

TAIWAN

17 April - 5 May 2011

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- 17 April. fly LHR2115
- 18 April. arrive TPE1815 *o/n Novotel Taoyuan International Airport*
- 19 April. **BF Spoonbill Reserve at Chigu**, then **Kwangua** *o/n Firefly Lodge, Kwangua*
- 20 April. **Kwangua** *o/n Firefly Lodge, Kwangua*
- 21 April. drive to **Anmashan** (4.5hrs) **Dasyueshan** *o/n Anmashan, km 44*
- 22 April. **Dasyueshan** *o/n Anmashan, km 44*
- 23 April. **Dasyueshan** *o/n Anmashan, km 44*
- 24 April. am **Dasyueshan**; pm drive to **Huisun** (3.5hrs) *o/n Huisun Forest Station*
- 25 April. am **Huisun**; go back to Highway 21, left onto 14 to **Wushe** (3.5hrs); **Blue Gates trails #1 and #2** and **Chun Yang Farm** *o/n Wing Yip Hotel, Wushe*
- 26 April. am **Blue Gates trail #2**, then head into **Taroko NP at Hehuanshan** (c1hr from Wushe) and then down to **Tienhsiung** and **Taroko Gorge** *o/n Tienhsiung YA Centre*
- 27 April. am **Taroko area**, then drive to **Liwu Rivermouth**, then stop at **Tropic of Cancer Monument**, check **fields east of Nanping, Highway 9**, then travel down the East Coast to **Taitung** on Highway 9 (5hrs, but 7-9hrs with stops) *o/n Taitung Traveller Hotel*
- 28 April. 0830 fly to **Lanyu** *o/n Lamuran, Yujen*
- 29 April. **Lanyu**, fly back to **Taitung** at 1020, then south on Highway 9 to **Chigu and Budai** *o/n Hotel in Budai*
- 30 April. **Budai area**, then drive to **Alishan. Yushan NP** *o/n Shermuh Hotel*
- 1 May. **Yushan NP** *o/n Shermuh Hotel*
- 2 May. **Yushan NP**; drive to **Huben** (3-4hrs) *o/n Pitta Café*
- 3 May. am **Huben**; pm travel to **Wushe, Bedongyueshan** *o/n Tienhsiung Homestay, km5*
- 4 May. am **Bedongyueshan, Blue Gates Trail #2**; pm drive to **Taipei** (4hrs) *o/n Novotel Taoyuan International Airport*
- 5 May. fly TPE0925; arrive LHR1705

The Trip

Our trip to Taiwan was very successful with a tally of 183 species. We saw most of those we were looking for, but unfortunately missed the **Taiwan Thrush**, despite spending some time searching for it; **Black-faced Spoonbill** was also missed. However several gaps in my Asian list were filled here, as birds such as **Malayan Night Heron**, **Mountain Scops-owl**, **Collared Finchbill**, **White-tailed Robin** and **Rufous-faced Warbler** are commoner or more easily seen in Taiwan. Another addition was **Chinese Sparrowhawk** as I had never been in the right place at the right time to see them. It is perhaps easier to see the **Fairy Pitta** here than anywhere else and it is also worth finding the **Red Oriole**.

Flights

We flew with China Airlines, who have a non-stop service from London, Heathrow to Taipei. The fare was £595. About two months before the trip they told us that the flight out would not be operating and we would have to fly two days earlier or accept a refund. Then, two weeks before the trip we were told that the flight back would not be operating either and we would have to come back two days later or accept a refund. So our trip was lengthened by four days. This resulted in changes to the itinerary and cancellations and re-booking of hotels and car hire. We did not change the date of the internal flight to Lanyu Island, which ran smoothly. To get to Lanyu it essential to book in advance, which I did by telephoning Daily Air Corporation on 00 886 89 362485. Bookings can only be made less than 60 days before travel. No payment needs to be made, but they do need the names of all travellers. A booking code is then given to you, and payment is made when you check in at Taitung Airport. Up to 10 kilos of luggage can be taken free of charge.

Accommodation

It is probably not necessary to book any accommodation in advance, although I arranged three nights at Anmashan by telephoning 00 886 4 25877901 from the UK (ask for Louis who speaks some English). Hotels in Taipei and Taitung were booked with agoda.com. One night at Huisun was booked for us by staff in the Novotel, Taipei, as it was impossible to find an English-speaker when I tried several times to telephone from the UK. Despite the large number of people there, most seemed to be day-trippers and there were several empty rooms. Mr Lamuran lamuran@gmail.com on Lanyu Island answered my email positively and promptly. He had space and would collect us from the airport. An email from staff at Tienhsiang Youth Activity Centre, cyctsyac@ms15.hinet.net (telephone 00 886 03 8691111) was also positive. The hotel in Budai was found by using our satnav; we would not have known of it otherwise. I was a little worried that we were arriving at Alishan on Saturday, but we found that there was plenty of space. There was no one staying at Kwangua when we checked in, but it must have been nearly full on the second night. Other places we stayed at were nearly empty, probably because we were travelling before the tourist season.

Costs for a room for two were:

Novotel Taoyuan International Airport - breakfast included, £66

Firefly Lodge, Kwangua - food, drink and excursions included, *2 nights* TWD3500, £75

Anmashan - breakfast and evening meals included, *3 nights* TWD8400, £179

Huisun - breakfast included, TWD1240, £26.50

Wushe, Wing Yip Hotel - no food, TWD1200, £25.70

Tienhsiang YA Centre - breakfast and evening meals included, TWD2760, £59

Taitung Traveller Hotel - no food, £30.25

Lanyu Island, Lamuran - no food, but to and from airport and to birding site, TWD1500, £32.15

Budai, Hotel - no food, TWD700, £15

Alishan, Shermuh Hotel - breakfast included, *2 nights* TWD2700, £57.85

Huben, Pitta Café - breakfast included, TWD870, £18.65

Wushe, Tienhsiang Homestay - no food, TWD1600, £34.30

Novotel Taoyuan International Airport - breakfast included, £66

Getting Around

We booked a roomy Nissan Livina from Vip Car Rental, vipcar888@gmail.com. The total cost was NT\$27200 (£579) for 16 days. This included NT\$100 a day (£31 for 16 days) for English language satnav (referred to as GPS in Taiwan). This was helpful, but not as good as I had hoped, as there are many variations in the English spelling of towns and often we did not get a match. There is usually a charge of NT\$1000 (£21.30) for delivery, but this was waived for me. The car was brought to our hotel near Taipei Airport and we arranged to have it collected from there when we had finished. This ensured that we did not have to drive into Taipei. An International Driving Permit is required.

Miscellaneous

Visas: Are issued free upon arrival at the airport, for a stay of up to 90 days. **Cost of the trip:** The total for each of us was £1645. **Maps:** I took the Nelles 1:400 000 map, published in 2005; it is a little out-of-date. **Books:** I used the Taiwan Lonely Planet Guide and Mark Brazil's Birds of East Asia. **Timing:** An earlier trip would have given a greater chance of Black-faced Spoonbill and Taiwan Thrush. An April trip means most of the waders are in summer plumage and Fairy Pitta should be likely in the final days. **Daylight:** On the first day the sun rose at 0529 and on the last day at 0519. It set at 1812 on our first day and 1823 on our last.

LOCALITIES

Chigu

Whether coming south on Highway 1 or 3, turn west onto Highway 8. Eventually Highway 8 ends and becomes a normal road. After two or three kilometres there is a crossroads. This is the 178, turn right and go for about six kilometres, then turn right again onto the 17. Go over the river and very soon turn left onto the 173. The Spoonbill Reserve is along this road on the left.

Budai

A large area of pools about 30 km north of the BF Spoonbill site. Unless someone tells you exactly where to go you will have to do as we did: just drive around, stopping where it looks good.

Hulupi

This small reserve is for the only remaining Pheasant-tailed Jacanas and is 30 km north of Tainan. If coming from Freeway 3 take the Guantian exit. From Guantian take the 171 to the west and after km 24, by a roadside shrine, turn right and go about 2 km; the reserve is signposted on the right.

Kwangua

Kwangua is signposted off the 18 at Shihjhuo onto the 159a. After a short distance there is a T-junction. The signs are in Mandarin, but turn left towards Fanlu. At km 38.8 there is an uphill track to the right that leads to the Firefly Lodge. You will doubtless have to ask someone the way.

Dasyueshan

This area is usually wrongly referred to as Anmashan by visiting birders, whereas that is the name for the area with the accommodation. From Highway 1 or 3 turn east, towards Dongshih onto Highway 4. Follow Highway 4 to its end. At the traffic light turn left and follow National Road 3. Continue for about 10 km, until the road turns left and crosses the large Dongfong bridge. Just after the bridge, before entering Dongshih, turn right onto National Road 8. After about 2 km, turn left at a traffic light onto a small road, then right after 50-100 metres. This is Forest Road 200 that goes all the way to Dasyueshan. The main entrance is reached at about km 35, Anmashan Mountain Hostel is just before km 44 and Hsiaolaishan is at km 50.

Huisun

From Dasyueshan go back to National Road 8, then after 13 km take the right fork onto Road 21. After about 26 km take the left fork to Huisun.

Wushe area

From Huisun go back to National Road 21. After 17 km, turn right onto Road 14. It is 24 km from there to Wushe.

