

FIELD REPORT

PHILIPPINES HIGHLIGHTS

MARCH 23–APRIL 10, 2024



Philippine Cockatoo in Palawan (Adri Constantino)

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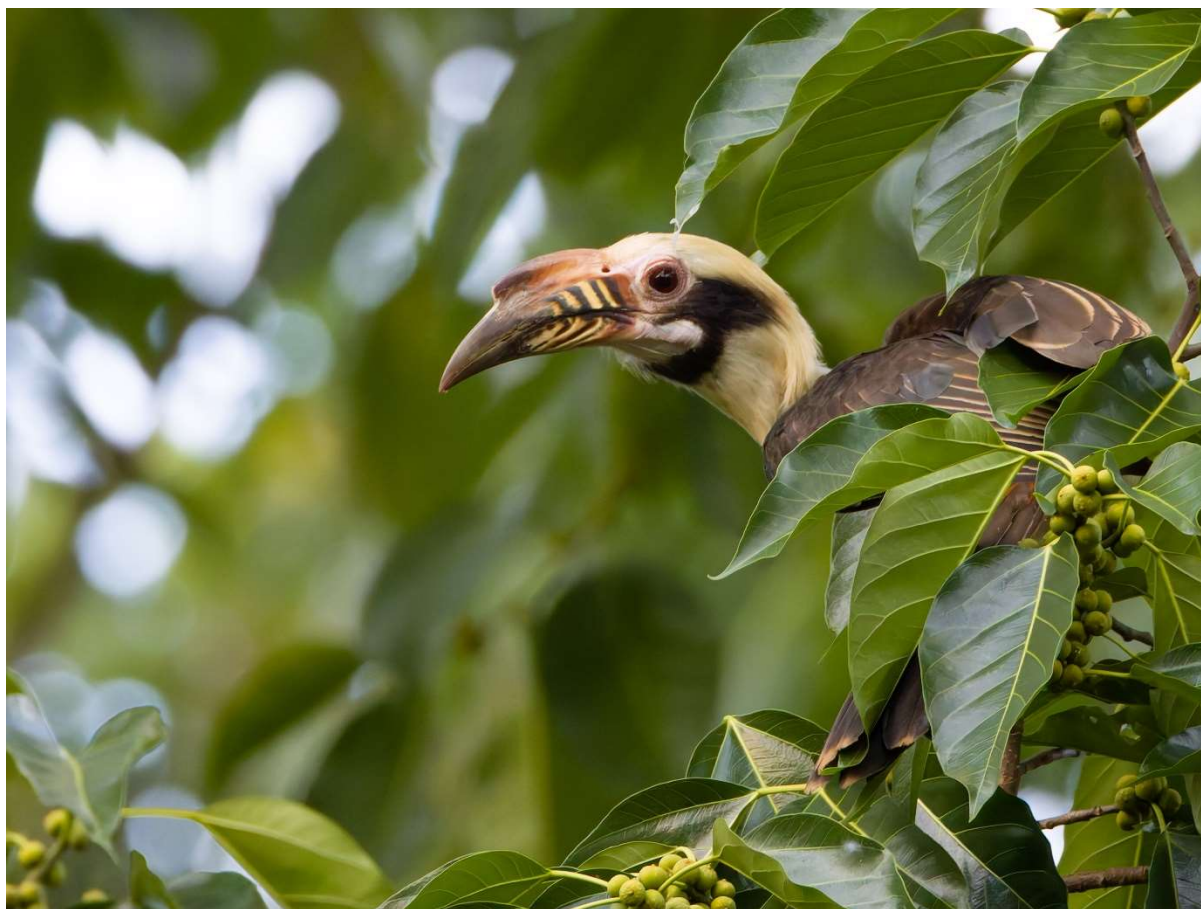
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BY DION HOBBCROFT

It was great to see so many familiar faces when we all convened in Manila—everyone had traveled with me several times before! Wonderful! Our first plan was to leave the megacity early and head to Canareman Lake a couple of hours drive to the north, and all went to plan, arriving in the cool of the morning. Literally the first bird of the tour was a trio of Greater Painted-Snipe that is always a beautiful sight. These cryptic, scarce wetland beauties are always a treat to encounter and proved to be a good omen for what became a very successful tour. It was, however, very dry and very hot—the Philippines being in the grip of an El Nino drought. Our primary target was the scarce near endemic Philippine Duck, and we had good views of these shy birds in flight. There were also a few Garganey, Northern Shovelers, and good numbers of Wandering Whistling-Ducks. Philippine and Lesser coucals, Barred Rail, White-browed Crane, Pheasant-tailed Jacana (some in advanced breeding plumage), Yellow Bittern, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Common Kingfisher, Striated Grassbird, Chestnut Munia, Eastern Yellow Wagtail, and Paddyfield Pipit were amongst some of the 43 species we recorded here.

With the heat building, we drove through to Subic Bay. After lunch and a siesta we headed out to try and start making a dent in all the special birds found in the giant lowland forest here. Our first afternoon was pretty lively, with amazing views of Green Racquet-tail (a trend that continued for the entirety of our visit to Subic), a visit to a spectacular colony of Rufous-crowned Bee-eaters, and we started to encounter more endemics in the form of White-eared Brown-Dove, Luzon Hornbill, Guaiabero, Balicassiao, Stripe-sided Rhabdornis, Coletto, and our only Blackish Cuckooshrike. On dusk we enjoyed the enormous Great Eared-Nightjar and found a bold migrant Northern Boobook, followed by a fine Luzon Boobook—three nocturnal birds on a short drive.



