

Sri Lanka

20th November - 5th December 2015

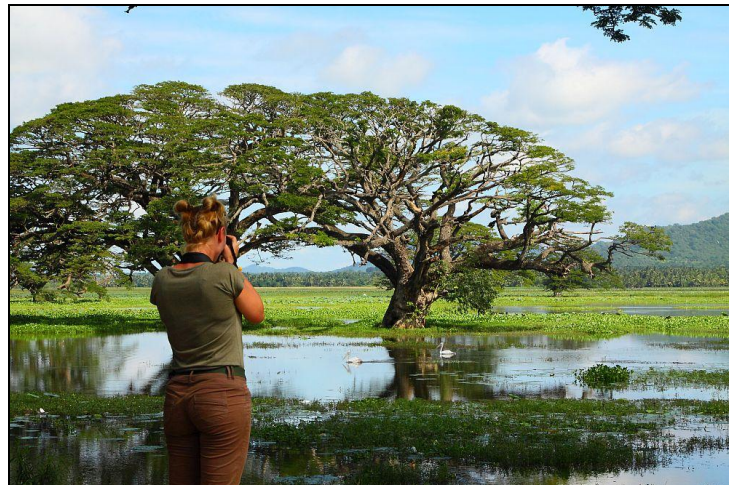
Independent birds and plants tour in this amazing island



Sinharaya National Park (from Martin's Lodge)



Horton Plains (Nuwara Eliya)



Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama)

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Introduction This journey was a two weeks independent birds and plants tour in Sri Lanka with a private car. Three of the team (Gergő, Ferenc and Sándor) are birdwatchers and one of the team (Kinga) is interested in plants. Beside these groups we tried to concentrate butterflies, amphibians, reptiles and mammals, too. Independent tour in Sri Lanka is more or less easy, including birdwatching and transport, however the latest one could be very stressfull, especially in larger cities. We spent five days in Sinharaya, two days around Nuwara Eliya, one day in Kandy, one day in Surrey Bird Sanctuary, four days around Tissamaharama and one day in Mirissa. We had planned it from late summer, so we had enough time to prepare almost everything for the trip, however we had some problem during the trip (for example we had a breakdown in Nuwara Eliya). In Sinharaya there are intact tropical rainforests with some bird flocks and species rich vegetation, but the birding was very hard. There is no enough light to spot bird species and the flocks contains 15-20 species and they move very quickly. The target bird species could be very tricky, and sometimes you could suffer for them. We liked very much Horton Plains. The seven kilometers long World's End trail was bird species poor, however compensated us the wonderful landscape with lots of endemic plants. Victoria Park is a typical botanical garden. There is no rich native vegetation, and the targets (pied thrush and Kashmir flycatcher) were difficult to observe. We spent some hours here in the late afternoon and in early morning two days later. The only sight-seeing program was in Kandy, where we visited the Sacred Temple of the Tooth and the bazaar, of course. Udawatta Kele is a small sanctuary with numerous lianas on trees, but we did not see our targets, brown fish owl and spotted eagle-owl. Similarly, the Surrey Bird Sanctuary was a bit of a disappointment. The top experience of the tour was Yala: birds photography, mammals including leopard and lots of asian elephants, reptiles (including monitors and marsh crocodile), Lake View Cottage with excellent food and service, etc. The last day of the trip was Mirissa, and it was a perfect end of this tour: three whale species, one dolphin species and some birds. Out of 34 endemic bird species we saw 32, the two missing targets were chestnut-backed owlet and sri lanka spurfowl. We heard their call, but we missed them ☹. All in all during the entire trip we observed 229 birds, 24 reptiles, 24 mammals, 62 butterflies and 47 endemic plants. Total cost of the trip was approximately 1.200€/person.

Airplane ticket and visa We bought the tickets via www.skyscanner.hu. There is no direct flights from Budapest to Colombo, but there are some options to there. We chose Qatar airways

with Doha transfer. During the return journey we had only 50 minutes for the transfer. It was a big problem, we had to run to the terminal and we had lucky to reach our plane. However those persons who did not run missed the flight. This was the last time to choose a flight with such a short transfer time. The cost of return airplane ticket was 480€/person. The two journey last about ten hours there and back with relatively good food and drink. We filled the online application form of the visa via www.eta.gov.lk webpage, it last about 5 minutes and we received the confirmation one day later. It costs 35\$/person. It is possible to do it when you arrive at the airport. On the plane to Colombo we had to fill in a form about main information about our journey, like *How many days do you stay in Sri Lanka? What is your main goal with your trip? Where will you stay?* etc.

Vaccination There are some recommended vaccinations to Sri Lanka: hepatitis A and B, DPT and vaccination against typhus. As Malaria is very rare in Sri Lanka, we were not advised take any prophylaxis (reference: [Institute of Tropical Medicine](#)). All in all we paid about 100€/person.

Money The currency of Sri Lanka is Sri Lanka Rupees (RS). 1€ was about 157RS and 1\$ was about 145RS. We took cash (euro and dollar) and we changed money at the airport, however in larger cities there are ATMs. We tried to withdraw money in Kandy, but unfortunately just the third ATM was good for us. Around Sinharaja and Tissamaharama we did not see ATMs, but probably there are some in larger hotels, so it is better to bring sufficient cash.

Electricity Theoretically most plugs encountered were type D, but the easiest was if you buy an adapter in any shop at the airport or in any roadside shop. Read more at the [Worldstandards website](#).

Transport We rent a car from Newanjith Rent-A-Car company (www.rentcarsrilanka.com) and paid 256€ for 15 days, airport pick-up and drop-off. Besides these we paid 21\$ for organizing a Sri Lankan Driving Permit, which is necessary for foreign drivers. At the airport we got the car, an old model Toyota Corolla with automatic gear. It was not in good condition, the two back windows did not work and it was too small for four persons with luggages. Except on the highway the maximum speed is only 70 km/h, however average speed was 40-50 km/h. You have to pay for the highways, but it is quite cheap. For example, we paid 300RS from Colombo Airport to Colombo city. The roads are very busy: lots of cows, dogs, pedestrians, tuktuks, buses, etc., and you have to drive on the left side of the road. We used GPS, but we had some problems with it. Except larger cities (i.e. Colombo or Kandy) the driving is not so stressfull, however you

have to take care of the cows, buffalos and dogs in the middle of the roads. Unfortunately, particularly in the mountain areas lots of main roads were full of potholes. Traffic hierarchy is very important: cows-buffalos-dogs-buses-trucks-4WD-saloon car-tuktuk-motorcycle-bicycle-pedestrian (from high to low). During our trip the refueling was a big problem, because the car works with gasoline 95 and most of the gasoline stations did not sell this type of gasoline. We got the car empty and we hardly found any gas station (finally we found one near the highway towards Negombo, about 5 kilometers from the airport). All in all it was quite cheap and the staff was very helpful, so we recommend this company to rent a car.