Blue Gates Trail #2

Go north out of Wushe and left where the 14 forks. By the police station at km 18 turn left. After

1.5 km it is possible to pull off the road into a little car park on the right. When we were there the gates were open; if not, it is possible to walk around them.

Chun Yang Farm

This farm lies 3.5 km from Wushe. Heading north from Wushe you reach a fork in the road where Road 14 goes both ways. Take the right fork and after km sign 83.5 the turning to Chun Yang Farm is on the left; it is easy to miss. Don't block the narrow roads or stop people from working.

Bedongyueshan

From Wushe follow Road 14 until the sharp bend at km 4. The road off to the left is the Lishan road. Follow it for 8.4 km, then drive down the narrow paved road on the left. About 1.5 km later there is a locked gate, but room to park on the left. Go round the gate and bird from the road. It is about 3 km to the tea plantation.

Hehuashan

This pass on Highway 14, at a height of 3275m, is the highest of Taiwan's roads. We only saw three species there: White-whiskered Laughingthrush, Vinaceous Rosefinch and Alpine Accentor.

Taroko Gorge

Tienhsiang is a good place to break the journey and being on site it is possible to look around this amazing place in the evening and early morning, when the convoys of tour buses are not here. Not a lot of species, but we did see 12 Taiwan Whistling Thrushes here.

Liwu Rivermouth

The water from the Taroko Gorge comes down this river. We had no details and just followed our noses, and after reaching Hsincheng, drove as far north and east as we could, until it became too sandy to continue. We did all our birding on the south side of the river.

Highway 9, Nanping

Just north of Nanping we turned left off Highway 9 and across the railway lines. This road is marked on the Nelles 1:400 000 map. Very soon there was a sharp right turn onto a long straight road. The site given for Ring-necked Pheasant was on the left between the 7th and 8th left turns, but they do seem to be throughout the area. We explored this agricultural area, seeing a lot of interest.

Taitung Rivermouth

It took us a long time to figure out how to get to the south side of the rivermouth. We could not get to it by coming off and heading north or south. We had to come off while heading south, then drive west for a kilometre or two to get on a road that went under Highway 11. Good luck!

Lanyu

It is essential to book the flight in advance and perhaps best to go mid-week. We saw all of the key birds within 2 km of where we stayed. There is a 2004 trip report on travellingbirder.com under Taiwan, for Lanyu. It contains a map, which should be copied and taken to the island.

Alishan

All of the hotels are off the main road, and you have to pay to get into the complex. It is essential to get your ticket stamped every time you go out or you will need to buy another ticket. We did not bird any trails or areas within the complex.

Tatajia

This is higher up the road than Alishan. At the Visitors Centre Road 18 becomes Road 21 and the kilometre numbers change. We birded a trail from the Centre and stopped at various places along the road.

Huben

Huben is located in Linnei Township and reached from Taipei by taking the north-south Expressway to the Douliu exit (about 50 km south of Taichung); turn north on Highway 3 and head for Linnei. Just before the first 7/11 store on the left (there is an earlier one on the right), turn right to Huben and continue for a few km to a fork after a big bridge. Take the left fork for about 2km to the Pitta Café, opposite a bus-type shelter on the right by the river. You can stay and eat here. It is about 30 minutes by car to the village from the Douliu exit.

DAILY ACCOUNTS

17 April

We flew from London, Heathrow at 2115.

18 April

We landed at Taoyuan International Airport at 1815. After collecting our bags we changed a total of £1160, which lasted the whole trip. We went outside and turned left to see our free shuttle bus waiting. Ten minutes later we were checking into our hotel.

19 April

Taipei - Chigu - Kwangua

Our hire car was delivered to the hotel at 0830. We set up the satnav, loaded our things, then drove south. As we travelled we saw **Red Collared-doves**, a few **House Swifts**, **Barn** and **Striated Swallows**, **Chinese Bulbuls**, a few **Black Drongos**, **Javan Mynas** and plenty of **Eurasian Tree Sparrows**. It took about four hours to reach Chigu and we found it rather disappointing. There was very little outside the hide and the waders that were there soon flew off. There were no **spoonbills**. Apparently there were five present two days before. We went to check Budai, but there was not much there either. We could not even find a good wader site among all the pools. But we found that **Great**, **Little** and **Cattle Egrets** were common and we saw 25 **Black-crowned Night Herons**. Waders seen were 15 **Black-winged Stilts**, one **Oriental Pratincole**, two **Pacific Golden Plovers**, two **Kentish Plovers**, many **Mongolian Sand-plovers**, 40 **Bar-tailed Godwits**, ten **Whimbrel**, five **Greenshanks**, two **Wood Sandpipers**, ten **Terek Sandpipers**, ten **Ruddy Turnstones**, five **Red Knot**, one **Dunlin** and two **Curlew Sandpipers**. We also saw one **Gull-billed**, a few **Little**, ten **Caspian** and ten **Whiskered Terns**. Feeling that we had got off to a poor start, we decided to visit Kwangua and drove for 3.5 hours, arriving after dark. The place was deserted, but we eventually found the friendly couple who run the place. We checked in and after a meal we were shown a **Collared Scops-owl**, which was calling from a nearby bamboo clump. This was a good view and our only sighting. A **Mountain Scops-owl** was heard.

20 April

Kwangua

We were up at 0500 and at 0530 we were driven to the hide. On the way we had a close view of a perched **Besra** and later another was seen. After an hour a male **Swinhoe's Pheasant** came in to feed and we had fantastic views. We stayed until we were collected, at 1130. In the middle of the day we walked the Firefly trail and saw ten **Pacific Swallows** and some common forest birds that included two **Taiwan Barbets**, a **Grey-capped Woodpecker**, **Chinese** and **Black Bulbuls**, two **Collared Finchbills**, two **White-tailed Robins**, five **Plumbeous Water-redstarts**, two **Rufous-faced Warblers**, one **Black-naped Monarch**, two **Vivid Niltavas**, two **Green-backed Tits**, 20 **Black-throated Tits**, four **Rufous-capped Babblers**, four **Grey-cheeked Fulvettas**, six **White-eared Sibias**, many **Steere's Liocichlas** and two **Taiwan Yuhinas**. In more open areas we saw three **Crested Serpent-eagles**, two **Crested Goshawks**, four **Pacific** and two **House Swifts**, single **Amur** and **Grey Wagtails**, a **Blue Rock Thrush**, many **Japanese White-eyes** and two **Striated** and two **Plain Prinias**. We were taken back to the hide at 1430 for the evening visit. This time we were successful with **Taiwan Partridge**, as we saw eight scurrying, then taking flight as we walked down. Later two individuals came in to feed. This time we saw at least three, maybe four **Swinhoe's Pheasants**, some coming right up to the hide. After supper we went out with torches and very soon a close, calling, **Mountain Scops-owl** was located. We had very good views, but a **Collared Scops-owl** was only heard. There was also a **White-headed Flying Squirrel** and literally a million fireflies.

21 April

Kwangua - Dasyueshan

After breakfast we had a brief look around; single **Striated** and **Plain Prinias** and some **Japanese**

White-eyes were seen. We settled our bill after breakfast and left at 0820 and as we drove out we stopped for three **Brown Bullfinches** and a **Vivid Niltava**. While travelling we saw **Red Collared-doves**, **Pacific** and **Striated Swallows**, **Chinese** and **Black Bulbuls**, a *lucionensis* **Brown Shrike**, a few **Black Drongos**, some **Javan Mynas** and plenty of **Eurasian Tree Sparrows**. The last garage before Dasyueshan is in Dongshih, near to the McDonald's, but we had enough fuel to last us three days. At about km 9 we heard a **Brownish-flanked Bush-warbler** and upon reaching Anmashan at 1300 we heard a **Collared Owlet**. It was rather hot and at first very little was seen. Along the road were ten **White-whiskered Laughingthrushes** and five **Collared Bush-robins**, and at a parking area we stopped and had fantastic views of an **Alishan Bush-warbler** that crawled towards us like a mouse. It even came onto the wall to investigate the speaker. From km 50 we walked to the lake and back seeing four **Coal Tits**, one **White-tailed Robin**, five **Taiwan Fulvettas**, two **Large-billed Crows**, three **Spotted Nutcrackers** and a **Vinaceous Rosefinch**, but we did not see all of the species we hoped for. The **Mikado Pheasant** did not come out at km 47, but here we saw a **White-backed Woodpecker**, a **Winter Wren**, two **White-tailed Robins** and two **Vinaceous Rosefinches**.

