



# Bellbird

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## BIRDING TOURS

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### ***Peninsular Malaysia tour report 2016***

Dates of tour: 19-26 May 2016

Leaders: Peter Waanders and Lee Kok Chung



*next Peninsula Malaysia tour:*  
23 May 2017

[go to our tour program page](#)

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[Photo gallery of this tour](#)

*Rail Babbler, © P Waanders*

#### **Tour overview**

Our third Peninsular Malaysia tour was another resounding success. Designed for those who have always wanted to bird South-east Asia, but have had some reservations, this tour visits the birding highlights of Peninsular Malaysia while staying at comfortable, quality lodgings with a range of food to suit all taste-buds. Participants were treated to a smoothly run tour full of amazing birds. Jointly guided by Bellbird Tours' Peter Waanders and one of Malaysia's top bird guides Lee Kok Chung, we notched up a grand total of 226 bird species in a week, visiting Krau Forest, Fraser's Hill, Taman Negara and the Kuala Selangor woodland and mangroves. Some of the many highlights included Crested Fireback, Mountain Peacock-Pheasant, six species of Malkoha, Buffy Fish Owl, four species of Trogon, four species of Hornbill, twelve (!) species of Woodpecker, five species of Broadbill (four in one day!), Banded and Garnet Pitta, and cracking views of the elusive Malaysian Rail-Babbler on the first day. The full bird list follows at the end of this document. Other sightings of interest included five species of Squirrel, Tree Shrew, five species of primate, 2 Slow Loris, one Malaysian Tapir and evidence of Asian Elephant.

## Daily account

After meeting the other participants the night before for dinner, we left Kuala Lumpur early in the morning to start our birding. We didn't travel too long before our first birding stop at Bukit Tinggi, a hill with both native forest and planted gardens. The birding was relatively easy here and it wasn't long before started scoring their first lifers. Highlights here included the rare Malayan Peacock-pheasant, Red-billed and Green-billed Malkoha and Red-bearded Bee-eater. After a bit more driving we reached Krau Forest, a lowland rainforest. Some great birds were seen here, including White-rumped Shama, Rufous-collared Kingfisher, Black-throated Babbler and last but not least we had cracking views of the highly sought-after Rail Babbler.

After lunch we continued on to Taman Negara National Park, our destination for the next few days. While driving we came across some Oriental Pied Hornbills which gave a great show, flying back and forth over our heads several times. There is no car access into Taman Negara, so we were treated to a boat ride across the Kuala Tahan river to get to the park and Mutiara Resort. While walking to our cabins we were greeted by a Tapir which made us scrambling for our cameras! We spend 2.5 days in the Taman Negara rainforest, enjoying the lush vegetation that was home to so many species of birds. Birds were being added to the list fast and some of the highlights were Red-naped Trogon, Black and yellow Broadbill, Garnett's and Banded Pitta, Crested Fire-back, 4 Kingfisher species, Straw-headed Bulbul and no less than 8 species of woodpecker. Besides the birds there were also many different species of beautiful butterflies, orchids and mammals including squirrels, and monkeys to enjoy.

At the end of Day 4 we drove to Fraser's Hill, to explore a whole new suite of birds. Along the road we were very fortunate to see a Buffy Fish Owl perched in a tree. The next 2 days we enjoyed the cooler climate and the birding resulted in new species coming quick and fast. Some of the highlights for this area were Malaysian Hill Partridge, who provided a great show coming out to feed one evening, 4 species of Barbet, the bright green Common Green Magpie, the amazingly colourful Sultan Tit and the unusual Pygmy Wren-babbler.

On the last day we spent the morning at the Kuala Selangor coastal wetlands with mangroves where we added, amongst others, Lesser Adjutant and Mangrove Whistler to the list. After a sumptuous lunch at a seafood restaurant overlooking the coast (with Striated Herons flying past) we explored the Paya Inda wetlands with its waterbirds, nesting Baya Weavers, Crested Goshawk and Lineated Barbet.

