



## Independent Birding in Sri Lanka

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25 December 2011 till 16 January 2012

This trip report deals on a self organized, three-week birding holiday to Sri Lanka, mainly by mean of public transport. We easily saw all 34 endemics (incl. potential future splits) and other goodies such as Kashmir Flycatcher and Pied thrush on the first ten days of our stay. The remainder of the time was filled with leopard-focused safaris, whale watching trips and our quest for the most enigmatic bird of the island, the Sri Lanka Bay Owl. While preparing the trip, we found very little maps of the birding sites, so we decided to include some maps and GPS coordinates in this report. Despite our long stay, some species were “missed”: Black-necked stork, Lesser Adjutant, Sirkeer Malkoha, Jungle Bush-quail (heard only briefly), Streak-throated Woodpecker, Spot-bellied Eagle-owl (heard only), Caspian Plover, Crab Plover and even some more widespread species such as Ashy and Black Drongo, Yellow-eyed Babbler Streaked Weaver, Indian Silverbill. A longer stay in the dry zone would have resulted in a longer trip list, but most of these species are easily seen in India.

Many thanks go to Ward Vercruyssen and Craig Robson for the valuable tips, and to everybody that posted trip reports on the web. The reports of Stijn De Win (2000), Jon Hornbuckle (2002), Wendy Newnham (2003) and many others were especially helpful. We were very pleased to meet Amila Salgado ([gallicissa.blogspot.com](http://gallicissa.blogspot.com)) at Martin’s place, a very friendly man with great knowledge on Sri Lankan birds who kindly provided us with excellent recent information on all target species we still wanted to see.

Money: We withdrew most money at the airport, but ATM’s are in all major cities. Total trip cost (exclusive flight) was around 280000SLR (~1850 Euro) for a three-week stay for the three of us together, including many tips and the celebration beers...

Hotels: budget triple rooms were easily found at all the towns we visited; prices ranged from 1500 tot 3000 SLR (~10 to 20 Euro) per night for a triple room.

Busses are frequent and very cheap, but they progress very slowly and are mostly overcrowded. We never had to wait long for bus connections. Travelling by private vehicle (van or three-wheeler) is a bit faster, but costs a tenfold more than public transport (but it is still cheap for western standards). Travelling times are provided for your convenience, but these are estimates!

Weather was generally good, only having heavy showers on 4 days only (Bibile, Yala, Sinharaya).

Detailed site info (if you require more info, don't hesitate to contact me at toonspanhove {#at#} hotmail {#.#} com). With the exception of a few 'hidden' observations, most sightings were entered directly in [www.observado.org](http://www.observado.org) by Davy and can hence be retrieved with an accuracy of a few meters!

**Sinharaya forest:** day 1-6 and returned on day 18-21 to try for Sri Lanka Bay Owl

See maps below

Practicalities:

From Colombo: Colombo - Ratnapura (bus, 4h) Ratnapura – Kalawana (bus,2h), Kalawana –Kudawa (bus, 45 min)

From Mirissa (return): Mirissa –Deniyaya (tuktuk, 2h30), Deniyaya – Rakwana (scenic bus drive, 3h30), Rakwana – Sinharaya (tuktuk, 3h).

On the first visit, we stayed 3 nights at Martin's Simple Lodge , 1 night in Green Shadow Lodge (Kudawa village area, near bus stand), and 2 nights at the homestead of Sunil (probably the best local guide at Sinharaya , can be contacted at 0710 484677). During our second visit, we slept again at Sunil's place.

Without arrangements in advance, it seems impossible to choose your guide. Most of the guides know the sounds of most species and the locality of some target species, but not all guide know roosting owls and/or frogmouths. Try to contact Sunil (phone above); Rangith Pamasiri should also be an excellent birding guide.

Birding highlights: We easily found most target birds on the first three days of birding in and around Singaraya forest at the following sites: Martin's dining room @ 6.431739,80.415327 (**White-faced starling, Ceylon Hill Myna**), the Nature track between Martins place and the ticket office (**Red-faced malkoha, Chestnut-backed owlet, Black-throated Munia**), the track towards the research centre (**Scaly thrush and White-faced Starling** near research centre) and in the Kudawa village area (**Green-billed coucal** @ 6.4355493,80.42845784). **Serendib Scops-owl** was heard on three nights (seen only on the third night) and Sunil showed us a roosting bird (apparently he was the only guide that knew an occupied daytime roost at the moment). **Sri Lanka Spurfowl** tuned out to be the most difficult species to see, with only a brief fly-by view of a female on the third day @ 6.43251859;80.41071989, but generously compensated by prolonged views of a stunning male at the stream near Martins place the fourth day and brief views of a single female the last day. The absolute highlight of Sinharaya (and of our Sri Lanka trip) were the prolonged views of the extremely little known **Sri Lanka Bay Owl**. A vocal bird was head on three nights, and seen very well after four nights of intensive searching in the Sinharaya area.