22 April

Dasyueshan

After a very cold night we were up at 0450 to be at km 47 for dawn, but again the male **Mikado Pheasant** did not appear. The theory for this is that it was too bright and sunny and the bird likes dull, even rainy conditions. A short walk back to the sharp bend at km 46.8 produced a few **Flamecrests** (today's total was 12), two **Rufous-faced Warblers**, one **Vivid Niltava**, three **Green-backed Tits**, three **Black-throated Tits** and a **Taiwan Wren-babbler** plus we were fortunate to see two **Taiwan Bush-robins**. After breakfast we went outside and around the left side of the canteen building. Beneath what looks like a mango tree, the kitchen staff throw out the scraps, and it is here, that by approaching slowly, we saw our first **Taiwan Whistling Thrush**. As we drove out we had a good view of a migrating **Crested Honey-buzzard**. Plenty of **Collared Bush-robins** and **White-whiskered Laughingthrushes** were seen along the road and the trails. We then went back up to km 50, (Hsiaolaishan) but today walked trail 230. This trail was excellent and yielded several top species. **Taiwan Shortwings** were, judging by their song, a common bird here, but we only managed to see one, which flared its white supercilium and darted around in response to our playback. Other observations included a male **Taiwan Bush-robins**, five **Yellowish-bellied Bush-warblers** (this was in trees and shrubs, it is not a ground skulker like the Alishan Bush-warbler), six **Coal Tits**, four **Black-throated Tits**, ten **Taiwan Parrotbills** (moving through bamboo in a noisy flock, but we saw some birds well), 20 **Taiwan Fulvettas**, many **Taiwan Yuhinas**, two **Steere's Liocichlas**, two **Taiwan Barwings**, five **Spotted Nutcrackers**, two **Large-billed Crows** and two **Vinaceous Rosefinches**. **Alishan Bush-warblers** and **Large Hawk-cuckoos** were heard only. After most people had gone we returned to km 47 and saw the **Mikado Pheasant** at 1840, when it had become dull and cloudy and started to drizzle. We observed it for five minutes, until it disappeared in the long grass. After our meal we tried for owls, but the weather was unhelpful.

23 April

Dasyueshan

Last night was not so cold as we used the electric blanket, but we were again up before dawn. The **Taiwan Whistling Thrush** was again very noisy outside our cabin, but we did not try to see it as we wanted to try for the **Mikado Pheasant** again. Despite generous mist and drizzle it did not appear. After breakfast we had another look around the km 44 complex, seeing the usual birds, including two **Ashy Wood Pigeons**, four **Brown Bullfinches**, three **Vinaceous Rosefinches** and a **Pale Thrush**. We drove down, with a couple of stops, one had two **Little Forktails** on a little waterfall between kms 41 and 42, and the other produced two **Ferruginous Flycatchers** and three **Vivid Niltavas**. We continued and parked at approximately km 35, just before the ticketing booth and walked trail 210. This was a good walk. First we saw a low, migrating **Crested Honey-buzzard**. We then saw a **Besra**, two **Mikado Pheasants** (good views of a male and a female), a

White-tailed Robin, two **Rufous-faced Warblers**, two **Grey-cheeked Fulvettas**, many **Taiwan Yuhinas**, five **Black-throated**, four **Green-backed Tits** and a **Yellow Tit** (our first and we would only see two more), five **White-eared Sibias** and eight **Steere's Liocichlas** and we heard, but did not see, **Taiwan Barbets**, **Taiwan Wren-babblers** and **Taiwan Shortwings**. At km 23 we waited with a large group of photographers and after twenty minutes an immature male **Swinhoe's Pheasant** came out, fed, then ran across the road. By now we had seen more than ten **Collared Bush-robins** and heard several **Alishan Bush-warblers**. We went further down to km 15 looking for **Taiwan Bamboo Partridges** but were unsuccessful, though we saw two **Grey-chinned Minivets** and several lower-altitude birds, including two **Collared Finchbills**, ten **Black Bulbuls**, two **Striated Prinias**, one *lucionensis* **Brown Shrike** and one **Bronzed Drongo**. Back at km 23 we saw three **Swinhoe's Pheasants** and a **White-tailed Robin**. At km 23.5 a **Rusty Laughingthrush** was very skulking at first, but eventually responded to playback. At km 27 we crossed the road from the toilet block and walked up the steps to a gazebo. Five **Rufous-capped Laughingthrushes** were located high in the trees and we saw them well. By the bridge we noticed a tight flock of **Asian House Martins** as we went back to Anmashan to get our meal tickets. We then went back to km 47, but again did not see **Mikado Pheasant**. There were four **Coal Tits**, a **Spotted Nutcracker**, two **Large-billed Crows**, a **White-backed Woodpecker** was heard and a **Peregrine** flew over. As the light faded we tried for **Chinese Tawny Owl**, but it did not respond to our call of a bird from mainland China. It called a lot and moved a lot, but we never saw it. Also a **Mountain Scops-owl** was heard.

24 April

Dasyueshan - Huisun

We birded the grounds at km 44 again, but as it was Sunday there was too much disturbance, even just after dawn. We did manage to see the shy **Taiwan Whistling Thrush** in its usual place by the side of the restaurant and at km 46.8 we saw two **Taiwan Bush-robins**, then two **Little Forktails** were seen closely again between kms 41 and 42. Along trail 210 we saw **Besra**, **White-backed Woodpecker** and a different male **Mikado Pheasant**, which allowed a close approach and walked around oblivious to us. Several **Taiwan Shortwings** and **Taiwan Wren-babblers** were heard, and there were two **Rufous-faced Warblers**, two **Grey-chinned Minivets**, two **Taiwan Fulvettas**, three **White-eared Sibias**, five **Steere's Liocichlas**, many **Taiwan Yuhinas** and I was surprised to see a flock of 50 **Eurasian Siskins**. A **Collared Owlet** was seen well with its meal - a **Black Bulbul**. Outside the park, between kms 12 and 8 we stopped several times and had good views of two separate **Brownish-flanked Bush-warblers**. Off the road at km 4, and after a struggle, we saw two **Taiwan Laughingthrushes**. These large birds with loud voices can be very skulking and quiet and the iPod was necessary here. Turn off at km 4, go 50 metres, park near the bend in the road, near a red bridge: we had one here in the riverside scrub; it flew across the river and was seen in a bush. We then walked further along the road, around the next bend. Beyond a few houses another was seen in the open in some tall rush-like vegetation on the left. We also saw four **Plain Prinias** and a **Grey Wagtail** here. As we travelled we saw two **Crested Serpent-eagles**, one **Crested Honey-buzzard**, 20 **Red-collared Doves**, five **Spotted Doves**, ten **Barn**, ten **Pacific** and 30 **Striated Swallows**, two **Amur Wagtails**, plenty of **Chinese** and **Black Bulbuls** and ten **Black Drongos**. The journey to Huisun took 3.5 hours. After we had paid at the gate we parked almost immediately and searched amongst the scattered trees. There were five **Taiwan Blue Magpies** and a few **Grey Treepies**. The road was on our left as we walked parallel with it on a track to km 10. Here we crossed and walked back to the car on the other side of the road; most of the birds were on the second leg of this walk. We had good views of several **Taiwan Barbets**, including birds mating and excavating and of four **Grey-capped Woodpeckers**. When I played the **Collared Owlet** call only a few birds came in, but one was a **Taiwan Varied Tit**, which stayed ten minutes. We went on to get very good views of a male **Red Oriole**, hanging around the wheelie-bin area at about km 8.5. We also saw some **Japanese White-eyes** and four **Bronzed Drongos**. More groups of **Taiwan Blue Magpies** were seen, but we were now quite tired, so checked in and had a meal. Huisun was

swarming with people and it was not the time of day to see the shyer inhabitants of the park. After dark we drove along the road looking for owls, but only heard a distant **Mountain Scops-owl**.

25 April

Huisun - Wushe BG Trail #1, #2 - Chun Yang Farm

Desperate to be birding before the hordes came out, we were up at 0520. We drove the short distance to the lawn at 12.5 km where the **Malayan Night Herons** feed and after a short time found a juvenile quite easily; a little later we found two separate adults. In the large trees we observed a few **Taiwan Barbets**, six **Grey-capped Woodpeckers** and four **Taiwan Varied Tits**, while nearby there were three **Rufous-faced Warblers**, three **Black-naped Monarchs**, two **White-bellied Erpornises** and two **Grey Treepies**. A group of **Taiwan Blue Magpies** was digging into the rubbish bags and there were others near to the accommodation area feeding by the roadside on a bunch of ripe mangos. We had breakfast between 0730 and 0800, then loaded the car. The first buses were coming in and it looked like another busy day here, so time for us to go. The journey to Wushe produced little, just 20 **Barn**, 20 **Pacific** and 30 **Striated Swallows**, plenty of **Chinese** and **Black Bulbuls**, one **Collared Finchbill**, one *lucionensis* **Brown Shrike** and four **Black Drongos**. Upon entering Wushe we spied the 7/11 shop on the left. Our hotel was next to it so we checked in and dropped off our bags. We tried the two Blue Gates Trails. The first was overgrown and not much was seen; it is probably not worthwhile. The second trail was broader, more open and a lot better. Here we saw one **Collared Owlet**, four **Taiwan Barbets**, four **Grey-chinned Minivets**, three **White-tailed Robins**, one **Taiwan Whistling Thrush**, four **Rufous-faced Warblers**, four **Vivid Niltavas**, two **Yellow Tits**, 15 **Black-throated Tits**, two **Rufous-capped Babblers**, 25 **White-eared Sibias**, 20 **Steere's Liocichlas**, many **Taiwan Yuhinas**, two **Taiwan Barwings**, two **Fire-breasted Flowerpeckers** and a fly-by **Ashy Wood Pigeon**. **Taiwan Shortwing** and **Large Hawk-cuckoo** were heard only. Afterwards, although we were feeling quite tired, we went to Chun Yang Farm where birding was slow at first, but we eventually saw some good species. There were three **Crested Serpent-eagles**, two **Black Eagles**, two **Oriental Turtle Doves**, 20 **House Swifts**, two **Amur Wagtails**, two **Plain Prinias** and 15 **Vinous-throated Parrotbills** (feeding in a weedy field). Two **Black-necklaced Scimitar-babblers** took a long time to coax out and although they would respond well vocally it was a struggle to get a good view of them. Two **Dusky Fulvettas** were even harder, but eventually gave a reasonable view. Five **Rusty Laughingthrushes** were not easy, but easier than the last two species. Later we found a superb chicken restaurant at about km 4.5. It is open-fronted with several large pots outside, for cooking the chicken. None of the staff speaks English, but as usual another diner explained things to us and ordered for us. Very soon the chicken and fried Chinese cabbage arrived and it was very good indeed.