A record-breaking 222 bird species were seen (and a further 4 heard-only) during the trip and everyone had a great time, reluctantly returning to the daily grind of life! Some continued on to our Sabah tour extension.

For 2017, we're once again offering an optional extension to Sabah, the Malaysian part of Borneo (10 days).

[Read the 2017 Sabah brochure here.](#)

Peninsular Malaysia tour report 17 – 23 May 2015

*Crested Fireback, Great Slaty Woodpecker, Mountain Peacock-pheasant, Buffy Fish-owl, Silver-breasted Broadbill, Crested Serpent-eagle, Red-naped Trogon, Malaysian Hill Partridge* © 2016 Peter Waanders, Bellbird Tours



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next Malaysia tour: 23 May 2017 [tour program](#)

Peninsular Malaysia tour list of birds seen 19 – 26 May 2015

1	Long-billed Partridge (h)	<i>Rhizothera longirostris</i>	31	Greater Coucal	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>
2	Malaysian Partridge	<i>Arborophila campbelli</i>	32	Raffles's Malkoha	<i>Rhinortha chlorophaea</i>
3	Crested Fireback	<i>Lophura ignita</i>	33	Red-billed Malkoha	<i>Zanclotomus javanicus</i>
4	Mountain Peacock-Pheasant	<i>Polyplectron inopinatum</i>	34	Chestnut-breasted Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus curvirostris</i>
5	Lesser Adjutant	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	35	Chestnut-bellied Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus sumatranus</i>
6	Yellow Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>	36	Black-bellied Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus diardi</i>
7	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	37	Green-billed Malkoha	<i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>
8	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	38	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>
9	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	39	Banded Bay Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>
10	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	40	Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo	<i>Surniculus lugubris</i>
11	Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	41	Indian Cuckoo (h)	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>
12	Bat Hawk	<i>Macheiramphus alcinus</i>	42	Large Hawk-cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx sparverioides</i>
13	Changeable Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus cirrhatus</i>	43	Violet Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus</i>
14	Blyth's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus alboniger</i>	44	Reddish Scops Owl	<i>Otus rufescens</i>
15	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malaiensis</i>	45	Buffy Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa ketupu</i>
16	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	46	Collared Owlet	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>
17	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	47	Grey-rumped Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne longipennis</i>
18	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	48	Whiskered Treeswift	<i>Hemiprocne comata</i>
19	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	49	Glossy Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>
20	Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	50	Edible-nest Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus fuciphagus</i>
21	Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>	51	Germain's Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus germani</i>
22	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	52	Silver-rumped Spinetail	<i>Rhaphidura leucopygialis</i>
23	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>	53	House Swift	<i>Apus nipalensis</i>
24	Little Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Macropygia ruficeps</i>	54	Red-naped Trogon	<i>Harpactes kasumba</i>
25	Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	55	Scarlet-rumped Trogon	<i>Harpactes duvaucelii</i>
26	Zebra Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	56	Orange-breasted Trogon	<i>Harpactes oreskios</i>
27	Pink-necked Green Pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>	57	Red-headed Trogon	<i>Harpactes erythrocephalus</i>
28	Orange-breasted Green Pigeon	<i>Treron bicinctus</i>	58	Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>
29	Thick-billed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron curvirostra</i>	59	Rufous-collared Kingfisher	<i>Actenoides concretus</i>
30	Mountain Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula badia</i>	60	Banded Kingfisher	<i>Lacedo pulchella</i>

