

9-20 FEBRUARY 2015

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Common Leopard (Steve Holloway)

INTRODUCTION

After several successful previous Wildwings mammal tours to Brazil, Chile, Ecuador and Estonia the question was could we keep the run going, with this our first tour to India. I can honestly say that the trip lived up to the standards of the previous trips with great mammals, some fabulous birding particularly in the wetlands, good food and accommodation and a superb group that made the trip so enjoyable to lead.

Highlights among 27 species of mammal encountered including no fewer than 14 Asiatic Lions including a superb pride of nine animals, Asiatic Wild Ass, three Leopards in a single afternoon one seen very well, Striped Hyaena, two encounters with Indian Wolves, eight separate Jungle Cats and three species of mongoose.

Although primarily a mammal trip we also saw 224 species of birds including two Great Indian Bustards, Grey Hypocolius, thousands of Common Cranes in Velavadar, great views of five species of owl, Indian Eagle, Mottled Wood, Short-eared and Collared Scops Owl along with Spotted Owlet, and some great waders including 16 Sociable Plovers, 13 Small Pratincoles and lots of Indian Coursers. However best of all, at least in my eyes, were the totally unexpected vast numbers of Demoiselle Cranes packed into a wetland in the Little Rann of Kachchh. With a wide array of other waterbirds including both flamingos, pelicans, herons, egret, ibis and storks mixed in with them, it was a truly spectacular sight.

Thanks to Steve Holloway, Conny Palm and Chris and Linda Schofield for the photos that enliven this report.

Given the success of this trip I hope that it will be the first of many Wildwings' tours to Gujurat.

Richard Webb 24 February 2015.

9th-11th February. Velavadar National Park.



Accommodation at Blackbuck Lodge (Richard Webb)

After various delays to flights due to delays in loading baggage in Heathrow, and chaotic scenes in clearing security in transit in Mumbai we finally made it to Ahmedabad where we changed money and finally left the airport roughly an hour behind schedule.

The drive to our first destination, Velavadar National Park, took around three hours and produced our first mammals of the trip a solitary **Hanuman Langur** and two **Five-striped Palm Squirrels** as we left Ahmedabad. As we sped southwards in our comfortable air-conditioned minibus the numerous wetlands along the road produced a wide variety of waterbirds most of which were common during the rest of the trip but they included the only Comb Duck and Sarus Cranes of the trip although most of us struggled to stay awake after the long journey from London.

We arrived at Velavadar just after 1130 and checked into our accommodation for the next three nights, Blackbuck Lodge. The lodge which has only been built since my previous visit to Gujurat in late 2009, was a great base for our visit to Velavadar with excellent accomodation and food, and a good range of wildlife including **Blackbuck**, a very tame **Nilgai**, **Wild Boar**, **Indian Hare** and **Five-striped Palm Squirrel** even within the lodge grounds itself and two **Indian Foxes** in the área immediately behind the lodge. Sadly a Jungle Cat that had been denning in the grounds of the lodge had disappeared but we did see several in the park itself.

Over the next two and a half days we completed five game drives in the park itself, in two open back jeeps, a drive in our minibús to some farmland and villages to the west of the lodge, a spotlighting sessión to the west of the lodge and a couple of spotlighting walks around the lodge itself. Velavadar National Park covers 35 square kilometres of tropical grassland with a mixture of open savannah, áreas of thorn scrub and some extensive wetland áreas. It was primarily established to protect India's highest concentration of **Blackbuck** and we saw large numbers of these together with good numbers of **Nilgai** (India's largest antelope) during our time in the park. **Wild Boar** were also commonly seen.

Blackbuck (Conny Palm)





Jungle Cat (Conny Palm)

Blackbuck (Richard Webb)





Nilgai (Richard Webb)

Aside from Blackbuck, Velavadar's other star mammals are **Striped Hyaena** and **(Indian) Wolf**. We had been told prior to our arrival that the hyaenas had become less predictable following the poisoning of a normally easy to see male and disturbance from photographers however we found one early on our first morning drive, albeit distantly. The wolves proved more difficult although the first jeep saw one, and probably a second, in the southern section of the park after following up a tip-off from another of the park's guides. However sadly it only showed briefly and disappeared before the second jeep could see it. However later the same day another

individual was found, and seen by everyone, in the northern section of the park, with a another individual being seen by one of our local guides.

Other mammals seen within the park included **Jungle Cat** which was seen on four drives with five separate sightings including two prolonged sightings within the park, and another seen well along the main road just outside the park entrance, **Jackal** on one afternoon drive, **Grey Mongoose** and an **Indian Hare** which spent every day in its form within a few metres of the main track in the southern section of the park.

Outside the park we had two more **Grey Mongoose** c. 10 kms west of the lodge, **Five-striped Palm Squirrel** commonly around the lodge, and at night **Indian Hares** around the lodge, and **Indian Foxes** at night whilst spotlighting if farmland to the west of the lodge and in scrub at the back of the lodge.

Birding the área over two and a half days produced 117 species. Highlights included literally thousands of Common Cranes, together with a nice flock of over 100 Demoiselle Cranes, point blank range views of Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, and good numbers of Montagu's and Pallid Harriers at the famous roost within the park. Other raptors seen included Western Marsh Harrier, Greater Spotted and Short-toed Eagles together with Lagger Falcon while passerines included White-browed (Stoliczka's) Bushchat, our first Sykes's Warbler and good numbers of Long-tailed, Isabelline and Bay-backed Shrikes.





Montagu's Harrier (Conny Palm)

Montagu's Harrier (Richard Webb)

Wetlands within the southern section of the park produced a wide variety of waterbirds including the previously mentioned cranes, Great White Pelicans, Greater Flamingos, and a wide array of herons, ducks and waders, Purple Swamphen and Citrine Wagtail.

Birding outside the park produced our first Indian Coursers and our only Pied Bushchat and Grey-necked Bunting of the trip.

12th-14th. February Gir Forest National Park.

After two and a half days in and around Velavadar we headed south-west for our next destination Gir Forest National Park seeing our first **Spotted Deer (Chital)** on the five-hour drive to Gir Birding Lodge, not quite Blackbuck Lodge where we had been truly spoilt, but nevertheless a nice location with good rooms, more food than most people could eat, and good birding in the gardens.

Gir Forest is one of the largest tracts of dry deciduous forest in the world and covers approximately 1421 square kilometres, It was declared a forest park in 1965 and part of it became a national park in 1974. It is the last refuge of the critically endangered Asiatic Lion, a distinctive sub-species most closely related to the lions of West Africa. It is also home to a significant population of Leopards.