**Nuwara Eliya area:** day 7- 9 (Horton Plains, Victoria park, Surrey Tea Estate, forest around Nuwara Eliya)

Practicalities

Sinharaya - Nuwara Eliya (total 8h30 till 18h30): Kudawa – Kalawana (bus, 45min), Kalawana – Ratnapura (bus, 2h), Ratnapura – Bandarawela (5h?), Bandarawele – Welimada (bus, 1h?), Welimada – Nuwara Eliya (bus, 1h30)

Nuwara Eliya – Horton Plains entrance (private minivan arranged in Nuwara Eliya, approx. 1h)

Nuwara Eliya – “Surrey Tea Estate” (minivan, approx. 30 min. driving, but we lost at least another 30min by searching the correct place, as we only had old directions and the site is not locally known as “Surrey Tea Estate”). In fact, the Surrey Tea Estate (or better, the place we think it is) is only 2km from Welimada (see map below).

We spend 3 nights at a hotel next to Victoria Inn, Victoria Road

Birding highlights: All highland endemics were quickly found in the first hours we spend in Horton plains, mainly between the gate and the Arrenga pool (**Sri Lanka Whistling Thrush** (only between 6h and 6h30 at the pool @ 6.83102058,80.80707092), **Dull-blue Flycatcher**, **Sri Lanka White-eye**, **Yellow-eared Bulbul**). We observed at least three **Kasmir Flycatchers** in Victoria park, and few in some forest patches surrounding the city. **Pied Thrush** was surprisingly difficult, with only observations of upto four males flying to their favoured roosting trees at dusk (fortunately, we had prolonged scope-filling views of a superb male). We had stunning views of a male **Whistling Thrushes** near a stream in the forest north of the town (based on googlemaps, just uphill of “Waterfield drive”, near a small dam inside the forest @ 6.98212073,80.76575283) **Ceylon Wood-pigeon** were seen at close range at Surrey Tea Estate, and were lucky to encounter a local guide (he owns a small shop nearby, see map) who quickly showed us two roosting **Brown Wood-owls** @6.89914685,80.90080650.

## **Bibile area:** day 10-11

### Practicalities

Nuwara Eliya – Bibile: Ampare bus upto Monaragala (scenic bus drive of 5h, incl 30 min waiting in Ella) Monaragala - Bibile (approx 1h30)

Bibile – Nilgala Medicinal Forest (4-WD, 45min; locals advised us to take a 4-WD to go to ‘Nilgala’, because the road is impassible in a normal car. However excellent habitat remains between KM17 and KM 27 on the Ampare road, which is in good condition and can be reached with a normal car or tuktuk. I assume that the Nilgala road is the dirttrack mentioned by Hornbuckle at KM22). The Bibile forest was one of the most beautiful we’ve encountered in Sri Lanka, but the extremely humid heath (due to the rains?) doesn’t make it a pleasant place to stay.

One night in Kinkini Hotel (?), Bibile

Birding highlights: Birding was hampered by some heavy rains on our first afternoon visit, but these rains may have triggered bird later on the day. We quickly found several **Sri Lanka Woodshrikes**, **Marshall’s Iora’s**, **Greater Cuckoo-shrike** near KM 17. We heard **Painted Francolin** on two occasions, and saw one crossing the road close to KM18 (@7.23890654,81.31859249). We also had great views of **Malabar Pied Hornbill**, **Forest Owlet** and **Jerdon’s Nightjar** at dusk near KM 27. The activity on the next morning was much lower, with hardly any flocks, but added a.o. Orange-breasted and **Yellow-footed green pigeons** to the list.

**Tissamaharama area:** day 12- 15 (Yala NP, Bundala NP, Debere Wewa)

Practicalities

Bibile – Monaragala (bus, 1h30), Monaragala – Wirawila Junction (bus, 4h30?), Wirawila Junction – Debere Wewa (tuktuk, 15min)

Four nights at Regina's guesthouse

Highlights: **Indian Little** and **Jerdon's Nightjar** at dawn at entrance of Yala NP, **Leopard, Spot-billed Pelican, Malabar Pied Hornbill, Jerdon's Bushlark, Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark** and **Sri Lanka Woodshrike** in Yala NP. **Black Bittern** and **Cotton Pygmy-goose** at Debere Wewa, **White-naped Woodpecker** @ 6.288177,81.268398 and **Collared Scops-owl** @ 6.289321,81.265596 near Debere wewa .Beside the many shore and waterbird also **Brown-capped woodpecker** in Bundala.

**Mirissa area:** day 16-17

Practicalities

Tissamaharama – Matare (bus,3h??), Matare – Polhena (tuktuk, 15min)

Two nights in Sabine Guesthouse, Polhena (also known as Mirissa south)

Highlights: **Blue Whales** @ 5.77576479,80.49556268 and Spinner and Bottlenose dolphins from a commercially whale watching trip arranged in Mirissa. Few dozens of Bridled tern.