26 April

Wushe BG Trail #2 - Hehuashan - Taroko

We were up a bit later than usual. Breakfast is not included in the room price here, so we bought some food at the 7/11, which we ate on the table outside. We watched 15 **Pacific Swallows** flying around the street. We were doing well for notables and endemics: the only one we would not have a chance of after here was **Snowy-browed Flycatcher**, so with this was our target, we returned to Blue Gates Trail #2. We had responses from three hidden birds, but only one came out to be seen well. Other birds were four **Taiwan Barbets**, two **Grey-capped Woodpeckers**, two **White-tailed Robins**, one **Taiwan Shortwing** (several others heard), two **Rufous-faced Warblers**, two **Vivid Niltavas**, one **Eurasian Nuthatch**, one **Green-backed** and four **Black-throated Tits**, two **Grey-cheeked** and two **Taiwan Fulvettas**, 15 **White-eared Sibias**, 20 **Steere's Liocichlas**, eight **White-whiskered Laughingthrushes**, a lot of **Taiwan Yuhinas**, two **Large-billed Crows**, two **Fire-breasted Flowerpeckers**, four **Vinaceous Rosefinches** and 20 **Eurasian Siskins**. A few **Taiwan Wren-babblers** were only heard. After we had finished here we drove east on Highway 14, becoming more and more impressed by the scenery. There were a few car parks and lookouts on the way to the pass and we stopped at these seeing some interesting species. As we drove higher it

became noticeably colder. Low clouds were passing quickly by and blocking our views of the surrounding mountains. We saw two **Crested Serpent-eagles**, four **Collared Bush-robins**, one **Taiwan Whistling-thrush** and single **Yellowish-bellied** and **Alishan Bush-warblers**. At the highest point, Hehuanshan Pass car park, we saw three **Alpine Accentors**, which were incredibly tame, a few **Vinaceous Rosefinches** and some **White-whiskered Laughingthrushes**. From the car park near to km 33, on the road that runs parallel with the hotel entrance road but below it, we saw four **Winter Wrens**, two **Flamecrests**, six **Coal Tits** and another **Alishan Bush-warbler**. It was a slow drive down to Tienhsiang and we were also delayed by a landslide. Our accommodation was very nice and after checking in we had a look around the Taroko Gorge. Not many birds were seen, but there were plenty of **Fork-tailed** and 30 **House Swifts**, four **Taiwan Whistling-thrushes** and eight **Plumbeous Water-redstarts**.

27 April

Taroko Gorge - Liwu Rivermouth - Highway 9, Nanping - Taitung Rivermouth

We were up at 0600 for another look around the fantastic Taroko Gorge, where we noted a few **Large-billed Crows**, ten **Plumbeous Water-redstarts** and 12 **Taiwan Whistling-thrushes** and from our window the birds outside looked like pure **Styan's Bulbuls**. We had breakfast at 0730 and checked out at 0815. The first coaches were now coming in. Our first stop was lower down, where the river widened and here we saw several **Grey-throated Martins**. We had a walk around the south side of the Liwu rivermouth seeing a lot of **Styan's Bulbuls**, most looking good, but some were obviously hybrids. A **Chestnut-cheeked Starling** amongst them was a surprise. There were also a lot of **Black Bulbuls**, a **Common Kingfisher**, 12 **Japanese Skylarks**, 12 **Yellow Wagtails**, (*tschutschensis* with a few *taivana*), ten **Yellow-bellied Prinias** and 20 **Japanese White-eyes**. There were a lot of **egrets** passing along the coast and about 100 *longipennis* **Common Terns** offshore. About 27 km south of Hualien we turned off to the left to look at a large area of wet and dry fields, where the *formosanus* race of **Common Pheasant** could be seen. They were found quite easily and we saw 15 in total. Other species in this interesting area were a **Spot-billed Duck**, a **Slaty-breasted Rail**, a **Ruddy-breasted Crake**, a **Common Moorhen**, two **Pacific Golden Plovers**, four **Oriental Pratincoles**, 12 **Spotted Doves**, ten each of **Plain** and **Yellow-bellied Prinias**, a few *lucionensis* **Brown** and 12 **Long-tailed Shrikes** and one **White-rumped** and 14 **Black-headed Munias**. A **Black-faced Bunting**, flushed from a ditch, was seen very well. On the journey we saw six **Crested Serpent-eagles**, many **Barn** and 20 **Pacific Swallows**, many **Red Collared-doves**, many **Javan Mynas**, six **Long-tailed** and a few *lucionensis* **Brown Shrikes** and many **Eurasian Tree Sparrows**. We carried on to the Tropic of Cancer monument. On the large rocks offshore there were some **Black-naped Terns** and some white **Pacific Reef-egrets**; they were in residence, if not nesting. Every road bridge on road 11 seemed to have a colony of **House Swifts**. We tried to get down to the estuary north of Taitung, but it did not seem possible until we drove inland for a kilometre or two to get on the road that goes beneath the highway. This took us to the south side, from where we made all our observations. Until the light began to fade, our interest was held by five **Spot-billed Ducks**, four **Mongolian Sand-plovers**, one **Grey** and two **Little Ringed Plovers**, six **Whimbrel**, one **Far-eastern Curlew**, four **Grey-tailed Tattlers**, 30 **Common** and 12 **Terek Sandpipers**, five **Ruddy Turnstones**, 20 **Red-necked Stints**, 25 **Little**, four **Gull-billed** and 300 **Whiskered Terns**, one **Black-headed Gull** and some **Grey-throated Martins**. It was a struggle finding our hotel in Taitung, but we eventually did and we were allowed to park inside the building, rather than on the street. We were now very close to the airport and ready for tomorrow.

28 April

Lanyu Island

We bought a few items from the 7/11 for breakfast (it actually opened at 0600) and the satnav got us to the airport with ease. We parked in the car park, taking only what was necessary for our trip; the majority of our things were locked in the boot. Check-in opened at 0700. Pre-booking the flight to Lanyu had been essential, as not only was the 19-seat Dornier full, but there was a long list of

stand-by passengers. As we walked to the aircraft I saw a few **Japanese Skylarks** and as we taxied I noted ten **Oriental Pratincoles**, eight **Whimbrel** and 20 **Pacific Golden Plovers**. At the small airport we were collected by Mr Lamuran and taken to our accommodation and after we had sorted out our things he drove us to Flycatcher Creek. **Brown-eared Bulbul** had already been seen and was very common, but nothing else was so obliging. After we had seen the **Lowland White-eye**, everything was a struggle, even getting into the dry forested creeks. Here we were surprised to see a single **Philippine Cuckoo-dove**. This was a bonus; I had not heard of them in the creeks before and had expected that a visit to the other side of the island would be necessary. After hearing their sad call for a while, we finally saw two **Taiwan Green Pigeons** very well, but despite the good-looking habitat there was no sign of a **Japanese Paradise-flycatcher**. Only when we entered a very narrow and shady gully did we find a pair that had a brood of three; we observed these for some time. The male did not have a long tail; I am unaware if this is a feature of the Lanyu birds. At 1430 one, then a second **Lanyu Scops-owl** began calling. We had now seen all of the Lanyu birds in 4.5 hours. I was relieved as I was sure we were going to dip on one or two species. It was about a 2 km walk back to Yujen, where we were staying, but this was no hardship as Lanyu was unseasonably cool. We stopped in Hungtou for a meal in the place opposite the Ta Ta La Hotel and then continued back to our lodgings. Some other birds seen today were a **Grey Heron**, two **Pacific Reef-egrets**, **Cattle Egrets**, one **Grey-faced Buzzard**, one **Osprey**, one **Peregrine**, three **Chinese Sparrowhawks**, three **Kentish** and three **Mongolian Sand-plovers**, one **Whiskered Tern**, one **White-breasted Waterhen**, one **Lesser Coucal**, plenty of **Fork-tailed Swifts**, one **Grey-throated Martin**, **Barn** and two **Striated Swallows**, one **Common Kingfisher**, five **Grey Wagtails**, 25 *tschutschensis* **Eastern Yellow Wagtails**, one *lucionensis* **Brown Shrike** and one **Black Drongo**. Very close to where we were staying there is a little bar/restaurant with free internet access. When we left there it was dark and upon reaching our lodgings we heard a **Lanyu Scops-owl** calling from the top of a broken palm tree in the grounds; his mate joined him and they were both seen very well. Our day had been a great success and a crack of dawn visit to the creeks tomorrow was now not necessary.