We spent the next two and a half days in the park in search of Asiatic Lion and other mammals. Gir is somewhat more restricted than Velavadar and we used the park's own jeeps and drivers, and were restricted to 3-hour game drives from 0630-0930 (slightly bizarre given that it is not light until 0700 and you cannot use spotlights), 0900-1200 when it is already very hot, and 1530-1830 (although it does not get dark until 1900). The quality of drivers and guides varied dramatically, some of the guides were very good and keen to find as much as possible, others less so. The drivers varied from would-be rally drivers (which was frustrating if you were in the dust in the jeep following) to those with a greater appreciation for what we were trying to see. We undertook two early morning and three afternoon drives to maximise our chances of big cats as it is not unusual to only see lions on two out of four or five drives. This in part results from having to follow a fixed route each day with no room to digress as evidenced on our fourth drive when we could see three vehicles seemingly watching lions 100 metres off the route we were following, but our park driver and guide would not change route.

Our first afternoon drive was somewhat manic with our drivers going rather more quickly than we would have liked and there being more jeeps out on our route than on any of our other drives. Nevertheless we were rewarded with our first **Asiatic Lions**, two lionesses asleep in a shady valley, along with a selection of commoner species including the **Spotted Deer**, **Sambar**, **Nilgai**, **Hanuman Langur** and **Five-striped Palm Squirrel**.





Spotted Deer (Conny Palm)

Asiatic Lion (Conny Palm)

Our first early morning drive started both dark and cold and was relatively unproductive other than for at least four Marsh Mugger crocodiles seen at one of the dams in the park.

After a late breakfast back at Gir Birding Lodge most of us took a birding walk around the by now extremely hot garden while Tom took a somewhat more energetic walk into the nearby town of Sasan Gir. New species for the trip included Oriental Honey Buzzard and Oriental White-eye.

Our third, late afternoon, drive was far more rewarding with our first sounder of **Wild Boars** for Gir, an extremely obliging **Jackal**, initially drinking at a waterhole, and then proceeding to trot alongside the vehicle giving everyone great views and two **Ruddy Mongoose** which dashed across the road in front of the first jeep. A stop at a river crossing produced several new birds for the trip including Asian Paradise Flycatcher and Greenish Warbler but nearly proved costly for the second jeep which hung around longer to look for more birds. A few hundred metres further on Steve spotted a large **Leopard** just off the road but sadly it disappeared over a ridge

before Tom got onto it and before the second jeep arrived. We continued looking for it for 10 minutes or so and it was glimpsed again through thick vegetation by one or two people, remarkably with a second **Leopard** with it.

We continued on and less than 15 minutes later came across another jeep watching yet another **Leopard** sitting at the side of the track. Yet again our second jeep was nowhere to be seen and having stopped our jeep approaching too closely for fear of flushing it I had an anxious few minutes waiting for the second jeep to arrive. To add to the anguish the Leopard stood up and started walking away but fortunately was still on view when Chris and Linda finally arrived although yet again they had nearly missed Leopard by stopping to look at birds, in this case rather boring Large Grey Babblers! With both jeeps back together again we were all able to obtain superb close range views of the Leopard as it crossed the track in front of us much to my relief.



Common Leopard (Conny Palm)

Delighted by the Leopard we continued onwards and were rewarded again shortly afterwards with nice views of a roosting Collared Scops Owl and then at a river crossing on the way back to the gate our only Striated Heron of the trip.

After dinner back at the lodge we undertook a spotlighting walk in the lodge gardens but only managed to turn up a domestic (black) cat. The following night's walk had similar success with another (slightly more wild-looking) domestic cat but nothing more than that.

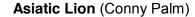
Our final morning in Gir was similarly quiet to the previous morning but we did have nice views of **Wild Boar**, **Grey Mongoose** and further views of the roosting Collared Scops Owl plus a few more new birds for the trip including Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker and Large Cuckooshrike. A post-breakfast walk in the garden was as hot as the day before but did produce **Hanuman Langurs** in a tree just outside the garden.

Extremely keen for the group to have further views of lions, I again took the step of guaranteeing success by leaving my own camera behind at the lodge for the final afternoon drive (something I had previously done to guarantee views of wolves in Velavadar) and again came up trumps. The drive started well with good views of a nice Mottled Wood Owl, a lifer for me so some reward for my selfless actions! Shortly afterwards we encountered a large male **Asiatic Lion** dozing about 150 metres from the track. Chris also managed to glimpse a second individual laying somewhere behind it. We had achieved our first goal but it was still not totally satisfying and we still wanted more but none of us expected what was to follow.

Arriving at a dry river bed we found a couple of jeeps watching what our guide said were two lionesses with two cubs although we could already see four adult **Asiatic Lions**. Moving into a better position we actually found, to our delight, that there was actually a pride of lions containing a fine adult male, two sub-adult males, three lionesses and one large and two small cubs. We spent a very pleasant half hour watching and photographing the pride, the largest group that the guide had ever seen in the park, our enjoyment only being interrupted by a Gujurat Government Official who got his driver to drive his minibus off the track between us and the pride, partially blocking our view, an action not unusual according to the guide. The pistol-packing moron then got out of the vehicle to walk across to speak to the lion trackers. The only plus side to this was that the adult male woke up and gave us better views although sadly none of the pride saw the official as a potential meal. That would have made a good photograph!

However this was not the end of the lion action, we drove on, and no more than a couple of hundred metres further on we found our 14th lion of the afternoon an apparently pregnant (or extremely well-fed) lioness asleep in another dry river bed. What a great afternoon!

Asiatic Lion (Steve Holloway)







Asiatic Lion (Chris Schofield)

Asiatic Lion (Chris Schofield)



Asiatic Lion (Steve Holloway)

We returned to the lodge for the final time extremely happy. Our time in Gir had been extremely rewarding with no few that 19 big cats, 16 lions and three (well 2.2) leopards, another eight mammal species and 97 species of bird, details of which can be found in the checklist later in this report.

15th-17th February Rann of Kachchh

Day nine found us out on the road by 0630 for the long drive north to Kachchh (Kutch) eventually arriving shortly before 1630. We had little time to stop other than for a 30-minute lunch stop overlooking the large area of saltpans near Mallya where we added a number of new birds to the trip list including Dalmatian Pelican, our only Peregrine of the trip, Lesser Sandplover, Caspian, Whiskered and Gull-billed Terns, along with Slender-billed, 'Steppe' and 'Heuglin's' Gulls. We finally arrived at our guesthouse run by a conservation organisation, the Centre for Desert and Ocean in Moti Varani but not until after a truly astonishing bit of spotting by Leio. From the moving vehicle he managed to spot cans of Diet Coke on the back shelf of a small shop as we passed through the town of Bhuj!

The áreas of Kachchh that we visited consists of an área of endless flat lands, extensive grasslands, deserts, great stretches of water collected in saucer-shaped natural depressions or dhands (although these were dry at the time of our visit), the occasional isolated hillock, rocky outcrops and dry thorn scrub.