## Detailed bird list

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### **Lesser Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna javanica*

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

### **Cotton Pygmy-Goose** *Nettapus coromandelianus*

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - Male + female, probably nesting in tree bordering the Debera Wewa lake

### **Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

### **Painted Francolin** *Francolinus pictus*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - heard twice + seen crossing road near KM18

### **Jungle Bush-Quail** *Perdicula asiatica*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - HO

### **Ceylon Spurfowl** *Galloperdix bicalcarata* [Country endemic](#) [Restricted range](#)

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012 - HO

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - single female

### **Ceylon Junglefowl** *Gallus lafayetii* [Country endemic](#)

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012 - HO

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - HO

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

### **Indian Peafowl** *Pavo cristatus*

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

### **Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

### **Asian Openbill** *Anastomus oscitans*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

### **Woolly-necked Stork** *Ciconia episcopus*

Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

### **Painted Stork** *Mycteria leucocephala* [Near-threatened \(NT\)](#)

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

### **Indian Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - surprizingly difficult, with only one bird at Tissa Wewa Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo***

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Oriental Darter *Anhinga melanogaster* Near-threatened (NT)**

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Spot-billed Pelican *Pelecanus philippensis* Near-threatened (NT)**

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis***

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis***

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - few

**Gray Heron *Ardea cinerea***

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea***

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Great Egret *Ardea alba***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Intermediate Egret *Mesophoyx intermedia***

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Little Egret *Egretta garzetta***

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Pacific Reef-Heron *Egretta sacra***

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Indian Pond-Heron *Ardeola grayii***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Striated Heron *Butorides striata***

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax***

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Black-headed Ibis *Threskiornis melanocephalus* Near-threatened (NT)**

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia***

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Oriental Honey-buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*  
Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**White-bellied Sea-Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucogaster*  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Gray-headed Fish-Eagle** *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus* **Near-threatened (NT)**  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Crested Serpent-Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*  
Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Shikra** *Accipiter badius*  
Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

**Besra** *Accipiter virgatus*  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - nice views of over 4 perched birds, often very vocal  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - HO

**Black Eagle** *Ictinaetus malayensis*  
Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Booted Eagle** *Hieraetus pennatus*  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

**Rufous-bellied Eagle** *Lophotriorchis kienerii*  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Changeable Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus cirrhatus*  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

**Mountain Hawk-Eagle** *Nisaetus nipalensis*  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - a distant hawk-eagle seen from the research station may have been this species  
we had prolonged views of three individuals from one of the peaks (after a heavy climb)

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*  
Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Slaty-legged Crane** *Rallina eurizonoides*



*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - not found near marshy area in forest or at Kudawa village (dispite searches) heard on every morning & evening near Sunil's place + poor views*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - seen well at the small stream on the way to Sunil's house*

**White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus***

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*  
*Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012*  
*Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012*  
*Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012*  
*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012*  
*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*  
*Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012*  
*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Ruddy-breasted Crane *Porzana fusca***

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012 - one seen briefly from the terrace at the ticket office (Embilikawa Kalapuwa)*

**Watercock *Gallinix cinerea***

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - several immatures seen*

**Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio***

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Eurasian Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus***

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Indian Thick-knee *Burhinus indicus***

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - at least two birds pre-dawn along the road towards the ticket office, several others were seen at daytime*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Great Thick-knee *Esacus recurvirostris***

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Yellow-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus malabaricus***

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus***

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*  
*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012*  
*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*  
*Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012*  
*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola***

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Pacific Golden-Plover *Pluvialis fulva***

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Lesser Sand-Plover *Charadrius mongolus***

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Greater Sand-Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Pheasant-tailed Jacana** *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata* **Near-threatened (NT)**

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa* **Near-threatened (NT)**

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Pin-tailed Snipe** *Gallinago stenura*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Small Pratincole** *Glareola lactea*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Brown-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Bridled Tern** *Onychoprion anaethetus*

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012 - some flocks at sea

**Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Saunders's Tern** *Sternula saundersi*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida*

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Great Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bergii*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Lesser Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bengalensis*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Rock Pigeon *Columba livia***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

**Ceylon Wood-Pigeon *Columba torringtoni*** Vulnerable (VU) Country endemic Restricted range

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - only fly-by views

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012 - common here, several nice views of perched individuals

**Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica***

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

**Orange-breasted Pigeon *Treron bicinctus***

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - regularly heard on two days + seen briefly on second day

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Pompadour Green-Pigeon *Treron pompadora***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - mainly Kudawa village area + near Sunil's place

Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Yellow-footed Pigeon *Treron phoenicopterus***

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - second day only, near KM 17

**Green Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula aenea***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Alexandrine Parakeet *Psittacula eupatria***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

**Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Plum-headed Parakeet** *Psittacula cyanocephala*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012

*Surrey Tea Estate*, 3/01/2012

*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Layard's Parakeet** *Psittacula calthropae*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012

*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Ceylon Hanging-Parrot** *Loriculus beryllinus* **Country endemic**

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya*, 26/01/2012

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012

*Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya*, 1/01/2012

*Surrey Tea Estate*, 3/01/2012

*Deniyaya*, 11/01/2012

*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Pied Cuckoo** *Clamator jacobinus*

*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012

**Chestnut-winged Cuckoo** *Clamator coromandus*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012

**Common Hawk-Cuckoo** *Hierococcyx varius*

*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile*, 4/01/2012 - at Kinkini hotel grounds in Bibile

*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - HO

**Lesser Cuckoo** *Cuculus poliocephalus*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012 - unexpected. this little cuckoo flew in while waiting on our return bus.