Luzon Hornbill (Adri Constantino)

The mornings are all important, and bird activity is at its best from sunrise until about 10 am, so this became our daily mantra. More new endemics performed well including Philippine Green-Pigeon, Philippine Serpent-Eagle, Brown-breasted Kingfisher, Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker, Northern Sooty-Woodpecker, Philippine Falconet, Philippine Hanging-Parrot, and Red-keeled Flowerpecker. With a reduced list of specials, we kept chipping away on the remaining birding sessions and managed good views of some of the shyest birds here including Rufous Coucal, Red-crested Malkoha, Scale-feathered Malkoha (these three often hang together in a roving mixed flock), Plain Bush-hen, Luzon Flameback, White-browed Shama, and Green-backed Tailorbird; we even flushed a Spotted Buttonquail.

Beyond the endemics, there were plenty of other more widely distributed species that were seen well including Red Junglefowl, Asian Emerald Dove, Green Imperial-Pigeon, Asian Koel, Collared Kingfisher, Dollarbird, Blue-naped Parrot, White-bellied Woodpecker, Ashy Minivet, Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike, Black-naped Oriole, White-breasted Woodswallow, Brown Shrike, Large-billed Crow, Yellow-vented Bulbul, and Pacific Swallow. Brahminy Kite was regularly sighted, and a few lingering migrants included Chinese Goshawk, Gray-streaked Flycatcher, and Blue Rock-Thrush, while a couple of us had a brief look at a Gray-headed Fish-Eagle, a rare bird now in the country. On the mammal front, there were plenty of Long-tailed Macaques, and we visited the flying-fox colony that held both the Large and the much scarcer Golden-crowned. At night, the giant Tokay Gecko was regularly encountered, both seen and heard!

On the way back to Manila we stopped at a key wetland and had luck with good views of the now rare Philippine Swamphen. Other new species included a Black Bittern, Purple Heron, Golden-bellied Gerygone, Philippine Pied-Fantail, and Clamorous Reed-Warbler.

In the morning we flew to Puerto Princesa, the main town on the island of Palawan. This interesting island has closer ecological ties to Borneo than the rest of the Philippines and is home to a great variety of endemic birds. A quick birding session before lunch in a seafood restaurant proved profitable with Pied Triller, Palawan Crow, Rufous-tailed Tailorbird, Black-headed and Ashy-fronted bulbuls, Mangrove Blue Flycatcher, Palawan and Pygmy flowerpeckers, Brown-throated and Palawan sunbirds, a handy Pale Spiderhunter, and White-bellied Munia all good pre-lunch list boosters. In the heat of the day, we headed north in the air-conditioned vans and made one stop that provided a distant Oriental Hobby. Little else was moving, so we checked into the seaside hotel and had a break.



**The Western Hooded Pitta that chose such a wonderful perch for us at Irawan Ecopark, Palawan.
(Adri Constantino)**

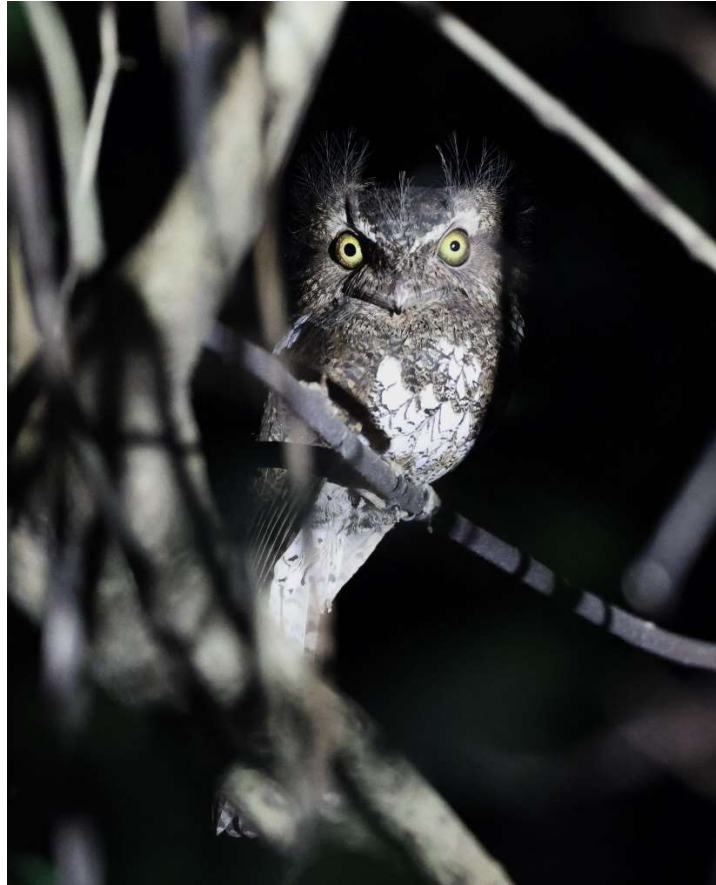
The afternoon proved positively birdy, giving great views of 31 species in a 500-meter roadside birding stretch—a good result in the forest. Violet Cuckoo, Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo, a very fortuitous Red-headed Flameback, a small flock of Philippine Cockatoos, Fiery Minivet, both Ashy and Palawan drongos, Palawan Tit, both Gray-throated and Sulphur-bellied bulbuls, Pin-striped Tit-Babbler, Hill Myna, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Purple-throated and Lovely sunbirds, Striped Flowerpecker, Palawan Fairy-bluebird,

and the lime-green Yellow-throated Sunbird made it an outstanding session. Another stop produced a trio of the now scarce Palawan Hornbill, and in the evening we heard a Spotted Wood-Owl quite close, but it refused to come in to us. A Large-tailed Nightjar was seen well.