Peninsular Malaysia tour list of birds seen 19 – 26 May 2015

61	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>	91	Buff-necked Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tukki</i>
62	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>	92	Great Slaty Woodpecker	<i>Mulleripicus pulverulentus</i>
63	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>	93	Black-thighed Falconet	<i>Microhierax fringillarius</i>
64	Blue-banded Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo euryzona</i>	94	Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>
65	Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx erithaca</i>	95	Blue-rumped Parrot	<i>Psittinus cyanurus</i>
66	Red-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis amictus</i>	96	Green Broadbill	<i>Calyptomena viridis</i>
67	Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>	97	Black-and-red Broadbill	<i>Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchus</i>
68	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>	98	Long-tailed Broadbill	<i>Psarisomus dalhousiae</i>
69	Bushy-crested Hornbill	<i>Anorrhinus galeritus</i>	99	Silver-breasted Broadbill	<i>Serilophus lunatus</i>
70	Fire-tufted Barbet	<i>Psilopogon pyrolophus</i>	100	Banded Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus javanicus</i>
71	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>	101	Black-and-yellow Broadbill	<i>Eurylaimus ochromalus</i>
72	Golden-whiskered Barbet	<i>Megalaima chrysopogon</i>	102	Rusty-naped Pitta (h)	<i>Hydrornis oatesi</i>
73	Red-throated Barbet	<i>Megalaima mystacophanos</i>	103	Malayan Banded Pitta	<i>Hydrornis irena</i>
74	Black-browed Barbet	<i>Megalaima oorti</i>	104	Garnet Pitta	<i>Erythropitta granatina</i>
75	Yellow-crowned Barbet	<i>Megalaima henricii</i>	105	Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>
76	Blue-eared Barbet	<i>Megalaima duvaucelii</i>	106	Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>
77	Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	107	Large Woodshrike	<i>Tephrodornis virgatus</i>
78	Sooty Barbet (Brown barbet)	<i>Coloramphus hayii</i>	108	Rufous-winged Philentoma	<i>Philentoma pyrhoptera</i>
79	Sunda Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos moluccensis</i>	109	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
80	White-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus javensis</i>	110	Green Iora	<i>Aegithina viridissima</i>
81	Banded Woodpecker	<i>Chrysophlegma miniaceum</i>	111	Javan Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina javensis</i>
82	Checker-throated Woodpecker	<i>Chrysophlegma mentale</i>	112	Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina striata</i>
83	Greater Yellownappe	<i>Chrysophlegma flavinucha</i>	113	Pied Triller	<i>Lalage nigra</i>
84	Lesser Yellownappe	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>	114	Grey-chinned Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>
85	Laced Woodpecker	<i>Picus vittatus</i>	115	Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus speciosus</i>
86	Common Flameback	<i>Dinopium javanense</i>	116	Mangrove Whistler	<i>Pachycephala cinerea</i>
87	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus</i>	117	White-bellied Erpornis	<i>Erpornis zantholeuca</i>
88	Orange-backed Woodpecker	<i>Reinwardtipicus validus</i>	118	Blyth's Shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthius aeralatus</i>
89	Rufous Woodpecker	<i>Micropternus brachyurus</i>	119	Black-eared Shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthius melanotis</i>
90	Buff-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Meiglyptes tristis</i>	120	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>