**Banded Bay Cuckoo** *Cacomantis sonneratii*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012 - HO

*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - HO

*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012 - HO

**Plaintive Cuckoo** *Cacomantis merulinus*

*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012

*Bundala NP*, 8/01/2012

**Asian Koel** *Eudynamis scolopaceus*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya*, 26/01/2012

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012

*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012

**Blue-faced Malkoha** *Phaenicophaeus viridirostris*

*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012 - only seen twice in the park

**Red-faced Malkoha** *Phaenicophaeus pyrrhocephalus* **Vulnerable (VU) Country endemic**

**Restricted range**

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012 - good views of several individuals in the better flocks, mainly between Martins place and research centre

**Greater Coucal** *Centropus sinensis*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012

*Horton Plains*, 2/01/2012 - HO

*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

*Travel Bibile to Tissa*, 5/01/2012

*Debera Wewa and around*, 5+7+9/01/2012

*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012

*Bundala NP*, 8/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Green-billed Coucal** *Centropus chlororhynchus* **Vulnerable (VU)** **Country endemic** **Restricted range**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - one heard in around the marshy area near the barrier several heard and a few seen along the "Green Shadow Lodge road" on two evenings. This is apparently THE place to see them

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - single bird flying in tall tree near lakeshore at first evening

**Sri Lanka Bay-Owl** *Phodilus assimilis* **Country endemic**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - HO - heard only in surroundings of Sinharaya

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - Heard on first evening + seen briefly in flight Heard + seen very well on second evening

**Serendib Scops-Owl** *Otus thilohoffmanni* **Endangered (EN)** **Country endemic** **Restricted range**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - Heard on three nights in the forest (but outside the park). Shivering view on the third attempt. Later on, we had nice views of a roosting bird (showed by a local guide).

**Indian Scops-Owl** *Otus bakkamoena*

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - some young local guides hanging around the lake showed us a roosting bird near one of the houses

**Spot-bellied Eagle-Owl** *Bubo nipalensis*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - HO - Heard only close to Green Shadow Lodge

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - HO - one or two birds heard near Sunils place on the last evening

**Brown Fish-Owl** *Ketupa zeylonensis*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Jungle Owlet** *Glaucidium radiatum*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - KM27 and near KM19

**Chestnut-backed Owlet** *Glaucidium castanonotum* **Near-threatened (NT)** **Country endemic**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - crossing Nature trail and shortcut to Martins lodge heard also near barrier

**Brown Wood-Owl** *Strix leptogrammica*

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012 - 2 seen on daytime roost in forest

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - HO

**Ceylon Frogmouth** *Batrachostomus moniliger*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - a roosting pair was found by a local guide near Sunils place

**Jerdon's Nightjar** *Caprimulgus atripennis*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - seen well near KM27

Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - HO - one calling at the ticket office

**Indian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus asiaticus*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - several seen pre-dawn along road to ticket office, one calling at ticket office

**Brown-backed Needletail** *Hirundapus giganteus*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Indian Swiftlet** *Aerodramus unicolor*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*  
*Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012*  
*Horton Plains, 2/01/2012*  
*Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012*  
*Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012*  
*Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012*  
*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012*  
*Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Little Swift *Apus affinis***

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*

**Asian Palm-Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis***

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*  
*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Crested Treeswift *Hemiprocne coronata***

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*  
*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*  
*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Malabar Trogon *Harpactes fasciatus***

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - Several birds, mostly in bigger flocks*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis***

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*  
*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

**Black-backed Kingfisher *Ceyx erithaca***

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - Prolonged observation of this stunning kingfisher at the small stream near Martins place*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis***

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*  
*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

**White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis***

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*  
*Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012*  
*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012*  
*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*  
*Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012*  
*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*  
*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*  
*Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012*  
*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis***

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*  
*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

**Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis***

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Blue-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops philippinus*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Chestnut-headed Bee-eater** *Merops leschenaulti*

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

**Indian Roller** *Coracias benghalensis*

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Ceylon Gray Hornbill** *Ocyceros gingalensis* **Country endemic**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012 - 2 at hotel grounds  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Malabar Pied-Hornbill** *Anthracoceros coronatus* **Near-threatened (NT)**

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - a pair seen flying over near KM 27  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - several seen

**Brown-headed Barbet** *Megalaima zeylanica*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Yellow-fronted Barbet** *Megalaima flavifrons*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Crimson-fronted Barbet** *Megalaima rubricapillus*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - Several seen in the Kudawa village area Probably nesting in tree close to bus station  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Coppersmith Barbet** *Megalaima haemacephala*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Brown-capped Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos moluccensis*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012 - one taped in near the east-shore of the largest lake (Embilikawa Kalapuwa).