29 April

Lanyu - Chigu - Budai

We lay in a little later than usual and then walked along the coast, seeing a **Sanderling** and among the **Great, Little and Cattles Egrets** were a few **Intermediates**. There was also a **White-breasted Waterhen**, two **Pacific Swallows**, three **Grey Wagtails**, 5 *tschutschensis* **Eastern Yellow Wagtails**, many **Brown-eared Bulbuls** and two **Blue Rock-thrushes**. When we checked in at the airport we paid for our seats and found the fare cheaper than that on the way out as the taxes, when travelling back, are less. As we landed we saw ten **Oriental Pratincoles**, ten **Pacific Golden Plovers** and one **Grey Treepie**. We toyed with the idea of going to Kenting, but decided not to. The next day was Saturday and the area would probably be swamped with tourists. After midday it began to rain rather heavily. We travelled on to Chigu, where it was still raining. A quick look from the spoonbill hide revealed nothing, so we drove off to check various pools, large and small, for waders. Some interesting birds were seen, notably **Cinnamon Bittern** and **Greater Painted Snipe**, while others were one **Spotted Redshank**, one **Common Greenshank**, three **Wood Sandpipers**, one **Grey-tailed Tattler**, one **Terek** and ten **Common Sandpipers**, one **Common Snipe** and four **Little Terns**, but again we could not find any large concentrations of waders. Birds seen between Taitung airport and here included **House Swifts**, **Spotted** and **Red Collared-doves**, **Barn** and ten **Striated Swallows**, **Chinese**, **Styan's** and **Black Bulbuls**, many **Javan Mynas** and many **Eurasian Tree Sparrows**. As the light faded the rain ceased and it was time to find a hotel. By looking on our satnav we found a reasonable hotel in Budai with a little eating place and a shop nearby. We were now well-placed to continue our wader search in the morning.

30 April

Budai - Hulupi - Alishan - Tatajia

We left our hotel at 0630 and after buying food and drink at the nearby Family Mart, drove off to

look for some good wader habitat. Most pools were too full, but we did find two long pools that were teeming with waders. We drove down and along the causeway and fortunately did not get stuck. We spent 1.5 hours at this site seeing many **Pacific Golden Plovers**, one **Oriental Pratincole**, many **Kentish Plovers** (some with tiny chicks), many **Mongolian Sand-plovers**, 45 **Eastern Black-tailed Godwits**, 30 **Spotted Redshanks**, two **Common Redshanks**, many **Marsh Sandpipers**, many **Common Greenshanks**, five **Wood**, ten **Common**, ten **Terek**, 25 **Sharp-tailed**, many **Curlew** and 50 **Broad-billed Sandpipers**, many **Red-necked Stints**, four **Dunlin**, one **Ruddy Turnstone** and two **Common Snipe**. Some species too common to count were **Little Grebes**, **Great**, **Little** and **Cattle Egrets**, **Grey Herons**, **Black-crowned Night-herons** and **Black-winged Stilts**. Less common birds were one **Sacred Ibis**, one **Osprey**, 20 **Little Terns**, 14 **Caspian**, ten **Whiskered** and two **Greater Crested Terns**, 20 **Grey-throated Martins**, four **Black Drongos**, three **Long-tailed** and one *lucionensis* **Brown Shrike** and one **Eurasian Magpie**. We then drove to Hulupi, which was hard to find as our directions were flawed, perhaps due to the new roads. Here we had good views of seven **Pheasant-tailed Jacanas**, two **Cinnamon Bitterns**, one **Mallard**, one **Ruddy-breasted Crake**, ten **Common Moorhens** one **Plain Prinia**, and there was a *taivana* amongst a flock of 5 *tschutschensis* **Eastern Yellow Wagtails**. From Hulupi it was a long slow drive to Alishan. **House Swifts**, **Spotted** and **Red Collared-doves**, **Barn** and ten **Striated Swallows**, **Chinese** and **Black Bulbuls**, **Javan Mynas**, six **Grey Treepies** and many **Eurasian Tree Sparrows** were seen as we travelled. We stopped at a café at km 56/57 and had great views of eight **White-bellied Pigeons** and two **Oriental Turtle Doves**. The hotels at Alishan are off the road and accessed by going through a tollgate. We found a room at the first hotel we tried, the Sherhmu, and booked two nights. We were given vouchers for breakfast in a local eatery, but never used them as it would have interfered too much with the birding. After we had put our things in the room we drove up higher, to Tatajia. We saw five **White-tailed Robins**, six **Collared Bush-robins**, one **Plumbeous Water-redstart**, one **Flamecrest**, five **White-whiskered Laughingthrushes**, two **Steere's Liocichlas**, three **Taiwan Yuhinas**, five **Asian House Martins**, two **Spotted Nutcrackers** and two **Large-billed Crows**; **Taiwan Shortwing** and **Alishan Bush-warbler** were only heard. Beyond Tatajia we found two **Grey-headed Woodpeckers** by the roadside at about km 137. They were very dark below and would not respond to the calls of European birds. In the evening we bought food at the 7/11 to have in the morning and had a very poor meal at Alishan.

1 May

Alishan - Tatajia

We were able to make coffee in the room at 0530, but were gone by 0600. We drove up slowly but did not see any pheasants. By 0630 we had reached the entrance to Tatajia Visitors Centre. We had just passed the entrance when two small birds flew up from the side of the road. They both had white rumps and were one of the bullfinches. Very soon we could see them perched – they were **Taiwan Bullfinches** and they soon came back down to feed on the seeds of dandelions that grew in the short grassy verge. These were seen very well for 15 minutes. We continued to the next set of gates at about km 135 and looking down from the side of the road we had good views of a **Taiwan Scimitar-babbler**. We went back to Tatajia, but still no pheasants. We walked the trail from near the centre to the big *Tsuga chinensis* and beyond to the start of the Jade Mountain track. A lot of interesting birds were seen including two **Crested Honey-buzzards**, three **Fork-tailed** and 30 **House Swifts**, two **Taiwan Barbets**, three **Asian House Martins**, four **White-tailed Robins**, 20 **Collared Bush-robins**, probably a **Taiwan Bush-robin**, two **Plumbeous Water-redstarts**, six **Yellowish-bellied** and two **Alishan Bush-warblers**, two **Flamecrests**, one **Ferruginous Flycatcher**, one **Vivid Niltava**, two **Eurasian Nuthatches**, six **Black-throated**, two **Coal** and five **Green-backed Tits**, ten **Taiwan Yuhinas**, two **Taiwan Barwings**, two **Eurasian Jays**, twelve **Spotted Nutcrackers**, four **Large-billed Crows** and three **Vinaceous Rosefinches**. Best was a flock of **Taiwan Parrotbills** in the bamboo, but views were very poor. Again we only heard **Taiwan Shortwing**. By the time we had returned we were in need of sustenance and ordered beef and rice at the centre, then headed back down the 21 to the picnic site at km 132. Here we saw three **Asian**

House Martins, one **Grey-chinned Minivet**, a few **Rusty Laughingthrushes** and ten **White-bellied Green Pigeons** and were surprised to see a **Scaly Thrush**. As we drove back up we briefly saw a **Grey-headed Woodpecker** and later a pair of **Mikado Pheasants** on the road. The sun was beginning to slip behind the mountains and by the time we reached the Yushan NP entrance sign it was dark. We were extremely lucky to park beneath a calling **Chinese Tawny Owl**; we heard it as soon as I turned off the engine. We got out as quietly as we could and I reached for my torch. It was low down in the tree and not at all obscured. What a super bird. It eventually flew off; I tried to call it back with the iPod, but it just moved further away. We were both rather tired by now and slowly drove back. Instead of another rubbish meal, we stopped at the 7/11 and bought sandwiches and other items for tonight and tomorrow.

2 May

Alishan - Tatajia - Huben

Today we were up at 0500 and after a quick coffee drove towards Tatajia. Two separate male **Mikado Pheasants** were seen on the road. We continued to the picnic site at km 132. Two **Taiwan Bamboo Partridges** were flushed, eight **White-bellied Green Pigeons** were seen briefly and there were three **Rusty Laughingthrushes**. We were lucky with the **Scaly Thrush** and had six sightings, including unobscured views of it on the ground and perched. This bird was probably nesting nearby. We noted four **White-tailed Robins**, 15 **Collared Bush-robins**, two **Plumbeous Water-redstarts**, one **Taiwan Whistling-thrush**, two **Green-backed** and 15 **Black-throated Tits**, ten **White-eared Sibias**, 15 **Steere's Liocichlas**, ten **Taiwan Yuhinas**, six **Large-billed Crows** and two **Fire-breasted Flowerpeckers**. Further down the road we saw 15 **Asian House Martins** and found four nests within a tunnel. We returned to the hotel and checked out at 1100, then drove to Huben. Birds seen as we travelled were two **Crested Serpent-eagles**, **House Swifts**, **Barn**, **Pacific** and **Striated Swallows**, **Chinese** and **Black Bulbuls**, ten **Red Collared-doves**, and ten **Spotted Doves**. We found Huben easily, but there was nobody at the Pitta café, so we did not know where to go. We drove around and walked a couple of trails, but in the heat of the mid-afternoon saw very little. Later several **Taiwan Scimitar-babblers** were seen along the river and a **Malayan Night Heron** was seen behind the temple; it made a loud booming sound, which I had not expected from it. Other birds were one **Emerald** and two **Oriental Turtle Doves**, four **Collared Finchbills**, ten **Japanese White-eyes**, four **Black** and two **Bronzed Drongos**, two **Rufous-capped Babblers**, one **Taiwan Blue Magpie** and six **Grey Treepies**. We learned that the **Fairy Pittas**, a summer visitor, had not yet been seen, but one had been heard for a short time today, before dawn. We checked into the Pitta Café, but as we had not pre-booked a meal we had to go into town to the 7/11. A **Mountain Scops-owl** was heard after dark.