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121	Black-and-crimson Oriole	<i>Oriolus cruentus</i>	151	Streaked Bulbul	<i>Ixos malaccensis</i>
122	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>	152	Cinereous Bulbul	<i>Hemixos cinereus</i>
123	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	153	Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>
124	White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	154	Rufous-bellied Swallow	<i>Cecropis badia</i>
125	Malaysian Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>	155	Pygmy Wren-babbler	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>
126	Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	156	Yellow-bellied Warbler	<i>Abroscopus superciliaris</i>
127	Common Green Magpie	<i>Cissa chinensis</i>	157	Mountain Tailorbird	<i>Phyllergates cuculatus</i>
128	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	158	Chestnut-crowned Warbler	<i>Seicercus castaniceps</i>
129	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	159	Yellow-bellied Prinia	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>
130	Rail-babbler	<i>Eupetes macrocerus</i>	160	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
131	Sultan Tit	<i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>	161	Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>
132	Cinereous Tit	<i>Parus cinereus</i>	162	Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>
133	Straw-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus zeylanicus</i>	163	Ashy Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>
134	Black-and-white Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanoleucos</i>	164	Grey-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>
135	Black-headed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>	165	Black-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigricollis</i>
136	Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus flaviventris</i>	166	Chestnut-winged Babbler	<i>Stachyris erythroptera</i>
137	Scaly-breasted Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus squamatus</i>	167	Golden Babbler	<i>Stachyridopsis chrysaea</i>
138	Grey-bellied Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cyaniventris</i>	168	Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronus gularis</i>
139	Puff-backed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus eutilotus</i>	169	Mountain Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe peracensis</i>
140	Stripe-throated Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus finlaysoni</i>	170	Large Wren-Babbler	<i>Napothera macrodactyla</i>
141	Yellow-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>	171	Streaked Wren-Babbler	<i>Napothera brevicaudata</i>
142	Olive-winged Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus plumosus</i>	172	Abbott's Babbler	<i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>
143	Asian Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>	173	Sooty-capped Babbler	<i>Malacopteron affine</i>
144	Spectacled Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos</i>	174	Scaly-crowned Babbler	<i>Malacopteron cinereum</i>
145	Ochraceous Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus ochraceus</i>	175	Ferruginous Babbler	<i>Trichastoma bicolor</i>
146	Grey-cheeked Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus bres</i>	176	Buff-breasted Babbler	<i>Pellorneum tickelli</i>
147	Yellow-bellied Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus phaeocephalus</i>	177	Chstnt-capped Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax mitratus</i>
148	Hairy-backed Bulbul	<i>Tricholestes criniger</i>	178	Malayan Laughingthrush	<i>Trochalopteron peninsulae</i>
149	Buff-vented Bulbul	<i>Iole olivacea</i>	179	Blue-winged Minla	<i>Minla cyanouroptera</i>
150	Mountain Bulbul	<i>Ixos mccllellandii</i>	180	Silver-eared Mesia	<i>Leiothrix argentauris</i>

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181	Long-tailed Sibia	<i>Heterophasia picaoides</i>	211	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>
182	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	212	Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	<i>Chalcoparia singalensis</i>
183	Everett's White-eye	<i>Zosterops everetti</i>	213	Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>
184	Asian Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>	214	Purple-naped Sunbird	<i>Hypogramma hypogrammicum</i>
185	Blue Nuthatch	<i>Sitta azurea</i>	215	Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>
186	Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>	216	Black-throated Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga saturata</i>
187	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>	217	Little Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>
188	Javan Myna	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>	218	Long-billed Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera robusta</i>
189	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	219	Spectacled Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera flavigaster</i>
190	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	220	Grey-breasted Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera modesta</i>
191	White-rumped Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	221	Streaked Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera magna</i>
192	Rufous-browed Flycatcher	<i>Anthipes solitarius</i>	222	Red-throated Sunbird	
193	Pale Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>	223	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
194	Hill Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis banyumas</i>	224	Baya Weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>
195	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis tickelliae</i>	225	White-headed Munia	<i>Lonchura maja</i>
196	Mangrove Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis rufigastra</i>	226	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
197	Large Niltava	<i>Niltava grandis</i>			
198	Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>		<b>Mammals:</b>	
199	Lesser Shortwing	<i>Brachypteryx leucophris</i>		Slow Loris	Rufous-bellied (Horse-tailed) Squirrel
200	Slaty-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus schistaceus</i>		Common Tree Shrew	Smooth Otter
201	Malayan Whistling Thrush (h)	<i>Myophonus robinsoni</i>		Tree-striped Squirrel	Short-toed Palm Civet Cat
202	Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>		Slender Squirrel	Lesser Black-capped Fruit Bat
203	Blue-winged Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>		Plaintain Squirrel	Wild Boar
204	Orange-bellied Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>		Himalaya Striped Pygmy Squirrel	Malaysian Tapir
205	Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus maculatus</i>		Siamay Gibbon (h)	Short-toed Palm Civet Cat
206	Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Prionochilus percussus</i>		Dusky Leaf Monkey	<b>Other:</b>
207	Yellow-vented Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum chrysorrheum</i>		Long-tailed Macaque	Monitor Lizard
208	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>		Pig-tailed Macaque	
209	Plain Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum minullum</i>		White-tighed Leaf Monkey	Birdswing butterfly
210	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>		Grey-bellied Squirrel	
				Plantain Squirrel	