**Yellow-crowned Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos mahrattensis*



Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Lesser Yellowname** *Picus chlorolophus*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

**Black-rumped Flameback** *Dinopium benghalense*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Crimson-backed Flameback** *Chrysocolaptes stricklandi* [Country endemic](#)

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - Several birds seen in forest, one juvenile seen in nest hole.

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**White-naped Woodpecker** *Chrysocolaptes festivus*

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - We birded the well-known coconut plantation in the morning and evening of 7th (without success), but were lucky to have excellent views on the 9th. The owner charged 500SLR

**Indian Pitta** *Pitta brachyura*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012 - Seen twice in northern corner of park

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012 - HO

Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - HO

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Sri Lanka Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis affinis* [Country endemic](#)

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - common near KM17 and further. Very responsive to call of Forest Owlet

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Ashy Woodswallow** *Artamus fuscus*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - HO

**White-tailed Iora** *Aegithina nigrolutea* [Country endemic](#)

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - at least one male and female seen in group of Common Iora near KM17

**Large Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina macei*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Black-headed Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina melanoptera*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - near Sunil's place

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Small Minivet** *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012  
*Surrey Tea Estate*, 3/01/2012  
*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012  
*Bundala NP*, 8/01/2012

**Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus flammeus*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya*, 26/01/2012  
*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012  
*Surrey Tea Estate*, 3/01/2012  
*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012  
*Surrey Tea Estate*, 3/01/2012  
*Nuware Eliya - waterfall area*, 3/01/2012  
*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya*, 26/01/2012  
*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012  
*Horton Plains*, 2/01/2012  
*Horton Plains*, 2/01/2012  
*Surrey Tea Estate*, 3/01/2012  
*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile*, 4/01/2012  
*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012

**Black-hooded Oriole** *Oriolus xanthornus*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya*, 26/01/2012  
*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012  
*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
*Debera Wewa and around*, 5+7+9/01/2012  
*Deniyaya*, 11/01/2012  
*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**White-bellied Drongo** *Dicrurus caerulescens*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya*, 26/01/2012  
*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012  
*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile*, 4/01/2012  
*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
*Polhana and Mirissa area*, 10-11/01/2012  
*Deniyaya*, 11/01/2012  
*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus paradiseus*

*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012 - briefly seen near KM27

**Sri Lanka Drongo** *Dicrurus lophorinus* [Country endemic](#)

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012  
*Sinharaya bis*, 12-14/01/2012

**White-browed Fantail** *Rhipidura aureola*

*Surrey Tea Estate*, 3/01/2012  
*Bibile forest* (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
*Yala NP*, 6/01/2012  
*Deniyaya*, 11/01/2012

**Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea*

*Sinharaya*, 26-31/12/2012

*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*

**Asian Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone paradisi*

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012*

*Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012*

*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*

**Ceylon Magpie** *Urocissa ornata* **Vulnerable (VU)** **Country endemic** **Restricted range**

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - guaranteed at Martins place early morning, when several birds come to feed on moths that came to the lights of the dining room heard and seen frequently in forest*

*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**House Crow** *Corvus splendens*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

*Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012*

**Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*

*Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012*

*Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012*

*Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012*

*Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012*

*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*

*Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

*Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012*

**Jerdon's Bushlark** *Mirafra affinis*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - few seen in the park*

**Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark** *Eremopterix griseus*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - dozens seen "migrating" along the beach*

**Oriental Skylark** *Alauda gulgula*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia*

*Bundala NP, 8/01/2012*

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*

*Horton Plains, 2/01/2012*

*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*

*Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

*Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012*

*Deniyaya, 11/01/2012*

*Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012*

**Pacific Swallow** *Hirundo tahitica*

*Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - hill swallow, several birds near the old park entrance*

**Sri Lanka Swallow** *Cecropis hyperythra* **Country endemic**

*Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012*

*Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - several seen in Kudawa village and around Sunils place*

*Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012*

*Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012*

*Yala NP, 6/01/2012*

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis*

Nuware Eliya - Ward's forest around city, 3/01/2012 - HO  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012

**Great Tit** *Parus major*

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

**Black-capped Bulbul** *Pycnonotus melanicterus*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Red-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus cafer*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Yellow-eared Bulbul** *Pycnonotus penicillatus* **Near-threatened (NT)** **Country endemic**

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - common  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012

**White-browed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus luteolus*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Yellow-browed Bulbul** *Iole indica*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Square-tailed Bulbul** *Hypsipetes ganeesa*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Green Warbler** *Phylloscopus nitidus*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Large-billed Leaf-Warbler** *Phylloscopus magnirostris*  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

**Blyth's Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus dumetorum*  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - HO  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Clamorous Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus stentoreus*  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Ceylon Bush-Warbler** *Bradypterus palliseri* **Near-threatened (NT) Country endemic**  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - a pair seen very well near the Arranga pool, other nice views on a trail towards a nearby peak

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Common Tailorbird** *Orthotomus sutorius*  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Gray-breasted Prinia** *Prinia hodgsonii*  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Jungle Prinia** *Prinia sylvatica*  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Ashy Prinia** *Prinia socialis*  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