We traveled by outrigger boats along the rugged and unforgiving limestone coast to the Subterranean River National Park. Arriving early, we had a profitable time with literally the first bird seen a Philippine Pitta, and it was not shy at all, hopping about the forest floor remarkably unconcerned by the gaggle of birders focusing their attention on it! At the cave entrance there was a tame Stork-billed Kingfisher and a wintering Siberian Peregrine Falcon that was swooping around and hunting swiftlets. In the coastal forest it was a game of patience, but we tracked down the Palawan Blue Flycatcher and Blue Paradise Flycatcher for excellent views. Along the coastline we observed White-bellied Sea-Eagle and Pacific Reef-Heron. A feature here were the giant Palawan Water Monitors, amongst the largest lizards in the world. I watched one keeping a troop of macaques at bay with its arched tail while it ate fish scraps left by the rangers. No one wants to get whipped with that tail!

On the return drive to Puerto Princesa, we made some stops and enjoyed great views of Crested Goshawk, Lovely Sunbird, and White-vented Shama. On the coast at our hotel, we found a beautiful Chinese Egret with well-developed plumes and scoped some Pink-necked Green-Pigeons and a single Gray-tailed Tattler. Our stake-out for the Philippine Cockatoo unfortunately flatlined, and that was a bother, as we had seen them only briefly in flight the afternoon before. A plan was developed to rectify this. In the evening, we went for a short spotlighting session that delivered in the form of a fine male Palawan Frogmouth that was perched at the same level we were—a rare event. It growled and croaked at us and was very tame.

The Napsan Road is one of the newest birding sites in Palawan—we had visited it only once before in the previous year. Again, as soon as we arrived it delivered some key bird species with fantastic views of Palawan and Ashy-headed babblers. Ventriloquial Oriole perched overhead, and after a lengthy tape battle we drew into view a Banded Bay Cuckoo—very much a mystery bird in the Philippines and a new bird for Adri in his home country to reflect on what a rare bird it is. Unfortunately, we could only hear Blue-headed Racquet-tail (once) and Spot-throated Flameback, and despite a lengthy vigil both failed to perform. Plenty of other forest birds came by again including hornbills, leafbirds, flowerpeckers, sunbirds, tit-babblers, Hill Myna, and the like. After a siesta, following intelligence from the conservation group that has done a fantastic job resurrecting the Philippine Cockatoo population in Palawan, we found ourselves on the coast well to the south of Puerto Princesa. In the afternoon we enjoyed multiple fly-over Philippine Cockatoos as they headed to their nesting area after a day of foraging. The views were great. Only twenty years ago this species was nearly extinct. The Katala Foundation is a leading light in Philippine wildlife conservation, and the population now numbers several hundred birds.



The male Palawan Frogmouth we found close to eye level in Puerto Princesa. (Dion Hobcroft)

We had one last morning in Palawan, and it was dedicated to the Irawan Eco Park. We started with a bang with an outstanding Western Hooded Pitta teed up on a vine and calling back to us. Wow! After a bit of a lull in activity, it picked up again as we enjoyed Blue-eared Kingfisher, Rufous-backed Dwarf-Kingfisher, another Philippine Pitta, and then a knockout view of the tiny elusive Palawan Flycatcher. We returned to where it had all begun in Palawan a few days before at the seafood restaurant in the mangroves, and here we had one last hurrah with the stunning Copper-throated Sunbird. It is quite the sunbird.

With La Mesa Ecopark being closed to the public, we had to change the itinerary and decided to head to Angono, where a Philippine Eagle-Owl was being consistently reported. It had other ideas, though, and despite combing the area thoroughly, we could not locate it. We did find Elegant Tit, Lowland White-eye, a calling Arctic Warbler, and a very obliging Gray-backed Tailorbird. The major highlight was probably the Red-tailed Rat Snake we found cruising through the trees. We traveled on to Mount Makiling, setting up in the comfortable university guest house with some fine home style cooking. We dedicated the afternoon to some rice fields and scrubby water catchment ponds that were humming with bird activity. Buff-banded Rail, Barred Rail, White-breasted Waterhen, and Plain Bush-hen all showed very well in the scope, bathing and foraging around ponds. Good looks were had at Pacific Golden-Plover, Long-toed Stint, Oriental Pratincole, Oriental Skylark, and Striated Swallow. In the evening, we went for a short

night drive and had a fantastic view of Philippine Scops-Owl, followed immediately by a Philippine Nightjar that almost wanted to land on our heads! Quite extraordinary!



