Purple SunbirdCinnyris asiaticusBharatpurGreen-tailed SunbirdAethopyga nipalensis1 PangotCrimson SunbirdAethopyga siparaja1 PangotFire-tailed SunbirdAethopyga ignicauda1 Pangot

House Sparrow Passer domesticus Common throughout

Russet Sparrow Passer cinnamomeus **Pangot Baya Weaver** Ploceus philippinus Bharatpur **Red Avadavat** Amandava amandava **Bharatpur Indian Silverbill** Euodice malabarica **Bharatpur Scaly-breasted Munia** Lonchura punctulata **Pangot Cheer Point Altai Accentor** Prunella himalayana **Rufous-breasted Accentor** Prunella strophiata **Pangot Black-throated Accentor** Prunella atrogularis **Pangot**

Western Yellow Wagtail Motacilla flava Bharatpur, Chambal River

Syke's Wagtail M.f. beema
Grey-headed Wagtail M.f. thunbergii

Citrine WagtailMotacilla citreolaOccasional throughoutGrey WagtailMotacilla cinereaOccasional throughoutWhite WagtailMotacilla albaCommon throughout

Alba Wagtail M.a. alba
Amur Wagtail M.a. leucopsis
Masked Wagtail M.a. personata
Himalayan Wagtail M.a. alboides

White-browed WagtailMotacilla maderaspatensisChambal River, Kosi RiverPaddyfield PipitAnthus rufulusBharatpur, Chambal RiverBlyth's PipitAnthus godlewskiiCorbett National Park

Tawny Pipit Anthus campestris Kumher



Black-throated Accentor Prunella atrogularis Pangot J.Fisk

Long-billed Pipit
Tree Pipit
Olive-backed Pipit
Spot-winged Grosbeak
Common Rosefinch
Yellow-breasted Greenfinch

Rock Bunting
White-capped Bunting

Anthus similis
Anthus trivialis
Anthus hodgsoni
Mycerobas melanozanthos
Carpodacus erythrinus
Chloris spinoides
Emberiza cia

Emberiza stewarti

Hotel de Floresta

1 Chambal River
Occasional throughout
2 Pangot
Pangot
Pangot

Cheer Point Pangot



Indian Elephant Elephas maximus indicus Corbett National Park D.Branch

MAMMALS

Indian Flying FoxPteropus giganteusFive-striped Palm SquirrelFunambulus pennantii

Golden Jackal Canis aureus

Indian Grey MongooseHerpestes edwardsiSmall Asian MongooseHerpestes javanicus

Ganges River Dolphin Platanista gangetica gangetica

Indian Elephant Elephas maximus indicus

Wild Boar Sus scrofa
Spotted Deer Axis axis

Indian Muntjac Muntiacus muntjak

Sambar Rusa unicolor

Nilgai Boselaphus tragocamelus Himalayan Goral Naemorhedus goral

REPTILES

Indian Rat Snake Ptyas mucosa

Himalayan AgamaParalaudakia himalayanaYellow-bellied House GeckoHemidactylus flaviviridisYellow MonitorVaranus flavescensMugger CrocodileCrocodylus palustris

Gharial Gavialis gangeticus
Brahminy River Turtle Hardella thurjii
Indian Tent Turtle Pangshura tentoria
Indian Roofed Turtle Pangshura tecta
Indian Softshell Turtle Nilssonia gangetica

BUTTERFLIES

Common MormonPapilio polytesPsycheLeptosia ninaIndian Large WhitePieris canidiaPioneerBelenois aurotaYellow Orange-tipIxias pyrene

Common Emigrant Catopsilia pomona **Mottled Emigrant** Catopsilia pyranthe **Common Grass Yellow** Eurema hecabe **Large Salmon Arab** Colotis fausta **White Arab** Colotis vestalis **White-bordered Copper** Lycaena pavana **Sorrel Saphire** Heliophorus sena **Large Oakblue** Arhopala amantes **Common Pierrot** Castalius rosimon **Angled Pierrot** Caleta caleta **Common Punch** Dodona durga **Common Beak** Libythea lepita

Dark Blue Tiger Tirumala septentrionis

Striped Tiger Danaus genutia **Plain Tiger** Danaus chrysippus **Glassy Tiger** Parantica aglea **Common Crow** Euploea core **Striped Blue Crow** Euploea mulciber **Dark Evening Brown** Melanitis phedima Rustic Cupha erymanthis Phalanta phalantha **Common Leopard**

Common SailorNeptis hylasBaronetEuthalia nais

Common Map Cyrestis thyodamas **Indian Red Admiral** Vanessa indica Vanessa cardui **Painted Lady Indian Tortoiseshell** Aglais cashmiriensis **Blue Pansy** Junonia orithiya **Lemon Pansy** Junonia lemonias **Peacock Pansy** Junonia almanac **Great Eggfly** Hypolimnas bolina

DRAGONFLIES

Black Stream Trithemis festiva
Fulvous Forest Skimmer Neurothemis fulvia
Common Red Skimmer Orthetrum pruinosum