**Plain Prinia** *Prinia inornata*  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Ceylon White-eye** *Zosterops ceylonensis* **Country endemic**  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - few of these endemics in the forest, mostly near Research station  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - common  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Oriental White-eye** *Zosterops palpebrosus*  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Brown-capped Babbler** *Pellorneum fuscicapillus*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

**Ashy-headed Laughingthrush** *Garrulax cinereifrons* **Vulnerable (VU)** **Country endemic**  
**Restricted range**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - common in flocks  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Orange-billed Babbler** *Turdoides rufescens* **Near-threatened (NT)** **Country endemic**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - very common in flocks  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Yellow-billed Babbler** *Turdoides affinis*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Tawny-bellied Babbler** *Dumetia hyperythra*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Dark-fronted Babbler** *Rhopocichla atriceps*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Sri Lanka Scimitar-Babbler** *Pomatorhinus melanurus* **Country endemic**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - common, mostly in flocks  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Brown-breasted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa muttui*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Indian Robin** *Copsychus fulicatus*

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Travel Bibile to Tissa, 5/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**White-rumped Shama** *Copsychus malabaricus*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Tickell's Blue-Flycatcher** *Cyornis tickelliae*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Dull-blue Flycatcher** *Eumyias sordidus* **Near-threatened (NT)** **Country endemic**

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

**Indian Blue Robin** *Larvivora brunnea*

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - Ward's forest around city, 3/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - HO

**Ceylon Whistling-Thrush** *Myophonus blighi* **Endangered (EN)** **Country endemic** **Restricted range**

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - at least two near the Arranga pool (one fly-over, one perched, but in poor light)  
Nuware Eliya - Ward's forest around city, 3/01/2012 - prolonged views of one superb male, near a stream in the forest

**Kashmir Flycatcher** *Ficedula subrubra* **Vulnerable (VU)** **Restricted range**

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012 - one along stream and three at rubbish dump near females toilets  
Nuware Eliya - Ward's forest around city, 3/01/2012 - in shrub along road  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012

**Pied Bushchat** *Saxicola caprata*

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - Ward's forest around city, 3/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012

**Pied Thrush** *Zoothera wardii*

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012 - First day: four male birds seen flying to a roosting tree central in park, we had prolonged view of one of these. Two males were seen on second day.

**Spot-winged Thrush** *Zoothera spiloptera* **Near-threatened (NT)** **Country endemic**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Scaly Thrush** *Zoothera dauma*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - one heard and seen very well feeding along the stream near the research centre  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012 - at Arranga pool  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - along stream near the research station

**Indian Blackbird** *Turdus simillimus*

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012 - male + female in northern section of park

**Southern Hill Myna** *Gracula indica*

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - together with Ceylon Hill Myna in a tree near Sunils place

**Ceylon Myna** *Gracula ptilogenys* **Near-threatened (NT)** **Country endemic**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - Fly-by's from Martins dining room; a flock seen perched along the "Green Shadow Lodge"-road  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - together with Southern Hill Myna in a tree near Sunils place

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012  
Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012



**White-faced Starling** *Sturnia albobfrontata* **Vulnerable (VU)** **Country endemic** **Restricted range**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - Seen on several occasions, first 2 over the marshy area near Martins place and 2 seen well from Martins dining room. Later, several more were heard and seen, especially near the research station

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012 - small flock was frequenting a tree near the research station

**Brahminy Starling** *Temenuchus pagodarum*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

**Rosy Starling** *Pastor roseus*

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Jerdon's Leafbird** *Chloropsis jerdoni*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Golden-fronted Leafbird** *Chloropsis aurifrons*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Thick-billed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum agile*

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**White-throated Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum vincens* **Near-threatened (NT)** **Country endemic**  
**Restricted range**

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - common

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Pale-billed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Purple-rumped Sunbird** *Leptocoma zeylonica*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012

Yala NP, 6/01/2012

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

Sinharaya bis, 12-14/01/2012

**Purple Sunbird** *Cinnyris asiaticus*

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

**Long-billed Sunbird** *Cinnyris lotenius*

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012

Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012

Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012

Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

**Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*

Bundala NP, 8/01/2012



**Gray Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea***

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012

**Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi***

Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Oriental Pipit *Anthus rufulus***

Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus***

Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012 - several

**House Sparrow *Passer domesticus***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Victoria park, 8-9/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Polhana and Mirissa area, 10-11/01/2012

**Baya Weaver *Ploceus philippinus***

Yala NP, 6/01/2012 - only a few seen at freshly-built nests somewhere in the park

**White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata***

Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Nuwara Eliya to Bilile, 4/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

**Black-throated Munia *Lonchura kelaarti***

Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012 - prolonged views of one adult + 3 juveniles feeding on bamboo opposite the ticket office.  
Surrey Tea Estate, 3/01/2012 - HO