After checking in to our rooms and a quick fix of tea, coffee and cookies we quickly transferred to the lodge's jeeps and were out in our field finding our first photogenic **Indian Desert Jirds** a few kilometres outside Moti Varani. Further along the road our first stop, for Striolated Bunting, in Banni Grasslands also produced Painted Sandgrouse, and an **Indian Hare**, and for Chris brief views of what may well have been a small cat but it quickly disappeared and could not be re-found despite extensive searching. We did however find relatively fresh tracks and droppings of Striped Hyaena. We drove on further deep into the desert areas of Banni Grasslands and then drove slowly spotlighting back to the guesthouse. Mammals were relatively thin on the ground although we did have superb views of an obliging **Jungle Cat** sitting on a rocky outcrop, **Little Indian Field Mouse** from the first vehicle, and their driver also had brief views of an **Indian Palm Civet** crossing the road. We eventually arrived back at the lodge shortly after 2100 and had a late dinner before retiring for the night.

The following morning we were up at 0600 for tea and coffee and out on the road by 0630 heading for the Grey Hypocolius stakeout in Banni Grasslands. On route we saw couple of dead snakes on the road, a further **Indian**

Hare, our first **Indian Flying Foxes** presumably returning to a nearby roost, and the bizarre sight of a Dalmatian Pelican sitting on the top of a rocky hill!

The hypocolius provided more elusive than normal but we eventually had good views of a female along with more distant views of a male, with a supporting cast including Isabelline Shrike, Tawny Pipit and good numbers of **Indian Desert Jird** as the morning warmed up. Continuing on into the drier areas of the grassland we had an al fresco breakfast near the rocky outcrop where we had seen the previous night's Jungle Cat. Red-tailed Wheatear was the highlight here. Finally further on we had superb views of Indian Eagle Owl before returning to the lodge for lunch.

After a well-earned rest we were back out into the field in the late afternoon, our first stop being an area of thorn-forest where we found Marshall's lora. A couple more stops before dusk resulted in us finding evidence of small cats but although we tried spotlighting these areas later in the night we drew a blank. However as with the previous night we continued deeper into the grasslands and had good views of another **Jungle Cat**, at least three **Wild Boars** and a couple of **Jackals** plus **Little Indian Field Mouse**. Continuing back to the lodge we had a further **Jackal** and the first jeep also saw an **Indian Fox** crossing the road in front of the vehicle.

The following morning we were up early again but this time heading out in a different direction towards Naliya. Another **Jungle Cat** and a **Jackal** briefly enlivened the journey but on arrival at our first location, one that I had seen wolves at on a previous trip, we were disappointed to find it shrouded in fog with very limited visibility. Quickly realising that looking for wolves was a fruitless exercise we consoled ourselves with **Nilgai**, another **Jackal**, some interesting grass-like stick-insects and a number of fossilised shells, demonstrating how the seas had extended well beyond their current limits in historical times.





Southern Grey Shrike (Conny Palm)

Indian Gazelle (Steve Holloway)

Cutting our losses we moved on to our main destination for the morning Naliya Grasslands and were soon enjoying our first **Indian Gazelles (Chinkara) of** the trip along with a number of new birds including Southern Grey Shrike, and Desert and Isabelline Wheatears.



Indian Black Ibis (Steve Holloway)

After another picnic breakfast we stopped to view an active fox den (minus the foxes), a large group of 70 Indian Black Ibis at a small dam, some very obliging Indian Coursers and several impressive Spiny-tailed Lizards. After an hour or so, and much to our complete surprise given that there had been no sightings for nearly four months, and only two sightings all winter, we found two majestic Great Indian Bustards, one of the birds of the trip. Well-satisfied we returned to the lodge for lunch with pretty much everyone, although fortunately not the drivers, dozing off at least for some of the journey back.

The afternoon saw us take a different direction again, our first stop being to view an impressive roost of **Indian Flying Foxes** in nearby Nakhtarana. Continuing south-east we made a couple of stops to unsuccessfully look for White-naped Tit, had a brief stop at a dam producing the first White-browed Wagtail of the trip, had some even closer encounters with Indian Coursers on the road, and found a small colony of **Indian Desert Jirds** and a solitary **Grey Mongoose** on route to our next main location, a roost site for a colony of **Egyptian Tomb Bats**. It's fair to say the roost was somewhat unappealing for some with the extremely strong smell of ammonia and the floor covered in the remains of dead insects, but the bats were pretty smart and gave everyone great views.

With dusk upon us we left the bat roost and began another spotlighting session in a different area of Banni Grasslands. This one produced a further three **Jackals**, a **gerbil sp** for Steve, another **Little Indian Field Mouse** but despite a lot of effort for Desert Wildcat the best we could manage was two domestic cats.

On the subject of **Little Indian Field Mice** while staying at CEDO Steve had asked to change rooms so it was to the **amousement** of everyone else that he complained the following morning that he had found a mouse in his bed. I can't believe that he could complain about getting a mammal on room service!

18th-20th February Little Rann of Kachchh

We were out on the road again at 0630 the following morning for the drive south to Little Rann of Kachchh but made an early stop removing our shoes to enter a small marble-floored temple to pay homage to a rather nice **Greater Mouse-tailed Bat**, others being heard but not disturbed. As my only mammal tick of the trip it was a very welcome addition to the trip list.

We whizzed past Mallya saltpans this time but made a short stop shortly afterwards at a service station where the adjacent rubbish tip produced **Five-striped Palm Squirrel** and a variety of birds for those so inclined. Some

of the more-wicked among the group spotted small furry mice on sale in the service station itself and suggested that I should buy one and leave it on Steve's seat in the coach but I declined.

We arrived at Rann Riders, our base for the next two nights, just in time for lunch. Rann Riders is a popular safari resort and it was a bit of a culture shock given that we would be sharing the lodge with lots of other tourists, particularly birders, after having had the previous three lodges to ourselves.

The lodge itself and a small wetland opposite holds a good variety of birds, **Five-striped Palm Squirrels**, and we also saw Indian Bullfrog, Indian Star Tortoise and Steve saw a Checkered Keelback (a snake) as well.

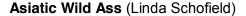
Little Rann of Kachchh (Kutch) is an extensión of the Great Rann to the north. Small salt-free islands of vegetated higher ground are the focus for the region's wildlife in an área of vast saline desert plains. Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary alone covers 4,950 square kilometres. The área also contains a number of impressive wetlands packed with birds.

Late afternoon saw us out initially in an area of dried out seasonal wetlands where the first port of call was a parliament of Short-eared Owls with at least 10 and probably in excess of 20 birds roosting under bushes in this hot and dusty area. This was a good start and moving further on we found our main target a loose flock of 16 globally-threatened Sociable Plovers that had only been found a couple of weeks earlier. We were treated to prolonged views at close range with a number of Indian Coursers providing additional colour. A large herd of **Nilgai** provided a nice backdrop.