**The stunning Rufous-backed Dwarf-Kingfisher that was tucked into the bamboo at Irawan Ecopark.
(Dion Hobcroft)**

We drove in a jeepney up to the end of the road and the beginning of the Mount Makiling summit trail. We slowly poked along the trail, and the birds slowly came to us. Our big win here was a fantastic encounter with the stunning and very elusive Spotted Kingfisher. It was a very patient battle, like fishing, with single well-hidden birds calling intermittently. Then we would see one fly over, or perched, only for it to fly off immediately. It was frustrating, yet in the end we found the right individual at the right distance. We watched it in the scope, calling and fluffing itself up and down for as long as we wanted—a stunning bird, and I breathe a sigh of relief when everyone has seen it well. We also spent two sessions in the Makiling Botanic Gardens, which produced several more highlights. A kettle of 20 migrating Chinese Goshawks, Oriental Honey-buzzard, the jewel-like Indigo-banded Kingfisher, amazing repeat looks at both Scale-feathered and Red-crested malkohas, the timid Yellow-wattled Bulbul, both Flaming and Handsome sunbirds, and Orange-bellied Flowerpecker.



The Flame-breasted Fruit-Dove at Infanta in the fog. Bird of the trip! (Adri Constantino)



The Philippine Hawk-Eagle that showed so well at Infanta. (Adri Constantino)

We moved along to our next site, Infanta, nestled into the southern Sierra Madre Mountains and getting up to an elevation of 850 m asl. We scouted out some fruiting trees with the local landholders and bargained with some locals to get a rare Yellow Monitor (they had captured for sale) to be released. It took off like a rocket into the forest when it was untied. A good result. It was a pleasant climate, and we spent a pleasant afternoon at an overlook of the forested valley. It was pretty quiet when in zoomed a pair of Purple Needletails—now a rarely seen giant swift. Next was a fabulous Philippine Hawk-Eagle that even perched for a while right in front of us. Boom! In the evening, we worked hard on a Luzon Scops-Owl that came close but just too far into the forest to find, even with a thermal camera. Eventually we had to call it a day. Adri and Dion did a bit more scouting and for their efforts found an amazing North Luzon Cloud Rat.

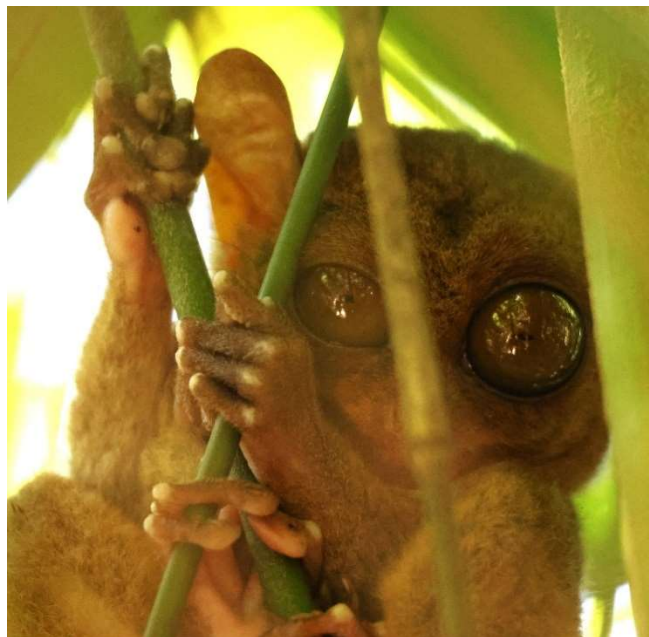


Blue-headed Fantail at Infanta. (Adri Constantino)



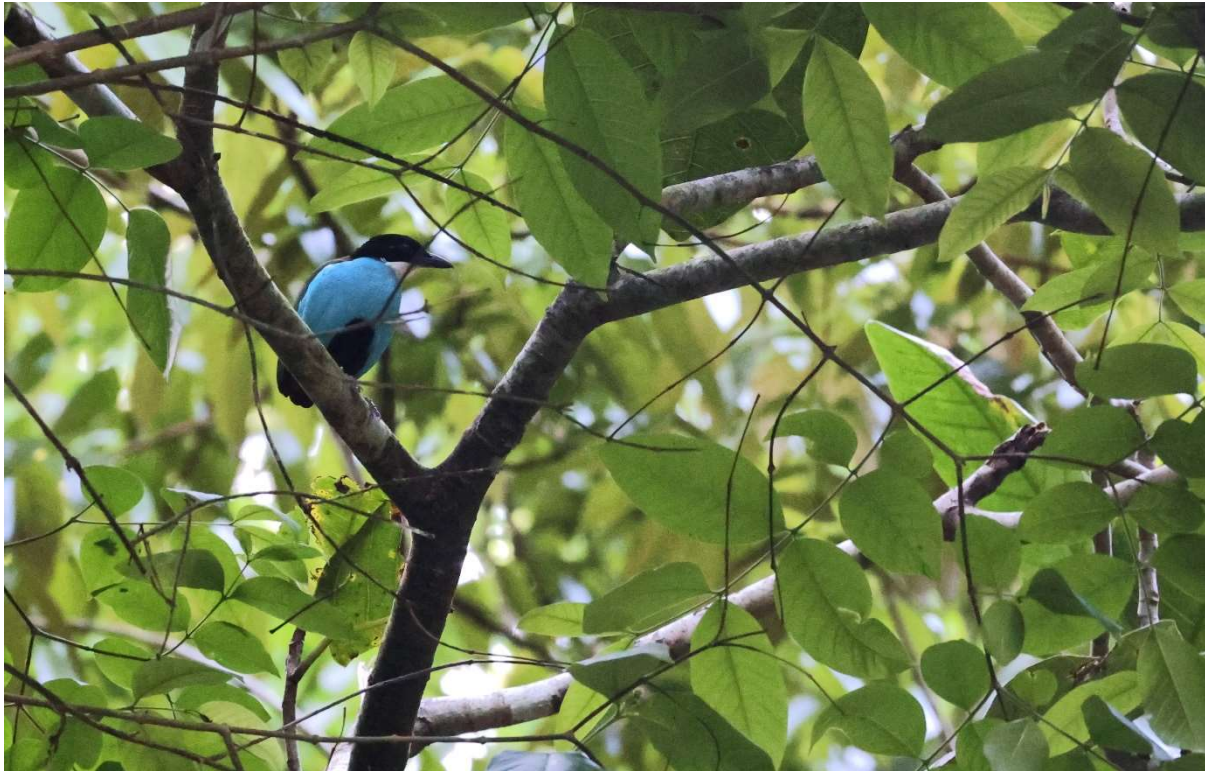
Spotted Kingfisher at Mount Makiling. (Adri Constantino)