Weather and birding season In most part of Sri Lanka the weather was hot and sunny with ca. 35-40°C and 80-90% humidity. Heavy rain avoided us, except two occasions: one day in Sinharaya and one day in Yala, however both of them last about one hour. Horton Plains was the only place where the weather was cold in early morning, about 5°C, but during the day was hot too and we completely burned from the sun. The sun rise about 6am and set about 6pm. As we think best birdwatching time of Sri Lanka is wintertime (end of November-March), because there is no monsoon season, the wintering and breeding species are here yet. Some of the endemic bird species are quite hard, for example we fought hard for Sri Lanka thrush, Sri Lanka whistling thrush, Sri Lanka green pigeon, green-billed coucal, white-faced starling and Kashmir flycatcher too. We missed chestnut-backed owlet and Sri Lanka spurfowl, but we heard their call. Good advice: go to Kithulgala one or two days for chestnut-backed owlet (much easier than in Sinharaya); and try to find a good guide who can show the garden where the local people feeds a pair Sri Lanka spurfowl (near Kudawa).

Trip reports

1. Gabb O., Maher M., Sykes T., Thomas S. 27.11. - 10.12.2010. Sri Lanka
2. Spanhove T., Dewolf J., de Groote D. 25.12.2011. - 16.01.2012. Independent birding in Sri Lanka
3. Marques D., Ducry F. 02. - 19.01.2012. Sri Lanka
4. Jacob H. N. 19.11. - 18.12.2012. Sri Lanka Independent trip report
5. Gabb O. 12.2012. - 01.2013. Sri Lanka
6. Schouten A., Peters A. 26.11. - 22.12.2014. Self driving birding trip Sri Lanka
7. Matheve H., Herman D. B. 10.12. - 28.12.2014. Sri Lanka

Books

1. Berkmoes R. V., Butler S., Stewart I. (2015): Lonely Planet Sri Lanka. Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd, China, 336 p.
2. Harrison J., Worfolk T. (2014): A field guide to the birds of Sri Lanka. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 210 p.
3. de Vlas J., de Vlas-de Jong J. (2014): Illustrated field guide to the flowers of Sri Lanka - Volume 1. Mark Booksellers and Distributors Ltd., Netherlands, 304 p.
4. de Vlas J., de Vlas-de Jong J. (2014): Illustrated field guide to the flowers of Sri Lanka - Volume 2. Booksellers and Distributors Ltd., Netherlands, 320 p.
5. Wijeyeratne G. D. S. (2008): A photographic guide to mammals of Sri Lanka. New Holland Publishers (UK) Ltd, London, 128 p.

Map Sri Lanka, Reise, 1:500 000

Accommodation

Place	Name of accommodation	Nights	Price/night/person €	Wifi	Comments
Sinharaya NP	Martin's Simple Lodge (link)	5	24*	No	Recommend. Beautiful place, nice staff, good food, good view from the balcon to tropical rainforest. Rooms are simple, but adequate.
Nuwara Eliya	Park View Guest House (link)	2	8	Yes	Recommend. Average hotel. Despite the big city it is a very quite location. Food was too expensive, do not choose it, you can find easily a restaurant in the city.
Kandy	Townhouse Rest (link)	1	11**	Yes	Recommend. Average hotel, there was a fan in the room.
Tissamahar ama	Lake View Cottage (link)	4	8**	Yes	Recommend. The best accommodation in Sri Lanka. Beautiful place, nice staff, good food, good view from the balcon to Tissa Lake. Room was spacious and comfortable with air conditioner. Breakfast was very rich (scrambled eggs, sausage, fruits, juice,

					coconut sambal etc.).
Mirissa	Beach Inns Holiday Resort (link)	1	10	Yes	Not recommend. There was no hot water! Room was small and poor.

* Half Board, including breakfast and dinner.

** Including breakfast only.

Food

Usually we ate in our accommodations, because three of the team are afraid of street food ☺. Despite of this we tried some special sri lankan food, such as cocnut sambal (it contains lots of onions, red chili, coconuts, and a little lime). The typical food was chicken, rice, vegetables, frutes (papaya, mango, banana, pineapple, sweet melone), fried eggs or omlette, yellow peas. Average price per person was about 8-10 €.

Itinerary

- 20th Nov.: Departure from Budapest Airport.
- 21st Nov.: Arrival at Colombo Airport + travel to Sinharaya NP (5 hrs). Birding during some roadside stops and outside NP, around the lodge. Night in Martin's Simple Lodge.
- 22nd Nov.: Birding Sinharaya NP (inside NP). Night in Martin's Simple Lodge.
- 23rd Nov.: Birding Sinharaya NP (inside NP, outside NP, near Kudawa village). Night in Martin's Simple Lodge.
- 24th Nov.: Birding Sinharaya NP (outside NP, near Kudawa village). Night in Martin's Simple Lodge.
- 25th Nov.: Birding Sinharaya NP (inside NP, outside NP, near Kudawa village). Night in Martin's Simple Lodge.
- 26th Nov.: Birding Sinharaya NP (outside NP, near Kudawa village) + travel to Nuwara Eliya (6 hrs). Birding during some roadside stops and Victoria Park. Night in Nuwara Eliya.
- 27th Nov.: Birding Horton Plains (1 hr drive one way). Night in Nuwara Eliya.
- 28th Nov.: Birding Victoria Park + travel to Kandy (4 hrs) + birding Peradeniya Botanical Garden. Night in Kandy.
- 29th Nov.: Birding Udawatta Kele Sanctuary + travel to Welimada (3 hrs). Birding Surrey Bird Sanctuary + travel to Tissamaharama (4 hrs). Night in Tissamaharama.
- 30th Nov.: Birding Yala NP (outside NP, Tissa Lake, entrance gate). Night in Tissamaharama.

- 1st Dec.: Birding Yala NP (inside NP, outside NP, entrance gate). Night in Tissamaharama.
- 2nd Dec.: Birding Yala NP (outside NP, Tissa Lake, entrance gate). Night in Tissamaharama.
- 3rd Dec.: Birding Yala NP (outside NP, Tissa Lake) + travel to Bundala NP (1 hr). Birding Bundala NP (inside NP) + travel to Mirissa (3 hrs). Night in Mirissa.
- 4th Dec.: Whale watching trip off Mirissa. Travel to Colombo Airport (4 hrs).
- 5th Dec.: Departure from Colombo Airport + arrival at Budapest Airport.

Some important information about visited sites

The abovementioned trip reports described the accessibilities of each places, so we concentrate other important informations (entry tickets, guides, safaris etc.)