We continued on to a nice wetland area with several new species for the trip including Bar-headed Goose, and a superb flock of Small Pratincoles. We stayed around the wetland until it was nearly dark seeing further **Nilgai** and several small sounders of **Wild Boar** along with large numbers of Common Cranes flighting in to roost, and then spotlighted back to the main road getting nice views of two Sykes's Nightjars on route.

The following morning found us heading out for the Bahana section of the Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary where we had been told by a birder that we had met earlier in the trip, that there was an active hyaena den. We passed our first distant group of **Asiatic Wild Ass** and headed to the den but sadly despite several visits to the den during the morning we drew a blank although there were fresh droppings and an impressive array of bones around the den. The surrounding area was however productive with great views of the impressive **Asiatic Wild Ass**, a lone stallion, and groups of 11 and 6 animals.







Asiatic Wild Ass (Conny Palm)

We also found our first Eastern Imperial Eagle of the trip and a nearby salt lake held large numbers of both Greater and particularly Lesser Flamingos with an array of other water birds. We headed back to the main road

taking a new route out via yet another wetland which held another superb range of birds including our only Lesser Crested Terns of the trip and some impressive Great Black-headed Gulls in breeding plumage. After lunch and a rest at Rann Riders we headed back towards Bahana for the afternoon but not before visiting another even more impressive wetland at Nava Palau where we were treated to one of the most breathtaking sights of the trip with hundreds, if not thousands, of exquisite Demoiselle Cranes, packed into the wetland mixed in with good numbers of flamingos, pelicans, herons, egrets, storks, ibises and numerous other waterbirds including our first Garganey and White-winged Terns of the trip. Demoiselles are not normally in this area in anything like this number but these had apparently been displaced by drought conditions in their normal wintering grounds further north. The sight was truly spectacular and despite having birded in nearly 70 countries it was one of my greatest ever birding experiences!





Demoiselle Cranes (Conny Palm)

After the excitement of Nava Palau we continued to Bahana and the hyaena den but despite the best efforts of our guide, Sam, we drew a further blank, although we did see our only Ortolan Buntings of the trip while waiting near the den and on the drive back to the road there were large numbers of **Asiatic Wild Ass** and **Nilgai** near the wetland visited in the morning. We ended the day disappointed at the lack of hyaenas but the Asiatic Wild Ass and Demoiselle Cranes had still combined to give us a truly excellent day.

Our final day of the trip saw us up for the earliest start of the tour leaving Rann Riders at 0500 for our final (predawn) spotlighting session. After early **Indian Hare**, **Little Indian Field Mouse** and **Asiatic Wild Ass** we eventually found the first of three **Red (Desert) Foxes** with a fourth similar-sized animal evading identification. As dawn broke Sam amazingly found a Greater Hoopoe Lark sitting on its nest in the middle of totally open and featureless desert and we were able to enjoy close views of this and another adult nearly as we waited for the fog to clear to enable us to find our way back! We then returned to the lodge via a fruitless search for MacQueen's Bustard although we had nice views of more **Asiatic Wild Ass** on route.

After a late breakfast back at the lodge we opted for a short walk around the small wetland opposite and as with most wetlands in the area found a nice selection of species including our only Cotton Teal while Conny, Chris and Linda gripped the rest of us off with a nice Bluethroat on their way back to the lodge.

After a final lunch at Rann Riders we started the final leg of our trip back to Ahmedabad for our flights the following morning. However we had still not quite finished and there were still surprises to come. A roadside pool produced several Yellow-wattled Lapwings before we made our final stop of the tour. What trip to India would be complete without a stop at a large rubbish tip or a 'slaughter house' and consequently our last stop was a productive stop at one of the latter. We quickly found our only vultures of the trip, White-rumped and several Egyptians, with four species of eagle, Greater Spotted, Indian (Lesser) Spotted, Steppe and Eastern

Imperial, plus Black and Black-eared Kites. It was an impressive sight. However better still was another new mammal, and our 12th carnivore of the trip, in the shape of two **Small Indian Mongooses**. A fitting finale to an excellent first Wildwings' tour to Gujurat.

We continued on to our hotel in Ahmedabad and a final Indian meal well satisfied with our 12 days in India.







Little Green Beeeater (Chris Schofield)

MAMMALS

Nomenclature follows *A Field Guide to Indian Mammals* (Menon). Alternative names shown in brackets.

Hanuman Langur Semnopithecus entellus One in Ahmedabad on route to Velavadar. Gir – seen on all five drives with up to c.25 per drive, also two seen from the grounds of Gir Birding Lodge.



Hanuman Langur (Conny Palm)



Sambar (Richard Webb)

Sambar

Cervus unicolor

Seen on all five drives in Gir, counts of 10, two, nine, two and four. Mainly females and young but at least three males also seen.

Spotted Deer

Axis axis

Common on all five drives in Gir.

Nilgai

Boselaphus tragocamelus

Seen on 10 dates. Common at Velavadar including a tame individual in the grounds of Blackbuck Lodge, a total of six animals seen on three drives in Gir, 16 Naliya Grasslands, 60+ in wetlands near Rann Riders and 25+ in Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary. A good mix of males, females and calves.

Blackbuck

Antelpoe cervicapra

Abundant in Velavadar including the grounds of Blackbuck Lodge. Again large numbers of young males, females and young with good numbers of impressive males.

Indian Gazelle (Chinkara)

Gazella bennettii

Only seen in Naliya Grasslands where c.20 seen although fresh droppings also found in Banni Grasslands.

Asiatic (Indian) Wild Ass Equus onager

Daily counts of 45+ and 22 in the two sections of Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary.

Wild Boar Sus scrofa Seen on eight dates. In Velavadar including the grounds of Blackbuck Lodge counts of 13, 11, 10, 18 and eight. Seen on three drives in Gir with counts of 16, eight and seven. Three on the second night drive in Banni Grasslands. Sixteen around the Sociable Plover site near Rann Riders and one in the eastern section of Wild Ass Wildlife Santuary.





Wild Boar (Richard Webb)

(Golden) Jackal (Conny Palm)

Jackal (Golden Jackal)
Canis aureus

One in the wetland section of Velavadar and an obliging individual at and near a waterhole on the third drive in Gir. Three on both night drives in Banni Grasslands and two on route to Naliya Grasslands.

Striped Hyaena Hyaena hyaena One seen well, but distantly, on the first morning drive in Velavadar. Fresh tracks plus droppings found in Banni Grasslands. Unfortunately two visits to an active den in Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary failed to produce any hyaenas.

(Indian) Wolf Canis lupus

A potential future split. At least one, probably two individuals, seen briefly by the first jeep on the final morning in the wetland section of Velavadar, after a twitch in response to a call from another guide. Slightly more prolonged views for both jeeps of one, with a second seen by one of the local guides, in the grassland section of the park the same afternoon.