In the morning, we awoke to fog and rain. It sounds counterintuitive, but it worked to our advantage. At the first fruiting tree site we could hear a Flame-breasted Fruit-Dove, so we lured everyone off the bus and started playing. Up it popped, miraculously, and the day was made with a great scope view of this global rarity. It was the beginning of a memorable session, as the next fruiting trees attracted superb Philippine Fairy-bluebirds, the elusive Amethyst Brown-Dove, Philippine Cuckoo-dove, both Yellow-breasted and a fickle Cream-breasted Fruit-Dove, Citrine Canary-Flycatcher, Blue-headed Fantail, both Warbling and Yellowish white-eyes, Sulphur-billed Nuthatch, and Olive-backed and White-bellied flowerpeckers. Our good luck continued in the afternoon at Palo Alto, where we added Whiskered Treeswift and, fortuitously, the recently split Chirruping Nightjar to our haul of birds.



**The tiny Philippine Tarsier has the largest eyes relatively of any animal in the world.
(Dion Hobcroft)**

The following day we flew to Bohol, an island in the Eastern Visayas that offers a good bunch of endemic birds. Our first stop was at the Corella Tarsier Sanctuary, where we were guided to two day-roosting Philippine Tarsiers. These diminutive primitive primates with their huge bulging eyes are nocturnal. Here they shelter in sites that protect them from rain and heat during the day. The afternoon proved a challenge with the Northern Silvery Kingfisher missing in action, as the site had been quite disturbed by trail-making construction. An overlook in the water catchment turned up a pair of Samar Hornbills—now a rare species—so we took that as a win.



The stunning Azure-breasted Pitta that showed so well on Bohol. (Dion Hobcroft)

Where the afternoon had been slow, the next morning was anything but. It started with a stunning Azure-breasted Pitta almost perched in our laps before it realized the error of its ways and moved to a safer perch. Several Philippine Trogons performed well, two giant Black-faced Coucals perched openly, a Ruddy Kingfisher was tame, and a pair of Buff-spotted Flamebacks allowed themselves to be scoped for a good ten minutes, as did a Black-chinned Fruit-Dove; even the hyper-shy Yellow-breasted Tailorbird perched on a roadside railing, albeit for a few seconds! We could do no wrong, as next there was a Philippine Frogmouth on a nest, Brown Tit-Babblers allowing good looks, and Bicolored Flowerpeckers hoovered in the fruit that even attracted another Amethyst Brown-Dove. A loose assemblage of small birds included a Metallic-winged Sunbird, Philippine Leaf-Warbler, and Short-tailed Drongo. The afternoon was back to its usual tricks, and although we found a mixed flock, the only species new was a Yellow-bellied Whistler. A pair of Philippine Ducks at the hotel were shy, but in the evening, I was able to show some people the unusual snake called a Bockadam that feeds on fish and is largely aquatic. Our last morning session on Bohol also proved a struggle, with Visayan Broadbill heard but disappeared upslope unseen, and Rufous-lored Kingfisher dashed back and forth over us but gave only feeble flight

views. Our saviour was the Striated Wren-Babbler that gave a great performance and even photographic chances for this definitive skulker.

We took the fast ferry to Dumaguete in Negros, and after lunch and a siesta we were in situ at Liptong Woodlands in the hills above the town. Now the afternoon was lively (there seems no rhyme or reason for this), and we picked up a bunch of endemics including a fantastic Philippine Hawk-Cuckoo that perched right next to us whistling frenetically. Visayan Tailorbird fed openly, Black-belted Flowerpeckers stayed still for minutes, Visayan Bulbul obliged, and Magnificent Sunbird performed wonderfully and lived up to its name. Even a Philippine Magpie-Robin came out to say hello repeatedly. On dusk we located to a tree hollow, and right on schedule the male Negros Scops-Owl arrived and perched openly and unconcernedly. This beautiful little owl has an orange head—most unusual in the world of owls.