Sinharaya NP (inside and outside, around Martin's Simple Lodge)

The best place to stay is definitely Martin's Simple Lodge. When we arrived at Colombo Airport, we phoned to Martin to give us a lift by a jeep from Kudawa village. We parked the car beside Martin's second hotel in the village and we went to the Lodge by a 4WD vehicle, we were sitting on the platform. It cost 7000 RS there and back. The way last about half an hour, however the distance was just about 2,5 kilometers. Tropical forests were full of leeches. You can buy leech socks in the lodge for 300 RS/person. If you want to go inside the national park, you have to buy ticket. It might be useful to know that next to Martin's Simple Lodge there is a short-cut to get from the jeep track to the other dirt track towards the ticket office (30 minutes walk). Martin's will help you, of course. This is far the faster way, however the ticket office opens only at 6.00 am, so you lost time, which were very annoying ☹. If you want to enter the park, a guide is compulsory. The guides are scheduled in a rotating scheme, so you need to be lucky to get a good one. But! When you get a guide, explain him/her what kind of species would you like to see. We did this, and the first guide was scared and we got a new good birdwatcher guide, Tan Duli ☺. So you have to be self-confident. If you would like to have the same guide as on your first day, you do not need to walk down to the ticket office, just pay the fees to the guide. We did this and it worked well. The entrance ticket was 650 RS/person and the guide was 1000 RS/group. You have to know if you do not have ticket, you do not have to go the other side of the river. Guides are everywhere and check the tickets! It is not allowed to use playback of bird sounds and even make recording, spotlight, moreover it is not allowed to go out at night. We did it in the first night but at the second night Martin told us it is not allowed anymore.

Kudawa village

We birded the area near Kudawa village: from Martin's Lodge to the village, around Blue Magpie lodge, along a dirt track that forks of left just before main bridge and runs towards some settlement. There were some species, which were more easiar here than inside the national park (Layard's parakeet, sri lanka hanging parrot, crimson-fronted barbet, yellow-fronted barbet etc.), The area is good for butterflies, and we saw some interesting "house bird species" like changeable hawk eagle, indian paradise flycatcher near the Blue Magpie Lodge.

Victoria Park (Nuwara Eliya)

The ticket office is along the Ude Pussellawa Road. The ticket cost 300 RS/person. The gate open at 7.00 am but you can ask the guard to enter earlier. We paid 1000 RS/3 persons and we could go to the park about 6.30 am.

Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya)

From Nuwara Eliya to the entrance gate the way took about 1 hour (only 30 kilometers). It opens 6.00 am and you can buy tickets there, no guide needed here. Tickets cost 12060 RS/4 persons + car. The weather was more cold (about 5 °C) than in Nuwara Eliya, expecially in the early morning, but during the day was really hot, and the sun was really strong, so do not forget to use suncream and hut. Arranga Pool was the best place for birding, it is about one kilometer from the entrance gate. Do not miss the seven kilometers long World's End Trail, the landscape is beautiful, however we did not see many birds. On the other hand this was the best place for endemic plant species.

Peradeniya Botanical Garden (Kandy)

Short birding here and we checked the indian flying fox's roosting place. The tickets cost 1100 RS/person.

Udawatta Kele Sanctuary (Kandy)

Entry ticket was 650 RS/person, the park opens at 6.00 am. Guide is not obligatory. Nice forest with some good bird flocks, and this was the only place, where we saw crimson-backed flameback. Unfortunatey we did not find either brown fish owl nor spot-bellied eagle owl, however a guide tried to find them. There were some leeches here, but not so many.

Surrey Bird Sanctuary

Entry ticket was 300 RS/person. It is only about 25 kilometers southeast of Nuwara Eliya just before the village of Welimada. It was a big disappointment for us this place. There was nobody in this former estate who could help us to find the brown wood owl roosting place. We met a foreign birdwatcher with a local guide, but they did not know the place. We searched the owl about 1,5 hours, unsuccessfully. We did not see any special here, either birds nor other living things (we saw some huge wasp's nests).

Tissa Lake and surrounding (Tissamaharama)

We highly recommend Lake View Cottage accommodation, it is situated east side of Tissa Lake. Good birdwatching area, both lake and surrounding. Beside birds we saw marsh crocodile, land monitor and indian flying fox too.

Yala NP (inside and outside, Palapatuna Maha Lewaya, entrance gate)

Because of high chance of seeing leopard Yala National Park is one of the most touristic place in Sri Lanka. For example, we waited about 30 minutes to glimpse the leopard was resting on a tree. Our first day we arranged a full-day safari in the ticket office, it cost 10000 RS/safari (including guide) and we paid 10700 RS/4 persons for the entry tickets. So it was a quiet expensive trip. Birding is very tricky from the open safari truck, but it is a good opportunity to take some good photos about wildlife. There are only few places where you can get out. If you want to arrange a safari just go to the ticket office where you can find lots of guide, you should bargain it, of course. Unfortunately you can buy entry tickets just on that day, when you go inside, where lots of tourist and guides will be in the ticket office, so you have to wait... It was very annoying for us, because the tufted gray langur stole our food. So it is worth to arrive early, and take carefully your food next to the driver seat. (The hotels arrange everything for the "normal" tourist, the jeep go to the hotel directly, and they do not need to get out from the jeep, and do not need to standing in the queue, but it is a little bit more expensive.) As we experienced the best area was around entrance gate and Palapatuna Maha Lewaya lagoon, however the coastal shrub and surrounding areas were bird-rich almost everywhere, especially late afternoon (we did not birding here early morning, but probably this is the best time).

Bundala NP (Weligatta)

It was a big disappointment for us this place, however we were here daytime, which is the worst time for birding. The entrance is very close to the A2 running between Tissa and Hambantota, however when we were there the road was full of water because of the inundation. So we

stopped a car and tried to find what we could do. At that moment a jeep stopped behind us, and we bargained a jeep safari for 5000 RS/safari. The driver took us to the ticket office, when we bought tickets (7250 RS/4 persons), and we got a guide too. It was a short, 4 hours safari with few birds and two asian elephants.

Mirissa area

We booked in advance a whale watching trip through www.rajaandthewhales.com website. We highly recommend this company, they worked hard to find all possible whale species in the area, we got breakfast and we spent about 6 hours in the ocean. It costs 6000 RS/person.

Other

Some roadside stops between Colombo - Sinharaya, Sinharaya - Nuwara Eliya, Nuwara Eliya - Kandy, Kandy - Tissamaharama and Tissamaharama - Mirissa.

Visited sites

1. Sinharaya NP (inside and outside, around Martin's Simple Lodge)
2. Kudawa village
3. Victoria Park (Nuwara Eliya)
4. Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya)
5. Peradeniya Botanical Garden (Kandy)
6. Udawatta Kele Sanctuary (Kandy)
7. Surrey Bird Sanctuary (Welimada)
8. Tissa Lake and surrounding (Tissamaharama)
9. Yala NP (inside and outside, Palapatuna Maha Lewaya, entrance gate)
10. Bundala NP (Weligatta)
11. Mirissa area
12. Other

Birds (by IOC 5.4, E - endemic, H - heard)

1. Spot-billed pelican (*Pelecanus philippensis*) 8,9,10
2. Great cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) 8,9
3. Little cormorant (*Microcarbo niger*) 8,9,10,12
4. Indian cormorant (*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*) 5,8,9
5. Oriental darter (*Anhinga melanogaster*) 1,5,8,9,10