Indian Fox Vulpes bengalensis

Two singles in farmland west of Blackbuck Lodge and a further two at the back of the lodge while spotlighting on our second night at Velavadar.

Red (Desert) Fox Vulpes vulpes

One seen well, and two more briefly, on the pre-dawn spotlighting session in the eastern part of Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary.

Asiatic Lion Panthera leo

Gir – Drive one – two females lounging in a shady ravine. Drive five – one male (with a second glimpsed by Chris) c.150 metres from the road, the first male sitting up briefly to show its full majesty before returning to its slumbers. Fabulous prolonged views of a pride of nine in a shady dry river bed. One adult male, two sub-adult males, three lionesses and one larger and two smaller cubs. Absolutely great views particularly watching the interactions between the cubs and the adults. An additional female asleep in a dry river bed 200 metres from the pride.

Common Leopard Panthera pardus

Gir – one spotted by Steve close to the track on our third drive. Unfortunately only seen by three people in the first jeep before it disappeared over a roadside ridge. It was then briefly glimpsed by one or two people along with a second individual in a valley below the road. Remarkably 15 minutes later we saw a third individual which gave the whole vehicle good views as it crossed the track in front of the vehicle having initially been found sitting in the shade.

Jungle Cat Felis chaus

Eight seen in total. Velavadar – five sightings, one seen well on our first morning in the grassland section of the park, the same or another individual was seen briefly in the same área on the third afternoon. Another seen well in the wetland section of the park on the second afternoon and another seen briefly in the wetlands themselves the following morning. Great views of the fifth just outside the park entrance at dusk on the third afternoon. Banni Grasslands, nice views of one sitting on a rocky outcrop on our first night drive with another seen well the following night. One seen briefly pre-dawn on route to Naliya Grasslands.

Small Indian Civet Viverricula indica

One seen briefly by the driver of the first jeep, and glimpsed by Tom, just outside Moti Varani, on the first night drive in Banni Grasslands.

Grey Mongoose Herpestes edwardsii

Two in a village c.10 kms west of Blackbuck Lodge and one in the wetlands section of Velavadar. In Gir three on the fourth and two on the fifth drive. Finally a single in a village in Banni Grasslands.

Small Indian Mongoose Herpestes javanicus

Two at the 'slaughter house' on route from Dasada to Ahmedabad.





Grey Mongoose (Chris Schofield)

Small Indian Mongoose (Chris Schofield)

Ruddy Mongoose Herpestes smithii Two seen briefly by the first jeep on the third drive in Gir.

Indian (Black-naped) Hare Lepus nigricollis

Seen nightly around Blackbuck Lodge with counts of three, four and three. One seen in its form on all three days in the wetland section of Velavadar. Singles on both days in Banni Grasslands and a single pre-dawn in the eastern section of Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary.

Five-striped Palm Squirrel Funambulus pennantii

Seen on 11 of the 12 days and at all areas visited including Ahmedabad. Maximum count 10+ Gir.



Little Indian Field Mouse (Steve Holloway)



Indian Desert Jird (Richard Webb)

Indian Desert Jird
Merionnes hurrianae

Five just outside Moti Varani, 20+ including juveniles at the hypocolis site in Banni Grasslands and 4+ in a third área around Banni.

Little Indian Field Mouse *Mus booduga*

Singles on all three night drives in Banni Grasslands and two on the pre-dawn drive in Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary.

Indian Flying Fox *Pteropus giganteus*

20+ pre-dawn on route to Banni Grasslands and 100s at a day time roost in Nakhtarana.

Greater Mouse-tailed Bat Rhinopoma microphyllum

One in a temple (with others heard) c.20 kms south of Nakhtarana.

Egyptian Tomb Bat *Taphozous perforates*

50+ at a roost somewhere in Banni Grasslands.





Egyptian Tomb Bat (Steve Holloway)

Indian Flying Fox (Conny Palm)



Greater Mouse-tailed Bat (Steve Holloway)

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Spiny-tailed Lizard Uromastyx hardwickii 4+ Naliva Grasslands.

Gecko sp

Seen around most lodges at night.

Saw-scaled Viper Echis carinatus One dead on the road, along with a second unidentified snake in Banni

Grasslands.

Checkered Keelback

Xenochrophis piscator

One seen by Steve at Rann Riders.

Indian Bullfrog

Hoplobatrachus tigerinus

2+ Rann Riders.

Indian Star Tortoise

Geochelone elegans

One Rann Riders.

Marsh Mugger Crocodylus palustris Four Gir.







Spiny-tailed Lizard (Conny Palm)

BIRDS

Nomenclature follows Birds of South Asia, The Ripley Guide (Rasmussen, P.C. & Anderton, J.C. 2005).

Key

- D Total number of days seen on tour.
- V Seen at Velavadar National Park, Blackbuck Lodge and in surrounding farmland. A equals only seen on journey from Ahmedabad to Velavadar.
- G Seen at Gir Forest.
- W Seen in wetlands on route from Gir Rann of Kutch particularly saltpans near Mallya.
- RK Rann of Kachchh including Banni Grasslands and Naliya Grasslands.
- LK Little Rann of Kachchh including Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary, Rann Riders, wetlands near Rann Riders, Nava Palau and the slaughter house on route back to Ahmedabad. Species only seen at the latter are marked S.