**Nutmeg Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata***

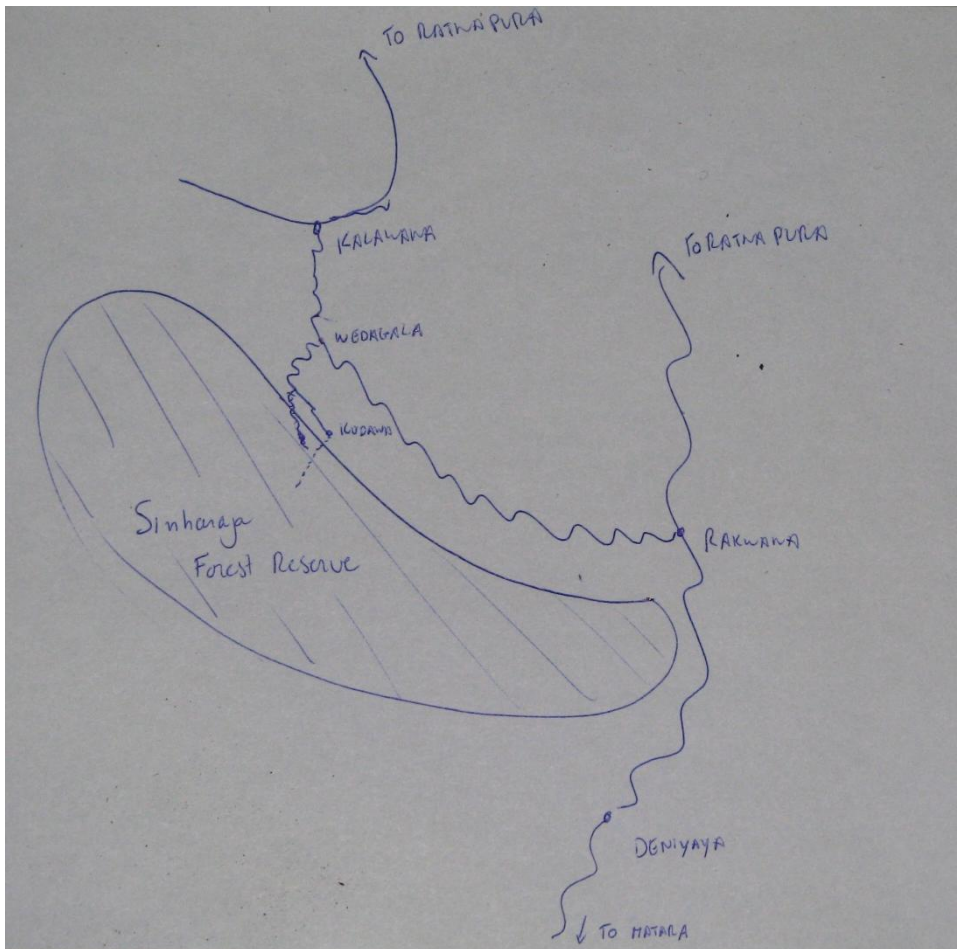
Travel Colombo-Sinharaya, 26/01/2012  
Sinharaya, 26-31/12/2012  
Travel Sinharaya to Nuraya Eliya, 1/01/2012  
Nuware Eliya - waterfall area, 3/01/2012  
Bibile forest (= Nilgala medicinal forest), 4-5/01/2012  
Yala NP, 6/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012  
Deniyaya, 11/01/2012

**Tricolored Munia *Lonchura malacca***

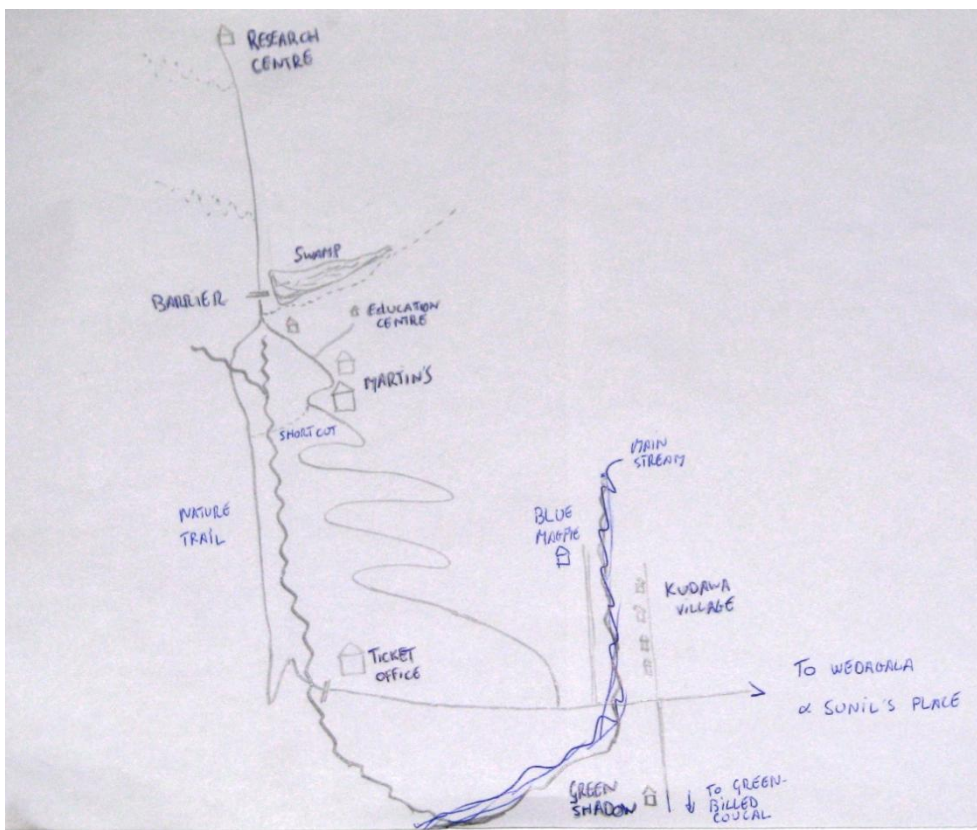
Horton Plains, 2/01/2012  
Debera Wewa and around, 5+7+9/01/2012  
Bundala NP, 8/01/2012