The beautiful, tiny Negros Scops-Owl at Liptong. (Dion Hobcroft)

The Twin Lakes National Park was our playground for the majority of the following day. This well-managed and scenic national park was the best I have ever had on a visit. Starting on the forest edge, a Blue-crowned Racquet-tail perched distantly but could clearly be made out in the scope. Better still, a pair of Pink-bellied Imperial-Pigeons perched out and allowed a lengthy scope study. This is a rarely seen giant endemic pigeon. Visayan Hornbill perched out, and an Osprey appeared, as did a Nankeen Night-Heron. We paddled around the lake with White-winged Cuckooshrike, the distinctive Visayan subspecies of Bar-bellied Cuckooshrike (good for a split), White-vented Whistler, and Lemon-throated Leaf-Warbler making key appearances in mixed flocks. Flowers attracted the endemic Maroon-naped Sunbird. As the day warmed, raptors became prominent, and we had excellent views of the uncommon Philippine Honey-buzzard while dashing Philippine Spinetails zoomed over us. Woodpeckers were also enjoyable, and we watched the wood chips fly with the giant White-bellied Woodpecker while the Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker enjoyed perching openly. In the afternoon we trawled around a site where there had been a recent record of Philippine Collared-Dove but no luck with this now majorly rare species. Best were a Cinnamon Bittern, a pair of White-browed Crakes that walked up towards us, and a surprise large flock of Java Sparrows.

Our final morning of the tour was dedicated to Baslay Coffee in the hills above Dumaguete. It is a site for the rare Flame-templed Babbler. Much had happened since our previous visit, though, with typhoon damage, bamboo cutting, and fires, and this combined with the drought made the birding tough, to put it mildly. Still, we persisted and had a magical encounter with a pair of the most unusual babblers in the forest interior. This was followed by a pair of shy Visayan Fantails that eventually built up courage and allowed all a great view. It was our last endemic of the tour, which ended with 261 species recorded.

Many thanks to those who traveled with me on this tour! It is always much appreciated. Wishing you all safe travels till next we meet.

Dion Hobcroft



The Red-tailed Racer at Angono. (Dion Hobcroft)

BIRDS

Wandering Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna arcuata*)

Garganey (*Spatula querquedula*)

Northern Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*)

Philippine Duck (*Anas luzonica*)

Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*)

Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)

*Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)

Red Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia tranquebarica*)

Spotted Dove (*Spilopelia chinensis*)

Philippine Cuckoo-Dove (*Macropygia tenuirostris*)

Asian Emerald Dove (*Chalcophaps indica*)

Zebra Dove (*Geopelia striata*)

White-eared Brown-Dove (*Phapitreron leucotis*)

Amethyst Brown-Dove (*Phapitreron amethystinus*)

Pink-necked Green-Pigeon (*Treron vernans*)

Philippine Green-Pigeon (*Treron axillaris*)

Flame-breasted Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus marchei*)

Yellow-breasted Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus occipitalis*)

Black-chinned Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus leclancheri*)

Cream-breasted Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus merrilli*)

Pink-bellied Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula poliocephala*)

Green Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula aenea*)

Rufous Coucal (*Centropus unirufus*)

Black-faced Coucal (*Centropus melanops*)

Greater Coucal (*Centropus sinensis*)

Philippine Coucal (*Centropus viridis*)

Lesser Coucal (*Centropus bengalensis*)

Red-crested Malkoha (*Dasylophus superciliosus*)

Scale-feathered Malkoha (*Dasylophus cumingi*)

Asian Koel (*Eudynamis scolopaceus*)

Violet Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus*)

Plaintive Cuckoo (*Cacomantis merulinus*)

Banded Bay Cuckoo (*Cacomantis sonneratii*)
Brush Cuckoo (*Cacomantis variolosus*) Heard only
Philippine Drongo-Cuckoo (*Surniculus velutinus*)
Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo (*Surniculus lugubris*)
Philippine Hawk-Cuckoo (*Hierococcyx pectoralis*)

Philippine Frogmouth (*Batrachostomus septimus*)
Palawan Frogmouth (*Batrachostomus chaseni*)

Great Eared-Nightjar (*Lyncornis macrotis*)
Large-tailed Nightjar (*Caprimulgus macrurus*)
Philippine Nightjar (*Caprimulgus manillensis*)
Chirruping Nightjar (*Caprimulgus griseatus*)

Philippine Spine-tailed Swift (*Mearnsia picina*)
Purple Needletail (*Hirundapus celebensis*)
Pygmy Swiftlet (*Collocalia troglodytes*)
Gray-rumped Swiftlet (*Collocalia marginata*)
Philippine Swiftlet (*Aerodramus mearnsi*)
Ameline Swiftlet (*Aerodramus amelis*)
House Swift (*Apus nipalensis*)
Asian Palm Swift (*Cypsiurus balasiensis*)

Whiskered Treeswift (*Hemiprocne comata*)

Buff-banded Rail (*Gallirallus philippensis*)
Barred Rail (*Gallirallus torquatus*)
Eurasian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)
Philippine Swampphen (*Porphyrio pulverulentus*)

White-browed Crake (*Poliolimnas cinereus*)

Plain Bush-Hen (*Amaurornis olivacea*)

White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*)

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)

Pacific Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*)

Greater Painted-Snipe (*Rostratula bengalensis*)

Pheasant-tailed Jacana (*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*)

Long-toed Stint (*Calidris subminuta*)

Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*)

Swinhoe's Snipe (*Gallinago megala*)

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*)

Spotted Buttonquail (*Turnix ocellatus*)

Oriental Pratincole (*Glareola maldivarum*)

Whiskered Tern (*Chlidonias hybrida*)

Yellow Bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*)

Cinnamon Bittern (*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*)

Black Bittern (*Ixobrychus flavicollis*)

Gray Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)

Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*)
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)
Medium Egret (*Ardea intermedia*)
Chinese Egret (*Egretta eulophotes*)
Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)
Pacific Reef-Heron (*Egretta sacra*)
Eastern Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus coromandus*)
Javan Pond-Heron (*Ardeola speciosa*)
Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)
Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)
Nankeen Night-Heron (*Nycticorax caledonicus*)