| | | D | ٧ | G | W | RK | LK | Comments |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|----------|
| Little Grebe | Tachybaptus ruficollis | 4 | Х | | Х | | Х | |
| Great Crested Grebe | Podiceps cristatus | 1 | | | | | Х | |
| Dalmatian Pelican | Pelecanus crispus | 5 | | | Х | Х | Х | |
| Great White Pelican | Pelecanus onocrotalus | 5 | Χ | | Х | | Х | |
| Indian Shag | Phalacrocorax fuscicollis | 1 | | | Х | | | |
| Great Cormorant | Phalacrocorax carbo | 4 | Χ | | Х | Х | | |
| Little Cormorant | Phalacrocorax niger | 10 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Oriental Darter (Darter) | Anhinga melanogaster | 1 | | Х | | | | |
| Western Reef-heron | Egretta gularis | 4 | Χ | | Х | | Х | |
| Little Egret | Egretta garzetta | 9 | Χ | Χ | Х | Х | Х | |
| Great Egret | Egretta alba | 10 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Intermediate Egret | Egretta intermedia | 3 | Χ | | | | Х | |
| Eastern Cattle Egret | Bubulcus coromandus | 10 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Grey Heron | Ardea cinerea | 7 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Purple Heron | Ardea purpurea | 4 | Χ | | | | Х | |
| Indian Pond-heron | Ardeola grayii | 12 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Black-crowned Night-heron | Nycticorax nycticorax | 3 | Χ | | | | | |
| Striated Heron | Butorides striata | 1 | | Χ | | | | |
| Asian Openbill | Anastomus oscitans | 2 | Х | | | | | |
| White Stork | Ciconia ciconia | 1 | | | Х | | | |
| Woolly-necked Stork | Ciconia episcopus | 2 | | Χ | | | Х | |
| Painted Stork | Mycteria leucocephala | 8 | Χ | Χ | Х | | Х | |
| Black Stork | Ciconia nigra | 1 | | Χ | | | | |
| Glossy Ibis | Plegadis falcinellus | 5 | Χ | Χ | Х | | Х | |
| Black-headed Ibis | Threskiornis melanocephalus | 9 | Χ | Χ | Х | Χ | Х | |
| Eurasian Spoonbill | Platalea leucorodia | 10 | Χ | Χ | Х | Χ | Х | |
| Indian Black Ibis | Pseudibis papilosa | 5 | | Χ | | Х | | |
| Lesser Flamingo | Phoeniconaias minor | 2 | | | | | Χ | |
| Greater Flamingo | Phoenicopterus roseus | 6 | Χ | | Х | | Х | |
| Bar-headed Goose | Anser indicus | 1 | | | | | Х | |
| Greylag Goose | Anser anser | 1 | | | | | Χ | |
| Common Shelduck | Tadorna tadorna | 1 | Χ | | | | | |
| Ruddy Shelduck | Tadorna ferruginea | 1 | | | | | Χ | |
| Comb Duck | Sarkidiornis melanotos | 1 | Α | | | | | |
| Common Teal | Anas crecca | 2 | Χ | | | | Χ | |
| Garganey | Anas querquedula | 2 | | | | | Х | |
| Gadwall | Anas strepera | 2 | | | | | Χ | |
| Eurasian Wigeon | Anas penelope | 4 | Χ | | Χ | | Х | |
| Northern Shoveler | Anas clypeata | 7 | Χ | Χ | | | Х | |
| Northern Pintail | Anas acuta | 5 | Χ | | | | Х | |
| Indian Spot-billed Duck | Anas poecilorhyncha | 7 | | Χ | | Χ | Х | |
| Common Pochard | Aythya ferina | 2 | | | Χ | | Χ | |
| Cotton Teal | Nettapus coromandelianus | 1 | | | | | Χ | |
| Black-winged Kite | Elanus caeruleus | 9 | Χ | Χ | Χ | Χ | Χ | |
| Black Kite | Milvus migrans | 4 | Χ | Χ | | | Χ | |
| Black-eared Kite (Black Kite) | Milvus [migrans] lineatus | 1 | | | | | S | |
| Shikra | Accipiter badius | 4 | Χ | Х | | | Χ | |
| Eurasian Sparrowhawk | Accipiter nisus | 1 | | | | Х | | |
| Long-legged Buzzard | Buteo rufinus | 6 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Common Buzzard | Buteo buteo | 1 | | | | | 1 | |
| Oriental Honey-buzzard | Pernis ptilorhyncus | 2 | | Х | | | | |
| White-eyed Buzzard | Butastur teesa | 3 | | Х | | | | |
| Crested Serpent Eagle | Spilornis cheela | 2 | | Х | | | | |
| Short-toed Eagle | Circaetus gallicus | 4 | Х | | | | Х | |
| Changeable Hawk Eagle | Spizaetus cirrhatus | 1 | | Χ |] | | | |

| | | D | ٧ | G | W | RK | LK | Comments |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| Indian Spotted Eagle | Aquila hastata | 2 | | | | Х | Х | |
| Greater Spotted Eagle | Aquila clanga | 5 | Χ | | | | Χ | |
| Steppe Eagle | Aquila nipalensis | 2 | | | | Х | Χ | |
| Eastern Imperial Eagle | Aquila heliaca | 2 | | | | | Χ | |
| White-rumped Vulture | Gyps bengalensis | 1 | | | | | S | |
| Egyptian Vulture | Neophron percnopterus | 1 | | | | | S | |
| Montagu's Harrier | Circus pygargus | 7 | Χ | Х | | | Χ | |
| Pallid Harrier | Circus macrourus | 5 | Χ | | | | Χ | |
| Western Marsh Harrier | Circus aeruginosus | 6 | Χ | | Х | Х | Х | |
| Common Kestrel | Falco tinnunculus | 9 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Χ | |
| Peregrine Falcon | Falco peregrinus calidus | 1 | | | Х | | | |
| Laggar Falcon | Falco jugger | 2 | Χ | | | | | |
| Grey Francolin | Francolinus pondicerianus | 9 | Χ | Х | | Х | Χ | |
| Black Francolin | Francolinus francolinus | 1 | | | | Х | | |
| Indian Peafowl | Pavo cristatus | 7 | | Х | | Х | | |
| Common Crane | Grus grus | 8 | Х | | | Х | X | Massive flocks in Velavadar with good numbers in Little Rann of Kachchh. |
| Demoiselle Crane | Grus virgo | 2 | X | | | | X | 100+ at Velavadar and 100s if not 1000s at Nava Palau in Little Rann of Kachchh, the latter one of the highlights of the trip. |
| Sarus Crane | Grus antigone | 1 | Α | | | | | |
| Great Indian Bustard | Ardeotis nigriceps | 1 | | | | Х | | An unexpected bonus as they had not been seen at Naliya for almost four months. |
| White-breasted Waterhen | Amaurornis phoenicurus | 6 | | Χ | Χ | | Χ | |
| Purple Swamphen | Porphyrio poliocephalus | 4 | X | | | | Χ | |
| Common Moorhen | Gallinula chloropus | 6 | Χ | Χ | Χ | | Χ | |
| Eurasian Coot | Fulica atra | 7 | Χ | Х | Χ | | Χ | |
| Pied Avocet | Recurvirostra avosetta | 5 | Χ | | Х | | Χ | |
| Black-winged Stilt | Himantopus himantopus | 10 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Small Pratincole | Glareola lactea | 1 | | | | | 13 | A nice flock of 13. |
| Indian Courser | Cursorius coromandelicus | 4 | Х | | | Х | Х | Much more widespread and common than on my previous trip. Common at Naliya. |
| Indian Stone-curlew | Burhinus indicus | 4 | Х | Χ | | | | |
| Red-wattled Lapwing | Vanellus indicus | 12 | Χ | Χ | Χ | Х | Χ | |
| Yellow-wattled Lapwing | Vanellus malabaricus | 4 | Χ | | | Χ | Χ | |
| Sociable Plover | Vanellus gregarius | 1 | | | | | Х | A flock of 16 of this globally threatened species. |
| Grey Plover | Pluvialis squatarola | 1 | Χ | | | | | |
| Greater Sand Plover | Charadrius leschenaultii | 4 | Χ | | Х | | Х | |
| Lesser Sand Plover | Charadrius mongolus | 3 | | | Х | | Х | |
| Little Ringed Plover | Charadrius dubius | 5 | Х | | | Х | Х | |
| Kentish Plover | Charadrius alexandrinus | 4 | Х | | Х | | Х | |
| Eurasian Curlew | Numenius arquata | 4 | Χ | | Χ | | Χ | |
| Western Black-tailed Godwit | Limosa limosa | 7 | Χ | | Х | | Х | |
| Common Greenshank | Tringa nebularia | 4 | Х | | | | Х | |
| Wood Sandpiper | Tringa glareola | 4 | Χ | | | | Χ | |