6. Purple heron (*Ardea purpurea*) 8,9,10,12
7. Grey heron (*Ardea cinerea*) 8,9,12
8. Intermediate egret (*Egretta intermedia*) 8,10,12
9. Great egret (*Ardea alba*) 8,9,10,12
10. Little egret (*Egretta garzetta*) 8,9
11. Eastern cattle egret (*Bubulcus coromandus*) 3,8,9,10,12
12. Indian pond heron (*Ardeola grayii*) 3,8,9,10,12
13. Striated heron (*Butorides striata*) 9,11
14. Yellow bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*) 8
15. Cinnamon bittern (*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*) 8
 - * 30th November Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). One male was hunting in front of the Lake View Cottage, in dense vegetation.
16. Black bittern (*Dupetor flavicollis*) 8
 - * 30th November Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). One male was flushed in front of the Lake View cottage, in dense vegetation.
17. Painted stork (*Mycteria leucocephala*) 8,9,10,12
18. Asian openbill (*Anastomus oscitans*) 8,9,10,12
19. Woolly-necked stork (*Ciconia episcopus*) 9
20. Lesser adjutant (*Leptoptilos javanicus*) 8,9
 - * 30th November Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). One individual was flying above the lake.
 - * 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). One individual was feeding during the safari trip.
21. Glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 8
22. Black-headed ibis (*Threskiornis melanocephalus*) 8,9,10,12
23. Eurasian spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*) 8,9,10
24. Little grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) 8,10
25. Lesser whistling-duck (*Dendrocygna javanica*) 8,9,10,12
26. Cotton pygmy goose (*Nettapus coromandelianus*) 8
27. Crested honey buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*) 1,2,8,12
28. Brahminy kite (*Haliastur indus*) 8,9,10,11,12
29. Besra (*Accipiter virgatus*) 1,6
 - * 23rd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). One flying immature individual was observed inside the national park.
 - * 29th November Udawatta Kele Sanctuary (Kandy). One immature individual was seen on a branch near the entrance gate, it was quiet close to us.
30. Shikra (*Accipiter badius*) 8,9
31. Black-winged kite (*Elanus caeruleus*) 4
32. Pallid harrier (*Circus macrourus*) 4

33. Crested serpent eagle (*Spilornis cheela*) 1,2,9,12
34. Black eagle (*Ictinaetus malaiensis*) 1,4,8,12
35. Legge's hawk-eagle (*Nisaetus kelaarti*) 1
 - * 22nd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). We were very lucky. We went to the ticket office from the Martin's Simple Lodge when we saw a nice adult bird. It alighted on a branch above us inside the dense forest, even so we could see them some minutes through spotting scope.
36. Changeable hawk-eagle (*Nisaetus cirrhatus*) 2,4,9,12
37. White-bellied fish eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) 5,8,9,12
38. Grey-headed fish eagle (*Haliaeetus ichthyaeus*) 8,9
39. Barred buttonquail (*Turnix suscitator*) 9
40. Sri Lanka spurfowl (*Galloperdix bicalcarata*) 1H,2H,4H
 - * between 22nd-25th November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). We heard one bird inside the national park, close to the research station.
 - * 23rd November Sinharaya NP (outside NP). One bird was heard outside the national park, halfway from Martin' Simple Lodge and the ticket office.
 - * 24th November Kudawa. We heard inside the village, it was very close to us.
 - * 25th November Sinharaya NP (outside NP and Kudawa). We heard some birds in both areas, unfortunately they were too far.
 - * 26th November Kudawa. Two-three birds were heard outside the national park, unfortunately they were too far.
 - * 27th November Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya). Surprisingly we heard one individual distantly.
41. Sri Lanka junglefowl (*Gallus lafayettii*) 1,2,4,7,9
42. Indian peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*) 2,8,9,12
43. Slaty-legged crane (*Rallina eurizonoides*) 3
44. White-breasted waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*) 2,3,8,9,12
45. Watercock (*Gallicrex cinerea*) 8
46. Common moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) 8
47. Grey-headed swampphen (*Porphyrio poliocephalus*) 8,10
48. Pheasant-tailed jacana (*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*) 8,10
49. Black-winged stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*) 8,9,10,12
50. Indian stone-curlew (*Burhinus indicus*) 8,9
51. Great stone-curlew (*Esacus recurvirostris*) 8,9,10
52. Small pratincole (*Glareola lactea*) 9
 - * 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). Three individuals were flying inside the national park, close to the shore.
53. Yellow-wattled lapwing (*Vanellus malabaricus*) 8,9,10
54. Red-wattled lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*) 8,9,10,12
55. Pacific golden plover (*Pluvialis fulva*) 9

56. Grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) 9,10
57. Kentish plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) 9,10
58. Lesser sand plover (*Charadrius mongolus*) 9,10
59. Greater sand plover (*Charadrius leschenaultii*) 9,10
60. Eurasian curlew (*Numenius arquata*) 9,10
61. Common redshank (*Tringa totanus*) 9,10
62. Spotted redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) 9
63. Marsh sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*) 9,10
64. Common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) 8,9,10
65. Wood sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) 9,10
66. Common sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*) 3,9,10
67. Ruddy turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) 9,10
68. Common snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) 9,10
69. Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) 9
70. Little stint (*Calidris minuta*) 9,10
71. Curlew sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) 9
72. Lesser black-backed gull (*Larus fuscus heuglini*) 8
73. Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) 9
74. Caspian tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) 8,9,12
75. Great crested tern (*Thalasseus bergii*) 9,11
76. Lesser crested tern (*Thalasseus bengalensis*) 9,11
77. Gull-billed tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) 8,9,10,11
78. Whiskered tern (*Chlidonias hybrida*) 8,9
79. White-winged tern (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) 9
80. Little tern (*Sternula albifrons*) 9
81. Rock pigeon (*Columba livia*) 4,10
82. Sri Lanka wood pigeon (*Columba torringtoniae*) 4
 - * 27th November Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya). We saw only one flying bird, above the Arranga Pool.
83. Spotted dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*) 2,3,5,8,9,10,12
84. Common emerald dove (*Chalcophaps indica*) 1,2
85. Orange-breasted green pigeon (*Treron bicinctus*) 9
86. Sri Lanka green pigeon (*Treron pompadora*) 2
87. Green imperial pigeon (*Ducula aenea*) 1,2,8,9
88. Sri Lanka hanging parrot (*Loriculus beryllinus*) 2,12