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Philippine Honey-buzzard (*Pernis steerei*)
Oriental Honey-buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*)
Crested Serpent-Eagle (*Spilornis cheela*) Heard only
Philippine Serpent-Eagle (*Spilornis holospilus*)
Philippine Hawk-Eagle (*Nisaetus philippensis*)
Gray-faced Buzzard (*Butastur indicus*)
Crested Goshawk (*Accipiter trivirgatus*)
Chinese Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter soloensis*)
Brahminy kite (*Haliastur indus*)
White-bellied Sea-Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*)
Gray-headed Fish-Eagle (*Haliaeetus ichthyaetus*)

Philippine Scops-Owl (*Otus megalotis*)
Negros Scops-Owl (*Otus nigrorum*)
Luzon Scops-Owl (*Otus longicornis*) Heard only

Spotted Wood-Owl (*Strix seloputo*) Heard only

Luzon Boobook (*Ninox philippensis*)

Northern Boobook (*Ninox japonica*)

Philippine Trogon (*Harpactes ardens*)

Palawan Hornbill (*Anthracoceros marchei*)

Visayan Hornbill (*Penelopides panini*)

Luzon Hornbill (*Penelopides manillae*)

Samar Hornbill (*Penelopides samarensis*)

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)

Blue-eared Kingfisher (*Alcedo meninting*)

Indigo-banded Kingfisher (*Ceyx cyanopectus*)

Rufous-backed Dwarf-Kingfisher (*Ceyx rufidorsa*)

Stork-billed Kingfisher (*Pelargopsis capensis*)

Ruddy Kingfisher (*Halcyon coromanda*)

Brown-breasted Kingfisher (*Halcyon gularis*)

Rufous-lored Kingfisher (*Todiramphus winchelli*)

Collared Kingfisher (*Todiramphus chloris*)

Spotted Kingfisher (*Actenoides lindsayi*)

Rufous-crowned Bee-eater (*Merops americanus*)

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

Dollarbird (*Eurystomus orientalis*)

Coppersmith Barbet (*Psilopogon haemacephala*)

Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker (*Yungipicus maculatus*)
Luzon Flameback (*Chrysocolaptes haematribon*)
Buff-spotted Flameback (*Chrysocolaptes lucidus*)
Red-headed Flameback (*Chrysocolaptes erythrocephalus*)
Spot-throated Flameback (*Dinopium everetti*) Heard only
Northern Sooty-Woodpecker (*Mulleripicus funebris*)
White-bellied Woodpecker (*Dryocopus javensis*)

Philippine Falconet (*Microhierax erythrogenys*)
Oriental Hobby (*Falco severus*)
Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)

Philippine Cockatoo (*Cacatua haematuropygia*)

Blue-headed Racquet-tail (*Prioniturus platenae*)
Green Racquet-tail (*Prioniturus luconensis*)
Blue-crowned Racquet-tail (*Prioniturus discurus*) Heard only
Blue-naped Parrot (*Tanygnathus lucionensis*)
Guaibero (*Bolbopsittacus lunulatus*)
Philippine Hanging-Parrot (*Loriculus philippensis*)

Philippine Pitta (*Erythropitta erythrogaster*)
Hooded Pitta (*Pitta sordida*)
Azure-breasted Pitta (*Pitta steerii*)

Golden-bellied Gerygone (*Gerygone sulphurea*)

Fiery Minivet (*Pericrocotus igneus*)
Ashy Minivet (*Pericrocotus divaricatus*)

Bar-bellied Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina striata*)

Pied Triller (*Lalage nigra*)

Blackish Cuckoo-shrike (*Analisoma coerulescens*)

White-winged Cuckoo-shrike (*Analisoma ostenta*)

Yellow-bellied Whistler (*Pachycephala philippensis*)

White-vented Whistler (*Pachycephala homeyeri*)

Ventriloquial Oriole (*Oriolus consobrinus*)

Black-naped Oriole (*Oriolus chinensis*)

White-breasted Woodswallow (*Artamus leucorhynchus*)

Common Iora (*Aegithina tiphia*)

Visayan Fantail (*Rhipidura albiventris*)

Blue-headed Fantail (*Rhipidura cyaniceps*)

Visayan Blue Fantail (*Rhipidura samarensis*) Heard only

Philippine Pied-Fantail (*Rhipidura nigritorquis*)

Ashy Drongo (*Dicrurus leucophaeus*)

Palawan Drongo (*Dicrurus palawanensis*)

Short-tailed Dongo (*Dicrurus striatus*)

Balicassiao (*Dicrurus balicassius*)

Black-naped Monarch (*Hypothymis azurea*)

Blue Paradise-Flycatcher (*Terpsiphone cyanescens*)

Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*)

Long-tailed Shrike (*Lanius schach*)

Palawan Crow (*Corvus pusillus*)

Large-billed Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*)

Citrine Canary-Flycatcher (*Culicicapa helianthea*)

Elegant Tit (*Periparus elegans*)

Palawan Tit (*Periparus amabilis*)

Oriental Skylark (*Alauda gulgula*)

Rufous-fronted Tailorbird (*Orthotomus frontalis*) Heard only

Rufous-tailed Tailorbird (*Orthotomus sericeus*)

Visayan Tailorbird (*Orthotomus castaneiceps*)

Gray-backed Tailorbird (*Orthotomus derbianus*)