3 May

Huben - Bedongyueshan

We were up at 0430 and as the pre-arranged coffee did not appear we went straight out and along the road beyond the Pitta hide. A call was heard and in the half-light the **Fairy Pitta** was spotted in the trees. It did not stay there long and moved away from the road. At the time we were a bit tense as we thought that these might be our only views. We followed it and managed to get better views of it in the bamboo and scrub. It worked its way around to the Pitta hide from which it was seen very well indeed and for a long time. It had rings and a radio tag, which told us it had been trapped in 2004 and tagged in 2008. A walk around later provided nice views of one **Black-necklaced** and several **Taiwan Scimitar-babblers**, two **Collared Finchbills**, six **Japanese White-eyes**, two **Rufous-capped Babblers** and a few **Taiwan Bamboo Partridges**. **Dusky Fulvettas**, although heard in several places, were very hard to see, but we eventually saw one bird well. Four **Crested Serpent-eagles** circled over the Pitta Café. By 1020 we had already been up for six hours and after our breakfast we checked out. It was decided that we would return to the Wushe area and visit a site we had not previously looked at. From Wushe we turned off at km 4 towards Lishan, although our destination was Bedongyueshan. After we had parked it took about an hours' brisk walk to reach the

tea farm. We saw some **Taiwan Partridges** and some **Taiwan Bamboo Partridges** and also one female and two male **Swinhoe's Pheasants**. Eight **Rufous-crowned Laughingthrushes** were high in the trees by the tea plantation. We sat in the open area above the tea farm and saw ten **Taiwan Barbets**, **Barn** and six **Pacific Swallows**, an **Ashy Wood Pigeon**, four **Silver-backed Needletails**, four **Grey-chinned Minivets**, two **Vivid Niltavas**, one **Green-backed** and six **Black-throated Tits**. Two **Amur Wagtails**, three **White-tailed Robins**, one **Plumbeous Water-redstart**, two **Grey-checked Fulvettas** and ten **Steere's Liocichlas** were seen on the way up. Two **Collared Owlets** were heard. When we walked back down the track **White-eared Sibias** were calling 'pleased to meet you' all the way down; they must have very large populations here. We checked into the Homestay at km 5, where we had a very large room. On our previous visit we had found a superb chicken restaurant at about km 4.5 and returned to it tonight. A whole chicken was cooked, then brought to the table and ripped into pieces in front of us. We also had a large plate of fried Chinese cabbage and a dip, which just seemed to be chicken fat. Plastic gloves were given to us and we tucked into this superb feast.

4 May

Bedongyueshan - BG Trail #2 - Taipei

We were up at 0430 to make a return visit to Bedongyueshan. We were at our lookout just after dawn, but we could not find a singing **Taiwan Thrush**. We saw five **Taiwan Partridges**, three **Taiwan Bamboo Partridges**, six **Swinhoe's Pheasants**, four **Ashy Wood Pigeons** that settled close by, 20 **Silver-backed Needletails**, four **Grey-capped Woodpeckers**, 100 **Asian House Martins**, four **Amur Wagtails**, three **White-tailed Robins**, two **Plumbeous Water-redstarts**, three **Vivid Niltavas**, ten **Japanese White-eyes**, three **Eurasian Nuthatches**, two **Green-backed** and ten **Black-throated Tits**, 20 **Rufous-crowned Laughingthrushes**, many **White-eared Sibias**, ten **Steere's Liocichlas**, ten **Taiwan Yuhinas** and eight **Grey Treepies**. We had seen mostly the same birds as yesterday so we returned to the Homestay. After seeing two **Collared Finchbills** and hearing **Brownish-flanked Bush-warblers** from the balcony, we checked out at 0930. We returned to Blue Gates Trail #2, but did not see a great deal. There were four **Rufous-faced Warblers** and three **Fire-breasted Flowerpeckers**, a **Black Eagle** circled low overhead and two **Collared Owlets** were heard. On the track on the other side of the road we had good views of a male **Snowy-browed Flycatcher**. The morning's total of **Crested Serpent-eagles** was five. At 1430 we left the area and drove to Taipei seeing little of note, except for 20 **Black-crowned Night Herons**. The traffic became increasingly heavy as we neared the capital, which we reached in four hours. We checked into the Novotel and informed Vip Car Rental that they could collect their car.

5 May

After a leisurely breakfast we boarded the 0730 shuttle bus to the airport. We flew at 0925 and arrived at London, Heathrow about 14.5 hours later at 1705.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*:

Common in the Chigu and Budai areas

Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*:

One on a pool at Chigu and two at Hulupi

Malayan Night Heron *Gorsachius melanolophus*:

Three on the lawn at Huisun in the early morning and one at Huben

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*:

Commonly seen at Chigu and Budai and other lowland areas

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus*:

Common and widespread in the lowlands; also on Lanyu

Pacific Reef Egret *Egretta sacra*:

At least four on rocks near the Tropic of Cancer Monument and two on Lanyu

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*:

Common and widespread in the lowlands; also on Lanyu

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia*:

Common; a few noted with other egrets on Lanyu

Great Egret *Egretta alba*:

Common

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*:

Mostly seen at Chigu and Budai; one on Lanyu

Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus*:

One at Budai

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*:

One at Hulupi

Chinese Spot-billed Duck *Anas zonorhyncha*:

Six seen at Taitung rivermouth and one in fields east of Nanping, Highway 9

Crested Honey Buzzard (Oriental Honey Buzzard) *Pernis ptilorhynchus*:

Three singles at Dasyueshan and two at Yushan

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela hoyi*:

Frequently seen, our total was 27

Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus formosae*:

Surprisingly we only saw two at Dasyueshan

Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis*:

Three migrants seen on Lanyu

Besra *Accipiter virgatus fuscipectus*:

Two at Kwangua and one at Dasyueshan trail 210

Grey-faced Buzzard *Butastur indicus*:

One seen well on Lanyu

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis*:

An adult soaring with an immature south of Highway 14 at km 5 and another adult at Blue Gates trail #2

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*:

One on Lanyu and one at Budai

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*:

One near km 47.4 at Dasyueshan, a perched immature at Yushan and one on Lanyu

Taiwan Partridge *Arborophila crudigularis*:

None seen at Kwangua in the morning, but eight were seen on the walk to the hide in the afternoon; later a couple of birds came in to feed and were seen well. Five seen at Bedongyueshan

Taiwan Bamboo Partridge *Bambusicola sonorivox*:

This common bird eluded us until the end of the trip. Two flushed from the picnic area at Yushan km 130, two seen at Huben and others heard, then four at Bedongyueshan

Swinhoe's Pheasant *Lophura swinhoii*:

A total of sixteen were seen at Kwangua, Dasyueshan and Bedongyueshan

Mikado Pheasant *Syrnaticus mikado*:

A total of six; one seen at Dasyueshan at km 47, three on trail 210 and two at Yushan

Ring-necked Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*:

Fifteen in twos and threes in the fields east of Nanping, Highway 9

Slaty-breasted Rail *Gallirallus striatus*:

One seen well, but briefly east of Nanping, Highway 9

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*:

Two on Lanyu

Ruddy-breasted Crake *Porzana fusca erythrothorax*:

One near Hulupi and one in the fields east of Nanping, Highway 9

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*:

Seen at Budai, Hulupi and Lanyu

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*:

Only seen at Hulupi, where we saw seven

Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula benghalensis*:

One on a pool near to Chigu

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*:

Common in the Budai area

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*:

One near Chigu, one near Budai, two near Nanping, Highway 9 and ten at Taitung airfield two days running

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*:

Two at the Liwu rivermouth

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*:

Two at Chigu, common at Budai where there were some recently fledged birds

Mongolian Plover (Mongolian Sand Plover) *Charadrius mongolus*:

Common at Chigu and Budai, Taitung rivermouth and a few other places

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*:

Fairly common at Budai

Grey Plover (Black-bellied Plover) *Pluvialis squatarola*:

One at Taitung rivermouth

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*:

We only saw five at Chigu

Sanderling *Calidris alba*:

One on Lanyu

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*:

At the Liwu rivermouth there were 20 and it was common at Budai

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*:

About 25 at Budai

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*:

Common at Budai

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*:

One at Chigu and four at Budai

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus sibirica*:

At least 50 at Budai

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*:

One at a pool near Chigu and one at Hulupi

Eastern Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa melanuroides*:

About 45 at Budai

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*:

About 40 at Chigu

Eurasian Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*:

Ten at Chigu, six at Taitung rivermouth and eight elsewhere

Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*:

One at Taitung rivermouth

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*:

There were thirty in full summer plumage at Budai

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*:

Only two at Budai

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*:

A few hundred at Budai

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*:

About 100 at Budai; others at Chigu and elsewhere

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*:

Only ten noted at Chigu and Budai

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*:

Over 30 were seen at Chigu and Budai

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*:

Over 50 at various wetland sites

Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes*:

Four at Taitung rivermouth and one at Budai

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*:

Ten at Chigu, six at Budai and five at Taitung rivermouth

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*:

One at Taitung rivermouth

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*:

One at Chigu, four off Liwu rivermouth

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*:

Ten at Chigu and 14 at Budai

Greater Crested Tern *Sterna bergii*:

Two at Budai

Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana*:

Eight around rocks offshore from the Tropic of Cancer Monument

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*:

A flock of about 100 off Liwu rivermouth

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*:

Seven at Chigu, 25 at Taitung rivermouth, common at Budai

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*:

A flock of 300 birds at Taitung rivermouth.