89. Rose-ringed parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*) 6,8,9,10
90. Plum-headed parakeet (*Psittacula cyanocephala*) 1
91. Layard's parakeet (*Psittacula calthropae*) 1,2
92. Red-faced malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus pyrrhocephalus*) 1
- * 22nd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). We saw three birds, two near the research center, while one was halfway between research station and entrance gate. All of them were in a bird flock.
 - * 23rd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). We were very lucky this day, because we saw about 10 individuals in different bird flocks.
93. Blue-faced malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus viridirostris*) 9
- * 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). Two individuals were seen on the ground beside a track, when we went back to the entrance gate. It is not an easy species.
94. Asian koel (*Eudynamys scolopaceus*) 8,9
95. Green-billed coucal (*Centropus chlororhynchos*) 1,2H
- * 23rd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). One bird was seen in a bird flock between the research station and the entrance gate. We were watching the Sri Lanka frogmouth pair when we heard the bird's voice. We ran to the main road and watched the bird flock. After a few minutes we saw the coucal, it was moving close to the ground. We saw quite well, however it is not an easy bird.
 - * 26th November Kudawa. One bird was heard near the bridge inside the village. It was quite close, but we did not find it.
96. Greater coucal (*Centropus sinensis*) 2,8
97. Lesser coucal (*Centropus bengalensis*) 8
- * 2nd December Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). We saw two individuals near to the Lake View Cottage. Vagrant in Sri Lanka.
98. Jacobin cuckoo (*Clamator jacobinus*) 9
99. Common hawk-cuckoo (*Hierococcyx varius*) 8
100. Lesser cuckoo (*Cuculus poliocephalus*) 8
101. Plaintive cuckoo (*Cacomantis merulinus*) 9
102. Fork-tailed drongo-cuckoo (*Surniculus dicruroides*) 9
103. Indian scops owl (*Otus bakkamoena*) 8
- * 2nd December Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). Two birds were hunting near the Lake View Cottage, on the palm trees.
104. Serendib scops owl (*Otus thilohoffmanni*) 1
- * 22nd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). Our guide, Tan Duli showed us one bird in its roosting place by pointer, very close to the entrance gate. It was sitting above 2 meters from the ground in the edge of a marshy area. It was discovered in 2004, Tan Duli was one of the team who discovered the bird.
105. Chestnut-backed owlet (*Glaucidium castanotum*) 1
- * 22nd November Sinharaya NP (outside NP). We heard one bird near the Sri Lanka frogmouth place, close to the education center. Unfortunately it was quite far, so we had no chance to spot it.
 - * 25th November Sinharaya NP (outside NP). One bird was heard near the ticket office.

106. Sri Lanka frogmouth (*Batrachostomus moniliger*) 1
- * 22nd November Sinharaya NP (outside NP). We saw very well one bird near the education center, it was sitting on a branch. There were about 3-4 birds here, they called intensively, but we spotted just one bird.
 - * 23rd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). We saw one pair in a traditional roosting place, close to the Serendib scops owl roosting place. We tried it yesterday too, but we did not see it. However, most of the guide know well the traditional roosting place.
107. Indian nightjar (*Caprimulgus asiaticus*) 9
- * 30th November Yala NP (entrance gate). One bird was flushed from a bush two times, near the entrance gate. The best place for this species: when you reach the entrance gate turn right, where you can find a dirt road. Before total darkness you will hear the nightjar's characteristic voice.
 - * 1st December Yala NP (entrance gate). About 10 individuals were heard and most of them were seen well, they sit on the dirt road or flough.
 - * 2nd December Yala NP (entrance gate). About 10 individuals were heard and seen in the traditional place.
108. Sri Lanka grey hornbill (*Ocyeros gingalensis*) 1
- * 22nd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). One adult bird was seen next to the ticket office. It was quite familiar.
 - * 24th November Kudawa. One bird was feeding on a fruit tree inside the village. This tree was full of birds, especially barbets and bulbuls.
 - * 26th November Kudawa. One bird was feeding on a fruit tree inside the village, like two days ago.
 - * 2nd December Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). One individual was seen on a palm tree in the Lake View Cottage.
109. Malabar pied hornbill (*Anthracoceros coronatus*) 9
110. House crow (*Corvus splendens*) 8,9,10,11,12
111. Indian jungle crow (*Corvus culminatus*) 4,8,9,12
112. Malabar trogon (*Harpactes fasciatus*) 1
113. Stork-billed kingfisher (*Pelargopsis capensis*) 8,9
114. White-throated kingfisher (*Halcyon smyrnensis*) 2,8,9,10,12
115. Common kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) 9
116. Pied kingfisher (*Ceryle rudis*) 8,9
117. Green bea-eater (*Merops orientalis*) 1,8,9,10,12
118. Chestnut-headed bee-eater (*Merops leschenaulti*) 8,10
119. Blue-tailed bee-eater (*Merops philippinus*) 2,8,9,10,12
120. Indian roller (*Coracias benghalensis*) 9,10,12
121. Eurasian hoopoe (*Upupa epops*) 9,10
122. Coppersmith barbet (*Psilopogon haemacephalus*) 9
123. Crimson-fronted barbet (*Psilopogon rubricapillus*) 2,6H
- * 23rd November Kudawa. We saw one individual on top of a dead tree. It was quite far from us.

* 24th November Kudawa. One bird was seen on a top of palm tree near the village, while two birds were feeding on a fruit tree inside the village. This tree was full of birds, including two other barbets species (brown-headed and yellow-fronted).

* 29th November Peradeniya Botanical Garden (Kandy). One bird was heard near the flying fox's roost site.

124. Brown-headed barbet (*Psilopogon zeylanicus*) 2,7H,8,10

125. Yellow-fronted barbet (*Psilopogon flavifrons*) 1,2,6H,7H,12

126. Brown-capped pygmy woodpecker (*Dendrocopos nanus*) 2

127. Yellow-fronted woodpecker (*Dendrocopos mahrattensis*) 9

128. Lesser yellownape (*Picus chlorolophus*) 1

129. Black-rumped flameback (*Dinopium benghalense*) 1

* 21st November Kudawa. One bird was seen in a trunk on the way to the Martin's Simple Lodge. Unfortunately it was a poor view ☹.

* 2nd December Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). One bird was rest on a palm tree in the Lake View Cottage, while two birds were feeding near the Cottage, they were mowing with a bird flock.

130. Crimson-backed woodpecker (*Chrysocolaptes stricklandi*) 1H,6

* 22nd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). One bird was heard inside the national park, between the entrance gate and the research station.

* 29th November Udawatta Kele Sanctuary (Kandy). Four individuals were feeding near the pool, they were quite noisy.

131. Jerdon's bush lark (*Mirafra affinis*) 9

132. Oriental skylark (*Alauda gulgula*) 10

133. Ashy-crowned sparrow lark (*Eremopterix griseus*) 9,10

134. Forest wagtail (*Dendronanthus indicus*) 3

135. Eastern yellow wagtail (*Motacilla tschutschensis*) 8,9

136. Grey wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*) 2,3

137. Richard's pipit (*Anthus richardi*) 12

138. Paddyfield pipit (*Anthus rufulus*) 4,9,10

139. Crested treeswift (*Hemiprocne coronata*) 1,9,12

140. Asian palm swift (*Cypsiurus balasiensis*) 1,2,3,6,9,10,12

141. Alpine swift (*Tachymarptis melba*) 8

142. Brown-backed needletail (*Hirundapus giganteus*) 2

143. Little swift (*Apus affinis*) 1

144. Indian swiftlet (*Aerodramus unicolor*) 1,2,3,6,8,9,10,12

145. Barn swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) 4,8,9,12

146. Hill swallow (*Hirundo domicola*) 4

* 27th November Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya). About 15 individuals were hunting near the car park.