Indian Courser (Conny Palm)

Indian Stone-curlew (Richard Webb)









Sociable Plover (Richard Webb)

Yellow-wattled Lapwing (Richard Webb)

| | | D | V | G | W | RK | LK | Comments |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|--|
| | | _ | • | | | | | Commonto |
| Green Sandpiper | Tringa ochropus | 9 | Χ | Χ | Χ | Χ | Χ | |
| Common Sandpiper | Actitis hypoleucos | 6 | Χ | Х | | | Χ | |
| Marsh Sandpiper | Tringa stagnatilis | 8 | Х | Х | Х | | Х | |
| Common Redshank | Tringa totanus | 6 | Х | | Х | | Х | |
| Spotted Redshank | Tringa erythropus | 6 | Х | | Х | | Х | |
| Ruff | Philomachus pugnax | 4 | Х | | | | Х | |
| Curlew Sandpiper | Calidris ferruginea | 1 | | | | | | |
| Dunlin | Calidris alpina | 2 | Х | | | | | |
| Temminck's Stint | Calidris temminckii | 7 | Χ | | | | Х | |
| Common Snipe | Gallinago gallinago | 3 | | | | | | |
| Heuglin's Gull | Larus heuglini | 2 | Χ | Х | Х | | Х | |
| Steppe Gull (Yellow-legged Gull) | Larus barabensis | 2 | | | | | Х | |
| Great Black-headed Gull | Larus ichthyaetus | 1 | | | Х | | X | Several nice summer- plumaged adults among 16 seen at Bahana. |
| Slender-billed Gull | Larus genei | 2 | | | Χ | | Х | |
| Brown-headed Gull | Larus brunnicephalus | 1 | | | Х | | Х | |
| Common Black-headed Gull | Larus ridibundus | 3 | | | Χ | | Х | |
| Gull-billed Tern | Gelochelidon nilotica | 3 | | | Х | | Х | |
| Lesser Crested Tern | Thalasseus bengalensis | 1 | | | | | Χ | |
| Caspian Tern | Hydroprogne caspia | 3 | | | Х | | Х | |

| | | D | V | G | W | RK | LK | Comments |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|----------|
| Whiskered Tern | Chlidonias hybrida | 3 | | | Х | | Χ | |
| White-winged Tern | Chlidonias leucopterus | 1 | | | | | Х | |
| Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse | Pterocles exustus | 5 | Χ | | | Χ | Х | |
| Painted Sandgrouse | Pterocles indicus | 1 | | | | Х | | |
| Rock Pigeon | Columba livia | 12 | Χ | Х | Х | Χ | Х | |
| Laughing Dove | Streptopelia senegalensis | 12 | Χ | Χ | | Χ | Χ | |
| Red Collared-dove | Streptopelia tranquebarica | 5 | Х | | | Χ | Х | |
| Spotted Dove | Streptopelia chinensis | 4 | | Χ | | | Χ | |
| Eurasian Collared-dove | Streptopelia decaocto | 12 | Х | Х | | Χ | Х | |
| Yellow-footed Green-pigeon | Treron phoenicopterus | 1 | | Χ | | | | |
| Rose-ringed Parakeet | Psittacula krameri | 11 | Х | Х | | Χ | Х | |
| Asian Koel | Eudynamys scolopaceus | 4 | | Χ | | Х | | |
| Sirkeer Malkoha | Taccocua leschenaultii | 1 | | | | Х | | |
| Southern Coucal | Centropus parroti | 6 | Χ | Х | | Х | Χ | |

Indian Eagle-owl (Chris Schofield)





Short-eared Owl (Richard Webb)





Sykes's Nightjar (Richard Webb)

| | | D | V | G | W | RK | LK | Comments |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| Indian Eagle-owl | Bubo bengalensis | 1 | | | | Х | | Nice views of a roosting bird in Banni Grasslands. |
| Short-eared Owl | Asio flammeus | 4 | Х | | t | t | Х | |
| Mottled Wood Owl | Strix ocellata | 1 | | Х | | | | A roosting adult in Gir was an unexpected bonus. |
| Collared Scops-owl | Otus lettia | 2 | | Х | | | | Seen roosting two days running. |
| Spotted Owlet | Athene brama | 1 | Х | Н | | | | |
| Sykes's Nightjar | Caprimulgus mahrattensis | 1 | | | | | Х | Good views of two birds in Little Rann of Kachchh. |
| Indian Little Nightjar | Caprimulgus asiaticus | 1 | | | | Χ | | |
| Savanna Nightjar | Caprimulgus affinis | 1 | | Χ | | | | |
| Crested Treeswift | Hemiprocne coronata | 1 | | Χ | | | | |
| Little Swift (House Swift) | Apus affinis | 2 | | | Х | Χ | | |
| Indian Roller | Coracias benghalensis | 6 | Х | | | Х | Х | |
| Common Hoopoe | Upupa epops | 8 | Х | | | Χ | Χ | |
| White-throated Kingfisher | Halcyon smyrnensis | 12 | Х | Χ | Χ | Х | Х | |
| Lesser Pied Kingfisher | Ceryle rudis | 5 | | Χ | Χ | | Χ | |
| Common Kingfisher | Alcedo atthis | 4 | Х | Χ | | | Х | |
| Little Green Bee-eater | Merops orientalis | 12 | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Coppersmith Barbet | Megalaima haemacephala | 3 | | Х | | | | |
| Indian Pygmy Woodpecker | Dendrocopos nanus | 1 | | Х | | | | |
| Yellow-crowned Woodpecker | Dendrocopos mahrattensis | 2 | | Χ | | Χ | | |
| Black-rumped Flameback | Dinopium benghalense | 2 | | Χ | | | | |
| Indian Bushlark | Mirafra erythroptera | 1 | | | | Χ | | |
| Crested Lark | Galerida cristata | 4 | Х | | | | Х | |
| Sykes's Lark | Galerida deva | 2 | Х | | | | | |
| Ashy-crowned Finch-lark | Eremopterix griseus | 6 | Х | | | Χ | Х | |
| Bimaculated Lark | Melanocorypha bimaculata | 2 | Х | | | | | |
| Greater Hoopoe Lark | Alaemon alaudipes | 1 | | | | | Х | Two birds including one on a nest in Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary. |
| Rufous-tailed Lark | Ammomanes phoenicura | 6 | Χ | | | Χ | Χ | |
| Greater Short-toed Lark | Calandrella brachydactyla | 8 | Х | | | Х | Х | |
| Dusky Crag-martin | Ptyonoprogne concolor | 4 | | Χ | | | Х | |
| Barn Swallow | Hirundo rustica | 9 | Χ | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| Red-rumped Swallow | Hirundo daurica | 4 | | | | Х | Х | |
| Wire-tailed Swallow | Hirundo smithii | 5 | Х | | | | Χ | |
| Western Yellow Wagtail | Motacilla flava | 6 | Х | Χ | | | Х | |
| Grey Wagtail | Motacilla cinerea | 3 | | | Χ | | | |
| Citrine Wagtail | Motacilla citreola | 5 | Х | Χ | Χ | | Χ | |
| White Wagtail | Motacilla alba | 10 | Х | Χ | | Χ | Х | |
| White-browed Wagtail | Motacilla maderaspatensis | 2 | | | Χ | Х | | |
| Tree Pipit | Anthus trivilais | 4 | Х | Χ | | | | |
| Tawny Pipit | Anthus campestris | 7 | Х | Χ | | Х | Χ | |
| Long-billed Pipit | Anthus similis | 4 | Х | | | | Х | |
| Large Cuckooshrike | Coracina macei | 1 | | Х | | | | |
| Red-vented Bulbul | Pycnonotus cafer | 8 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | |
| White-eared Bulbul | Pycnonotus leucotis | 8 | Х | | | Х | Х | |
| Common Iora | Aegithina tiphia | 1 | | | Х | | | |
| Marshall's Iora | Aegithina nigrolutea | 1 | | | | Х | | |
| Long-tailed Shrike | Lanius schach | 7 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | |
| Southern Grey Shrike | Lanius meridionalis | 2 | | | | Χ | Χ | |
| Isabelline Shrike | Lanius isabellinus | 8 | Х | | | Х | Х | |
| Bay-backed Shrike | Lanius vittatus | 6 | Х | | | | Х | |