**Total number of birds: 251**

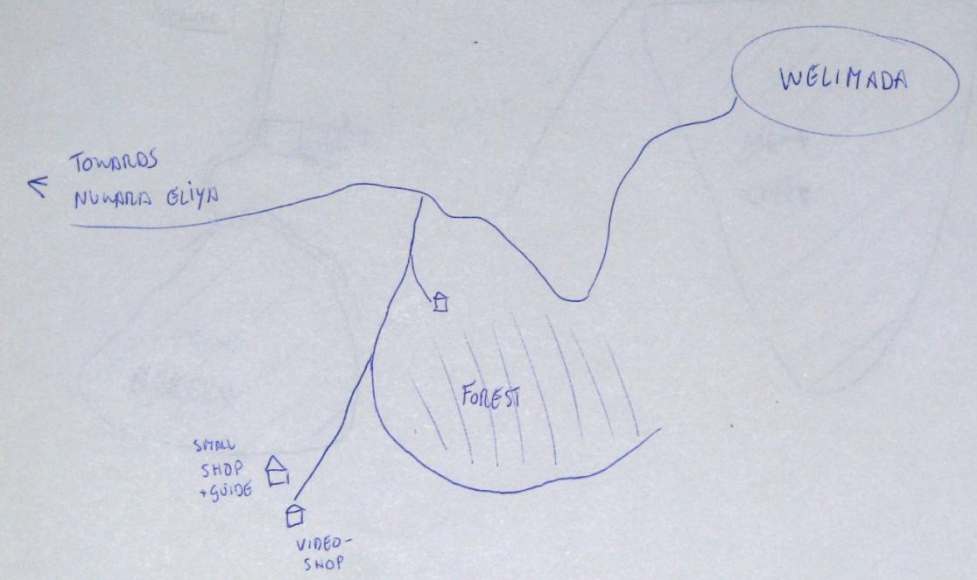
**Total number of birds: 251**



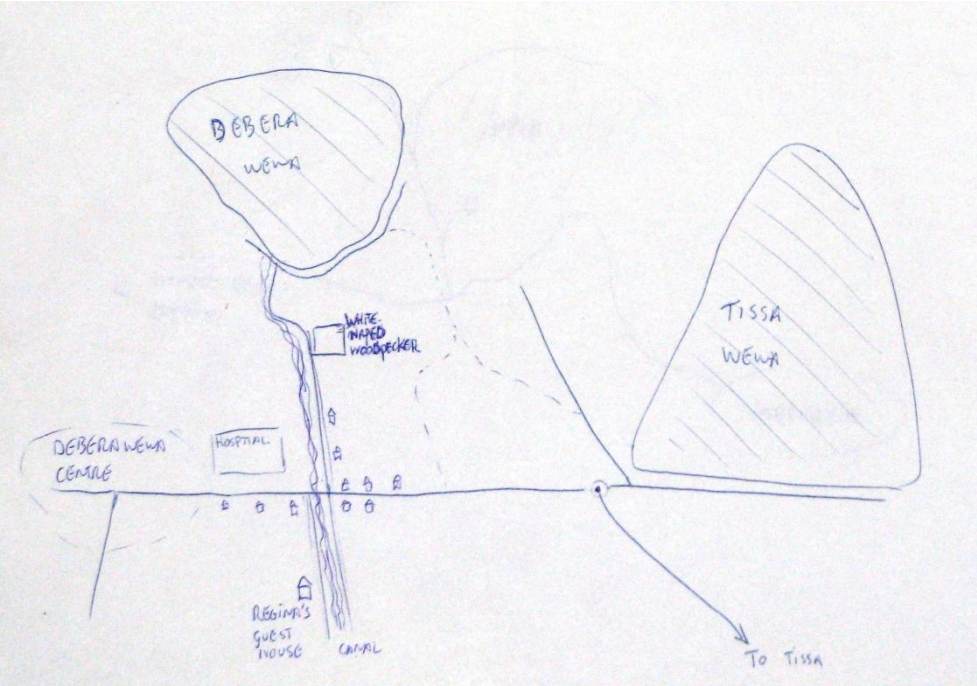
Localization of Sinharaya forest



Main trails in Sinharaya forest and the Kudawa village area



Localization of Surrey Tea Estate



Debera Wewa area