147. Sri Lanka swallow (*Cecropis hyperythra*) 2,9,12

148. Sri Lanka woodshrike (*Tephrodornis affinis*) 9
- * 30th November Yala NP (entrance gate). One individual was seen on a bush, near the entrance gate, from the dirt road.
 - * 1st December Yala NP (entrance gate). About 15 individuals were seen the place of yesterday.
 - * 2nd December Yala NP (entrance gate). We saw some individuals in the traditional place.
149. Bar-winged flycatcher-shrike (*Hemipus picatus*) 2
150. Small minivet (*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*) 2,9
151. Orange minivet (*Pericrocotus flammeus*) 1,2,6
152. Brown shrike (*Lanius cristatus*) 2,3,9,10,12
153. Black-capped bulbul (*Pycnonotus melanocterus*) 1,2
154. Red-vented bulbul (*Pycnonotus cafer*) 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10,12
155. Yellow-eared bulbul (*Pycnonotus penicillatus*) 4
156. White-browed bulbul (*Pycnonotus luteolus*) 2
157. Yellow-browed bulbul (*Acritillas indica*) 1,2
158. Square-tailed bulbul (*Hypsypetes ganeesa*) 1,2
159. Common iora (*Aegithina tiphia*) 7,8,9
160. Marshall's iora (*Aegithina nigrolutea*) 9
- * 30th November Yala NP (entrance gate). We saw one male between common iora flock on a branch. We saw well the white edges and tips on tail and wings, and the white edges to the tertials.
161. Golden-fronted leafbird (*Chloropsis aurifrons*) 2,12
162. Black-hooded oriole (*Oriolus xanthornus*) 2,6
163. Indian blue robin (*Larvivora brunnea*) 3
- * 28th November Victoria Park (Nuwara Eliya). One female was seen under the bush in the north-east corner of the park, beside the pied thrush's and indian pitta's site.
 - * 29th November Udawatta Kele Sanctuary (Kandy). One adult male was seen near the entrance gate, on the main road.
164. White-rumped shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*) 6
165. Oriental magpie-robin (*Copsychus saularis*) 3,8,9,10,12
166. Pied bushchat (*Saxicola caprata*) 4
167. Black-backed robin (*Copsychus fulicatus*) 9
168. Sri Lanka whistling thrush (*Myophonus blighi*) 4
- * 27th November Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya). It was an amazing experience! We stand beside the Arranga Pool, when we heard the male's low voice. It was about five meters from us, it was singing in a small tree, close to the water. A little bit later it flight to the other side of he pool, inside the thick bushes. About 15 minutes we saw again, it was flighing near the pool.
169. Pied thrush (*Zoothera wardii*) 3

* 26th November Nuwara Eliya (Victoria Park). We saw three individuals when they flew up to a big tree in center of the park in early evening. We heard their low voices in several times. The big tree was their roosting site.

* 28th November Nuwara Eliya (Victoria Park). Three individuals were feeding in the north-east corner of the park, under thick bushes.

170. Spot-winged thrush (*Geokichla spiloptera*) 1,2

171. Sri Lanka thrush (*Zoothera imbricata*) 1

* 25th November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). Our guide heard the thrush's low voice between the entrance gate and research center, about halfway. It was moving near the stream, however we saw just one second, when it flushed. It was very poor view. A little bit later we were searching for the bird near the research station (traditional breeding place), inside the jungle, unsuccessfully. Very hard bird.

172. Indian blackbird (*Turdus simillimus*) 4

* 27th November Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya). One adult male was hopping near the entrance gate in early morning.

173. Indian pitta (*Pitta brachyura*) 3,5

* 26th November Nuwara Eliya (Victoria Park). We saw one bird under trees and bushes in the north-east corner of the park. This is the best area for it.

* 28th November Nuwara Eliya (Victoria Park). Two birds were seen, one was in a north-east corner of the park, while the other one was seen in a low bush in a north-west corner of the park.

* 28th November Peradeniya Botanical Garden (Kandy). One bird was seen close to the flying fox's roost site.

* 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). We saw one bird on a bush when we went back to the entrance gate.

174. Brown-capped babbler (*Pellorneum fuscicapillum*) 1

* 22nd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). We saw two individuals near the research station on a trail, they moved close to the ground.

175. Sri Lanka scimitar babbler (*Pomatorhinus melanurus*) 1,3

176. Dark-fronted babbler (*Rhopocichla atriceps*) 1,2

177. Tawny-bellied babbler (*Dumetia hyperythra*) 9

178. Yellow-eyed babbler (*Chrysomma sinense*) 9

179. Orange-billed babbler (*Turdoides rufescens*) 1,2

180. Yellow-billed babbler (*Turdoides affinis*) 2,8,12

181. Ashy-headed laughingthrush (*Garrulax cinereifrons*) 1

182. Sri Lanka bush warbler (*Elaphornis palliseri*) 4

183. Blyth's reed warbler (*Acrocephalus dumetorum*) 4,9

184. Zitting cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*) 4,8,9

185. Plain prinia (*Prinia inornata*) 8,9,12

186. Ashy prinia (*Prinia socialis*) 10,12

187. Common tailorbird (*Orthotomus sutorius*) 3,8,9

188. Sykes's warbler (*Iduna rama*) 9,12

189. Hume's whitethroat (*Sylvia althaea*) 9
190. Green warbler (*Phylloscopus nitidus*) 4
191. Large-billed leaf warbler (*Phylloscopus magnirostris*) 1
192. Black-naped monarch (*Hypothymis azurea*) 1
193. Indian paradise flycatcher (*Terpsiphone paradisi*) 1,2,6,8
194. White-browed fantail (*Rhipidura aureola*) 2
195. Grey-headed canary-flycatcher (*Culicicapa ceylonensis*) 4
196. Kashmir flycatcher (*Ficedula subrubra*) 3
- * 28th November Victoria Park (Nuwara Eliya). One adult female was feeding near the lady's toilet. We found hardly, we searched it about one hour, when it called its characteristic chattered voice.
197. Dull-blue flycatcher (*Eumyias sordidus*) 4
- * 27th November Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya). One individual was observed beside the Arranga Pool, it perched high in a tree, inside the canopy.
198. Brown-breasted flycatcher (*Muscicapa muttui*) 1,2,6
199. Asian brown flycatcher (*Muscicapa dauurica*) 1,8
200. Tickell's blue flycatcher (*Cyornis tickelliae*) 1,5,6
201. Cinereous tit (*Parus cinereus*) 4,12
202. Velvet-fronted nuthatch (*Sitta frontalis*) 1,4,7
203. Pale-billed flowerpecker (*Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*) 1,2,4,6,9,12
204. Thick-billed flowerpecker (*Dicaeum agile*) 9
205. Legge's flowerpecker (*Dicaeum vincens*) 1,2
206. Purple-rumped sunbird (*Leptocoma zeylonica*) 1,2,6,8,9,12
207. Loten's sunbird (*Cinnyris lotenius*) 4,8,12
208. Purple sunbird (*Cinnyris asiaticus*) 9
209. Oriental white-eye (*Zosterops palpebrosus*) 1,7
210. Sri Lanka white-eye (*Zosterops ceylonensis*) 4
211. Indian silverbill (*Euodice malabarica*) 9
212. White-rumped munia (*Lonchura striata*) 2,12
213. Scaly-breasted munia (*Lonchura punctulata*) 8,12
214. Black-throated munia (*Lonchura kelaarti*) 1
- * 23rd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). One bird was seen beside the Martin's Simple Lodge, it was feeding on a top of palm tree.
- * 27th November Horton Plains NP (Nuwara Eliya). One bird was observed along the World's End Trail.
215. Tricolored munia (*Lonchura malacca*) 4,8
216. House sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) 3,9,12
217. Streaked weaver (*Ploceus manyar*) 9