Southern Grey Shrike (Conny Palm)

Red-throated Flycatcher (Steve Holloway)





| | | D | ٧ | G | W | RK | LK | Comments |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|----------|
| Grey Hypocolius | Hypocolius ampelinus | 1 | | | | Х | | |
| Asian Paradise Flycatcher | Terpsiphone paradisi | 2 | | Х | | | | |
| White-browed Fantail | Rhipidura aureola | 3 | | Х | | | | |
| Indian Blackbird | Turdus simillimus | 1 | | Х | | | | |
| Bluethroat | Luscinia svecica | 1 | | | | | Χ | |
| Oriental Magpie-robin | Copsychus saularis | 5 | | Χ | | Χ | | |
| Indian Black Robin (Indian Robin) | Saxicoloides fulicatus | 11 | Х | Χ | | Χ | Χ | |
| Brown Rock-chat | Cercomela fusca | 2 | | | | Χ | | |
| Black Redstart | Phoenicurus ochruros | 7 | | Χ | | Χ | Χ | |
| Isabelline Wheatear | Oenanthe isabellina | 3 | | | | Χ | Х | |
| Desert Wheatear | Oenanthe d. deserti | 4 | | | | Χ | Χ | |
| Variable Wheatear | Oenanthe p. picata | 4 | | | Х | Χ | Х | |
| Red-tailed Wheatear | Oenanthe chrysopygia | 1 | | | | Χ | | |
| Pied Bushchat | Saxicola caprata | 1 | Х | | | | | |
| Common (Siberian) Stonechat | Saxicola torquatus | 8 | Х | Χ | | Χ | Χ | |
| White-browed (Stoliczka's) Bushchat | Saxicola macrorhynchus | 3 | Х | | | | | |
| Red-breasted (throated) Flycatcher | Ficedula parva | 3 | | Χ | | | | |
| Tickell's Blue Flycatcher | Cyornis tickelliae | 2 | | Χ | | | | |
| Common Babbler | Turdoides caudata | 8 | Х | Χ | | Χ | Χ | |
| Large Grey Babbler | Turdoides malcolmi | 2 | | Х | Х | | | |
| Jungle Babbler | Turdoides striata | 2 | | | Χ | | | |
| Grey-breasted Prinia | Prinia hodgsonii | 3 | | Х | | Χ | | |
| Plain Prinia | Prinia inornata | 5 | Χ | Χ | | Χ | | |
| Rufous-fronted Prinia | Prinia buchanani | 1 | | | | | Х | |
| Syke's Warbler | Hippolais rama | 5 | Х | Х | | | Χ | |
| Common Tailorbird | Orthotomus sutorius | 2 | | Х | Χ | | | |
| Greenish Warbler | Phylloscopus trochiloides | 3 | | Х | | | Х | |
| Hume's Whitethroat | Sylvia althaea | 8 | Х | | | Χ | Χ | |
| Great Tit | Paris major | 2 | | Х | | | | |
| Oriental White-eye | Zosterops palpebrosus | 2 | | Х | | | | |
| Purple Sunbird | Cinnyris asiaticus | 12 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | |
| Striolated Bunting | Emberiza striolata | 4 | | | | Х | Х | |
| Grey-necked Bunting | Emberiza buchanani | 1 | Х | | | | | |
| Ortolan Bunting | Emberiza hortulana | 1 | | | | | Х | |
| Indian Silverbill | Euodice malabarica | 7 | Х | | | Х | Х | |

| | | D | ٧ | G | W | RK | LK | Comments |
|--|--------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|----|----------|
| House Sparrow | Passer domesticus | 8 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | |
| Yellow-throated Sparrow | Petronia xanthocollis | 5 | Х | Х | | Х | | |
| Indian Baya Weaver | Ploceus p. philippinus | 2 | Х | | | Х | | |
| Black Drongo | Dicrurus macrocercus | 12 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | |
| Common Starling | Sturnus vulgaris | 1 | Α | | | | | |
| Brahminy Starling | Temenuchus pagodarum | 4 | | Х | | Х | | |
| Rosy Starling | Sturnus roseus | 4 | Α | | Χ | Х | | |
| Bank Myna | Acridotheres ginginianus | 3 | Х | | Х | Х | | |
| Common Myna | Acridotheres tristis | 6 | Χ | Χ | | | Χ | |
| House Crow | Corvus splendens | 10 | Х | Х | | Х | Х | |
| Indian Jungle Crow (Large-billed Crow) | Corvus culminatus | 3 | | Х | | | | |
| Rufous Treepie | Dendrocitta vagabunda | 3 | | Х | | | | |



Mottled Wood Owl (Steve Holloway)



Collared Scops Owl (Steve Holloway)