Green-backed Tailorbird (*Orthotomus chloronotus*)

Yellow-breasted Tailorbird (*Orthotomus samarensis*)

Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*)

Golden-headed Cisticola (*Cisticola exilis*) Heard only

Clamorous Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus stentoreus*)

Tawny Grassbird (*Cincloramphus timoriensis*)

Striated Grassbird (*Cincloramphus palustris*)

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

Pacific Swallow (*Hirundo tahitica*)

Striated Swallow (*Cecropis striolata*)

Yellow-wattled Bulbul (*Brachypodius urostictus*)
Black-headed Bulbul (*Brachypodius melanocephalos*)
Yellow-vented Bulbul (*Pycnontus goiavier*)
Ashy-fronted Bulbul (*Pycnonotus cinereifrons*)
Gray-throated Bulbul (*Alophoixus frater*)
Sulphur-bellied Bulbul (*Iole palawanensis*)
Visayan Bulbul (*Hypsipetes guimarasensis*)
Philippine Bulbul (*Hypsipetes philippinus*)

Lemon-throated Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus cebuensis*)
Philippine Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus olivaceus*)
Arctic Warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*)
Kamchatka Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus examinandus*) Heard only

Flame-templed Babbler (*Dasycrotapha speciosa*)
Yellowish White-eye (*Zosterops nigrorum*)
Warbling White-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*)
Lowland White-eye (*Zosterops meyeri*)

Pin-striped Tit-Babbler (*Mixornis gularis*)
Brown Tit-Babbler (*Mixornis striaticeps*)

Palawan Babbler (*Malacopteron palawanense*)
Ashy-headed Babbler (*Pellorneum cinereiceps*)
Striated Wren-Babbler (*Ptilocichla mindanensis*)

Sulphur-billed Nuthatch (*Sitta oenochlamys*)

Stripe-sided Rhabdornis (*Rhabdornis mystacalis*)

Asian Glossy Starling (*Aplonis panayensis*)

Coletto (*Sarcops calvus*)

Common Hill Myna (*Gracula religiosa*)

*Crested Myna (*Acridotheres cristatellus*)

Ashy Thrush (*Geokichla cinerea*) Heard only

Gray-streaked Flycatcher (*Muscicapa griseisticta*)

Asian Brown Flycatcher (*Muscicapa latirostris*)

Philippine Magpie-Robin (*Copsychus mindanensis*)

White-browed Shama (*Copsychus luzoniensis*)

White-vented Shama (*Copsychus niger*)

Palawan Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis lemprieri*)

Mangrove Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis rufigastra*)

Palawan Flycatcher (*Ficedula platenae*)

Blue Rock-Thrush (*Monticola solitarius*)

Pied Bush-Chat (*Saxicola caprata*)

Olive-backed Flowerpecker (*Prionochilus olivaceus*)

Palawan Flowerpecker (*Prionochilus plateni*)

Thick-billed Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum agile*)

Bicolored Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum bicolor*)

Red-keeled Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum australe*)

Black-belted Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum haemostictum*)

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum trigonstigma*)

White-bellied Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum hypoleucum*)

Pygmy Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum pygmaeum*)

Brown-throated Sunbird (*Anthreptes malacensis*)
Purple-throated Sunbird (*Leptocoma sperata*)
Copper-throated Sunbird (*Leptocoma calcostetha*)
Palawan Sunbird (*Cinnyris aurora*)
Garden Sunbird (*Cinnyris jugularis*)
Lovely Sunbird (*Aethopyga shelleyi*)
Magnificent Sunbird (*Aethopyga magnifica*)
Handsome Sunbird (*Aethopyga bella*)
Flaming Sunbird (*Aethopyga flagrans*)
Maroon-naped Sunbird (*Aethopyga guimarasensis*)
Metallic-winged Sunbird (*Aethopyga pulcherrima*)
Pale Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera dilutior*)

Palawan Fairy-bluebird (*Irena tweeddalii*)
Philippine Fairy-bluebird (*Irena cyanogastra*)

Yellow-throated Leafbird (*Chloropsis palawanensis*)

*Java Sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*)
Scaly-breasted Munia (*Lonchura punctulata*)
White-bellied Munia (*Lonchura leucogastra*)
Chestnut Munia (*Lonchura atricapilla*)

*Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Gray Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)
Eastern Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla tschutschensis*)
Paddyfield Pipit (*Anthus rufulus*)

MAMMALS

Philippine Tarsier (*Carlito syrichta*)

Long-tailed Macaque (*Macaca fascicularis*)

Large Flying-fox (*Pteropus vampyrus*)

Golden-crowned Flying-fox (*Acerodon jubatus*)

*Variable Squirrel (*Callosciurus finlaysoni*)

Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel (*Sundasciurus juvencus*)

Oriental House Rat (*Rattus tanezumi*)

North Luzon Cloud Rat (*Phloeomys pallidus*) Leader only

Philippine Colugo (*Cyanocephalus volans*)

REPTILES

Tokay (Gekko gekko)

Luzon Water Monitor (*Varanus marmoratus*)

Palawan Water Monitor (*Varanus palawanensis*)

West Visayan Water Monitor (*Varanus nuchalis*)

Yellow Monitor (*Varanus olivaceus*)

Emerald Tree Skink (*Lamprolepis smaragdina*)

Southeast Asian Bockadam (*Cerberus schneiderii*)

Red-tailed Rat Snake (*Gonyosoma oxycephalum*)