Rock Dove *Columba livia*:

All were feral

Ashy Wood Pigeon *Columba pulchricollis*:

Frequently heard, but not often seen. Just a few flyovers at Dasyueshan, Wushe and Tatajia; four seen very well perched at Bedongyueshan

Red Collared-dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica*:

Widespread and common in the lowlands; frequently seen on the sides of the Highways

Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis*:

Two at Chun Yang Farm, two in the Alishan area and two elsewhere

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*:

Widespread and fairly common in the lowlands

Philippine Cuckoo-dove *Macropygia tenuirostris*:

One in Flycatcher Creek on Lanyu

Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*:

One at Huben

White-bellied Green Pigeon *Treron sieboldii*:

Eight seen by café at km 57, Highway 18. Ten and eight next day at the picnic site at km 130 on Highway 21

Taiwan Green Pigeon *Treron formosae*:

After a struggle two were seen very well in Flycatcher Creek on Lanyu; several others were heard

Large Hawk-cuckoo *Hierococcyx sparveriioides*

Heard at mid-elevations in the mountains, but not seen

Lesser Coucal *Centropus bengalensis*:

One on Lanyu

Mountain Scops Owl *Otus spilocephalus*

One seen very well at Kwangua, several others heard in various places

Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia*:

One seen well in bamboo at Kwangua

Lanyu Scops Owl *Otus botelensis*:

Although two birds were calling at 1430 near to Flycatcher Creek, it was not until after dark that we saw two birds very well in the grounds at Yujen

Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei*:

Several heard; singles seen at Dasyueshan, Huisun, Wushe and Yushan

Chinese Tawny Owl *Strix nivicola*:

Heard calling at Dasyueshan km 47.5. One seen very well in a tree above the big stone sign that marks the entrance to Yushan NP on Highway 18, between Alishan and Tatajia. Neither bird responded to the call of a bird from mainland China, in fact both moved away

Silver-backed Needletail *Hirundapus cochinchinensis*:

Only seen at the end of the trip at Bedongyueshan; four on one date and 20 on the second

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*:

Several scattered sightings of migrating flocks. Common in Taroko Gorge

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*: Widespread and common; there appeared to be breeding colonies under every roadbridge on Highway 11

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*:

One flew across the beach at Liwu rivermouth and another seen on Lanyu

Taiwan Barbet *Megalaima nuchalis*:

Heard and seen almost everywhere, from the lowlands to the mountains

Grey-capped Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus*:

Seen at Dasyueshan, Huisun and Wushe areas

Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus tancolo*:

Seen on two dates on Road 21, at km 137, which is north of Tatajia. We found two birds that would not respond to the calls of European birds. It makes one wonder how closely related they actually are

Fairy Pitta *Pitta nympha*:

Birds were late coming in, but we were fortunate to hear a bird calling at dawn on May 3. This moved towards the hide and was seen very well from there. No other pittas were present on the reserve at this time

Japanese Skylark *Alauda japonica*:

Seen at Liwu rivermouth, Taitung rivermouth and Taitung Airport

Grey-throated Martin *Riparia chinensis*:

Seen at Liwu rivermouth and several sites further south and at Chigu and Budai

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*:

Widespread and common

Pacific Swallow *Hirundo tahitica*:

Common and frequently seen

Striated Swallow *Hirundo striolata*:

Seen as frequently as the previous species, but normally in larger numbers

Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus*:

About 400 massing beneath the bridge before Anmashan, others nesting in tunnels of Road 21, which runs north from Tatajia

Green-headed Wagtail *Motacilla [flava] taivana*:

A few at Liwu rivermouth and near Nanping, Highway 9

Eastern Yellow Wagtail (Alaska Wagtail) *Motacilla [flava] tschutschensis*:

Small flocks totalling 50; most Yellow Wagtails were of this form

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*:

Ten were seen; of these eight were on Lanyu

Amur Wagtail *Motacilla [alba] leucopsis*:

Twelve seen on scattered dates on scattered locations

Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris*:

Fairly commonly seen in the foothills and mountains

Collared Finchbill *Spizixos semitorques*:

Does not appear to be common in the lowlands, but is easy to find as it sits in the open, on wires, etc

Styan's Bulbul *Pycnonotus taivanus*:

First seen from our hotel in Tienhsiang, it was very common from there to the south. Some hybrids were noted near the Liwu rivermouth

Chinese Bulbul *Pycnonotus sinensis*:

Very common on the western side of the island from the north to quite far south

Brown-eared Bulbul *Hypsipetes amaurotis*:

Only seen on Lanyu where it is very common

Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*:

Very common, mostly in the lower altitudes

Winter Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*:

Not common; we saw two at Dasyueshan and four near the Hehuanshan pass

Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris*:

Only seen at Hehuanshan pass car park, where there were three very tame birds

Taiwan Shortwing *Brachypteryx goodfellowi*:

Commonly heard singing from undergrowth in the mountainous areas. Only two were seen well

Taiwan Bush Robin (Sombre Bush Robin) *Tarsiger formosanus*:

Seen at Anmashan by the stream at 46.8 km and along trail 230. Probably also seen at Tatajia

Collared Bush Robin *Tarsiger johnstoniae*:

A frequently seen bird of the mountains, especially on the roadsides in the mornings

White-tailed Robin *Cinclidium leucurum*:

We saw about 35 of these little gems, usually in shady areas and roadsides in the mountains

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius philippensis*:

One on the mainland and two on Lanyu

Taiwan Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus*:

Seems easiest to see at dawn and dusk; most were in the Taroko area, where we saw 12

Scaly Thrush *Zoothera dauma*:

Seen two days running at km 132 on Road 21, which runs north from Tatajia. Because it was April 30 and May 1 the birds were probably breeding rather than wintering

Pale Thrush *Turdus pallidus*:

Only one seen, in the grounds at Anmashan, km 44

Little Forktail *Enicurus scouleri*:

Seen twice at Dasyueshan on the small waterfall and stream between kms 41 and 42

Brownish-flanked Bush-warbler *Cettia fortipes*:

Mid-elevation overgrown habitats, for example between kms 8 and 12 on the way to Anmashan. Heard far more often than seen and one of those tricky birds that needs to be coaxed out with playback

Yellow-bellied Bush-warbler *Cettia acanthizoides*:

A bird of the higher elevations, but far easier to see than the other two bush warblers. Normally in shrubs rather than on the ground

Alishan Bush-warbler *Bradypterus alishanensis*:

Another high-elevation bird, this incredible songster responds very well to playback, running mouse-like along the ground to the source. Very hard to see otherwise

Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata*:

A fairly widespread, common, lowland, wetland bird

Yellow-bellied Prinia *Prinia ventriloquism*:

Not as widespread as Plain Prinia, but we saw 20 in the wet, cultivated area near Nanping, Highway 9

Striated Prinia *Prinia criniger striata*:

A few at Kwangua and another elsewhere

Rufous-faced Warbler *Abroscopus albogularis*:

A very common bird of the forests

Flamecrest *Regulus goodfellowi*:

Common high in the mountains, for example trails from km 50 at Dasyueshan, near Hehuanshan and Tatajia

Vivid Niltava *Niltava vivida vivida*:

Common and easily found bird of the mountainous areas

Ferruginous Flycatcher *Muscicapa ferruginea*:

A summer visitor to the mountain forests. We only saw two at Dasyueshan and another near Tatajia

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra innexa*:

We only saw two males on different dates, on Blue Gate Trail #2, although others were heard. Neither would have been seen without playback

Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea*:

One at Kwangua and three at Huben

Japanese Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone atrocaudata*:

We found a pair with three recently fledged young in a very narrow and shady gully on Lanyu

Black-necklaced Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis*:

This common bird eluded us for most of the trip. Two were seen at Chun Yang Farm and one at Huben

Taiwan Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus musicus*:

Our first was in the Alishan area, but it was commonest and easiest to see at Huben

Taiwan Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga formosana*:

Fairly commonly heard at Alishan and Dasyueshan, but only one seen at km 46.8, Dasyueshan

Rufous-capped Babbler *Stachyris ruficeps*:

Seen at Kwangua, Huisun, Huben and Bedongyueshan

Vinous-throated Parrotbill *Paradoxornis webbianus*:

Only seen at Chun Yang Farm, feeding in a weedy field

Taiwan Parrotbill *Paradoxornis verreauxi*:

Only seen at Dasyueshan, trail 230 and near Tatajia

Rufous-capped Laughingthrush *Garrulax ruficeps*:

This large Laughingthrush was mostly seen high in the trees, firstly at Dasyueshan, km 27, where there were five and at Bedongyueshan where there were eight on the first day and 20 on the second

Rusty Laughingthrush *Garrulax poecilorhynchus*:

Seen at three places, one at Dasyueshan km 23.3, five at Chun Yang Farm, three on Road 21 at km 132