218. Baya weaver (*Ploceus philippinus*) 8,9
219. Black drongo (*Dicrurus macrocercus*) 1
220. Ashy drongo (*Dicrurus leucophaeus*) 2
221. Sri Lanka drongo (*Dicrurus lophorinus*) 1
222. White-bellied drongo (*Dicrurus caerulescens*) 1,2,12
223. Sri Lanka blue magpie (*Urocissa ornata*) 1
224. Brahminy starling (*Sturnia pagodarum*) 9,10
225. Rosy starling (*Pastor roseus*) 9,10
226. White-faced starling (*Sturnus senex*) 1
- * 22nd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). One individual was seen in the research station inside a bird flock. It was moving upwards on a tree. It is a tricky and hard bird, not to find easily.
227. Sri Lanka myna (*Gracula ptilogenys*) 2
- * 24th November Kudawa. We saw one individual on a fruit tree inside the village. It does not seem too abundant species in the area.
- * 26th November Kudawa. We saw two individuals on a fruit tree inside the village, like two days ago.
228. Southern hill myna (*Gracula indica*) 12
- * 28th November Nuwara Eliya - Kandy. We saw two birds in a bird flock between the two city.
229. Common myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) 3,5,8,9,10,12

Mammals (by [Wilson & Reeder](#), E - endemic)

1. Indian flying fox (*Pteropus giganteus*) 5,8
 - * 28th November Peradeniya Botanical Garden (Kandy). About 500 individuals were seen in some trees, they were quite active, we could take some good photos.
 - * Between 30th November-2nd December Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). More than 5000 individuals were seen from the Lake View Cottage, the other side of the lake. It was very impressive view. Beside this one individual was feeding in a fruit tree near our accommodation at night.
2. Toque macaque (*Macaca sinica*) E 1,4,5,6,9
3. Tufted gray langur (*Semnopithecus priam*) E 9
 - * Between 30th November-2nd December Yala NP. Very common species with huge groups with 40-50 individuals. We saw this species usually inside the national park or very close to it (i.e. near entrance gate).
4. Purple-faced langur (*Trachypithecus vetulus*) E 1,2
 - * Between 21-25 November Sinharaya NP and Kudawa. We saw quite often this species, usually in smaller groups with 3-5 individuals.
5. Golden jackal (*Canis aureus*) 9
6. Small indian civet (*Viverricula indica*) 9
 - * 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). One individual was seen during the safari inside the national park. We saw just some seconds and the animal went to among tree roots.

7. Ruddy mongoose (*Herpestes smithii*) 8,9,10
8. Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) 9
 - * 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). During the full-day jeep safari we saw one animal. Because the lots of jeeps we waited about 30 minutes to see the resting animal on a tree branch. We were lucky, because when we returned there one hour later the animal disappeared.
9. Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) 9,10
10. Wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) 9
11. Yellow-striped mouse deer (*Moschiola kathygre*) E 1
 - * 26th November Sinharaya NP (outside NP). One animal was seen early morning (ca. 5 am.), when we went to Kudawa village. It was described in 2005.
12. Chital (*Axis axis*) 9
13. Sambar (*Rusa unicolor*) 4,6,9
14. Red muntjac (*Muntiacus muntjak*) 6
 - * 29th November Uda Wattakele Sanctuary (Kandy). One animal was seen inside the sanctuary.
15. Water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*) 9
 - * 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). Very common inside the national park.
16. Layard's palm squirrel (*Funambulus layardi*) 2
 - * 24th November. Kudawa village. We saw two animals, one was near Martin's Simple Lodge, the other one was inside the village, both of them in the forest.
17. Indian palm squirrel (*Funambulus palmarum*) 1,2,5,8,9,10
18. Dusky striped squirrel (*Funambulus sublineatus*) 1,4
19. Sri lankan giant squirrel (*Ratufa macroura*) 1,8,9
 - * 23rd November Sinharaya NP (Martin's Simple Lodge). One animal was seen beside the lodge, from 6 meters from a ground on a tree.
 - * 1st December Yala NP (inside NP). One animal was on a tree between lunchtime. It was dry lowland race.
 - * 2nd December Tissa Lake (Tissamaharama). One animal was feeding a fruit in a tree in a garden. It was dry lowland race.
20. Indian hare (*Lepus nigricollis*) 4,9,10
21. Blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*) 11
 - * 4th December Mirissa area. One animal was seen well, close to the boat.
22. Fin whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*) 11
 - * 4th December Mirissa area. One animal was seen well, close to the boat.
23. Bryde's whale (*Balaenoptera edeni*) 11
 - * 4th December Mirissa area. One animal was seen poor, it was very far from the boat.
24. Bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) 11
 - * 4th December Mirissa area. Two animal were swimming close to the boat.

Reptiles (by www.srilankanreptiles.com, E - endemic)

Gekkonidae

In the evenings almost all areas of our accommodation different geckos were observed. It was very spectacular, when more species came out during termite-swarm to hunt termites.

1. Molligoda's daygecko (*Cnemaspis molligodai*) E 2
2. Rough-belly daygecko (*Cnemaspis tropidogaster*) E 1
3. Spotted house gecko (*Hemidactylus brookii parvimaculatus*) E 2
4. Common house gecko (*Hemidactylus frenatus*) 2
5. Fourclaw gecko (*Gehyra mutilata*) 2

Scincidae

6. Lankaskink sp. (*Lankascincus* sp.) 2
7. Bronzegreen little skink (*Eutropis macularia*) 9
8. Spotted skink (*Eutropis madaraszi*) E 1
* 23rd November Sinharaya NP (indise NP). One individual was seen on Giant Tree Trail, exactly beside the giant tree.

Agamidae

9. Green garden lizard (*Calotes calotes*) 1,2
10. Black-cheek lizard (*Calotes nigrilabris*) 4,12
11. Common garden lizard (*Calotes versicolor versicolor*) 9,10
12. Sri Lanka kangaroo lizard (*Otocryptis wiegmanni*) E 1,2
* Between 22-25 November Sinharaya NP and Kudawa. Quite common species in forested area, especially inside the national park, however we saw some individuals around Kuwada village too.
13. Fan-throat lizard (*Sitana ponticeriana*) 9
14. Hump-nosed lizard (*Lyriocephalus scutatus*) E 1
* 23rd November Sinharaya NP (inside NP). The guide, Tan Duli showed us the lizard, which rested on a trunk.
Not a common species.

Varanidae

15. Land monitor (*Varanus bengalensis*) 8,9,10
16. Water monitor (*Varanus salvator salvator*) 2,5,6

Bataguridae

17. Spotted hard-shelled terrapin (*Melanochelys trijuga thermalis*) 8

Testudinidae

18. Indian star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*) 9

Chelonidae

19. Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) 10

* 3rd December Bundala NP (inside NP). There were 3-4 individuals in the ocean. We saw them from the coast, they were quite far.