Taiwan Laughingthrush *Garrulax taewanus*:

Only seen on the way down from Dasyueshan, down a side road from km 4

White-whiskered Laughingthrush *Garrulax morrisonianus*:

Common and easily seen at high-elevations in the Dasyueshan, Hehuanshan and Tatajia areas

Steere's Liocichla *Liocichla steerii*:

A very common montane forest bird

Taiwan Barwing *Actinodura morrisoniana*:

Two at Dasyueshan trail 230, Blue Gate Trail #2 and Tatajia area

Taiwan Fulvetta *Alcippe formosana*:

Commonly seen bird of the high-elevations, sometimes curious, sometimes skulking

Dusky Fulvetta *Alcippe brunnea*:

Two seen at Chun Yang Farm and one at Huben, although others were heard. A skulker normally on or close to the ground

Grey-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe morrisonia morrisonia*:

Seen at Kwangua, Huben and a few other sites

White-eared Sibia *Heterophasia auricularis*:

A very common and frequently heard bird of the montane forests. Far fewer seen than heard

Taiwan Yuhina *Yuhina brunneiceps*:

Very common in the montane forests in mixed and single-species flocks

White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis zantholeuca*:

Two at Huisun were the only ones we saw

Black-throated Tit *Aegithalos concinnus*:

A common bird in the montane forests

Taiwan Varied Tit *Parus castaneiventris*:

Only seen at Huisun where there was one along the track to the left of the road, just after km 9 and four in trees above the lawn where we observed the Malayan Night Herons

Coal Tit *Parus ater*:

A common but easily overlooked bird of the conifers of montane forests

Yellow Tit *Parus holsti*:

One at Dasyueshan, trail 210 and two at Blue Gate Trail #2

Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus*:

Seen at Kwangua, Dasyueshan, Blue Gate Trail #2, Alishan and Tatajia area

Eurasian Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*:

Seen at Blue Gate Trail #2, Tatajia and Bedongyueshan

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus*:

Seen at a few sites including Blue Gate Trail #2

Japanese White-eye *Zosterops japonicus*:

Seen at Kwangua, Huisun, Huben and other areas

Lowland White-eye *Zosterops meyeri*:

Only seen on Lanyu, where we counted ten

Red Oriole *Oriolus ardens*:

Only at Huisun, where there was a male along the track to the left of the road, in the vicinity of the wheelie bins at km 8.5

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*:

Fairly commonly seen

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*:

Most were seen in the cultivated area near Nanping, Highway 9; others seen near to Hulupi

Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*:

Widespread and common

Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*:

Less common than the other drongo

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius*:

Two on Road 21 beyond Tatajia

Taiwan Blue Magpie *Urocissa caerulea*:

Common at Huisun, where there were groups in different areas. The ones we saw best were raiding the rubbish bags in one of the large car parks. One at Huben

Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae*:

Common at Huisun - we saw 17 - also seen in the Taitung area and at Bedongyueshan

Eurasian Magpie *Pica pica*:

One at Budai

Spotted Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes*:

Easily found in the higher elevations of Dasyueshan and Tatajia

Large-billed Crow *Corvus japonensis*:

Common and mostly seen in the mountains

Chestnut-cheeked Starling *Sturnus philippensis*:

One near Liwu rivermouth

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*:

A few along the road somewhere

Javan Myna *Acridotheres javanicus*:

The abundant roadside Myna

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*:

Common and widespread

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*:

One near Nanping, Highway 9

Black-headed Munia *Lonchura malacca*:

On the cultivated area east of Nanping, Highway 9, we saw 14

Vinaceous Rosefinch *Carpodacus vinaceus*:

Seen at Anmashan km 44, Dasyueshan kms 47 and 50, on the approach to and at Hehuanshan and at Tatajia

Brown Bullfinch *Pyrrhula nipalensis*:

Three seen as we left Kwangua and four within the Anmashan km 44 complex

Taiwan Bullfinch (Owston's Bullfinch) *Pyrrhula owstoni*:

Only 2 seen, feeding on dandelion seeds by the roadside just past the entrance to the Tatajia Visitors Centre

Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*:

Good views of a single bird in fields east of Nanping, Highway 9

ENDEMIC SPECIES, ENDEMIC RACES AND POSSIBLE SPLITS

E = endemic species Er = endemic race *Er = possible split

- *Er Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela hoya*
- Er Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus formosae*
- Er Besra *Accipiter virgatus fuscipectus*
- E Taiwan Partridge *Arborophila crudigularis*
- E Taiwan Bamboo Partridge *Bambusicola sonorivox*
- E Swinhoe's Pheasant *Lophura swinhoii*
- E Mikado Pheasant *Syrmaticus mikado*
- Er Ring-necked Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus formosanus*
- Er Barred Button-quail *Turnix suscitator rostratus*
- Er Slaty-legged Crake *Rallina eurizonoides formosanus*
- Er Slaty-breasted Rail *Gallirallus striatus taiwanus*
- Er Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis orii*
- Er Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis formosanus*
- Er Philippine Cuckoo-dove *Macropygia tenuirostris phaea*
- E Taiwan Green Pigeon *Treron formosae*
- Er Australasian Grass-Owl *Tyto longimembris pithecops*
- Er Mountain Scops Owl *Otus spilocephalus hambroeckii*
- Er Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia glabripes*
- E Lanyu Scops Owl *Otus botelensis*
- Er Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei pardalotum*
- Er Brown Wood Owl *Strix leptogrammica caligata*
- *Er Chinese Tawny Owl *Strix nivicola yamadae*
- Er Silver-backed Needletail *Hirundapus cochinchinensis formosanus*
- Er House Swift *Apus nipalensis kuntzi*
- E Taiwan Barbet *Megalaima nuchalis*
- Er Grey-capped Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus kaleensis*

*Er Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus tancolo*
 Er White-backed Woodpecker *Dendrocopus leucotus insularis*
 Er Japanese Skylark *Alauda japonica wattersii*
 Er Collared Finchbill *Spizixos semitorques cinereicapillus*
 E Styan's Bulbul *Pycnonotus taivanus*
 Er Chinese Bulbul *Pycnonotus sinensis formosae*
 Er Brown-eared Bulbul *Hypsipetes amaurotis harterti*
 *Er Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus niggerimus*
 Er Winter Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes taivanus*
 Er Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris fennelli*
 E Taiwan Shortwing *Brachypteryx goodfellowi*
 E Taiwan Bush Robin (Sombre Bush Robin) *Tarsiger formosanus*
 E Collared Bush Robin *Tarsiger johnstoniae*
 Er Plumbeous Water-redstart *Rhyacornis fuliginosa affinis*
 Er White-tailed Robin *Cinclidium leucurum montium*
 E Taiwan Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus*
 *Er Scaly Thrush *Zoothera dauma ?*
 E Taiwan Thrush *Turdus niveiceps*
 *Er Brown-flanked Bush Warbler *Cettia fortipes robustipes*
 Er Yellow-bellied Bush Warbler *Cettia acanthizoides concolor*
 E Alishan Bush Warbler *Bradypterus alishanensis*
 Er Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis volitan*
 Er Plain Prinia *Prinia inornata flavirostris*
 Er Striated Prinia *Prinia criniger striata*
 E Flamecrest *Regulus goodfellowi*
 *Er Vivid Niltava *Niltava vivida vivida*
 *Er Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra innexa*
 Er Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea oberholseri*
 *Er Japanese Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone atrocaudata periophthalmica*
 E Black-necklaced Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis*
 E Taiwan Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus musicus*
 E Taiwan Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga formosana*
 Er Rufous-capped Babbler *Stachyris ruficeps praecognita*
 Er Vinous-throated Parrotbill *Paradoxornis webbianus bulomachus*
 E Taiwan Parrotbill *Paradoxornis verreauxi*
 E Rufous-capped Laughingthrush *Garrulax ruficeps*
 E Rusty Laughingthrush *Garrulax poecilorhynchus*
 E Taiwan Laughingthrush *Garrulax taewanus*
 E White-whiskered Laughingthrush *Garrulax morrisonianus*
 E Steere's Liocichla *Liocichla steerii*
 E Taiwan Barwing *Actinodura morrisoniana*
 E Taiwan Fulvetta *Alcippe formosana*
 Er Dusky Fulvetta *Alcippe brunnea brunnea*
 Er Grey-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe morrisonia morrisonia*
 E White-eared Sibia *Heterophasia auricularis*
 E Taiwan Yuhina *Yuhina brunneiceps*
 E Taiwan Varied Tit *Parus castaneiventris*
 Er Coal Tit *Parus ater ptilosus*
 E Yellow Tit *Parus holsti*
 Er Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus inseperatus*
 Er Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum concolor uchidai*
 Er Fire-breasted Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectus formosum*
 Er Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus harterti*
 Er Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus braunianus*
 Er Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius taivanus*
 Er Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae formosae*
 E Taiwan Blue Magpie *Urocissa caerulea*
 *Er Spotted Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes owstoni*
 Er Crested Myna *Acridotheres cristatellus formosanus*
 Er Black-headed Munia *Lonchura malacca formosana*
 *Er Vinaceous Rosefinch *Carpodacus vinaceus formosanus*
 *Er Brown Bullfinch *Pyrrhula nipalensis uchidai*
 E Taiwan Bullfinch (Owston's Bullfinch) *Pyrrhula owstoni*