Crocodylidae

20. Mugger or Marsh crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*) 8,9,10

Natricidae

21. Common rough-side (*Aspidura trachyprocta*) E 4

* 27th November Horton Plains. One individual was seen on the road near Little World's End.

22. Sri lankan rat snake (*Ptyas mucosa maximus*) E 2

* 24th November Kudawa village. One individual was seen inside the village, near the river.

Elapidae

23. Sri Lanka krait (*Bungarus ceylonicus*) E 1

* 22nd November Sinharaya NP (outside NP). We found one dead individual between Martin's Simple Lodge and the ticket office.

Viperidae

24. Sri lankan green pit viper (*Trimeresurus trigonocephalus*) 1

* Between 22-25 November Sinharaya (outside NP). The guide, Tan Duli showed us the viper, which rested on a branch beside the ticket office. We saw three days later too. You should look for it along smaller brooks, 1-2 meters from the ground on trees.

Butterflies (by www.slbutterflies.lk, E - endemic)

Papilionidae

1. Sri Lanka birdwing (*Troides darsius*) E 1,2,4
2. Ceylon rose (*Pachliopta jophon*) E 1
3. Common rose (*Pachliopta aristolochiae*) common everywhere
4. Common mormon (*Papilio polytes*) 1
5. Blue mormon (*Papilio polymnestor*) common everywhere
6. Bluebottle (*Graphium sarpedon*) common everywhere
7. Tailed jay (*Graphium agamemnon*) 2

Pieridae

8. Psyche (*Leptosia nina*) 2
9. Jezebel (*Delias eucharis*) common everywhere
10. Common gull (*Cepora nerissa*) 8,9
11. Striped albatross (*Appias libythea*) 8
12. Great orange tip (*Hebomoia glaucippe*) 9
13. Mottled emigrant (*Catopsilia pyranthe*) common everywhere

14. Lemon emigrant (*Catopsilia pomona*) common everywhere
15. Small salmon arab (*Colotis amata*) 8
16. Common grass yellow (*Eurema hecabe*) 8
17. Three spot grass yellow (*Eurema blanda*) common everywhere

Nymphalidae

18. Sri Lanka tree nymph (*Idea iasonia*) E 1
19. Blue glassy tiger (*Ideopsis similis*) 1
20. Blue tiger (*Tirumala limniace*) 1
21. Dark blue tiger (*Tirumala septentrionis*) 9
22. Glassy tiger (*Parantica aglea*) 1
23. Plain tiger (*Danaus chrysippus*) 8
24. Common tiger (*Danaus genutia*) 9
25. Common crow (*Euploea core*) 8,9
26. Indian fritillary (*Argynnis hyperbius*) 4
27. Lemon pansy (*Junonia lemonias*) 9
28. Grey pansy (*Junonia atlites*) common everywhere
29. Chocolate soldier (*Junonia iphita*) common everywhere
30. Peacock pansy (*Junonia almana*) common everywhere
31. Common sailor (*Neptis hylas*) 1
32. Clipper (*Parthenos sylvia*) 2
33. Baron (*Euthalia aconthoea*) 8
34. Common evening brown (*Melanitis leda*) 8
35. Tamil treebrown (*Lethe drypetis*) 12
36. Tamil bushbrown (*Mycalesis subdita*)
37. Dark-brand bushbrown (*Mycalesis mineus*) 1
38. Common bushbrown (*Mycalesis perseus*) common everywhere
39. Gladeye bushbrown (*Mycalesis patnia*) 1
40. White four-ring (*Ypthima ceylonica*) common everywhere
41. Common palmfly (*Elymnias hypermnestra*) common everywhere

Lycaenidae

42. Aberrant bishblue (*Arhopala abseus*) 1
43. Yamfly (*Loxura atymnus*) 1
44. Common lineblue (*Prosotas nora*) 2
45. Dark cerulean (*Jamides bochus*) 2
46. Metallic cerulean (*Jamides alecto*) 1

47. Common cerulean (*Jamides celeno*) 1,2
 48. Common pierrot (*Castalius rosimon*) 2
 49. Indian cupid (*Everes lacturnus*) 1
 50. Common hedge blue (*Acytolepus puspa*) 1
 51. Sri Lanka hedge blue (*Udara lanka*) E 4
 52. Plains cupid (*Chilades pandava*) 9
 53. Lime blue (*Chilades lajus*) 8
- Hesperiidae*
54. African marbled skipper (*Gomalia elma*) 8
 55. Sri Lanka hedge hopper (*Baracus vittatus*) E 4
 56. Indian palm bob (*Suastus gremius*) common everywhere
 57. Chestnut bob (*Iambrix salsala*) 2
 58. Common banded demon (*Notocrypta paralysos*) 2
 59. Common red eye (*Matapa aria*) 4
 60. Yellow palm dart (*Cephrenes trichopepla*) 8
 61. Wallace's swift (*Borbo cinnara*) 9
- Riodinidae*
62. Plum judy (*Abisara echerius*) 1

Endemic plant list (by de Vlas & de Vlas-de Jong)

1. *Agrostistachys intramarginalis* 1
2. *Aponogeton jabobsenii* 4
3. *Aporusa lanceolata* 1
4. *Arisaema leschenaultii* 4
5. *Berberis ceylanica* 4
6. *Bhesa ceylanica* 1
7. *Calamus digitatus* 6
8. *Canarium zeylanicum* 1
9. *Cissus gardneri* 2
10. *Cullenia rosayroana* 1
11. *Dipterocarpus zeylanicus* 1
12. *Emilia exserta* 4
13. *Entrada rheedii* (syn.: *Entrada pursaetha*, *Entada pushetha*) 1
14. *Exacum walkeri* 4

15. *Garcinia hermonii* 1
16. *Hedyotis lessertiana* s.l. 4
17. *Hedyotis trimenii* 4
18. *Hedyotis verticillaris* (syn.: *Pleiocraterium plantaginifolium*) 4
19. *Impatiens cornigera* 1
20. *Impatiens leptopoda* 4
21. *Impatiens repens* 1
22. *Knoxia hirsuta* 4
23. *Metabolus decipiens* 4
24. *Myristica dactyloides* 1
25. *Neanotis nummularia* 4
26. *Neanotis richardiana* 4
27. *Nepenthes distillatoria* 1
28. *Ochlandra stridula* 1
29. *Osbeckia lanata* 4
30. *Pothos hookeri* 1,2
31. *Psychotria zeylanica* 4
32. *Rhododendron arboreum* ssp. *zeylanicum* 4
33. *Schizostigma hirsutum* 1
34. *Schumacheria castaneifolia* 1
35. *Shorea congestiflora* 1
36. *Shorea distichta* 1
37. *Shorea megistophylla* 1
38. *Shorea stipularis* 1
39. *Shorea trapezifolia* 1
40. *Sonerilla zeylanica* 1
41. *Strobilanthes calycina* 4
42. *Strobilanthes diandra* 4
43. *Urophyllum ellipticum* 1
44. *Valeriana moonii* 4
45. *Vernonia wightiana* 4
46. *Xylopia championii* 1
47. *Zingiber cylindricum* 1